JAP BOMBER—ALL BROKEN UP

Big Jap bomber, its fuselage almost entirely demolished, was brought down by U. S. anti-aircraft fire in Battle of Coral Sea. (Official U. S. Navy photo from NEA.)

VOICE OF THE PRESS

DON'T CASH THEM IN

The volume of certificates turned in would seem to indicate that many people have been cashing in their certificates for reasons not altogether serious. The desire for a new coat or suit or a vacation is not an adequate excuse for redeeming war savings certificates. Every certificate redeemed makes it just a little harder for the Government to finance our war effort and it makes the operation of the war effort more expensive. To handle the redemption that has been going on requires the services of a large number of clerks whose work is a dead loss as far as winning the war is concerned.

—Winnipeg Free Press

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HOME-GROWN VEGETABLES

The entire British supply of green vegetables is now being grown in the United Kingdom. Remembering that before the war about 1,000,000 tons of such vegetables were imported each year, we can measure the wartime development of British agriculture, which has also increased its production of cereals by 50 per cent. and that of potatoes by 70 per cent.

—Brockville Recorder and Times

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EXTINGUISHING BOMBS

Playing a jet of water on an incendiary bomb has now been found to be the best way of extinguishing it. There are still, however, the people who deal with the matter by saying, "Bosh! It can't happen here," and then going out for a nice long ride in the car.

—Windsor Star

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NEW COINS NEEDED

Since soft drinks now cost seven cents and chocolate bars six, how about the minister of finance ordering the minting of seven-cent and six-cent pieces? As it is now, so many coppers in change are jeopardizing the Wartime Prices and Trade Board's efforts along the line of pants-pocket conservation.

—Brantford Expositor

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EASILY SATISFIED

The Nazi mind is fairly illustrated by the German officer who when he was captured by the Russians declared: "It's all the same to me whom we fight. It is war itself that satisfies me."

—Stratford Beacon-Herald

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KNOWS HIS STUFF

The columnist who said it wasn't real summer until the chair came up when you did, knew something about the humidity around this locality.

—St. Thomas Times-Journal

U. S. Broadcasts Encourage Danes

Specially-directed short wave broadcasts from the United States are being heard by 30,000 people in Denmark, it was revealed by a Danish announcer-writer of the foreign language division of an American broadcasting company. He is on an unofficial visit during which he visited Little Norway camp of the Royal Norwegian Air Force.

The broadcasting representative, who did not wish his identity revealed because of his family still in Nazi-controlled Denmark, said his land was only one of many hearing broadcasts sent out daily in more than a dozen languages. The broadcasts give courage to millions who are ready to aid the Allies should the signal be given, and form the basis of secretly mimeographed newspapers, which, before the United States entered the war, reached this side of the water regularly, he said.

King Christian of Denmark has the texts of all broadcasts, taken down in shorthand, placed on his desk daily, he said.

Liverpool's docks contain nearly forty miles of quays.

The INDIVIDUAL Citizen's Army

By ALAN MAURICE IRWIN

A Weekly Column About This and That in Our Canadian Army

The present critical situation in India developed by progressive steps following the inability of the mission headed by Sir Stafford Cripps to reach an agreement with Indian leaders last spring.

The major milestones are listed by the Christian Science Monitor as follows:

The Cripps mission offered India Dominion status after the war and a gradually expanding voice in the direction of its affairs during the period of hostilities. The proposal was rejected by all major groups. The All-India Congress Party asked full independence at once. The All-India Moslem League refused to agree to any plan which gave a proportional majority to the predominately Hindu Congress Party and sought establishment of a separate Moslem state in Northern India.

Congress Party leaders continued to agitate for immediate independence as Japanese expanded their conquests in Asia.

Late in July the Working Committee of the Congress Party acted to bring the situation to a head by passing a resolution, drawn up by Mohandas K. Gandhi, calling for a civil disobedience campaign unless India's freedom was granted at once.

The original draft of the resolution said the first move of an independent Indian government probably would be to negotiate with Japan. This remark later was edited out of the original resolution. The revised draft said a freed India would "wholeheartedly and unreservedly declare itself on the side of the United Nations, agreeing to meet Japan or any other aggressor with armed resistance."

The British Government responded by virtually accusing Mr. Gandhi and other Congress leaders with being appeasers of Japan.

The Full Committee of the Congress Party met on Aug. 7 and passed a supplementary and preparatory resolution giving Mr. Gandhi full powers to lead a disobedience movement if a demand for freedom were rejected.

At the same time Mr. Gandhi appealed to the United States to act "while there is yet time" to bring about Indian independence and permit Indians to "use their liberty in favor of the Allied cause."

