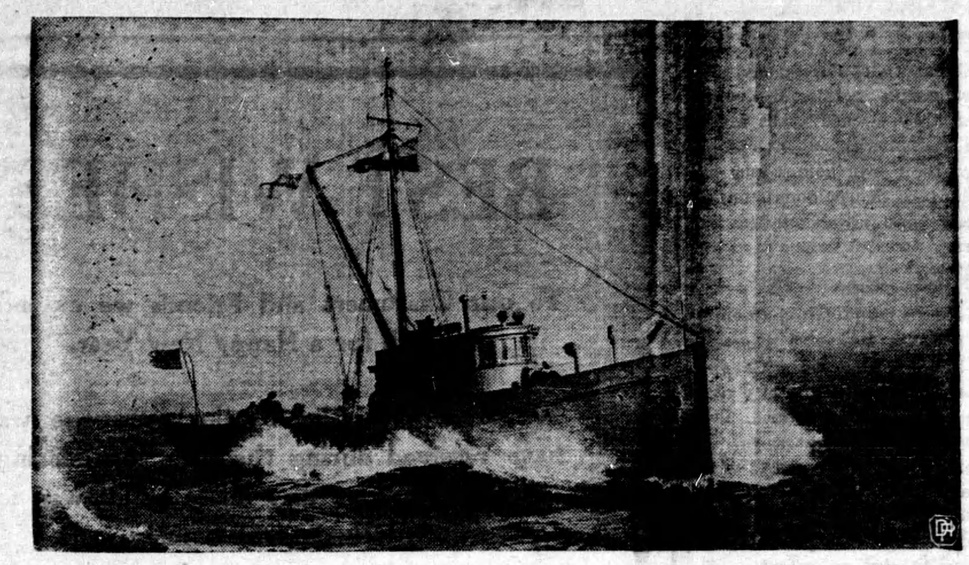
WATCH ON WEST COAST



Typical of the stout little vessels which have forsaken the fishing trade to serve the Royal Canadian Navy for the duration as patrol boats is the craft shown here, bucking a Pacific gale.

Have You Heard?

It was the firm's annual dance. The junior bookkeeper had chosen a very attractive partner.

"By the way," he volunteered as they danced, "I'm glad our manager isn't here tonight. He's about the biggest ass of a man one can meet, and not fit for intelligent company."

She stopped dancing and stared hard.

"Young man," she snapped angrily, "do you know who I am?"

"Not the faintest idea," he said, easily.

"Well, I'm the manager's wife!" she informed him.

"Gee whiz!" he exclaimed "Now, do you know who I am?"

"No," said his partner.

"Thank goodness for that!" he replied, as he backed hurriedly for the exit.

The husband, after a very tiring day, was enjoying his pipe and reading the evening paper. The wife who was poring over a crossword, suddenly called out: "Henry, what is a female sheep?" "Ewe," curtly replied her hubby, and that's how the row started.

A Scot boarded a tramcar carrying a very bulky parcel. The conductor, noting the size, decided it was above the standard for free carriage, so he said: "It'll be a penny for you, and threepence for your parcel."

Angus was stricken speechless for a moment, and then he stuck his elbow into the parcel and said: "Come oot o' that wi' ye, Sandy; it's twopence cheaper sitting down than for me to carry ye!"

"Eternity is so vast—who can comprehend it?" said the speaker.

"Perhaps," said the little man in the back row, "you never bought anything on the monthly payment plan."

A radio actress who had just learned how to drive told Max Marcin, program director, that she'd give him a lift home after the broadcast on CBS Sunday night. As they came to an intersection a cop held up his hand.

"Hey," he said, "you can't make a left turn."

"What do you mean, I can't make a left turn?" retorted the indignant actress. "I learned that in my second lesson!"

"My wife used to play the piano a lot, but since the children came she simply hasn't time for it." "I know. Children are a comfort, aren't they?"

There was no doubt about it—the theatrical magnate was angry.

