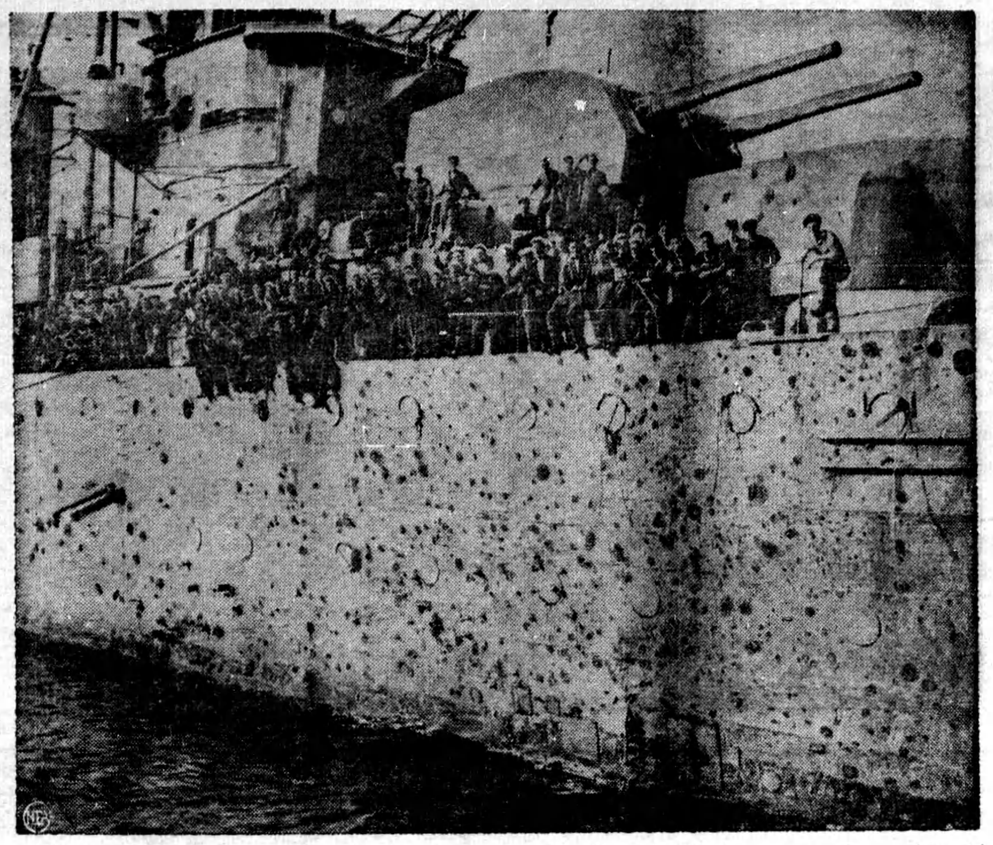
HOME FROM THE WARS



Wooden plugs and makeshift plates help keep sieve-like H. M. S. Penelope seaworthy as ship, chief target of one of heaviest raids on much-bombed Malta, comes safely home to British port. Hundreds of bomb and shell splinter holes pepper craft's side.

What Science Is Doing

WIRE SOUND RECORDER

The Armour Research Foundation announced recently development and patenting of a device that records sound on steel wire as thin as a human hair and may, the foundation said, revolutionize the technique of transcription.

Dr. Harold Vagtborg, director of the foundation, affiliated with the Illinois Institute of Technology, credited the device chiefly to Marvin Camras, 26-year-old staff assistant physicist.

The recorder is about the size of a large portable radio and an eight-hour continuous recording can be wound on a spool five inches in diameter and two inches wide. It records sound magnetically and there is no mechanical change in the wire, which can be demagnetized and used again.

Once the recording is made, the sounds can be played back immediately without processing. Dr. Vagtborg said the wire would retain this recorded sound potential for years or could be wiped clean instantly by the demagnetizing process.

The recorder, he said, can be set to start and stop automatically and needs no attention while running. He said these advantages give it limitless practical applications, such as:

In airplanes, microphones placed in the control cabins could pick up all conversations and commands. Housed in an asbestos case, the recorder would survive a crash and tell the story of what preceded it.

It could record millions of words of enemy propaganda at government monitoring radio stations and reduce greatly the amount of critical materials used in making standard type records. The storage problem, too, would be minimized.

In the home radio, the device could record a daytime program —such as a baseball game—so that those far away could hear it better.

Britain's M.P.'s Make Munitions

Two members of Parliament, one of them a primly dressed woman, worked side by side with Parliamentary clerks at their benches turning out war materials.

It was only part-time work, but both Miss Thelma Cazalet, a London Conservative, and Arthur Duckworth, Shrewsbury Conservative, said it made them feel they were doing something extra to beat Hitler.

Miss Cazalet was filing a small metal bar, while Duckworth was planing a piece of metal.

