PRESIDENT'S SURPRISE VISIT TO U. S. TROOPS IN AFRICA

Standing rigidly at attention, and totally unaware that the review was such an historic occasion, American soldiers in French Morocco were astonished as a jeep passed in front of them bearing their Commander-in-Chief, the President of the United States. Here you see the scene as Mr. Roosevelt saluted the colors while the small car moved past the men of an armored unit. Behind the President, in centre, is Lt. Gen. Mark Clark, Commander of the U. S. Fifth Army.

SCOUTING . . .

A recent strip survey conducted by Dominion Headquarters of the Boy Scouts Association reveals that upwards of 100,000 members of the Canadian Navy, Army and Air Force are former Boy Scouts. An unusually large proportion of this number hold commissions and many have been decorated by His Majesty for gallantry. More than 200 have already lost their lives. Col. M. F. Gregg, Commandant of the Officers' Training Centre at Brockville said recently that he considered Scout training as excellent for those later coming to Brockville to train for commisions.

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Miss Agnes Baden-Powell, sister of the founder of the Boy Scout Movement, Lord Baden-Powell, recently celebrated her 84th birthday in Great Britain. Miss Baden-Powell was the first Girl Guide leader in England, having led a company of Girl Guides in 1908, before the Movement was officially organized.

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Boy Scouts of Pendelton, Ore., recently dedicated the "Chapel of Sir Galahad" in their Scout headquarters, to the memory of Lord Baden-Powell, founder of the Scout Movement and Daniel Carter Beard, pioneer Boy Scout worker in the United States. The chapel is believed to be the only chapel located in a Boy Scout headquarters in the United States.

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The town of Blenheim, Ont., had a splendid record in 1942 with not one case of juvenile delinquency. The Town Council by resolution praised the Scout Movement for this condition. Incidentally, the Boy Scouts in Blenheim are under the leadership of Scoutmaster W. T. Fenton, who is Chief of Police of Blenheim.

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Toronto is the first city in Canada to have a full time Wolf Cub Field Secretary in the person of Miss Ruby Brown, formerly of Windsor. Miss Brown has been identified with the Boy Scout Movement for many years, and is busily engaged now in organizing new Cub Packs and training leaders for this important work among the Junior Scouts.

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Two Chief Scouts will broadcast to the Boy Scouts of Canada during Boy Scout Week, February 21-27. On Sunday, February 21st, His Excellency the Governor-General, Chief Scout for Canada will speak over a national network, and on Tuesday, February 23rd, the Lord Somers, Chief Scout of the British Empire will be heard speaking from London.

Sort Out Flyers By Glider Training

Canadian Air Cadets may fly in gliders this summer if gliders can be obtained and if proposals now under consideration meet with official approval.

Gliding is considered an excellent means of sorting out persons who are potential flyers from those who can never be flyers, before they enter flying training schools.

Gliding has been used in the training of British air cadets and Germany has led the world in glider training, usnig it to interest many of the men now serving in the Luftwaffe in flying while they were still too young for actual flying training.

As the main function of the air cadets s to get boys interested in air training and give them instruction which will help them in the future if they enter the R.C.A.F., it is felt gliders can play a useful role in the work of the league.

$225,000 Worth Of Clothing On Way To Comfort Russians

By GREGORY CLARK

The goods are on the way. Already baled and en route to the people of Russia are $225,949 worth of clothing purchased by the Canadian Aid to Russia fund. Thus, while the campaign for the fund consumes the energies of district committees from coast to coast in Canada, one quarter of a million dollars' worth of material is in transit.

At prices never higher than manufacturers' prices, far below wholesale, specially granted for this particular and worthy cause, the Canadian Aid to Russia fund has been able to send Russia, as the first consignment bought from the fund, a wholesale consignment of clothing that will be a godsend to Leningrad and other cities freed from siege.

First in order come blankets, of which 10,193 are in these first bales en route. Overcoats, 6,127, and coats, 46,492; 5,798 pairs of shoes; 679 children's overcoats; 30,466 suits of underwear; women's dresses, 1,010.

In the shipment also were 114,407 miscellaneous items, which included 30,000 cap comforters, 20,000 pairs of woollen gloves, 20,000 woollen mufflers, 50,000 pairs of socks.

In addition to the 10,000 blankets there were 16,957 sheets. Among the extraordinary items were some 4,000 winter union suits, a special consignment of extremely heavy pullover garments made for a special purpose no longer required and which will be of incomparable use in extreme northern districts of Russia.