"Don't ever mention the name of that low-down, double-crossing twister of a leading lady!" he said.

"I had no idea she was that sort," replied his friend.

"Why that girl's so mean, she not only pulls the wool over your eyes, but it's 90 per cent cotton!"

"Is Mary your eldest sister?"

"Yes."

"And who comes after her?"

"You and two other fellows."

MODERN ETIQUETTE

BY ROBERTA LEE

1. Of what should one be careful when planning to take a guest for an automobile drive?

2. Should a widow, upon her second marriage, wear the engagement or wedding ring of her first marriage?

3. Is it all right for a mother to allow her children to attend a party at the home of someone she does not know?

4. Should one allow his child to stand up or sit on the arm of his chair in a theatre?

5. Is it permissable to dip celery or radishes into the salt dish if the dish is an individual one?

6. Who compiles the list to whom wedding invitations are to be sent?

Answers

1. See that the car is tidy. Old shoes lying on the floor, packages scattered here and there, soiled rags or newspapers on the seat indicate carelessness and disregard for the guest's comfort. Also, see that the windshield and windows are clean and do not in any way obscure the guest's vision of the scenery. 2. No; they should be put aside. 3. Yes, if the party is given for school friends. 4. No. This is a very selfish act, as it obstructs the view of persons seated behind. 5. No; take a little of the salt in the saltspoon or with the end of a clean knife and place it on the side of the dinner plate, or the bread and butter plate. .6 The bride and bridegroom together, consulting the parents of both.

Well Trained Mine Sinks Supply Ship

The Germans would prefer to have the people of Norway think that the British are "doing nothing." Therefore all news of the sinking of German supply ships by the British along the Norwegian coast is carefully withheld. At the official investigation into the sinking of one such ship the Norwegian captain explained that a submarine had risen to the surface, halted the ship, given the crew ten minutes to get into lifeboats and had then sunk the ship.

A German officer interrupted: "That is nonsense!" he shouted. "There are no British submarines along the Norwegian coast. You must have struck a mine!"

The captain repeated it was a submarine, but the German insisted he was wrong.

"Very well, then," said the captain. He then revised his account for the records: "A mine came to the surface on starboard side. It halted us, gave us ten minutes to get into lifeboats, then ran smack into our ship, sinking it."

Nearly one-third the food now consumed in Germany consists of potatoes.

HOW CAN I?

BY ANNE ASHLEY

Q. How can I prevent the whites of eggs from falling after whipping?

A. Add a pinch of cream of tartar to the whites while they are being whipped.

Q. How can I clean gold or silver lace?

A. Sew the lace to a strip of clean linen and boil in a solution of one cupful of salt to one gallon of water. Dry without removing from the linen, and then sponge with a piece of white velvet dipped in alcohol.

Q. How can I mend holes in enameled ware?

A. Use equal parts of soft putty, table salt and sifted coal ashes. Cover the holes well and heat on the stove until the cement is hard.

Q. How can I skim grease from the top of soup?

A. Take square sheets of clean white tissue paper, lay one sheet at a time on the surface of the soup, and all the grease will adhere to the paper.

Q. How can I remove soot from wallpaper?

A. Use cornmeal for removing soot from wallpaper. First, brush off as much of the soot as possible; then rub on the cornmeal until it becomes soiled; brush off.

Brave Patient Amazes Doctor

Don't Englishwomen ever cry?" unmixed with astonishment, not unmixed with irritation, a German surgeon who dressed the wounds of a stewardess aboard a raider in the South Pacific which had picked up survivors from the liner Rangitane it had sunk.

He had discovered that the patient, Mrs. Elizabeth Plumb, of London, had been suffering for nearly nine hours from serious wounds received when a shell burst in front of her as she was leaving her cabin. She had then staggered up on deck, guided passengers to boat stations and when all had been taken aboard by the raider refused medical aid until everybody else had been attended to.

To add to her suffering, when the captives had been landed on the island of Emiru by the Nazis, anxious to be rid of them, she contracted tropical ulcers.

