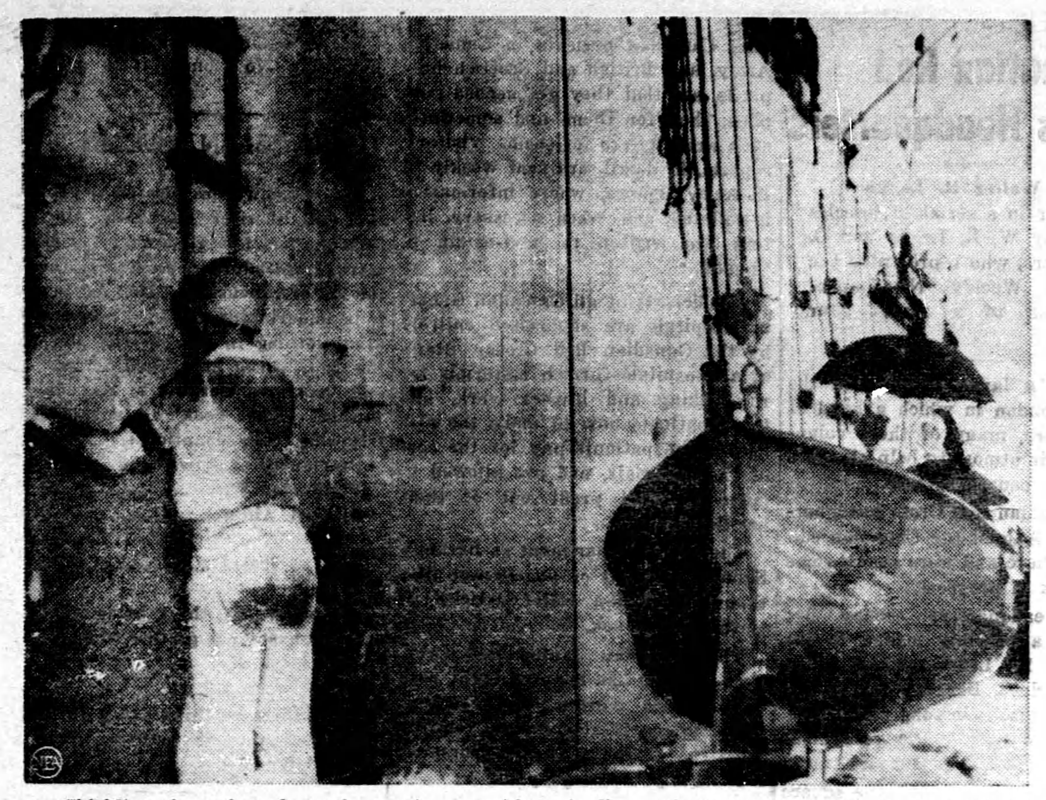
WITH CALM BORN OF FAITH



Shielding themselves from the tropic sun with umbrellas, as imperturably as if being lowered over the side of a warship in a battle area were a commonplace occurrence, sisters of the Catholic Order of Mary Immaculate are pictured arriving at Guadalcanal. Stationed on another Solomon Island, they were captured by the Japanese and held until rescued by American forces. Two priests and a nun were killed before the Americans arrived.

Plane Flies 2,000 Miles Without Pilot

Crew and Passengers Bail Out—Plane Flies On

This is the story of a United States Army plane that flew 2,000 miles with no one aboard. She reversed course and flew by herself to crash in Mexico after her crew and passengers bailed out because tail flutter vibrations threatened to tear the ship apart in the air over Florida waters. Two men are missing.

The four-engined plane took off the night of Feb. 9 from Southern Florida on a routine flight to South America. Aboard were the crew of six, two passengers, and considerable cargo. The plane was 80 miles out when a bad flutter had developed in the tail. Losing altitude rapidly, the plane dropped from 9,000 to 5,300 feet, while the crew and passengers jettisoned the cargo in an attempt to stop the vibrations.