Woollen shirts, 20,000; jersey pullovers, 20,000; sweaters, 20,000; socks, 50,000 pairs; pillow slips, 10,000; berets, leather mitts, doublets, winter melton caps, jackets, drawers, and even puttees, the shipment of Canada's first goodwill offering from its million-dollar Aid to Russia fund is chiefly what Leningrad and those communities now being set free, day by day, will most require after the thieving enemy has looted them — clothing and bedding.

As fast as the funds come in, the goods will go out, this is the undertaking of Clifford Sifton, vice-chairman of the national committee of the fund.

To know that your contribution to the fund is thus coming into physical contact with the Russian people in the very midst of their mighty struggle gives a special zest to the act. Send your donation without delay to the Canadian Aid to Russia fund, 80 King St. W., Toronto.

Look out for Trouble from Sluggish KIDNEYS

Try the Original "Dutch Drops"

It is poisonous waste that your kidneys should be filtering out of your blood that may cause backache, dizzy spells, leg cramps, restless, sleep-broken nights, and smarting and burning. For relief use the remedy that has won the grateful thanks of thousands for many years—GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules.

This effective diuretic and kidney stimulant is the original and genuine Dutch Drops in carefully measured amounts in tasteless Capsules. It is one of the most favorably known remedies for relieving congested kidneys and irritated bladder. It works swiftly, helping the delicate filters of your kidneys to purify the blood.

Be sure you get the original and genuine—packed in Canada. Insist on getting GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules. 40c at your druggists. 1

100,000,000 Gallons Of Gas For Troops

More than 100,000,000 gallons of gasoline were ordered for the armed forces during 1942 by the Munitions and Supply Department.

In addition, the department ordered in the same period a total of 3,500,000 gallons of lubricating oils, and thousands of gallons of paints, varnishes and greases.

VOICE OF THE PRESS

WHERE THE FIGHTING IS

One of the boys drafted says that even if Canada does have conscription for overseas service, he cannot be made to fight.

All the army does in a case of that kind is take the young man to where the fighting is and let him use his own judgment.

—Windsor Star

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MAGELLAN'S ERROR

Magellan, children, in case you haven't been minding your history teacher (or is it geography), was the shortsighted man who made the Big Mistake of calling it the Pacific ocean.

—Ottawa Citizen

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FAIR EXCHANGE

Looking into the real estate angle of the peace, one postwar planner suggests that we should take those mandated islands from the Japanese, and square it nicely by giving back the beetles.

—Stratford Beacon-Herald

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MOST PLEASANT

"Isn't it a pleasant surprise to put on a suit that you haven't had on for about a year, and in one of the pockets find a roll of bills?" asked a columnist.

It is if they're receipted.

—Galt Reporter

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WELL, THEY'RE HATS?

The hat designer who said that currently styled women's hats are pretty much alike is wrong on only three counts, viz: They aren't pretty, they aren't much, and they aren't alike.

St. Louis Star-Times

—o—

HOW LUCKY WE ARE

We will have to start spreading our butter more thinly, but should consider ourselves lucky to be able to get all the bread we want.

—Niagara Falls Review

—o—

WASTING FUEL

Much fuel could be saved at this time of year by cutting out the "good-bye, good-bye, good-bye" in an open doorway.

—Kitchener Record

—o—

TAXLESS GOOD TIMES

We shall have to get back to home-made good times. There are too many taxes on the store bought kind.

—Brandon Sun

—o—

GOING SAME WAY

There's one similarity between the German and the Russian armies now—they're both headed Berlin-wards.

—Vancouver Province

SIDE GLANCES — By George Clark

"John never gets a minute off from his work."

THE WAR · WEEK — Commentary on Current Events

United Nations Seize Political As Well As Military Initiative

The communique that told of the historic meeting between Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt concluded with these words:

"The President and Prime Minister and their combined staffs, having completed their plans for the offensive campaigns of 1943, have now separated in order to put them into active and concerted execution." The Prime Minister flew East to Turkey, the President flew West to Natal in Brazil, each journey a logical sequel to the North African conference. These were the first steps toward carrying out the plans agreed upon in Morocco.

Turkey and the Allies

The surprise meeting between the Turkish President and Prime Minister Churchill is another dramatic demonstration that the United Nations have seized not only the military but also the political initiative and that the two combined are now drawing a noose around Hitler's neck.