The story of her heroism was pieced together by a son, a munitions worker, in London, from fragmentary letters from the mother, messages fom the steamship company, and finally by a citation from Buckingham Palace announcing that the British Empire Medal had been conferred on her.

Mrs. Plumb is in Auckland, New Zealand, with one of her sons, who is in the Army. A third son is an air gunner in Iraq. A fourth, an air pilot, was killed last year.

What Science Is Doing

SOAP

To make a batch of soap requires from three to seven days. Joseph J. Jacobs of Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute cuts this down to fifteen minutes. Soap is usually made by treating fats or tallow with a weak solution of lye in water, just as the ancient Egyptians did. Mr. Jacobs uses no water. Fat is dissolved in kerosene and solid lye added. The mixture is then heated to a temperature higher than is now possible. The lye reacts with the fat in less than fifteen minutes to make soap. This hot mass of soap and kerosene is then sprayed into a vacuum chamber. Here the kerosene and soap, vaporize off, leaving a dry, granular, porous, quick-dissolving soap behind. The kerosene and glycerine are condensed and separated. The kerosene can then be reused for a new batch. The heat costs are about one-twentieth those of present methods. Industrial soap and high-grade toilet soaps can be made.

EX FISHERMAN SERVES IN R.C.N.

A fishing boat captain, offering the services of himself, his vessel and his crew, is given a navigational test by two officers of the R.C.N.

Treaty Protects Migratory Birds

Signed Twenty-Five Years Ago by Great Britain and the United States

The Migratory Bird Treaty between the United States and Great Britain had its twenty-fifth "birthday" on Dec. 8, signed by the two nations to protect migratory waterfowl and other forms of wildfire going back and forth between Canada and the United States, the treaty was proclaimed by President Wilson on Dec. 8, 1916.

"It is no exaggeration to call this treaty the most significant advance in the history of wildlife conservation in North America," Secretary Ickes of the Interior Department said of the anniversary. "In 1937, a similar treaty between Mexico and the United States was consumated to protect migratory birds and game mammals going back and forth between these two countries."

"Discharging our federal obligations under these international agreements has made possible one of the most sucessful wildlife conservation programs in history," Secretary Ickes added. "Not only does the Department of the Interior carefully regulate the hunting of the species affected, but it also maintains a nation-wide system of refuges to protect and encourage the migratory birds. The resulting increase in birds is today the best possibe evidence of the importance of this international co-operation."

Read The War News Carefully

Some Very Sound Advice Offered By The Ottawa Journal

A British M. P. complains that statements of British "official spokesmen" prior and during the Libya attack were "too optimistic" and wants an explanation. At the same time Mr. L. S. B. Shapiro writes from Washington:

"There is much comment in the capital and not a little criticism, of London's handling of the story of the fighting in Libya . . . Most of the argument resolves about Mr. Churchill's original announcement. . . . It is claimed that the Prime Minister's assessment of the situation after the first day of the battle was much too optimistic and that it promised a quick and smashing victory over General Rommel's forces."

This is what comes of people refusing to read war news carefully, and refusing above all to study the text of official statements. Actually, Mr. Churchill made no predictions about Libya, held out no hopes, was neither optimistic nor pessimistic. What he did, and all that he did, was to explain the preparations for the battle, tell of the advance of the first days, compare the conflict to Blenheim, and say that its consequences would be important. He certainly promised no victory.

Read The Texts

Further; Going back over Cairo's daily official statements since the beginning of the Libyan battle, one finds them extremely conservative; completely objective. In no single case did they promise a victory, or make extravagant claims.

What one wonders is: Did the average reader read these reports? Or did he prefer the highly imaginative stories of special correspondents, most of whom could not possibly see more than isolated fragments of the battle or grasp its tactical significance?

The Journal has all along advised people to read the war news more carefully, and above all to read the texts of official reports, and the texts of Mr. Churchill. It is only by such reading, with the aid of maps, that one can follow this war. Never mind the "experts" and never mind, most of all, the economists—the people who are eternally winning the war by discovering that the enemy is short of something.

