THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

COLD figures worked out by the Highway Research Board show that auto drivers between 45 to 50 years of age kill the fewest persons . . about 66 per year for each 100,000 drivers. But the youngsters of 19, 20 and 21, who make the best records in driving tests, kill off 220 persons annually, per each 100,000 drivers.

NEXT: Why Chicago is not the "Windy City."

RADIO REPORTER

By REX FROST

Oh. Oh! 21,706 Canadians failed to take out licenses for their radio receivers in 1943. The year before, there were 12,447 who listened in, but didn't pay in. So says the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. But the Bureau has apparently greeted 1944 in the spirit of optimism. They "hope" the figure of negligent license buying listeners will show a big decline.

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It's a strange thing, but few top ranking stars in radio enjoy the privilege of a programme which actually bears their name. Much of the finest talent of the air waves is the subdued glitter under a title such as "Town Hall", "Star Theatre" "Lux Radio Show," "Hit Parade" or some such headline. Recently however that young man who has the ladies swooning in the aisles created a precedent for a new comer. He commenced a new Wednesday evening 9 to 9.30 Columbia network half hour show under the simple but important title, "The Frank Sinatra Programme". If you're a "Sinatra" fan you'll know that Frank also hits the "Hit Parade" Saturday evenings at 9 o'clock over C.B.S. He runs into serious competition however with Hockey Fans in Canada.

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Two "five-minuters" which are drawing considerable audience at the present time are the 6.25 to 6.30, and 10.55 to 11 p.m. periods over CFRB, Toronto. Just ahead of Jim Hunter's newscasts, the 6.25 story period conducted by Gordon Sinclair seems to set a stage for the dramatic news story these days. And five minutes before CFRB's 11 o'clock newscast, has recently come a new addition which tells the life stories of prominent personalities in the news, with Michael Fitzgerald. Both excellent stage setters for the general world news, as well as interesting programmes in their own right.

* * *

They got the New Year off to a bright cheery start, and they promise to see it through in the same cheery happy-go-lucky vein. Who? Why those two Canadian veterans of laughs and comedy Al and Bob Harvey, together with Al Savage who chase your blues away every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock over a C.B.C network.

* * *

Every radio listener at some time or other seems to enjoy the shivers . . . that creepy sensation which goes up his or her spine when ghost stories come out of the loud speaker. If you enjoy the spine tingler, better tune in to the new series of "Night for Mystery", Wednesday evenings over CFRB, 10.30. The opening announcement explains the theme in a nutshell . . . stories of the weird . . . the supernatural . . . and the terrifying.

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Ontario classrooms are not without their musical moments these days. Every Friday afternoon at 2.30 p.m. school children throughout the Province are entertained with a musical series which combine entertainment with education. Explanatory notes on varying types of musicians and their work are given in colourful, easily understandable form, music in all its shadings from phantasy to the classical is adapted to the youthful mind through this schoolroom series, now a feature of the C.B.C.

HIYA, PALESTINE!

Talent-hungry Hollywood might look to the Middle East, judging by this photo of a comely British WAAF serving there. She's from Palestine.

Germans Destroy Ancient Churches

The German barbarians have destroyed the centuries-old Russian churches near Novgorod — memorials of the beginning of the Russian state and jewels of ancient art.

The stern faces of princes and saints of old Russia, painted on ikons, stare through the broken walls of the Spass Nereditsy Church. Blocks of stone and heaps of rubble are all that remain of the strong walls built by unknown architects, which stood for seven and one-half centuries, until German artillery reduced them to ruin.

Artists and scientists came from all countries of the world to view the wonderful frescoes, creations of the masters of those times, and to study the art and architecture of Kiev-Novgorod.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

January 30

JESUS USES HIS POWER TO HELP

Mark 4:35—5:43.

PRINTED TEXT, 4:35-41; 5:35-43

GOLDEN TEXT—Why are ye fearful? have ye not yet faith? Mark 4:40.

Memory Verse: Thou art nigh, O Jehovah. Psalm 119:151.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time—All the events of this lesson took place in the autumn, AD. 28.

Place — The quieting of the waves took place on the Sea of Galilee; the country of Gadara is on the eastern shore of the same sea; the other two miracles took place in the city Capernaum.

