THE
FLESHERTON ADVANCE

Published on Collingwood Street, Flesherton, Wednesday of each week. Circulation over 1,000. Price in Canada $2.00 per year, when paid in advance $1.50; in U. S. A. $2.50 per year, when paid in advance $2.00.

F. J. THURSTON, Editor.

Describes Bombing

(Continued from Page 1)

"I take off my hat to those people I return to my diary for help.
in the east end of London," he said. (The East End is the poorer district near the docks.) He told me how he had gone there during the bombing and had waited around until morning with those who were waiting for their relatives to be dug out of the ruins. I hadn't yet been through a bombing myself, but I had seen the results day after day, and I could picture the scene and suspense. One wouldn't think it possible that people could go through that and live—but they did, in their cellars and their shelters, with piles of century-old bricks over their heads and pinning down their bodies. "A brave people," the cabinet minister repeated.

The Night Westminster Was Blitzed

But more than poor people are brave in London. I asked about his own experience with bombs.

He was at Westminster, right in the buildings the night the House of Commons was hit. It was supposed that six bombs hit the chamber all about the same time. The things he said about "him" that night could not be repeated to a Canadian. (The true Londoner never refers to Hitler by name; he wont give the arch-enemy that satisfaction. It is always just "him!")

Mr Greenwood admitted that he had been "scared stiff" on several occasions. One day he was bombed out of his office in Whitehall (close to the Houses of Parliament), so he took his secretary and went in the car in search of another place. He lost all his papers that time. He did not know what was in them, but it didn't seem to matter.

The idea of going out in a car in the midst of a blitz seemed to me at that time to be the very height of absurdity. Later, I got caught out in a car during a raid and it seemed as good a place as any.

Driving around Westminster in a car, this minister, his secretary and the driver found plenty of excitment. Mr. Greenwood told me about seeing a dive-bomber coming and hearing the scream of the bomb, but, he said it hit near the Lincoln statue and only made a hole in the road. He felt safe then, till he hear the scream of a second bomb and said to himself "My God, this one has my number on it," but the bomb fell in the river just beyond the House of Parliament.

Near his own house, he estimated there must be 200 bombs in the river. The Thames is a bad giveaway for London, except when there is a fog, but many bombs have fallen into it. In spite of that, and the continuous attempts to destroy them, traffic was never stopped over a single bridge.

Mr. Morrison did not like going to shelters during a raid. It might be safer underground, but occasionally a bomb got into a large shelter and many were killed. If he were to be killed, he wanted to be above ground and considering the property damage, the number of casualties was small.

Viscount Bennett Speaks Out

I saw Viscount Bennett several times while I was in London. He was often at the Savoy hotel and probably lived there at leas part of the time. Occasionally, he chatted briefly with a few of the Canadian editors who had known him when he was Prime Minister of Canada, and one day I was introduced to him.

After the Government luncheon, a group of seven or eight members of our party stood chatting in a corridor of the hotel when Lord Bennett came along. Someone called him over and it wasn't long before a heated discussion was under way. The attitude of the former Prime Minster of Canada irked us all, I think, irrespective of our politics. It was all right for Lord Bennett to say he preferred to live in Great Britain. That was his privilege. But he seemed to have little good to say for anything Canadian and was critical of all Canada was doing at present. We all felt, I think that Canada had been pretty good to its former Prim Minister.

At last someone said, with a touch of exasperation, "If you feel that we are not doing things correctly why don't you broadcast to Canada occasionally?"

"I wouldn't say that," said Lord Bennett. "I don't like broadcasting."

Grattan O'Leary stood beside me. He is the editor of a Conservative newspaper in Ottawa. I could see a gleam of mischief come into his Irish eyes.

"No!" he said, "You once gave a series of six broadcasts, didn't you?"

The debate ended soon after that.

Lord Riverdale's Dinner

We met a number of other members of the House of Lords. One evening Lord Riverdale gave a dinner at Grosvener. House, in Park Lane In many ways, I liked that one the best of all our evenings out, lthough it was my turn that night to give the one speech expected from the Canadians. I knew something of Lord Riverdale but just to make sure I visited the publicity office of the Savoy that morning and looked him up in "Who's who," finding out that he was head of a great steel company. I recalled that he had been the nead of the British delegation which came to Canada to make arrangements for the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, and that he had been in my own town of Fergus on business trips. As it happened, Lord Riverdale's dinner was informal, with no speeches. After the meal was over, we moved at once to another room, where we sat around small tables with high officers of Army, Navy and Air Forces, and other interesting persons. Every little while the host moved us around, as though we were playing euchre, so that we met nearly everyone in time.

The table at the Grosvenor was the most beautifully decorated one I ever saw anywhere. There was a profusion of roses, in dishes and garlands all down the table. English roses are large and beautiful and they were of some sunset color that was most striking. The variety may have been Talisman, but if so, the colors are softer in England and more blended.

