VOICE OF THE PRESS

IN AIRCRAFT OF 1919

At long last a memorial commemorating the pioneer trans-Atlantic flight of Alcock and Brown in 1919 is to be erected at the spot in Newfoundland whence they took off in their Vickers Vimy bomber. If flights by Ferry Command require real courage nowadays, they were feats of almost superhuman endurance in the rickety aircraft of 1919, and Alcock and Brown deserve all the recognition and commemoration that it is possible to give them.

—Brockville Recorder and Times

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THE MEN GOT OFF

When the U.S.S. Lexington was known to be beyond hope, there was no exciting bawling out of orders and commands. Instead, Rear Admiral Aubrey Fitch leaned over the bridge and quietly said to his friend, Captain Frederick Sherman:

"Let's get the men off, Fred."

And, so efficiently was the order executed, not a single man was lost in abandoning the big aircraft carrier.

—Windsor Star

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DINNER IN A BALL

Dehydration has achieved a new high in Britain. Farm products are being refined into "green baseballs." In central plants, cabbage and beets, spinach and a carrot or two, with celery and onions for flavor, are rolled into one and reduced in bulk so that a "baseball" contains leafy food for an average family dinner. It provides a new method of sending vitamins to the troops.

—Vancouver Sun

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VIRTUE'S REWARD

The Man Down the Street, who has cut two new holes in his belt, wants to know where he can get a cent a pound for the "spare tire" he is taking off by walking to work.

—Christian Science Monitor

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THE DISAPPEARING TRICK

And there was the Indian rope trick performer who was discharged from the navy because every time he climbed the rigging he disappeared.

—Guelph Mercury

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CHAIR WARMER?

Berlin is asking all Germans to give used clothing to the army because so many clothes are being worn out in the east. That's odd. Ours usually wear out in the south.

—Kitchener Record

Fake Gods Vanish, Real Values Remain

Principal R. C. Wallace of Queen's University, Kingston, declared the war will be of no avail unless "at the end of it we can continue a world of social justice, where men may be free to develop their highest powers for the highest good."

Speaking at University of Buffalo's commencement recently, Dr. Wallace said "we have learned but little in this day of strife and conflict if we have not learned some simple elemental truths about life and its values".

"We learned them in the days when Britain was on the eve of disaster after France fell," he added. "Those who remember the tension of those fateful days . . . know in a way that we shall never forget that property, and wealth and possessions and rank count for nothing.

"Courage and fortitude and decency and honor and a sense of the eternal are all that matter. Our false gods disappeared before our eyes, and the real values remained."

U.S. Pupils Will Study Aviation

About 500,000 boys and girls in the United States — between 16 and 18 years years old — will study aviation as well as history and geography when they return to high school in September.

Meteorology, air navigation, communications, aerodynamics, engine design and structure are some of the subjects that will absorb the young minds of America.

Pre-flight training for secondary school consumption is part of a nation-wide program sponsored by the Air Training Corps of America. This organization, working in conjunction with the Civil Aeronautics Administration and the U.S. Office of Administration, will grant college credits to those boys who join ATCA units.

Fundamental Aviation is so new in high school curricula that even the teachers have to learn about it.

Teachers' College of Columbia University is offering a special series of summer courses for those who would instruct America's future fliers.

The Individual Citizen's Army

By Alan Maurice Irwin

A Weekly Column About This and That in Our Canadian Army

"Pass, Grand Rounds, all's well!" I suppose, along with "hate training", that sonorous "O.K." from a sentry facing his lonely beat has gone into the discard now.

It seems a pity that some of the glamour can't be left whether it be in the Army, the Navy or the Air Force. Of course the latter, even if it is a lusty infant, is the baby of the uniformed services and has hardly had long enough to build any tradition except that of daring and bravery.

There is something about the maintenance of old forms and fine phrases in this day of streamlining and curt, business-like speech that reminds us that the glorious future of tomorrow will in its turn become a glorious past.

What put this into my head was the fact that I put in some time yesterday visiting grocery stores to find out how we soldiers of the Individual Citizen's Army were behaving about the new rationing orders. It was something like visiting sentries on their beats — but more in the nature of "visiting rounds" than "grand rounds."

The result of my tour shows that in the main we are pretty good soldiers. It showed also that there are some "lead-swingers" amongst us. Do you remember "lead-swingers"? We discussed them in one of these columns back in the snow-shovelling days and came to the conclusion that they were a pretty low class of hounds who let other soldiers do their work for them.

