VOICE OF THE PRESS

WORK WITH FEAR OF DEVIL

It would be an excellent thing if every Canadian were to cut out and place in a prominent position in his home or office Mr. Gordon's declaration that total war will remain for most of us an empty platitude "until we are seized with the sense of terrible urgency, until we all go to work with the fear of the devil himself driving us forward; until we are ready to sacrifice in the flame of a true understanding patriotism all the selfish advantages of class, position and property. Until that time, until we and the other democracies who are still in the fight do that, we shall neither deserve nor achieve the victory that we so confidently assume must be ours."

—Montreal Star

BRITONS AT WORK

Almost half of Great Britain's 45,000,000 people are either in the armed forces or working on munitions; her war production now equals that of Germany; her construction of new naval tonnage is four times that of prewar days; she is building merchant ships at the rate of 1,100,000 tons a year, and the Royal Air Force now exceeds Germany's both in size and quality. John Bull is sweating, but he is far from exhausted.

—Hamilton Spectator

LAMENT

"A spirit of defeatism has swept over part of the country since razor blade rationing bobbed up among the restrictions that now are being applied or projected. Men who since the start of the war have been fancying themselves as the backbone of the nation are succumbing to a wave of mental depression, and already are mumbling some brave nothings through their anticipated whiskers."

—Windsor Star

ONE RAY OF HOPE

An aviation expert says that neither side in this conflict can build warships as fast as aviation can destroy them from the skies. Looks as if the day of the great navies is gone. The encouraging part of it is that no country in the world can build planes as fast as the United States when it gets going.

—Chatham News

LAUNDRY LANGUAGE

"They say Chinese laundrymen on the West coast, north and south, have adopted a scorched shirt policy towards their Japanese customers."

—Woodstock Sentinel-Review

COMPLICATIONS

Any incursion of Japs in India would merely complicate the caste system, as a place would have to be found below the untouchables for the unspeakables.

—Stratford Beacon-Herald

SPRING TIPS

Labeling the garden helps you to remember what it is that isn't coming up.

—Ottawa Citizen

In The Garden

By GORDON L. SMITH

Big Vegetable Garden

A good big vegetable garden is both patriotic and commonsense in wartime. Provided he is willing to devote all his spare time to it, one person can handle a quarter acre of vegetable garden and grow more than enough vegetables to keep a family the year round. But a quarter of an acre is a big garden.

As a matter of fact, all experienced gardeners advocate a small, well cultivated plot in preference to one larger and receiving less care. If the original digging is followed promptly and regularly with from two to four thorough cultivations, about a week to ten days apart, the weeds will get discouraged.

Leave Wet Soil Alone

Nothing is to be gained from working soil before it is ready. In fact with heavy ground, according to garden authorities, too early digging is about the worst possible thing one can do. Not only is it a messy job, in the first place, but the sticky clay is quite likely to bake later into hard lumps, suitable perhaps for temporary building material, but not for growing flowers and vegetables.

One should curb the natural impulse to be out digging in early Spring and wait until the surface water has completely disappeared and one can walk and work in the garden without getting the shoes muddy. When the soil reaches this stage it is fit to work, and not before. Good garden soil in the right working condition crumbles and breaks into fine, tiny pieces; it does not pack into lumps.

WHO SAID WE WOODEN HAVE BIKES?

Two Los Angeles youngsters demonstrate a bicycle built of wood to meet the shortage of bikes. Three metal bolts hold the vehicle together and it runs on tires of reclaimed rubber.

The Individual Citizen's Army

By ALAN MAURICE IRWIN

A Weekly Column About This and That in The Canadian Army

Well, when Col. Ralston got back to Ottawa recently and announced the formation of groups of "Rangers" on the Pacific Coast he rather changed the complexion of this column. Or, perhaps it would be more truthful to say that he set this columnist's thinkbox working in a new and less circumscribed channel.

The Individual Citizen's Army today isn't all uniformed in khaki. It consists of—or should consist of—all of us.