Automatic Pilot Set

Insead, the vibrations increased and the pilot turned back toward Florida. When the pilot thought he was over the coast, he ordered the others to use their parachutes. Then he headed the plane out to sea, set the automatic pilot for level flight so the craft would not become a menace ashore, and bailed out.

Shortly after noon the next day Mexican authorities reported a plane had crashed in the mountains of Northern Mexico — a report which gave the Air Transport Command a first-class mystery for several days, because no such plane was supposed to be in that part of the world.

Men on foot finally reached the plane and an investigation produced serial numbers which identified it as the ship abandoned off the Florida coast. Somehow, its course out to sea had been reversed, and it cut across hundreds of miles of ocean with no one aboard, crashing when its gas tanks were empty.

Liner Yields Steel For War Effort

The naval training ship Caledonia, formerly the Cunard liner Majestic, has been raised from the Firth of Forth to furnish nearly 40,000 tons of steel scrap for the war effort.

She sank after a fire September 29, 1939, but she was raised on the first attempt after 1,800 portholes and all openings in her hull were sealed for the project. She had been towed inshore.

About 13,000 tons of high quality steel have been removed from the hull and at her breaking-up berth it is expected she will yield 25,000 tons more.

200,000 Square Miles Recaptured

An indication of the extent of the great Russian successes of the past three months is found in the statement from Moscow that 200,000 square miles of Soviet territory have been retaken from the invaders — the equivalent of a tract 500 miles long and 400 miles deep, criss-crossed with railroads and studded with important towns, says the Ottawa Journal. It is a tract one-half as large as all Ontario, land and water, which has 407,262 square miles, and roughly would cover the area from the Quebec border to Windsor, North to Sault Ste. Marie and the vicinity of James Bay.

Plight of Poland Under The Nazis

The barbarous Boche conceives of a Made-in-Germany "new order" as a long series of restrictions on all the European peoples crushed by the Nazi war machine and savagely policed by the infamous Gestapo, says the Stratford Beacon-Herald. Poland's pitiful plight is a fair example of Hitlerism running amok in a German-occupied country.

The Polish Review lists some of the cruel restrictions decreed by German authorities in enslaved Poland — the same brand of tyranny as Canada would suffer in the event of an Axis victory. Hereunder are quoted some of the "strictly forbidden" rules imposed on the Polish people, who are not allowed by their German masters to do any of these things:

To speak Polish in public, or use Polish names of cities or streets.

To print any book, magazine or paper in Polish.

To play or sing any Polish music, or patriotic song.

To worship in church.

To belong to any religious, scientific or social organization.

To attend any school or college.

To go to operas, theatres or concerts.

To visit museums, libraries or educational centres.

To pursue any professional career except medicine under German law.

To enter any public park or garden or sit on any bench in a public place.

To eat in restaurants or cafes.

To visit barber shops, except those partitioned off to segregate Poles.

To travel without permit, or to use express trains and motor buses.

To use automobiles or ride bicycles, except for cycling to work.

To use playing fields or swimming pools.

To visit health resorts or bathing beaches.

To buy clothing or footwear, except work clothes and wooden shoes.

To shop except in certain stores and at certain hours set aside for Poles.

To buy imported foodstuffs.

To own cameras, radio sets or phonograph records.

To own or use boats on and between the Oder and Vistula rivers.

To own land or any real estate whatsoever!

The surest proof of the madness of Hitler and his ilk is their belief that a Europe robbed of every vestige of human liberty will accept the "New Order" which the Nazi gangsters are enforcing on helpless Poland. Freedom cannot be obliterated for long by bandits—as Hitlerite Germany will one day realize.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT — By Fred Neher

"No, we don't know the game . . . but we know the neighbors."

THE WAR - WEEK — Commentary on Current Events

The Race Between United Nations And Axis Powers for the Offensive

Following up the recent statements of both President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill that the United Nations will now carry the war to the enemy, American and British generals and admirals announce that their armies, navies and air force are poised to strike on all front, says the New York Times. Admiral Nimitz's forecast of an early air and naval offensive against Japan is matched by the London broadcast to the French people that "the date of an Allied invasion of Europe is not far off."