Just what the practical results of the meeting will be remains to be seen, and Mr. Churchill warned against speculations which might embarrass the participants. As the main Power of the Middle East and guardian of the Dardanelles, says The New York Times, Turkey holds a key position of utmost importance to Allied strategy—and to German. According to official Turkish statements Mr. Churchill did not ask Turkey to enter the war, "and the Turkish Government did not undertake any such commitment." That leaves a wide latitude for interpretation. The British-Turkish military alliance of 1939 provides for "active military co-operation if the war moves to the eastern end of the Mediterranean," and the American and British promise "to help Turkey materially to consolidate her own general defensive security" suggests that this treaty is now being given force. At the very least, this implies that Turkey is determined to fight against any German move toward the Middle East, which puts up another bulwark against the Nazis and helps to close the iron ring around them. What is more, it creates essential safeguards for their flank in case the Allied armies now gathering in Africa should try to invade Europe through the ancient gateway of the Balkans. And the seriousness of this threat is indicated by the sudden rush of German reinforcements to that region — which in turn helps to weaken the Germans on the Russian front.

Brazil and the Allies

The President flew west. On his return flight from Morocco, President Roosevelt stopped off for another important meeting. Last week his giant flying boat skimmed gently into the Potengi River at the seaport of Natal, on the "hump" of the Brazilian coast nearest Africa. Here, on an American destroyer, surrounded by patrol craft and under an umbrella of planes, he held affectionate reunion with "my old friend," Getulio Vargas, President of Brazil.

The two Presidents reviewed American and Brazilian forces stationed at Natal. This little city of 30,000, close to the Equator, has suddenly become a world cross-road, for it is the jumping-off place for hundreds of planes bound northeast 1,700 miles over the Atlantic to fighting fronts in Africa or, farther east, to Russia, India and China.

Presidents Roosevelt and Vargas (1) discussed the Casablanca conference and surveyed the future safety of all the Americas; (2) agreed that the coast of West Africa and Dakar should "never again under any circumstances be allowed to become" an invasion threat to the two Americas; (3) declared a common aim of their two countries "to make the Atlantic Ocean safe for all," and President Vargas gave assurance of greater Brazilian efforts to combat the German submarine menace in the Caribbean and South Atlantic; (4) described themselves as "deeply grateful" for the "almost unanimous" help which their neighbor nations were giving "to the great cause of democracy." The words "almost unanimous" were a pointed reference to the second largest South American nation, Argentina, which has not yet broken off diplomatic relations with the Axis and has officially resented charges that her territory is a base for Nazi espionage.

Anniversary In Berlin

On the tenth anniversary of Hitler's assumption of the Chancellorship the R.A.F. gave Berlin its first daylight bombing since the war began.

The Fuehrer himself was at the front, and for the second time —the first was in 1938—he had failed to mark the anniversary with a speech. Instead, a proclamation from Hitler was read by Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels. It reflected the seriousness of the time, which made this anniversary more a day of mourning for the dead than a day of celebration, as in years past. The Fuehrer declared that unless his people devoted every ounce of their energy to the defeat of Russia they were in danger of having their culture destroyed and becoming the slaves of "Bolshevism."

Herr Goering's Speech

The day's chief address was made by Reichmarshal Hermann Goering. He began after an hour's delay, during which crashes and shouts, supposedly due to the air raid, were heard over the radio. The man who had promised the German people that British bombers would never cross their frontiers said the R.A.F. would be repaid "one day." By the pledge of final victory he sought to remove the sting of recent defeats. In place of former boasts that Germany's war tools were the best in the world, he said that Russia "had spent the last decade and a half building up the most powerful armaments ever made by any nation." He announced a spring offensive, but warned of further hardships ahead.

The impact of the war upon Germany has been a gradual process. Ith did not come with the brutal sudenness it did to most of the democratic nations. It started ten years ago when Adolf Hitler came to power and an economy of "guns, not butter," was established. Under it luxuries vanished from the average German's life, his clothes turned shoddy.

Last week it became evident that all this was not enough. From Adolf Hitler's headquarters came an order requiring the registration of all German men between 16 and 65 and all German women between 17 and 45. The order seemed designed to find women to replace men in the factories, civil services, offices. Since unmarried women have long since been called on for work, the order seemed aimed at such of Germany's 12,500,000 married women as could be taken from their homes without disrupting the nation's economy.

On the Down Grade

The Nazi order, it seemed certain, did not mean that Hitler's troops would be a weaker foe during 1943. Its significance lay in the indication that Germany had reached its peak military strength and had started downgrade. In 1939 the Reich was estimated to have 18,000,000 productive male workers between the ages of 18 an 45. More than 9,000,000 of them are now in uniform, suffering losses estimated at 1,000,000 a year. This is a rate of loss that could not be made up by additions from the ranks of women, prisoners of war or "volunteer workers from captive countries." Its effect would be felt in food production, in war production and finally on the fighting fronts.

Bluey and Curley of the Anzacs — "The Awakening" — By Gurney (Australia)