Quieting The Stormy Sea

"And on that day, when even was come, he saith unto them, Let us go over unto the other side. And leaving the multitude, they take him with them, even as he was, in the boat. And other boats were with him. And there ariseth a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the boat, insomuch that the boat was now filling."

What a parable of life! How often when life seems so calm and secure we are faced with a sudden and almost overwhelming crisis! A great calamity, sorrow, temptation overtakes us. At such an hour we are put to the test. Those who trust the Saviour will be found equal to any emergency.

A Perfect Trust

"And he himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion: and they awake him, and say unto him, Teacher, carest thou not that we perish?" How perfect was Jesus' trust in His Heavenly Father! He had no fear for he knew all was well.

"And he awoke, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, why are ye fearful? Have ye not yet faith? And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?" The disciples should by this time have had faith, and faith would have delivered them from fear. The danger of the storm past they were seized with another fear, the fear of being close to one who could exert such power and to feel their own helplessness and lack of power.

The Sorrowing Ruler

"While he yet spake, they come from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying, thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Teacher any further?" Nothing could be more final than the words, 'Thy daughter is dead,' and there was obviously no expectation in the ruler's house that even Jesus could now be of any service. They had believed that Jesus could heal the sick, but that He could raise the dead was beyond their belief.

The Select Three

"But Jesus, not heeding the word spoken, saith unto the ruler of the synagogue. Fear not, only believe. And he suffered no man to follow with him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James. And they come to the house of the ruler of the synagogue; and he beholdeth a tumult, and many meeting and wailing greatly."

Jesus suffers no further interruption. He took with Him three of the Twelve as witnesses, but them alone. This is the first appearance of the select circle of three within the closer circle of the Twelve. At Jewish funerals professional mourners maintained a noisy lamentation over the dead.

The Crowd Is Rebuked

"And when he was entered in, he saith unto them. Why make ye a tumult, and weep? The child is not dead, but sleepeth." When our Lord said that the child was not dead but only asleep He did not mean that she was not actually dead, but that the death that was hers would now be ended as sleep is ended with our awakening.

"And they laughed him to scorn. But he, having put them all forth, taketh the father of the child and her mother and them that were with him and goeth in where the child was." Jesus put them out because it was unfitting to have this noisy, jeering crowd about Him on an occasion so solemn and pathetic. It was fitting to have a few chosen witnesses present with the stricken parents.

The Miracle of Resurrection

"And taking the child by the hand, he saith unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, Arise." The word 'Talitha' is a word of affection and endearment answering to the words 'my child.'

"And straightway the damsel rose up, and walked, for she was twelve years old. And they were amazed straightway with a great amazement. And he charged them much that no man should know this: and he commanded that something should be given her to eat."

This is our Lord's first recorded miracle or resurrection. Christ's command to give the child something to eat would prove the reality of the miracle and completness of the restoration. But why did Christ charge those present to keep the matter secret? Imagine what uncontrolled excitement and confusion would have arisen had people heard He could raise the dead. It would hinder rather than help His ministry. He took three of the Twelve as witnesses that His power over death might be published later.

Frankfurt-Mannheim Area

DOG-TIRED DEVIL-DOGS RELIEVED ON BOUGAINVILLE

U.S. forces in the South Pacific now are sufficiently strong to permit reasonably frequent replacements by fresh troops, so these tired Marines are shown moving out of the jungle on Bougainville. They were the ones who hit the beach at Torokina Point and met the heaviest Jap opposition.

CHRONICLES of GINGER FARM

By Gwendoline P. Clarke

Hullo, everybody — I have a question for you. It's this: How would you like to live in a "solar home"—or in other words — "a glass house"? I hope it doesn't sound too crazy to you, because, according to the January Reader's Digest, solar homes may become very popular after the war.

These houses are built with all the main rooms facing south behind an almost "unbroken' expanse of glass and with a four foot cave which shuts out the direct rays of the sun in summer but allows the winter sun to stream in at will. In solar homes fuel bills can be cut as much as thirty-eight percent below average; eyestrain is lessened and light bills reduced.

* * *

However the article doesn't tell you how to keep windows "unbroken", nor how many hours a week it would take to clean the windows, nor how much it would cost to buy shades and curtains for them. I wonder what would happen to that unbroken expanse of glass should the small fry play baseball in summer or throw snowballs in winter!