This is the crucial psychological time at which to strike. To delay much longer may cost us dearly later on. For our enemies are not standing still. On the contrary. Although Timoshenko is staging a new offensive in the north, the Germans, aided by new reserves and "General Mud," have already succeeded in slowing up the main Russian drive, and in the critical Donets Basin have checked it completely, at least for the present. And the Japanese are not only driving ahead in China, but are also massing forces north of Australia for what may be an attempt to invade that continent. Furthermore, while the Japanese are rapidly developing the regions they have conquered and are thereby growing stronger day by day, the Germans have started out to mobilize the last reserve of the whole European Continent for a final desperate effort in the same all-out fashion as the Russians did in their own country. Finally, Germany is obviously trying to strengthen her political alignments, and has apparently succeeded in tightening her hold on Italy, and possibly Finland.

Axis Possibilities

The German Propaganda Minister, Joseph Paul Goebbels, has promised that the Wehrmacht will again thrust east this year to seek the final victory which Hitler has said lies there. But there were signs that Germany would try to hold in the East while she turned her main forces west against the armies of Britain and America. The Fuehrer himself, in a message to his old party comrades on the twenty-third anniversary of national socialism, promised only mobilization "to an extent exceeding that of any war in history."

In the West, two directions of attack were available. One led toward the British Isles, bristling with guns, guarded by millions of determined men. Britain was the hub around which all the Allied military projects for Europe revolved. For that reason the temptation to risk an all-out attempt to take it might prove irresistible to German military leaders, who have never shown themselves lacking in boldness. But the cost was certain to be high.

The second lay toward the south. Its objective would be to drive the Allies out of North Africa and secure the southern shores of Europe against invasion from that quarter. It might take the form of a giant pincers, one arm of which would go through Spain, perhaps bypassing Gibraltar, to Morocco and the supply routes of the American, British and French forces operating in Tunisia, while the other pressed through Turkey and along the eastern shores of the Mediterranean into Egypt. From Switzerland last week came reports that Germany was transferring troops through France toward the Spanish border, and Turkey's President warned his country that the "war contagion" might spread.

Allied Possibilities

On the Allied side, too, there were two possible moves. One was an assault upon the northern or western shores of Europe from the British Isles. The other was an invasion from North Africa toward what Winston Churchill has called "the soft underbelly of the Axis," the southern shores of Europe. Combined, these two moves could form a grandiose pincers aimed at driving the Wehrmacht back from all the European countries it has conquered onto German soil. From Sweden last week came reports that German air observers had seen activity in British harbors pointing toward an audacious attempt to invade the Continent.

The calculations of both sides hung largely on what would happen along the vast Eastern Front. The Germans' ability to launch new thrusts would depend on their ability to halt the rolling offensive of the Red Army. The Allied plans depended on Russia's ability to tie down large numbers of German divisions.

General Mud Enlists

The first signs of Spring were seen last week on the southern reaches of the 1,000-mile Russian battlefront. On the Ukrainian plains the snows were melting. Soviet soldiers took off their cloth helmets, bared their heads to soft winds from the Black Sea. The rich earth, hard as iron during January, was beginning to clog the treads of Red Army tanks. Soon Russia's ally, General Winter, would give way to Russia's foe, General Mud.

To military observers the approach of Spring in South Russia was important. Its probable effect would be to slow the Russian offensive, already one of the most sustained drives in the history of modern war. Since Nov. 19 Soviet armies, trained and equipped for Winter fighting, had been rolling over snowy plains and frozen rivers that offered few natural obstacles. Their avowed purpose was to throw the Nazis out of Russia The attack had broken a formidable enemy defense system along the Donets River, had smashed forward in places 400 miles from its starting point at Stalingrad. But ahead stretched another 400 miles of Russian soil and another great defense system based on the line of the Dnieper River. The task facing Russian generals—already struggling with a major supply problem—was to crack the second defense line before Spring thaws could bog down the Red Army's momentum.