That's the way to describe the "lead-swingers" who try to cheat the rest of us by having no honour when it comes to rationing. Instead of feeling that they have "put one over on the Government" when they buy more than the allotted ration we should realize that what they are doing is vastly different. They are "putting one over on us!"

Rationing is in effect in Canada today on tea, coffee and sugar. It is rationing in the democratic manner with each one of us on our honour to use only the amount allowed us by the regulations. The idea behind it is fair and equitable distribution of supplies regardless of rank or station.

Obviously then, the skunk who tries to get more than his or her share, is not only flouting the laws of the country, he is stealing from the rest of us.

To get back to "visiting rounds". Most grocers reported that there was very little, if any, evidence of increased buying of tea, coffee and sugar, following Donald Gordon't radio announcement of the rationing. What little there was, said some of them, seemed to be done by "women in cars" who were evidently ashamed enough of their activities to buy only a proper quantity at their own grocer's but not ashamed enough to go to a strange store for more!

Isn't that a sad commentary? The more so when you think that the sons and grandsons of some of these ladies are probably overseas in the armed forces.

"No more 'hate training' " was the headline over a recent cabled story from England. Well, I suppose the senior officers know best, but I remember—and so do many of you—how much more "beef" you could put behind a bayonet lunge if you pretended that the stuffed dummy in front of you was "Kaiser Bill"!

Perhaps there won't be any more training in 'hate' but you can't tell one that the brother of a Canadian soldier in Hong Kong is going to go about making war in a calm and detached manner!

Anyway some of us are working up hates at home and that's a bad thing, we should save it for the enemy. The object of my particular hate is the pleasure driver — especially when, as in the case with far too many, he has the manners of a hog.

In my little neck of the woods there is more Sunday driving than ever there was and I don't exaggerate when I say that more than half of the drivers are as arrogant as a young Nazi. They honk their horns for pedestrians to get out of their lordly way, they skirt as close to him as they dare if he doesn't get out of the way quickly enough and generally do everything in their stupid power to raise up a heartfelt cry for a prohibition of all pleasure driving.

And in Malaya, Java, the Philippines, Lybia, Greece and France their brothers died because there was not enough gasoline.

"Hate training"? The soldier doesn't need it, but some civilians are acquiring it!

TABLE ILLUSTRATES EFFECT OF PROPOSED INCOME TAX

(Amounts shown in even dollars for simplicity.)

Annual Income	Tax at Present Rates	Proposed Increase in Tax Alone	Tax at Proposed New Rates	Refundable Portion, or Min. Savings Requirement	Total, i.e., new Tax plus Refundable Portion, or Min. Savings Requirement
Single Persons, Without Dependents.					
700	35	—15	20	20	40
850	57	1	58	58	116
1,000	87	5	92	80	172
1,250	162	5	167	100	267
1,500	217	30	247	120	367
1,750	273	58	331	140	471
2,000	340	101	441	160	601
2,500	475	151	626	200	826
3,000	622	202	824	240	1,064
4,000	955	319	1,274	320	1,594
5,000	1,332	396	1,728	400	2,128
7,500	2,400	570	2,970	600	3,570
10,000	3,600	712	4,312	800	5,112
20,000	9,105	1,924	11,029	800	11,829
30,000	15,082	3,314	18,396	800	19,196
50,000	28,392	6,511	34,903	800	35,703
100,000	64,347	15,990	80,337	800	81,137
500,000	411,720	60,584	472,304	800	473,104
Married Persons, Without Children.					
1,250	50	—25	25	25	50
1,300	65	—15	50	50	100
1,500	75	34	109	108	217
1,750	125	36	161	160	321
2,000	175	56	231	200	431
2,250	225	91	316	225	541
2,500	275	126	401	250	651
3,000	400	184	584	300	884
4,000	675	289	964	400	1,364
5,000	1,000	378	1,378	500	1,878
7,500	1,965	555	2,520	750	3,270
10,000	3,080	682	3,762	1,000	4,762
20,000	8,330	1,949	10,279	1,000	11,279
30,000	14,085	3,361	17,446	1,000	18,446
50,000	26,965	6,588	33,553	1,000	34,553
100,000	61,875	16,112	77,987	1,000	78,987
500,000	401,120	60,834	461,954	1,000	462,954
Married Persons, With Two Children.					
1,250	22	—6	16	16	32
1,300	25	—7	18	17	35
1,400	30	—9	21	21	42
1,500	35	—10	25	24	49
1,750	48	5	53	52	105
2,000	60	47	107	108	215
2,250	73	90	163	162	325
2,500	115	102	217	218	435
3,000	215	119	334	334	668
4,000	450	218	668	480	1,148
5,000	735	327	1,062	600	1,662
7,500	1,637	517	2,154	900	3,054
10,000	2,710	636	3,346	1,200	4,546
20,000	7,890	1,973	9,863	1,200	11,063
30,000	13,621	3,409	17,030	1,200	18,230
50,000	26,437	6,700	33,137	1,200	34,337
100,000	61,299	16,272	77,571	1,200	78,771
500,000	400,408	61,130	461,538	1,200	462,738

