Saving Ontario's Natural Resources

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TWO KINGDOMS

Carolus Linnaeus, the ex-theologician, who was the author of the modern scheme of classification of all plants and animals, lived and did most of his work in the early part of the eighteenth century. The book in which he outlined his plan and named the animals and plants according to this plan he called "Systema Naturae" and was revised by him many times. We have agreed that our system shall be founded on the tenth edition of this book and any names proposed before that time shall be null and void.

All biologists and naturalists must be familiar with the Systema Naturae for it is the backbone of their scientific work. It is written in Latin but fortunately for many of us it has been translated into English. However, often times the naturalist must consult the original when publishing scientific studies. My Latin is weak and I have torn my hair many times trying to get the exact meaning of the great naturalist's words. So the moral for my young readers is to study Latin as ardently as they study the plants and animals.

Plants and Animals

It is a pity that the same term is used by the scientist for all living creatures except plants as is used in common language for the four-footed hairy animals that suckle their young. The scientist divides all animate creatures into either the plant or animal kingdoms. The plant kingdom includes the bacteria, the blue scum on the water, the fungi and the biggest of trees. The animal kingdom includes the microscopic creatures of the water, the sponges, the lobsters and crabs, the insects, the fishes, the frogs and snakes, the birds and the mammals. It is the mammals that the ordinary folk call animals but my readers can readily see the distinction I have outlined. Animals, to the scientific mind, include all living creatures that are not plants; mammals is the term used for the animals we know in everyday life.

The Book Shelf..

"THE HERITAGE OF HATCHER IDE"
By Booth Tarkington

This new novel from the pen of Booth Tarkington stands with the greatest of his work. In it the famous author of "Penrod," "Seventeen," "Alice Adams," deals sympathetically, humorously with the problems of present-day youth.

Hatcher Ide, the story's hero, is a flesh-and-blood young man whose task it is to make a living in this day and age, to orient himself in the problems of love and the general complexities of existence. He lives in a once-prosperous mid-western town which might be any American town after the 1929 depression wave broke. His father's business is on the rocks; his father's friends keep up a bold front on scanty incomes; the world Hatcher knew as a child is a different world now, none too cordial to young men fresh from college.

The book provides an amazing picture of the times as well as telling us the story of how Hatcher goes out to meet life and love.

"The Heritage of Hatcher Ide" . . . by Booth Tarkington . . . Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, Publishers . . . $2.50.

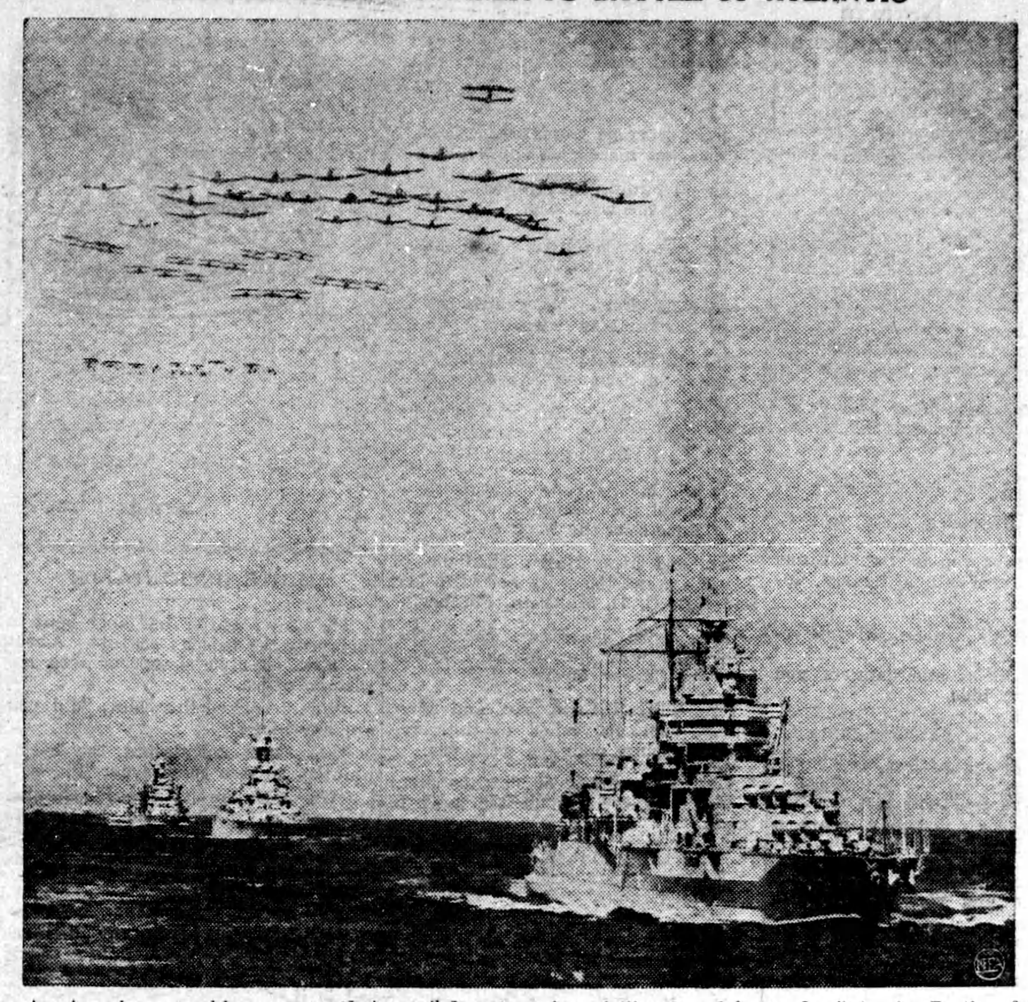
Poison Ivy Preventive Revealed by Doctor