"I think this is the thing to do," he said. "Any available time should be utilized. Many of my constituents work in munitions plants and I think it well that I should know how, too."

Miss Cazalet, Duckworth and the Parliamentary employees first became interested in munitions work when they discovered an old lathe in the basement of the historic building while on fire-watching duty.

After a few experiments, they decided turning out war materials was better than playing darts—heretofore their principal diversion while not watching for fire bombs—and asked for additional facilities.

Holidays Needed Even In Wartime

Rest and Relaxation Necessary to Do Efficient Work

At a time like this when war production must not be permitted to lag, some people may say we should forget all about holidays this summer and stick to our tasks, writes the Kitchener Record. If a person were like a machine that can be operated 24 hours a day and seven days a week, it might be wise to forego vacations this summer. But there is a limit to what the human body can endure. It requires rest and relaxation to do efficient work.

Medical men say holidays are more necessary this year than ever, because of the pressure under which most people have been working. This view coincides with that of the British Government which made a study of the question. Working hours in Britain have been stepped up —but summer vacations go on because vacations promote health, and health makes for efficiency.

* * *

But there is one very important point vacationists should keep in mind this year. Holidays should be planned so that the greatest benefit is derived from them.

Holidays can be spoiled from the start by not using common sense and throwing caution to the winds. Hygeia, published by the American Medical Association, offers some timely advice when it says: "A person unaccustomed to any form of strenuous exercise other than strap-hanging in a street car obviously should take exercise in moderate doses."

* * *

Besides cautioning against over-exercise, Hygeia lists other "Don'ts".

Don't spoil your vacation by getting painfully sunburned right at the start. The sun is good, but should be taken in easy doses. Acquire that tan gradually.

On a dull day, don't sit around for hours in a damp bathing suit.

Observance of these simple rules will help to make the holidays enjoyable.

Germans Wipe Out Another Czech Town

The Czech community of Lesaty in Bohemia has been razed by the Nazis on the accusation that the village hid parachutists involved in the slaying of Reinhard Heydrich, "protector" of Bohemia Moravia, it was reported recently in Budapest radio broadcasts heard by a Czech government listener in London.

The Vichy French News Service quoted the Prague anouncement as saying all the adult male population was executed. Lesaty was described as a community of about 100 inhabitants.

This was the second village wiped out by the Germans in vengeance for the death of Heydrich, the Germans having boasted June 10 they had slain the male population of Lidice, near Prague, sent the women to concentration camps and the children to "educational" institutions.

About 350 men faced the firing squads in that village.

Every Fifth House In Britain Damaged

Harold Beresford Butler, new British minister to the U.S., said last week on arriving in New York by clipper that at least 100,000 lives had been lost in the United Kingdom during the war and that every fifth house had been damaged or destroyed by bombs.

"We are now hitting back hard," he said in a statement.

Butler, who will head the British Information Services in the United States, succeeding Sir Gerald Campbell, said in reply to a question that 58,000 British servicemen were killed or missing since the war started and 44,000 civilians killed in air raids.

He said the defeat in Libya "will be a great disappointment to the British people."

He predicted the defeat nevertheless would have "no disheartening effect" upon the British morale, adding it would instead "only harden it".

Modern Etiquette

1. Is it well for a person to form sudden friendships with people that one has not known but a very short time?
2. When one is a guest at a small dinner, should one accept a helping of every dish offered?
3. What is the first rule one should observe in giving a successful party?
4. When people persist in talking at the theatre, is it permissible to ask them to stop?
5. What woman should a man seat at the dinner table?
6. Isn't it poor manners to make extravagant remarks about a woman's new dress, when in a group?

ANSWERS

1. It is far better to proceed more cautiously, until one is better acquainted, before forming a real friendship. An old proverb says: "Beware equally of a sudden friend and a slow enemy."
2. Yes. We all have our likes and dislikes, but at a small dinner it is embarrassing to the hostess when a guest refuses a dish. One can at least manage a small quantity.
3. To bring together only people whom the hostess is sure will be congenial.
4. Yes, but do so quietly and as pleasantly as possible. If they resent the request or ignore it, speak to the usher. Only the most rude and ill-bred people are guilty of this.
5. The woman on his right.
6. Yes. A complementary remark can be made privately, but should be avoided when others are present.

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Have You Heard?

Jones and Smith were sitting in their tent in the African jungle discussing their skill as hunters. Presently Jones remarked that he would bet Smith a pound that he could go out and kill a lion forthwith.

Smith took the bet and sat back to await results.

About an hour passed, and then a lion put its head through the tent flap.

"Do you know a fellow called Jones?" it asked.

"I do," said Smith, backing away.

"Ah!" said the lion, "he owes you a pound."

First Patient (pompously): "Well, I can really say I am a self-made man."

Second Patient (sadly): "You're in luck. I'm the revised work of my wife and three surgeons."