The following day the Full Committee ratified by an overwhelming majority the Working Committee's revised resolution authorizing the disobedience movement.

The British Government promptly countered by outlawing the Congress Party generally and arresting Mr. Gandhi and some 200 other members of the Working Committee.

Shortly after the arrests, disturbances developed in Bombay and other cities and police were forced to fire on demonstrators.

Blow At Allied Cause

In some Allied quarters the action of the Congress party seemed a major blow at the Allied cause, says the New York Times. Mr. Gandhi seemed ready to paralyze India or to plunge her into civil conflict at a time when the Japanese were at the country's gates in Burma. The farms, mines, factories and man power of the British Empire's greatest domain—a land almost as large as the United States with three times the population—are vital to the defense of the Middle East. India is the great barrier to an overland junction of the German and Japanese armies. Across it runs the remaining Anglo-American supply line to Free China. It lies on the flank of the Anglo-American supply line to Russia via the Persian Gulf and Iran.

The justice of India's claim to freedom was not questioned in Britain and the United States. It was realized that Mr. Gandhi's people had grievances dating back through centuries of European exploitation, and that redress was due. The timing of the demand, however, stirred doubts as to Mr. Gandhi's "sense of reality" and caused bitter critics to charge him with imperiling the United Nations in one of the war's most crucial theatres.

Gandhi's Argument

The flare-up in India's long fight for self-government has sprung from the advance of Japan. The Mikado's legions swept through Malaya, the East Indies and Burma; the native populations took hardly any part in their countries' defense, some factions even helping the invaders with fifth-column service. A similar situation might prevail in India if the Japanese entered. It is known that Nipponese agents have long promoted contacts with Indian revolutionaries and bombarded India's masses with anti-British propaganda. The Cripps plan presented an attempt to win full co-operation of the subcontinent's masses. It has been Mr. Gandhi's argument that the co-operation wanted by the Allies could never be achieved unless his country was entrusted with its own government and defense.

Diverse India

London's answer—supported by Washington—is that the issue is complex, that many interests must be considered, that freedom cannot be rushed through now without injustice and chaos in India, thereby leading to a fatal weakening of the Allied military position. It is held particularly that the Moslem minority—80,000,000 in number, compared to 260,000,000 Hindus—will plunge the country into civil war rather than submit to Hindu administration. The British have declared that the Cripps proposal is their final word. Recently Secretary of State Cordell Hull addressed what many regarded as a warning to India's nationalists. He declared that post-war freedom could only be assured to peoples who showed themselves worthy of it.

Civil disobedience campaigns of the past have included boycotts of British goods and services, resignation of Indians from public posts, withdrawal of children from schools, closing of shops. Despite their non-violent intentions, they have usually culminated in bloodshed, rioting and arrests. The British indicated they were prepared to use force to keep India's nationalists in line. They forbade the closing of shops on pain of fine and imprisonment. Their army in the subcontinent numbers well over a million and it is composed largely of Moslems, who might not be sympathetic to a Hindu mass movement.

Mr. Amery Confident

Mr. Amery, Secretary for India, declared in a broadcast that "prompt and firm action by the Government of India has, I believe, saved India and the Allied cause from grave disaster."

He expressed faith that the majority of "realistic" people in India are behind the Government's move to scotch "an attempt by blackmail and civil disturbance to make ordinary government of India impossible and to paralyze India's war effort."

"No government could accept such a situation," Mr. Amery said. "The Government of India could not wait until the masses got excited, until rioting and bloodshed began. It was necessary to cut off the current, to disconnect Gandhi and other leaders from their followers."

In any case, Mr. Amery said, the present action "will not deflect the Government from the broad purpose of providing India as soon as the war is over, with full opportunity under the constitution to become a free dominion, as free as any nation could be."

In his broadcast Mr. Amery said further that success of the Congress party campaign "would then mean the betrayal of China and of Russia."

"It would mean the enslavement of India herself to the Japanese," he said. "That is what, in their reckless, irresponsible desire for party dominance, the Congress leaders are prepared to bring about."

The Government, he said, had "abundant ground for punitive action," but had confined itself to preventive action.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT By Fred Neher

"It's from the chief of police. . . . He requests your presence tomorrow morning at City Hall for illegal parking. . . . Dress is informal."

THE WAR - WEEK — Commentary on Current Events

War Effort Of United Nations Threatened By Crisis In India

Yesterday on the street I met a tall, bronzed young man in civilian clothes. His face seemed familiar. He walked with his shoulders back and his head up. He smiled at me and, automatically since I like smiles, I returned the smile. Then I walked on puzzling slightly as to why the stranger had smiled.

