A WARM WELCOME AT GRAVINA, ITALY

This scene shows the tremendous welcome that awaited Canadian soldiers when they entered Gravina, Italy. The liberated residents of the town brought out American, British and Italian flags and gathered in the village square. Men of a Western Canada reconnaissance unit were first to arrive at Gravina.

THE WAR · WEEK — Commentary on Current Events

Moscow Pact Provides Pattern For Peace Throughout The World

The results of the Moscow Conference exceed the most optimistic hopes and must be hailed as a great victory for the United Nations, matching any victory yet achieved on the battlefront, says The New York Times. Meeting at a crucial moment in the war, when the approach of military victory began to raise all the separate interests and ambitions that have so often divided victors in the past and lost the peace for them, the conference not only dispels any latent anxieties on this score but reaffirms and further strengthens the unity among the three, or rather the four, main Powers among the United Nations—Russia, Great Britain, the United States and China. Moreover, it gives increased scope to their resolve to prosecute the war by "united action" against all their respective enemies. It thereby not only deals a knockout blow to whatever hopes Hitler may still have entertained of splitting the Allies and winning a separate peace from one or another of them, as did Hitler's self-selected model, Frederick the Great, but it likewise provides a basis from which the Allie can now launch an immense political offensive that should blast the crumbling remnants of the Axis and start the last of Germany's satellites on the trail taken by Italy.

This reaffirmation of inseparable unity and the pledge of united action in war and peace is so important that for the present it overshadows all the details of the agreements reached.

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By far the most important of these agreements is the Joint Declaration of the four great Powers, which provides not only for their united action in war but also for the creation at the earliest practicable date of a "general international organization, based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all peace-loving states, and open to membership by all such states, large and small, for the maintenance of international peace and security." This pledge redeems the Atlantic Charter. It avoids exclusive alliances in favor of world democracy. Pending the establishment of such a system of general security, the four Powers will consult with one another and take joint action, together with other members of the United Nations, to maintain international order. But this undertaking is specifically subjected to the proviso that after hostilities cease "they will not employ their military forces within the territories of other states" except after joint consultation. To Hitler's remaining allies this proviso is likely to prove decisive. For it assures them that, contrary to Nazi propaganda, no Allied Power intends to overrun their country. Properly brought home to them, this declaration should pave the way for their final break with Germany.

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For the rest, the agreements cover many of the most difficult problems of Europe and the post-war world, and provide methods and organizations for handling these questions, including those which affect the future of France, Italy, Yugoslavia and Greece. Agreement has clearly been reached on the Russian demand for another front, and this agreement is expressed in the welcome decision for the closest military cooperation between the three countries in the future. The problem of the Baltic states is not mentioned, but the agreements themselves are evidence that this problem no longer divides the United Nations, and that the final disposal of it will depend largely on how the international collaboration launched at Moscow functions.

* * *

The Moscow agreements are driven at a Germany which has been fighting on until this moment in the hope of winning a draw through Allied wrangling which would give them an "out" from the consequences of a two-front war. But Russia renounced any separate peace. Russia subscribed to the complete overthrow of all Axis powers, although Russia is not at war with Japan. Russia agreed on the principle of "unconditional surrender." Russia joined wholeheartedly in the decision to hold war criminals guilty and to send them to the scene of their crimes for trial after the war—Russia agreed to the re-establishment of Austria as a sovereign state.

Each one of these actions on Russia's part was a denial to Germany of what the Germans have been hoping. Each one stated in unmistakable language that Russia commits itself to the complete and final overthrow of Nazi Germany and even to the breaking up of Hitler's "Greater Germany."

WACat

Complete with dog tags is Private Puss, inducted into the Air WACS at Denver, Colo., mayhap to relieve a dog for combat duty.

VOICE OF THE PRESS

ONE CERTAINTY

There is an argument on as to whether depression will follow this war. One thing is as certain as the run rises, there will be dislocation, and those who have a nice bunch of Victory Bonds in the bag will be better prepared for it.—St. Catharines Standard.

—o—

STRUGGLE IS ON

Now comes the struggle between Junior, who wants to have the annual bonfire of fallen leaves, and Dad, the Victory Gardener, who thinks in terms of a compost pile.

—Christian Science Monitor.

—o—

OH YEAH!

Not so long ago, the Italians gloated: "In future the governments of Germany and Italy will decide the fate of Europe."

That was before old Macaroni dropped out.—Windsor Star.