The battle in Libya is not yet over; may yet result in a vital victory. In the meantime, while its result is being determined let us not blame Mr. Churchill's speech for making us too optimistic. The fault was not with Mr. Churchill; it was in the slipshod way in which too many people read Mr. Churchill.

Three "R's" Defy Blitz In England

The idea that education would be the first casualty of the war in Britain, and that children would not be able to carry on their studies, has been dissipated by the President of the Board of Education. In an interview that was broadcast from London he said that education was being carried on not only to provide for the future and build up the minds and characters of the boys and girls to lead the Empire, but also because it is one of the important sources of supply to the ministry of manhood production.

"Today more than 99 per cent of Britain's children are getting full-time education," it was stated. "School buildings have suffered damage, and in one city 50 per cent of them were bombed out in a single night, but all the children were in school within a week. We have a large measure of humanity in the life of the children which has been invaluable in the upkeep of morale. Health of the children has also been looked after and there is no reason why it should not improve during this year. From 60 to 90 per cent of the children receive milk," said the speaker.

How Mr. Churchill Won His Captaincy

Mr. Churchill has been appointed colonel of the 4th Queen's Own Hussars, the regiment which he joined as a subaltern in 1895 when it was under orders for India.

The Commanding Officer, then Col. Brabazon, was an old friend of Lord Randolph's; he told young Winston that he was a clever young man but could do with discipline and that a good cavalry regiment was the place for him to get it. Would he, therefore, promise not to leave the regiment till after he got his troop—that is, his captaincy. Winston said that he would not commit himself to that, but he would promise not to leave the regiment until it had won the Indian International Polo Cup.

Colonel Brabazon, knowing that no regiment had ever won the cup before it had been three years in India, said that that was good enough for him. But the 4th Hussars team, of which Winston Churchill was a member, won the cup in its second season, and the war correspondent and Prime Minister-to-be was free of his promise.

Bundle For Britain

A brunette, twenty, rather streamlined and a Chilean, with 300 hours solo flying and 300 English words to her credit, Margot Duhalde, joined the W.A.A.F. in London last September and is now engaged . . . ferrying Spitfires from factory to airdrome. Some bundle for Britain!

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Place Australia On War Footing

Prime Minister John Curtin announced sweeping emergency measures to draft all available manpower into the armed forces and place the entire nation on a war footing.

Single men from 18 to 45 and married men from 18 to 35 will be required to register under the new draft laws. Veterans of the last war were being mobilized for guard and coast defence duties. The cabinet laid plans for drastic gasoline rationing and checked fuel, coal and clothing stocks and air raid precautions.

Women rushed to answer a call for volunteers for the auxiliary services.

Army Minister Francis Michael Forde announced all militia men had been called up for full-time training.

Factory Cooking

Leonard Tuddings, a Bermuda editor-proprietor, was much impressed by an English tank factory he visited . He talked to a furnace hand during the dinner break. But was it a break?

With a piece of red-hot steel as a hotplate and another piece of armour plating as a grill pan he made a perfect welsh rarebit from his daily cheese ration, lifting it off with his tongs as slickly as a chef. In the intervals he proceeded with his contribution to the next tank.

Press Censorship

English newspapers are attempting to operate with press censorship such as described in this story from Newspaper World, London: "Once upon a time there was a ministry of information carrier pigeon. And as it was flying leisurely to its destination it was jostled by a second pigeon which bawled: Get a move on. I've got the denial!"

One Way To Win

"There is only one way in which we can win—mobilize the conscience of the world, fortify our own spirits, meet blood and iron with blood and iron, carry the weight of material to help the best men in the world; gather our power in all its strength and strike." — Leonard W. Brockington.

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Just Too Much

Said a wife in Tottenham police court: "My husband was a home bird, but when my daughter brought home her sergeant-major sweetheart, he walked out, saying it was too much for him after his experiences in the last war."