Suddenly it struck me. He was no stranger! He was the Company Sergeant-Major! For two weeks we had been working together, saluting each other when the occasion arose and comparing notes as to the condition of this recruit's feet, that one's appalling habit of drinking ice cold fizzy pop and eating biscuits instead of lining up for his meals like a soldier.

But it emphasized two things: the difference wrought in a man by the clothes he wears; and the thin veneer that separates soldier from civilian.

It is a good thing that the veneer is so thin. Because it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that a sudden change from civilian to soldier may become necessary for many of us, no, most of us!

I said last week that the Reserve Army of today is very different from the Militia of the "between-war" years. It is, and it must be. It must have the support of every man able to meet the physical requirements.

Look at what a reserve army has done for Russia. That is what our Reserve Army must do for us.

It will make demands — heavy demands — upon our spare time. It will call for two or three evenings a week for drill, training or special instruction. It will call for ten Sundays. It will call for two weeks in camp every year, the whole totalling fifty-five days of training out of 365.

And that, actually, is considerably less time than the average citizen wastes on dancing, movies, ball games, hockey-matches and golf.

A mighty low-insurance premium to pay, isn't it?

Not so long ago a man said to me quite seriously, "You people have no right to put alarming pieces in the paper about street-fighting in Halifax or Quebec or Montreal or Vancouver. That's alarmist stuff, it lowers morale."

It made me boil. He has a "C" classification for his car. He squawks about his high income tax on earnings that are much greater than before the war and he has time and energy available for golf.

But he couldn't, or wouldn't see the point when I suggested to him that if every-one in Russia had felt the same way about it the Nazis would have been in Moscow a year ago!

We've really got to put our backs into this war. Knitting a few socks or sweaters, or sending cigarettes overseas, or buying war savings regularly isn't enough. It has to be an all out effort!

In Hong Kong young Canadians died. In England thousands of young Canadians are champing at the bit while they train for the job they volunteered to do.

If it falls to us to defend the land they plan to come back to are we going to fail because the movies or the golf-links were more important?

Even in the face of daily stories of repeated reverses on many fronts there still exist too many people who look upon the war as something that is going on "away over there." Do they think "it can't happen here"?

For nearly three years we have been at war now, and in all that time "they haven't stepped on British soil," says your specialist in rose-coloured glasses. He overlooks Hong Kong and Singapore! He doesn't want to take a ruler in his hand and compare the distance between Japan and Malaya with the distance between Norway and Nova Scotia.

Try it yourself — appallingly close, isn't it? That's why we members of the Individual Citizen's Army must play our part whether that part be volunteering for Active Service, enlisting in the Reserve Army or just being good soldiers behind the men behind the guns.

Trained or not, if an invader set his foot upon Canadian soil all of us—men, women and children would set out to do what we could — there's no doubt of that.

Even the man who illegally increases rents, the shop-keeper who raises his prices above the ceiling, the sugar-hoarder, the gasoline cheat—even these would take up arms to defend their homes.

Why, then, one is bound to wonder, must it be necessary for us to set up a Wartime Prices and Trade Board? What is it that makes war so remote that people like that must be brought into the courts every day to answer to charges of impeding the war effort?

The most disheartening thought about it is that these offenders against regulations set up to preserve our economic structure are not only illiterate small traders—they include big corporations.

Against them, and they are invaders of Canada don't forget, we need the private soldiers of the Individual Citizen's Army whose duty it is—for their own self-preservation—to send word of infractions of the price regulations to the nearest office of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

Inflation is infiltration — we must be on our guard!

Paratroop Corps To Train In U. S.

Canada's new paratroops will train at a great military school in Georgia which extends over 150,000 acres of flat land, considered ideal geographically ad climatically for year-round manoeuvres and training programs.

This post, to which the Canadias have been assigned until facilities can be established for paratroop training in Canada, was developed in 1919 as an infantry school.

Often termed the most complete army post in the United States, it was the birthplace in 1940 of the American Army parachute troops. Their work was expanded so rapidly that in May this year a highly-specialized paratroop school was formed under command of Col. George P. Howell.

The parachute course takes five weeks.

American graduates of the post have a motto: "We ride to fight; why walk?"

Farmers In Russia Save Much Grain

A despatch to the government newspaper Izvestia said that the battles south of Rostov were being fought on fields covered by grain stubble, indicating that collective farmers in the Caucasus had saved much of their crop despite the speed of the German advance.

In the Ordzhonikidze region, southeast of these battlefields and nearly 400 miles from Rostov, farmers were hastily gathering grain by hand and combine.

From Moscow numerous civilians went out to the woods to chop wood and dig peat for the coming winter, and Pravda, the Communist Party newspaper, said that self-sacrifice would be needed to supply the nation in the coming winter.

REG'LAR FELLERS—Kitchy-Kitchy By GENE BYRNES