A year ago last Christmas His Majesty, King George, said, "We are all in the front line." At that time, I'm afraid, most of us thought of that statement as being applied to the citizens of Great Britain. Somewhat complacently, too, we laid the flattering unction to our souls that the King also included our little purchase of War Savings Certificates and Victory Bonds as our front line contribution.

Today there are many branches of the Individual Citizen's Army in which all of us may serve in one way or another: men, women and children; old soldiers, young soldiers, men who are exempt from military service.

I don't like that term, "exempt from military service." Not one of us is, or can be, exempt. So, for the purpose of this column let's translate the phrase to mean, "exempt from legal compulsion to serve."

To follow the biblical injunction that, "the last shall be first," let's look at the opportunities for service offering themselves to old soldiers, young soldiers and the legally exempt. For them the Reserve Army offers the ideal opportunity to serve in two ways—as a soldier preparing himself for home defence if that should become necessary, and, you heard what Prime Minister King said on the radio,—as a producing citizen continuing his ordinary tasks.

No need to go into detail about this—it has all been in the daily papers recently—but there is no doubt that once the new set-up gets well under way the men who jump at the opportunity of spending 45 evenings, 10 week-ends and 15 days (in camp) learning the ways of a modern army will have an interesting and useful spare time occupation that will stand them in good stead if it has to become a full time job.

"Sam" Browne, usually known in print as Major-General B. W. Browne, D.S.O., M.C., has been named commander of the Reserve Army and he has had a long acquaintance with the problems of a part time militia. In peace time that is a heart-breaking job—it will be simpler now that authority has been given to equip the Reserve Army with modern guns, weapons, equipment and training facilities.

You know the classes who are eligible? Let's repeat them. Men between 35 and 50, men between 17 and 19 who will thus be able to fit themselves for active service before they reach service age and men who are not subject to conscription by reason of their occupations or for other legitimate reasons.

Before this column gets too long let's look briefly at the expansion of the Individual Citizen's Army. This is an army now in which abstention from buying another pair of shoes if half-soles will do is the equivalent of a clip of machine-gun bullets. It is an army we all belong to and in which we can all fight.

It is an army that trains us all to do all we can for the defence of our country or for attack on the Axis.

It is an army in which the physical training necessitated by doffing an elastic girdle will result in a stronger race of women who will be ready for any tasks war may impose as well as the conservation of rubber for war purposes.

Not very romantic? War hasn't been romantic since the days of knights in armour — and if we knew the truth it probably wasn't very romantic then.

Solves Gas Problem

Bill Pinch, Hardgravel Mountain farmer, has a solution to gasoline rationing. It's his four-year-old steer, "Bossy," which he hitches to an old-time buggy for the five-mile trip to town.

When someone commented on the slowness of the rig, Bill replied, " 'Bossy' just acts sedate in town. You should see him on the way home. He does a good five miles an hour."

Nazis To Conscript Greeks For Service

All males in Greece between the ages of 16 and 60 are liable to compulsory military or other service for the German authorities, an Exchange Telegraph said in a dispatch from the British island of Cyprus in the Eastern Mediterranean.

DESTROYER RATING

by Wm. Howard Pugsley

Our destroyer carries a proud ship's company.

They have a right to be proud. A year ago a torpedo ripped into the forward part of the ship's hull, blowing away the bow, but her crew kept the ship afloat and brought her safely into port where the damage could be repaired.

Then she went back to her convoy job.

Recently, this same destroyer ran into a hurricane while homeward bound. Battered and leaking, her boats smashed and her life-rafts gone, short of provisions and fuel, and her crew exhausted, she still came through and steamed smartly into her base port.

Not a man had been lost overboard in the storm, nor even anyone seriously injured.

How many of our O.D.'s (ordinary seamen) newly come to the ship and for whom this had been their first introduction to the real meaning of life at sea, how many of them longed for a draft on shore after this experience? Not one.

The complement of a destroyer is about three times that of a corvette or minesweeper. We carried eight officers and one hundred and sixty-six ratings.