NOTE: In calculating the above taxes it has been assumed that all incomes up to $30,000 are entirely earned income, and that incomes of more than $30,000 include earned income of that amount and additional investment income to make up the total. Payments made by the taxpayer within the tax year as net premiums on life insurance contracts in force June 23, 1942, or as principal payments on a mortgage on one residence, or as payments into a pension fund, retirement fund or superannuation fund, will be accepted as an alternative to the liability to turn over funds directly to the treasury as part of the minimum savings requirement.

Wherever possible, income and national defence taxes will be collected at the source. In the case of wage and salary earners this means that, beginning next September, employers must deduct from pay envelopes weekly amounts estimated to pay within 12 months the national defence and income taxes of all employees for 1942.

The excess profits tax on corporations is being increased from 75 to 100 per cent. effective July 1st. In essence this means that, along with revised corporation income taxes companies whose profits have not gone up since the start of the war will retain only 60 per cent. of their profits as before. No matter how much their earnings have expanded during the war, they will be permitted to retain at the most, only 70 per cent. of their normal pre-war profits.

Excess profits taxes on corporations will bring in an additional $58,000,000 a year.

The budget also puts higher taxes on liquor, wine and beer; cigarettes, cigars, tobacco, cigarette papers and tubes, soft drinks, furs and playing cards. Transportation taxes, taxes on pullman berths, long distance telephone calls, telegrams and cables are also increased.

A whole new range of taxes at the rate of 25 per cent. of the retail price, is placed on jewelry, glassware, china, fountain pens, trunks, suitcases, purses, handbags, clocks and watches. The taxes do not apply to some of these articles selling in some cases, $1.00 and in others below 50 cents.

Air Chief Praises New Canadian Plane

Operational flights of a new airplane now being built in Canada as well as in England, show it is better than any aircraft possessed by the enemy, said Air Vice-Marshal Harold Edwards recently.

Air Vice-Marshal Edwards has been on a tour of aviation and Allied plants in Canada before returning to active duty in England. He came to Canada four weeks ago to attend the United Nations air conference at Ottawa.

"Aircraft plants I have visited in Canada are making most useful progress," he said. "We couldn't ask for more than they are doing. They are capably turning out satisfactorily all they have been asked to. The ingenuity shown in production of articles of war will go a long way toward reaching the end we all seek."

THE WAR - WEEK — Commentary on Current Events

German Pincer Movement In Egypt And Russia Towards Middle East

In the seven months that it stood last year, surrounded by Axis forces, and hurled back every assault, Tobruk became a symbol of courage and resistance. Its sudden fall, coupled with the almost simultaneous loss of Bardia and Bir El Gobi, is a hard blow. The explanation of Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's success repeats the weaknesses which have beset the British forces in Libya from the start. In tanks and guns Germany had both numerical and qualitative superiority. Her forces excelled in the rapid repair and servicing of mechanical equipment, in the blitzkrieg technique of using tanks, planes and guns as an integrated assault team, and in resourcefulness of staff work and generalship. Above all, the British again suffered from the great handicap of the United Nations in having to spread their forces too thinly over too many places at the ends of long and perilous supply routes in order to meet an enemy free to strike outward from the centre of the circle, says the New York Times.

Pincer Movement

Presumably the Nazi campaign in Libya is a prelude to a full-scale assault upon Egypt in an effort to drive the British from the Mediterranean and conquer the entire Middle East. The drive may be viewed as one arm of an enormous pincer reaching toward the prize of Middle Eastern oil, the other arm being the German drive in Russia which has driven a wedge in the defenses of Sevastopol. This is a dangerous threat which must be occupying a major place in the discussions now going on between Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt.

The loss of Tobruk itself is not so important as the circumstances surrounding that loss. The Nazis claim to have captured 25,000 men and large stores of material, including supplies freshly brought in by the convoy which came through the bottle in the Mediterranean. If this is true it must mean that Lieut. Gen. Neil M. Ritchie's Eighth Army has been seriously weakened and that Marshal Rommel has been strengthened. Tobruk is not vital to the defense of Egypt, but Egypt is vital to the defense of the Middle East. The battle which now impends will be crucial. It must be won at all costs.