In New Orleans last week for a dermatologists' convention, Dr. Bedford Shelmire had this tip to offer poison ivy sufferers: "Boil ivy leaves in ether, evaporate the ether and dilute the residue with corn oil. Make up capsules from this and swallow them over a period of months, gradually increasing the doses until you are taking 10 drops a day. It takes with most people, immunizing them."

Health of Animals

There are 22 railway points in the Dominion at which, according to regulations, all empty stock cars arriving or passing through are cleansed and disinfected under the supervision of the Health of Animals Division, Dominion Department of Agriculture, unless the cars have already been cleansed since last used for stock. During the year ended March, 1940, 68,468 cars and 8,615 trucks were so treated.

U.S. FLEET STEAMS NEARER TO BATTLE OF ATLANTIC



As American warships assume their peril-fraught roles of "interested bystanders" in the Battle of the Atlantic, the projected two-ocean U.S. Navy is estimated at Washington to be four years away from completion.

Nevertheless naval authorities are pleased by the way in which the shipyards are cutting construction time. Workmen in the U.S. Navy yards as well as in yards owned by private concerns are driving steadily ahead as fast as the material is delivered.

A good sample is the 1650-ton destroyer Edison, now in commission. This vessel was constructed in 10 months. Some years ago the regular period of construction was 31 months. This now has been slashed until the average is 15 months.

The two most welcome additions to the navy of course are the battleships North Carolina and Washington, the first completed since 1921. They both are 35,000-ton vessels. Their main armament is 16-inch guns, mounted in three turrets, three per turret. They also carry a heavy battery of anti-aircraft and secondary broadside guns. They are propelled by turbines developing 115,000 horsepower from oil-fired boilers and giving a speed of 27 knots. Each is equipped to carry three planes.

THE WAR WEEK—Commentary on Current Events

HIGHEST TAXES LEVIED IN CANADIAN HISTORY

"We must be prepared for an extension of fighting over wide areas . . . Canada is determined to spare neither her resources nor her manpower . . ." —Prime Minister Mackenzie King.

Never before in their history have Canadians been called upon to make such a tremendous contribution to the national coffers as that demanded by Finance Minister Ilsley in his Budget address last week before the House of Commons. Out of every dollar earned this year by Canadian men and women, 45 cents will go out of their pockets by way of taxes or loan to finance the war. If provincial and municipal levies are also taken into account, 55 cents out of every dollar will be needed.

Hardest On Income

New and increased taxes designed to increase Canada's tax revenue in 1941-42 to the all-time high of $1,400,000,000 included: A new national gasoline tax, upping the price 3c a gallon; increase in tax on automobiles valued up to $900, from 20 to 25 per cent; motion picture shows, beer, wine, playing cards, carbonic acid gas used in "pop," cigaret paper tubes, cigaret lighters, all pay new or increased levies; a 10 per cent tax on all railway, bus or airplane tickets costing over 50 cents; tax on cosmetics, toilet goods, rose from 10 to 25 per cent. But nothing in the Budget hit the average Canadian as hard as did the increases in the defence tax and the income taxes—personal income tax rates were upped to 15 per cent on the first $1,000 of taxable income, from the present rates of 6 and 8 per cent.

In Britain's Dark Hour

This Biggest Budget, brought down at the end of a month when the fortunes of Great Britain had fallen to one of the lowest points in her proud record, made history by including provision, for the first time, of direct aid to Britain. From $800,000,000 to $900,000,000 was asked, to assist in financing British purchases in Canada this year.

Mr. Ilsley's record-breaker followed by one day Prime Minister King's statement to the reconvened House in which he declared that Canada would spare neither her resources nor her manpower in the forthcoming battle. During the week, too, more than 5,000 of the four-month 21-year-old trainees were conscripted into the Canadian army and preparations were made to draft many more young men this summer.