—o—

POET'S LICENSE ONLY

"Man wants but little here below," sang the poet. But we don't see why Ilsley has to take him so literally.

—Winnipeg Tribune.

—o—

BACK TO BEGINNINGS

A scientist says life on earth began in hot water. Well, well—we're right back where we started from, aren't we?

—Kitchener Record.

—o—

TO ENFORCE "FREEDOM"

Japan has given freedom to the Philippines and will keep its army right there to see that freedom is enforced.

—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

—o—

CONTINUING NUISANCE

Changes galore are expected in the post-war auto. But there'll still be the same back-seat driver.

—Kingston Whig-Standard.

—o—

MUCH LIKE US

Don't expect too much of the people. They belong to the same weak race as we do.

—Brandon Sun.

Canadian Soldiers Perform Miracles

Tribute to Canadian soldiers fighting in Italy was paid by a Reuters news agency correspondent writing about the progress of the British 8th Army near the mouth of the Trigo River.

"Canadian forces operating on the 8th Army's left flank have particularly distinguished themselves," the British correspondent wrote. "Canadian infantrymen have been performing miracles in the heart of the Apennines where tanks cannot operate."

OTTAWA REPORTS

That Returns to the Farmer Per Unit Will Be Higher in Fifth Year of War Than in Any Other

This statement was made by the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. James G. Gardiner, when he reviewed Canada's food situation before members of the Chamber of Commerce on October 28. He also stated that with ceiling controls operating, costs to the consumers should not be higher in 1944.

In a brief but comprehensive survey of food production, export and consumption, Mr. Gardiner said that farmers were being asked to make whatever changes are necessary to obtain the highest net returns in exportable goods under all the conditions which prevail on their own particular farm.

* * *

An appeal is being made for the same production in 1944 as in 1943 and it is expected that it will be forthcoming although it is believed there will be some shift from one product to another.

According to Mr. Gardiner, there will be a drop in the tonnage of pork and possibly dairy products even with the best co-operation from all, but it is hoped that there will be some net increase in beef, poultry and grains. The latter, of course, depends almost entirely on weather conditions.

* * *

Looking at the facts on Canada's food production during 1942, there is ample justification for Mr. Gardiner's remark that he doubted if any nation in the world could show a better record. "After meeting all Canadian requirements, after supplying the contracted requirements of our Allies to the beginning of 1942, during 1942 we exceeded every preceding year. We actually did send over 40% more food or potential food to our Allies during that year than during the last year before the war and had at the end of the year 18,500,000 tons of food or potential food which can be shipped at any time," said Mr. Gardiner. "We had almost two and one-half times as many tons in reserve as we have shipped in any one year during the war. Then with all this food lying about we have so regulated our own appetites as to consume only 6.5% more food in 1942 than in 1938."

* * *

Speaking of the future Mr. Gardiner said that in 1943 sufficient grain was produced to take care of 1943-44 requirements if properly distributed. Sufficient is in store to take care of at least two years' probable shipments both for direct human consumption and for the feeding of livestock. So that with two more crops to come and barring a crop failure, there should be enough to supply any demands equal to those which have been made of us in the past, for three more years.

The Agriculture Minister stated also that experiences of the past four years suggest that, unless weather, equipment and labor are in much more favorable supply in the future than in 1943, Canada had reached her peak of food production in the 1942-43 crop year.

It's A Small World And Getting Smaller

No more effective testimony concerning the development of the safety factor in trans-Atlantic flying could be desired than the report of the British Air Ministry covering the year ending September 30.

During that period, the report says, the percentage of losses of aircraft making the North Atlantic crossing was less than one-half of one per cent. These figures include crossings both ways by military planes of both the United States and Britain and by the British Overseas Airways Corporation with civilian traffic.

The figures are all the more impressive when it is recalled that as recently as 15 or 16 years ago flying the Atlantic was an extremely hazardous undertaking and many a life was lost in attempting it.

Nowadays, however, flights to what used to be considered the ends of the earth are almost matters of course. And trips by air across the Atlantic or Pacific instead of being the subjects for columns of newspaper type, are now vritually run-of-the-mine excursions.

"It's a small world" is a phrase which was never truer than at the moment. And it's getting smaller all the time.