Most of the O.D.'s were new in our ship. During the shore refit, many of the old crew, now rated A.B.'s (able-bodied seamen) had been drafted off, some to leaven with their experience the crews of new ships just commissioning, others to take courses to qualify for higher specialist ratings.

As replacements, a flock of "jeeps", ordinary seamen who had just finished their shore trimming, had been drafted aboard.

All of these lads were young, keen, willing, enthusiastic, hard-working and ready for anything. Never, even under the most trying circumstances — of which there were many—were they anything but cheerful.

The "fore lower" is where you begin your life at sea in a destroyer. As it is so far for'd and so far down in the hull, the motion of the ship is very pronounced.

Because this location is so un-"de luxe", it is reserved for the least important of all ratings, the O.D.'s. When you've done your nine months, (including the four month' seatime), and can pass professionally in the things a seaman must know, you too will be rated "A.B.", and graduate to the more spacious upper mess deck.

When I first went on board, I, too, was asigned to the "fore lower", being an ordinary seaman.

The first ten days after I joined the ship were spent in harbor. During this period we worked about the ship in the morning and afternoons, and were allowed ashore two or three nights out of four, depending on how the watches were being run. We turned out each morning at 6.30, lashed and stowed hammocks, sat down to breakfast at seven, and fell in for work at eight.

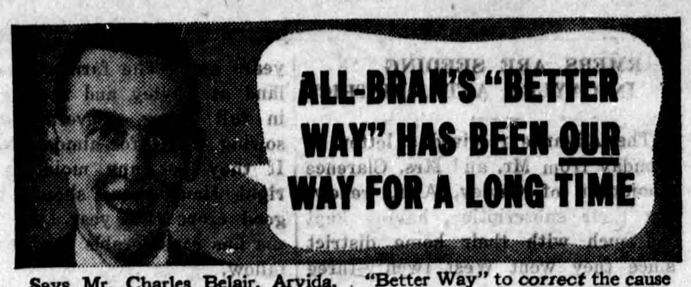
All the seamen ratings, that is those who worked principally on the upper deck, then mustered in the waist of the ship, along the port and starboard sides.

The "Buffer"—a petty officer whose official status was that of Bos'n's Mate—mounted the walkway over the torpedo tubes, called us to attention and reported us all present to the First Lieutenant, who then gave the Buffer any special instructions he might have regarding work he wanted done.

Make no mistake, they could always find something for you to do, and when you had done it you were supposed to come back and ask for more. Otherwise you were liable to be "run in" on a charge of "skulking", that is, not working.

Other ships, then on convoy assignments, freguently did a month or more at sea, broken only by a day on one side refuelling and at most three to four days in port at the other side while waiting for another convoy. Sometimes they didn't get more than a day at either end of the trip—and only a few hours shore leave.

If you were unlucky enough to be duty that night, you just didn't get ashore at all—somebody had to stay and each must take his turn.



Says Mr. Charles Belair, Arvida, Quebec: "KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN has long been a favorite in our home. Mother used to serve it to us when we were young . . . and since my wife started making ALL-BRAN muffins three or four times a week and serving ALL-BRAN as a breakfast cereal, we have had no more use for pills or powders. ALL-BRAN keeps us regular . . . naturally." Why don't *you* try ALL-BRAN'S "Better Way" to *correct* the cause if you are troubled by constipation due to lack of the right kind of 'bulk' in your diet? But remember, ALL-BRAN doesn't work like harsh cathartics. It takes time. Eat it regularly and drink plenty of water. Get ALL-BRAN at your grocer's, in two convenient size packages, or ask for the individual serving package at restaurants. Made by Kellogg's in London, Canada.

THE WAR - WEEK — Commentary on Current Events

British Mission To India Fails Nazi Demands Reinstate Laval

Indian leaders rejected Great Britain's plan for self-rule and co-operation in the war effort. The plan brought from England by Sir Stafford Cripps met its defeat on the question of India's defence. Great Britain contended that this responsibility should rest in experienced British hands: the all-Indian Congress leaders held that the responsibility was India's.