The stiff atmosphere of the Savoy always seemed artificial to me. There was a class system among the waiters there, that was about the only survival of class differences I noticed in the whole country. At the Grosvenor, there was an informality and as we sat down, Lord Riverdale introduced me to a waitress serving my end of the table, saying as he did so that she had lived in Toronto. Such a thing as that could hardly have happened at the Savoy and the idea of a noble Lord introducing a waitress to a guest must give something of a shock to those who knew England in the not-so-far-distant past.

An Interesting Guide

Taking one final look over my notes I find the names of many persons frequently in the news. On the afternoon I heard Churchill speak in the House of Commons, a guide pointed out his married daughter in the gallery on one side. An interested spectator in another gallery was Mr. Maiskey, the Russian ambassador.

No person I met in London was more interesting nor more congenial than James Bone, London editor of the Manchester Guardian, one of the best known of British papers. Mr. Bone was an old friend of Gratton O'Leary and had visited him in Canada several times and liked this country. On his last trip, going home from Canada after the war began his ship was torpedoed off the coast of Greenland. He lost all his clothes except what he had on at the time, and when he got back to London, his flat had been bombed and the rest of his personal belongings and clothes were gone. He was then living in a hotel on the Strand, not far from the Savoy, and waiting for the next issue of clothing coupons, so he could buy himself a second suit.

Mr. Bone's office was small when compared to those of some wealthy Canadian dailies, but it was interesting. Around the walls were etchings and paintings by his brother, Sir Muirhead Bone, now recording the activities of the Royal Navy.

This famous editor used to come around in the evenings, when his long day's work was done, and take a few of us out into the blackout. He was one of the best guides in London and has written books about the city. We would go down some narrow lane and he would point to a house where Goldsmith lived, and the nearby one where Dr. Johnson resided and tell us incidents from the life of Samuel Pepys or some other old character.

And so ends abruptly this story of my flight across the Atlantic and of the weeks spent in England, Ireland, Portugal and Bermuda, and the recrossing of the Atlantic by refugee ship.

When I started to write last November, I thought there might be a dozen stories in all; there have been more than thirty. It has taken nearly ten months to write them all. In the meantime, the face of London has changed; they say much of the mess has been cleaned up now. Bombings and casualties are fewer nowadays. The shoe is on the other foot. Britain could take it and now Britain is giving it back.

Other editors have flown across the Atlantic in bombers, taking the short route. When they come back, no doubt they will have many other stories to tell.

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TIME TABLE CHANGES
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Sunday, September 27, 1942
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Future Events

TEA AT EUGENIA

The W. A. of the United Church, Eugenia, will sponsor a cafeteria tea in the church basement on Tuesday evening, Oct. 6th. Lunch served from 6 to 8 p.m., followed by a program. Admission: 10s, lunch extra.

OPTICAL

D. Campbell, the optometrist, will be at Munshaw House, Tuesday, Oct. 6th, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please call early.

DANCE AT PRICEVILLE

Dance in the Institute Hall at Priceville on Friday, Oct. 2nd, under auspices of the Women's Institute. Lunch. Admission: 35c.

ROCK MILLS TEA

A quilting and 10 cent tea will be held at the home of Mrs. Ned Croft, Rock Mills, Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 6th. Everybody welcome

DANCE AT MAXWELL

On Friday, Oct. 16th, in the hall, nuder auspices of the Women's Institute. Fourth Line orchestra will provide music, proceeds for war work. Admission: 35c, with lunch included.

DANCE IN FLESHERTON

Ruben Kirk's 6-piece orchestra will play for a dance in Fraternity Hall, Flesherton, on Monday, Oct. 12th, dancing from 10 p.m. to 2.00 a.m., sponsored by the Eastern Star Admission: 50c.

CREDIT AUCTION SALE

Of farm stock and implements, on Friday, Oct. 2nd, property of Ernest Grummett, Lot 9, Con. 4, Osprey Township (1¼ miles south of Maxwell). No reserve. Terms, 10 mons. —Geo. E. Duncan, auctioneer.

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NEW FALL HATS
Step out in one of our new Fall Hats that reach new heights of fashion and crowns that fit your head with snugness in felts or velvets, and prices to suit everyone.

MEN'S CLOTHING
Men's Suits — Men, you too can share in these wonderful values. Some very neat patterns and styles to choose from. Buy now, as later we won't be able to give you the same quality. We have a good assortment to choose from ..... $22.50 to $32.50

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Some very smart patterns for the younger fellows in nice snappy tweeds, a full range of sizes all nicely tailored in single or double breasted styles at prices you would want to pay.

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Other Windbreakers in Milton mackinaw tweeds from $4.50 to $9.75

SHOES! SHOES! SHOES!
Shoes for the whole family. See our new fall range of shoes for active work, walk or play. Growing girls' shoes made of good serviceable beach side leather and leather soles with easy walking heels, strong sturdy shoes for girls or women, size 3 to 8. Special, per pair $1.95

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Good strong durable boots with leather or panco soles, built for strong wear, sizes 1 to 5, price $1.95 to $3.25

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