WANTED

LABOURERS

FOR

OLD ESTABLISHED FOUNDRY IN TORONTO AREA

IDEAL WORKING CONDITIONS

WAR WORKERS NOT ELIGIBLE

APPLY NEAREST

EMPLOYMENT AND SELECTIVE SERVICE OFFICE

REFER TO C.R. 309

Two Cunninghams; One Coningham

One of the minor problems of the armchair strategists and of war news readers generally will be keeping straight on their Cunninghams. There are now two of them in top-ranking positions in the British Navy—Admiral of the Fleet Sir Andrew Browne Cunningham, First Sea Lord, and Admiral Sir John H. D. Cunningham, Sir Andrew's cousin, newly appointed commander-in-chief of the Allied fleet in the Mediterranean. And just to add an extra hazard to the risk of confusion, especially for those who get their news by word of mouth over the radio, there is Air Vice-Marshal Arthur Coningham, commander of the Northwest Africa Tactical Air Force.—Montreal Gazette.

Land Mines Hidden In "Loud-Speakers"

The discarded German "loud-speakers" which Allied soldiers presented to an American Signal Corps outfit were just a little too powerful.

The Signal Corps hastened to make a present of them to the Ordnance Department — when it was discovered the oval-shaped objects were land mines—which only by chance failed to explode.

German radio equipment was reported to be five years behind our own in design. Captured equipment in Africa showed German radios were not built for use under conditions in that theater, lacking both water-proofing and dust-proofing features.

British Soldiers To Wear Berets

A new beret type of cap has been approved for the British Army and will replace the field service cap in units not already wearing berets, Sir James Grigg, Secretary of State for War, told the House of Commons recently.

Maj. Maurice Petherick, Conservative Member of Commons, pressed for the replacement as soon as possible, complaining that the present caps are "not practicable, extremely ugly and often worn on the back of the head, pushing down one ear."

FORMER PRESIDENT

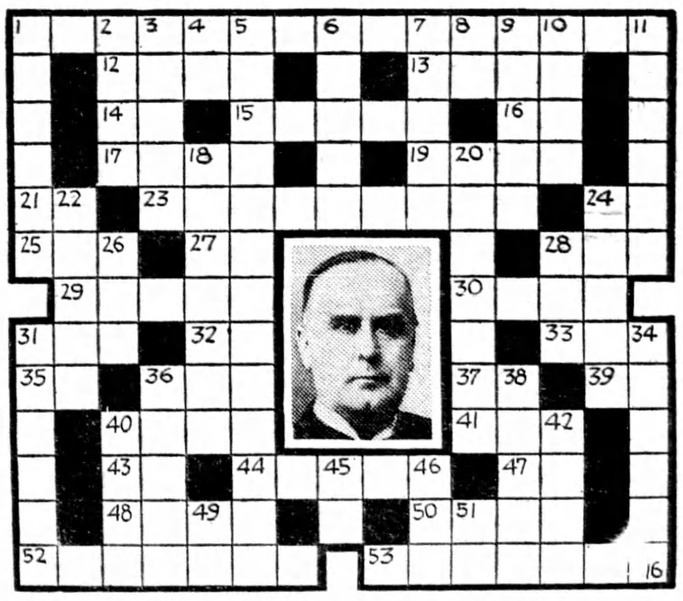
HORIZONTAL

1 Pictured former president of the U. S. A.
12 Dines.
13 Operatic solo.
14 Any.
15 More sensible.
16 101 (Roman).
17 Ten (prefix).
19 So be it.
21 Half an em.
23 Guardian.
24 Exclamation.
25 Narrow inlet.
27 Symbol for caesium.
28 Belonging to it.
29 Boredom.
30 Unit of length.
31 Highest card.
32 Symbol for manganese.
33 Snaky fish.
35 Compass point
36 By way of.
37 New Mexico (abbr.).
39 Sun god.
40 Haze.
41 Soak in.
43 Dawn (comb. form).
44 Inside.
47 Chinese measure.
48 Singing voice.
50 Small particle.
52 Holds.
53 Go aboard a train.

VERTICAL

1 Victor.
2 Direct.
3 Paths.
4 Pronoun.
5 He met his death by —
6 Parsonage.
7 Carat.
8 Iridium (symbol).
9 More refined.
10 Has been put down.
11 Young men.
18 Genus of plants.
20 Movements.
22 Relative.
24 Anesthetic.
26 Chemical suffix.
28 Frozen water.
31 Reply.
34 Lake.
36 Musical instrument.
38 Engine.
40 Food.
42 Cougar.
45 Negative.
46 Raced.
49 Musical notes.
51 Size of shot.

Answer to Previous Puzzle



REG'LAR FELLERS—Well Trained

By GENE BYRNES