United Against Invaders

It is considered that, although Sir Stafford Cripps' mission to India has failed in its main objective, its work has not been wasted. The discussions which were held drew together the various units of India, and their leaders expressed determination to resist "to the death" the invasion that appeared imminent. Volunteers rushed to join the armed services and work in Indian munition plants and shipbuilding yards was speeded up.

Even Mohandas Gandhi, arch-Pacifist, pledged himself to complete passive resistance against the Japanese and said: "I and my followers will refuse any help, even water, for the Japanese even if it should cost us our lives."

Importance of India

Great Britain may make a new declaration of Indian policy soon in the hope of getting India fully aroused to the danger of the Japanese menace. For the United Nations the loss of India would mean the collapse of their defenses throughout the Far East; for Japan a land road would be opened to a possible juncture with Germany in the Middle East.

India is vital to the United Nations: (1) as a barrier to the westward march of the Japanese, and (2) as a growing source of war supplies and vast manpower. Without India the war may well be prolonged for years.

Epic of Bataan

The whole world of free men will join in paying tribute to the magnificent stand made by American and Filipino troops in the Philippine Islands. They have written a chapter of stubborn heroism that will never be forgotten.

The delaying action in the Philippines has been of the utmost importance to the Allies and may have altered the whole course of the Pacific War. It has kept a large force of Japanese assault troops tied up which might have been used for striking at Australia before the defenses there were ready.

But the fall of Bataan means that now the enemy will be able to divert a large body of troops to the Battle of Burma and to the projected attack on India. The Japanese position is thus materially improved and is further strengthened by the British loss of two battle cruisers and an aircraft carrier off India's East Coast.

Laval Reinstated

The sudden dramatic shift that brings Pierri Laval back into power as "Chief of the Government of France", can only mean, according to the New York Times, that Hitler is through with halfway measures and ready to take personal command. Petain remains as "Chief of State", but there cannot be much doubt that he now becomes a figurehead. Laval is a traitor to France and is Hitler's creature and his accession to power is the opening signal for Hitler's Spring offensive.

Hitler is about to make a supreme effort to win the war in an all-out drive for victory, and for that drive he must have all the power he can muster among the conquered nations of Europe. He evidently expects to get from Laval that aid which Petain had refused to give.

Game With France Ended

Hitler's long and cruel game of cat-and-mouse with France is ended. For nearly two years—with intrigue, bribery, cajolery, displays of German military power—Hitler has sought to win over the people of France. In that effort he has failed and failed so utterly that in order to achieve his will in France he has put into power a renegade Frenchman who is hated and despised by his own countrymen. The proof is clear that France has rejected Hitler.

U. S. Attitude

It will become necessary now for the government of the United States to consider whether it will still attempt to maintain relations with Petain's successor or whether it will break off those relations. Much is at stake. Not only is the status of the French fleet and French bases uncertain, but there would be deep concern if France should turn over Madagascar to the Japanese and permit the use of her colonial bases by Axis submarines.

French Control Gone

With Hitler's new agent in power it becomes impossible to believe that any part of continental France will remain under the effective control of French authorities. No one can be better aware of this than the great masses of the French people, the Times says.

Through two long years of bitter misery and immense danger they have rejected Hitler's advances, only to have Hitler's creature forced upon them in the end. That they hope passionately for Hitler's destruction we may be sure. That we shall fight until we have achieved his destruction they may be certain.

Canada To Issue War Time Stamps

Canada will soon have an entirely new set of postage stamps illustrating her part in the war.

"These stamps are in necessary replacement of those at present current throughout Canada and will depict Canada's war effort and the contribution being made by this country to the cause of the United Nations," Hon. W. P. Mulock, Postmaster-General, said.

The new stamps are expected to be available sometime in July but Post Office officials meantime ask that philatelists refrain from sending in requests for them.

Details of the designs will be announced shortly, officials said.

Some of the stamps, it is understood, will bear new portraits of King George, in uniform. On others will be pictures illustrative of various phases of Canada's part in the war.

REG'LAR FELLERS—A Bad Break

By GENE BYRNES

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