Words From the East

Last week Premier Joseph Stalin, in an order of the day marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Red Army, noted once again that Russia was bearing the main weight of the war and that a second front had not yet been established in the west. At the same time he declared that the Red Army had been created as an instrument of defense and not of conquest.

Some observers saw in this an indication that the Russians would halt their advance when and if they reached their old borders, thus freeing German troops for operations in the West. With this view President Roosevelt took sharp issue. From other Russian sources came predictions of a joint victory by the United Nations that seemed to set aside fears that the Red Army would slacken its efforts.

THE BOOK SHELF

EVERGREEN HOUSE

By Louise Platt Hauck

Attractive young Cynthia Barstow is very hospitable by nature. She welcomes, therefore the assorted relatives, who have been drawn to the nearby city to engage in defense work, into the rambling old house which she shares with her grandmother. Then, she adds several young men who have been unable to find living quarters elsewhere. The resulting situation inevitably produces daily problems and complications, but Cynthia revels in solving them. Even Evergreen House itself catches the excitement and fosters several love affairs, not the least of which is Cynthia's own unexpected romance.

Evergreen House . . . By Louise Platt Hauck . . . Dodd, Mead & Company . . . Price $2.35.

Enlistments of Canadian National men in the active army are sufficient to form six infantry battalions.

VOICE OF THE PRESS

SUPPLY OF WHITE FLAGS

If you have read Hitler's Mein Kampf, you will recall that the Fuehrer has a hankering for white silk shirts. He wrote that he envied people who could wear them.

Laval has sent Hitler 35 white silk shirts from the silk mills of Lyons. If Hitler does not last long enough to wear all those shirts, they will make good white flags to indicate surrender of the Reich.—Windsor Star.

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WORDS OF WISDOM

Mme. Chiang Kai-Shek's address to members of the United States Congress was one of the most stirring and eloquent that august body ever heard. Among many memorable passages was this one: "We in China are convinced that it is the better part of wisdom not to accept failure ignominiously, but to risk it gloriously." — Ottawa Citizen.

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NOT CHOICE OF WORK

The Ottawa Journal states that we may hope for employment for all, but we can never hope for choice of employment for all. Even the merit system in Soviet Russia does not provide any such Utopia as that. And they have the merit system of reward in every factory of the State.—St. Catharines Standard.

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OUR COMPETENT WOMEN

Women are stepping into so many wartime jobs and performing them with such acceptance that man may be fortunate if he is allowed to take charge of the kitchen after the war.—Peterborough Examiner.

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CURE FOR SPRATTS

As time goes on and rationing becomes tougher, it is believed the Spratts, Jack and the missus, will be pretty well relieved of their respective allergies. — Winnipeg Tribune.

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WASHDAY IN RUSSIA

The Germans are being washed up in the Donets Basin. And the Russians are proving very good washer-uppers.—Stratford Beacon Herald.

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MEMORY LINGERS

An old-timer is one who associates a board of education with the shingle wielded in the wood shed.—Kitchener Record.

British Alcohol Distilleries Idle

Most British alcohol distilleries, including those normally used for whisky, are out of use and are being used in storage, says Industrial and Engineering Chemistry. Instead of taking over the whisky making plants for the manufacture of alcohol for military purposes, the government prefers to import alcohol from the United States and Canada, as a considerable saving of shipping is effected by importing alcohol rather than the raw materials required to make it.

I Saw The Morning Break

Ye that have faith to look with fearless eyes
Beyond the tragedy of a world at strife,
And trust that out of night and death shall rise
The dawn of ampler life;
Rejoice, whatever anguish rend your heart,
That God has given you for a priceless dower
To live in these great times and have your part
In Freedom's crowning hour;

That you may tell your sons who see the light
High in the heavens—their heritage to take:
"I saw the powers of Darkness put to flight,
I saw the morning break."

—Sir Owen Seaman, 1861-1936.

Bluey and Curley of the Anzacs — He-Man stuff — By Gurney, (Australia)