The chief constable of a small town was also an expert veterinary surgeon. One night the telephone bell rang. The chief constable's wife answered.

"Is that Mr. Jenkins?" asked an agitated voice.

"Do you want my husband in his capacity as veterinary surgeon or as chief constable?"

"Both, madam," came the reply. "We can't get our new bulldog to open his mouth, and there's a burglar in it."

Mike: "'Tis a fine kid you have there. A magnificent head and noble features. Say, could you lend me a couple of dollars?"

Pat: "I could not. 'Tis my wife's child by her first husband."

A Scot called at the cat's-meat shop one morning, gave his address, and asked that a pennyworth be left there in the afternoon.

Some time later the vendor was suprised when the man rushed in and told him to cancel the order.

"What's the matter?" inquired the butcher. "Is your cat dead?"

"No, no, no," puffed the man, "he's caught a mouse."

Witty Boarder: "Ah, your steak is like the weather this evening... Rather raw."

Witty Landlady: "Indeed? By the way, your board bill is like the weather, too. Unsettled."

German Birth-Rate Shows An Increase

German birth figures for the last year confirm the evidence of previous years that Hitler has attained a considerable degree of success with his campaign to increase the birthrate. They show, indeed, some small decline as compared with 1940, but the fact remains that last year's total of 1,528,000 births in the Reich (including Austria, the Sudetenland and Danzig) represents an increase of over 400,000 on the numbers born in the same territories in the year of Hitler's advent to power.

Picobac

IT *DOES* TASTE GOOD IN A PIPE!

GROWN IN SUNNY, SOUTHERN ONTARIO

New Cafe Service For C.N.R. Trains

"Coffee Shop" to Cope with Increased Passenger Traffic

Cafe cars of a type new to Canada are about to be placed in service on the Canadian National Railways.

While described as a cafe car this new example of dining car equipment has also been termed a "coffee shop" car. It is entirely different in interior plan from the standard type of dining car. Increasing passenger traffic due to growing wartime business has placed heavy demands on railway dining cars and these new units designed by Canadian National experts are being provided to cope with that demand.

These cars have been evolved in the stream line manner to expedite service and to provide for a greater number of patrons within a given time than is possible with the more leisurely movement usual in the conventional type.

Increased Accommodation

The new car has kitchen and pantry in the centre of the floor space with a dining compartment on each side of the kitchen. In the dining compartments each accommodating twenty patrons there are no chairs, seating being provided by comfortable setees placed along the side walls. Tables for two are arranged in front of the setees leaving the centre floor space clear for service.

Each dining compartment has accommodation for twenty guests and the total of forty which may be seated at one time is a greater capacity than that of standard diners. The majority of these latter vary from thirty to thirty-six seats.

Tables in the coffee shop cars have smooth colored tops of sanitary material quickly and easily cleaned. Table covers will not be used, but napkins will be provided.

Prices for all meals are being moderately scaled.

Light Cigarettes With $100 Bills

It was everybody's party on Corregidor when the job of destroying the island's American and Filipino currency, including $100,000,000 of Philippine pesos, was begun a few days before surrender to Japan, says Newsweek. In Melbourne last week, Col. R. G. Jenks, one of the last six American officers evacuated from the fortress, reported: "One of the few joys the Corregidor boys had was to fulfil a life's ambition—lighting cigarets with $100 bills."

HOW CAN I?

Q. How can I remove grease from the hair?

A. A teaspoon of borax in warm water when washing the hair removes grease and improves the appearance of the hair.

Q. How can I make devilled eggs?

A. A good recipe for deviled eggs is 1 tbsp. of mustard, ¼-tsp. salt, ½-tbsp. butter, 6 eggs hard boiled. Cut the eggs in halves, mash the yolks, season with salt, mustard, and add ½-tbsp. melted butter. Fill the egg whites.

Q. How can I keep the cover of the cook book clean?

A. Make a cover for the book of flowered oilcloth. This will cover all its blemishes and at the same time give it a surface that may be wiped off easily in the future.

Q. How can I remove the paper label on a bottle?

A. It can be readily removed by first wetting it and then holding it near a flame of the stove.

Q. How can I make a cleanser for wicker furniture?

A. Good cleansers for wicker furniture are salt and water, or a solution of warm water and a little turpentine. Either solution will clean out the crevices like magic.

Stalin's Son Gets Award For Bravery

Joseph V. Stalin's son Vassily, recently was awarded the order of the Red Banner for his services as a colonel in the Russian air force. The decoration awarded young Stalin, who still is in his twenties, was in a long list announced on the eve of Germany's invasion of the Soviet union. The citation read: "For excellently carrying out military projects of the command in the front line battle with the German aggressors and showing at the same time bravery and valor."

Another of Stalin's sons, Jacob, a lieutenant, was mentioned in despatches list Aug. 16 for fighting with an artillery battery until his last round of ammunition was fired.

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