Belt Across Atlantic

But it was largely to the United States that Great Britain looked in her hour of direst need. And last week the President, to aid Britain by cutting losses of Lease-Lend materials shipped overseas (rumors said 40 per cent of them were being sunk), took action which brought the American nation "only one step from war." He established the equivalent of a convoy system in the North Atlantic. As far as the coastal waters of Iceland (a belligerent zone) the U. S. navy began sending warships, patrol bombers and in all probability carrier-based aircraft, to play a vital role in the "Battle of the Atlantic." The potential effectiveness of this whole far-flung surface and air patrol in dealing with Nazi submarines and raiders was seen as tremendous. "Red Fleet," organ of the Soviet navy declared that the extended U. S. naval patrol in the Atlantic would enable the United States and Britain to "establish a solid belt from Canada to Britain, thoroughly protected from the air."

Words of Cheer

Speaking more hopefully of the outcome of the Battle of the Balkans than many of his contemporaries, Major George Fielding Eliot, U.S. military expert said: "The facts are that the Balkan war has been a net gain for Britain as long as Suez and Alexandria be not lost; that precious time has been gained, that Germany has been compelled to use up resources of which she has none too great a reserve; and that the island of Great Britain remains unconquered. Nor has anything which has happened in the Balkans brought Germany nearer to that conquest; indeed the reverse is the case. The war will be won or lost in Great Britain and its waters of approach; it is there that Hitler must, sooner or later, face the final showdown. It is precisely there that the power of the American people can make itself felt with full force."

Battle of Egypt

Aside from the Battle of the Atlantic the question of where the war would move next in Europe engrossed most minds here and abroad. Prime Minister Churchill's Sunday speech indicated that London expected the next Axis stab to come somewhere along the Mediterranean, through Turkey or Spain. Some experts believed Hitler's armies would play leap-frog from one Aegean island to another and go at Suez without touching Turkey. One London source spoke of the coming engagement as the "Battle of Egypt" and told the United Press its outcome might decide whether Japan and Spain would enter the war as active Axis allies. British preparations for the test included appointment of Viscount Gort as commander-in-chief at Gibraltar and implied announcement that a second Mediterranean mine field, 600,000 miles square, had been laid to protect the Dardanelles and Suez. Reports from Vichy hinted of an approaching showdown, with Hitler forcing the Turks to grant him military right of way to the Persian Gulf of Suez.

Behind the Turks

Recent developments in the Near East have led to the assumption that the Turks, when the Hitler-squeeze finally comes, will be guided by the wishes of the Soviet Union. Associated Press correspondent Dewitt Mackenzie last week wrote that Turkey was believed ready to defy the German demands if she got the high-sign from the Kremlin. That this encouragement from Russia might very well be forthcoming was seen in reports of increasing tension between Germany and the Soviet Union — 12,000 German troops, equipped with tanks and artillery arrived in Finland, Russia's nearest northern neighbor; and the Soviet Union took steps to regulate strictly all shipment of goods to Germany, clamping a ban on passage of any war material through the Soviet Union from east to west, or vice versa.

VOICE OF THE PRESS

WHAT DOESN'T APPEAR

Most of the people who claim the home town paper doesn't print all the news should be glad it doesn't.

—Hanover Post

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RUSH JOBS NOT WANTED

We do not believe it is wise to rush medical students through university, through their courses, whether for the army or not, for there is nothing more potentially dangerous than a poorly-trained medical man.

—Niagara Falls Review

WOMEN ON JURIES

It seems strange that so simple a matter as women serving on juries should have proven so difficult for the legislature to reach a decision upon. While the men hesitate, large numbers of women continue in forthright manner to shoulder home and public responsibilities, admirably performing tasks which require the exercise of knowledge, judgment, skill, precision and tact. Many have replaced men in industry, commerce, professions, etc., who have thus been released for military service. Many women are doing work which it was thought only men could do. Thousands of women are earning a livelihood for themselves and supporting dependents and while doing this are also running their homes, bringing up children, and in addition some are active in public affairs.

—Toronto Star

Forty rabbits will eat as much fodder as a dairy cow; only four rabbits are required to out-eat a sheep.

Mother's Day

TO MOST of us, our first inspirations to face life squarely, to find and give the best, have come through the teachings and example of a good Mother.

It is our Mother who by her unwearying devotion to her children has instilled into our minds the virtues of a full and unselfish life.

All too often as we get older and have to face the responsibilities of life alone, we overlook the debt we owe Mother. We do not altogether forget. But somehow, there are so many demands on us, we just take Mother for granted. We know Mother's love never grows cold. It is there for us to command.

Sunday is Mother's Day! Let us do something this Sunday to show Mother we think a lot of her. You will never be able to pay back all you owe her. But some little tangible token of your affection will feed the soul . . . your own as well as your Mother's!

QUEUES OF HOUSEWIVES FORM BEFORE LONDON FOOD STORES

The faces of these London housewives reflect the increasing shortage of foodstuffs in the British Isles due to the ever-tightening German counter-blockade. Eggs from Canada, along with other provisions are doled out on a ration basis.

REG'LAR FELLERS—The Mechanical Lady

By GENE BYRNES