Anniversary In Russia

On the last day of the first year of their campaign in Russia, the German armies are still fighting far short of the goal they set out to reach at dawn on June 22, 1941. Behind them lie the greatest victories and the severest setbacks ever to come to Hitler's Wehrmacht. The Russians have estimated upward of 5,600,000 Germans killed, wounded and captured; Berlin four months ago admitted 1,500,000 casualties. In the initial five months of the year the German soldiers overran 500,000 square miles of territory with 42,500,000 people. In five months of Winter war they lost one-fifth of the conquered area to Russian counter-attacks. The coming of Spring brought local battles on the southern front; a Russian offensive in the Ukraine, launched five weeks ago, forestalled, it was believed, the German plan for resumption of a major drive eastward toward the Caucasus and oil.

Soviet losses, in the first year of war, were likewise enormous. Six months ago, in an official estimate, Berlin claimed between 8,000,000 and 10,000,000 Red Army casualties; Moscow, more recently, has admitted close to 3,000,000 lost. Yet in those months of fighting Russian soldiers found a technique of resistance which, it appeared, blunted the Blitzkrieg and forced on the German Fuehrer an ever-lengthening war.

Russia's Power

Last week the Soviet soldier's power of resistance was again evident in two battles raging in South Russia. Sevastopol, the citadel on the southwestern coast of the Crimea, was still in Russian hands after more than seven months of siege. For more than two weeks the Germans had pitted tanks and guns and planes in an all-out attack against the city's defenders ensconced in the limestone hills. Siege guns believed larger than the "Big Berthas" of the first World War had shelled Sevastopol's defenses, which then had been attacked repeatedly by tanks and foot soldiers. The city's people had lived out countless air raids in deep caves carved in the cliffs. "To the last soul" they had sworn "to die before surrendering."

Before Kharkov a second German offensive launched eleven days ago appeared to have been halted along the Donets River. The Wehrmacht's newest drive had been launched, so observers held, to prepare the ground for an all-out campaign across the Donets Basin, with its teeming industries, toward Rostov, gateway to the Caucasus.

Aid From America

This was the threat faced by the Russian nation as the Red Army battled at Sevastopol and Kharkov. To help in staving off the danger direct aid was coming from the United States. American-made tanks and planes were on the Russian front; to these were added—the report came from Turkey, remains unconfirmed—bombers of the American Army Air Corps with American crews which had flown to participate in the defense of the Crimean bastion. From bases in the Middle East, moreover, four-motored United States "Liberators" had taken off for damaging raids on Nazi oil fields and supply dumps in Rumania.

When credit for final victory in this war is handed out much will go to China for her stout resistance to Japan, beginning in 1937; much to Britain for standing fast after the evacuation of Dunkerque; a very great deal to Russia for slugging it out with the Nazis after June 22, 1941. It is only fair to say that it was the Russians, somewhere between the Dnieper and the Don, who proved that the Nazis could be beaten; and that it was the Russians, obstinate in retreat, relentless in attack, who gained for the rest of us a decisive period of time in which to gather strength.

Russia's Unity

We are traveling at fighter-plane speed toward the war's critical months. Before these words can appear in print the Nazis may have smashed the Russian defenses at more than one point. It is possible that there may be another great Russian retreat. Yet the twelve months now ending make it safe to predict that though the Russians may be pushed back they will not be routed; and that though they may lose men, materials, towns, cities, farms and factories they will not lose their fighting spirit.

This much could not be taken for granted a year ago. We did not then know how much unity existed among the Russian people. We could not be sure that some of them would not be willing to replace Stalin with Hitler. We had no means of testing the real state of public opinion in Russia. Now we know what it is, not by any scientific process of "sampling" but by the splendor of a granite-like resistance of which a divided people would have been incapable.

A Soldier's Jerkin

There may be a Dunkirk British soldier somewhere now who might be interested to know that he and his greenish oilskin jerkin are held in remembrance in Pasadena, Cal. During that evacuation a contingent of British troops marched past a French (or Belgian) lady and her husband who were fleeing to the sea. The husband, all out, lay by the roadside. One of the soldiers spread his jerkin over him.

Those fugitives reached America at last; the man succumbed; but months later his widow came to Pasadena, bringing that greenish oilskin. She gave it to the British War Relief where it now hangs as her tribute not to that one soldier alone who, passing by, had cared for her husband, but to him and all his comrades in the British Army.

REG'LAR FELLERS—Pass the Medals By GENE BYRNES