It doesn't sound too practical does it? And yet I am sure the idea has much to commend it. Personally I think most houses are far too dreary. I love rooms with the sun streaming in through the windows. "Ah, but that is hard on the carpets and drapes," did you say? Well, I suppose it is —but I must confess I would rather have a faded carpet in a bright room than a bright carpet in a shaded room.

* * *

But keeping the windows clean so that the sun can get in — Well, that's something else again. Right now I am sitting in our living-room and the sun is flooding the room with warmth and light, but you would wonder at it getting through at all for the windows are so grey looking. And that, let me tell you is the direct result of using steam coal. And as long as I am using steam coal my windows will be dirty, for as fast as I can clean them they get murky again. However, the time is approaching when our supply of this dirty, smoky, hard-on-the-temper fuel will be exhausted—and we are not getting any more! And yet you know I like it if only it were not so dirty. It is the grandest coal to start a fire I ever knew. And that of course is why Partner likes it so well. I am quite sure he would be content to use it for the rest of the winter —providing the house didn't burn up before the winter was over as a result. But of course, Partner isn't sweeping and dusting, and cleaning flues and trying, without success, to keep the feather-weight soot from flying every which-way. If he were he might not be so anxious to go on using it.

Only half the pre-war quantity of matches is produced in Great Britain, and they usually go to registered customers.

HERO'S SON

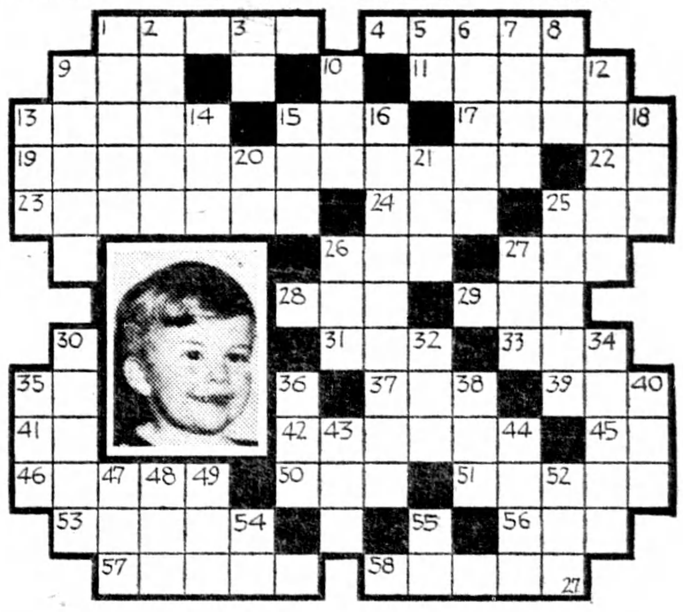
HORIZONTAL

1,4 U. S. hero's pictured son, —— P. —— III.
9 Short for cousin.
11 Dens.
13 Song.
15 Constellation.
17 Intervening (law).
19 Admits.
20 All right (abbr.)
23 Complete outfit of infant's clothing.
24 Verse (abbr.).
25 Enemy.
26 Fondle.
27 His father sank a —— battleship.
28 By.
29 Limb.
31 Devoured.
33 Apex.
35 3.1416.
37 Tavern.
39 Metal.
41 Advertisement (abbr.).
42 Small hound.
45 Negative reply
46 Send back.
50 Cricket term.
51 Hang about.
53 More uncommon.
56 Remove.
57 Noblemen.
58 Field of combat.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

VERTICAL

1 His nickname is ——.
2 Form of oxygen.
3 Within.
5 Cloth measure
6 More disabled.
7 Reclines.
8 Years (abbr.).
9 Tropical tree.
10 Mineral rock.
12 Pry.
13 California (abbr.).
14 Land parcel.
15 Beverage.
16 Announce.
18 Piece out.
20 Weight (abbr.).
21 Obtain.
25 Bundle of sticks.
26 Vegetable.
27 Spout.
30 One who rides
32 Half ems.
34 Wasted away.
35 State of equality.
36 Decline.
38 Nehemiah (abbr.).
40 Neither.
43 Yes.
44 Ripped.
47 Sketch a plan.
48 Anger.
49 Golf peg.
52 By way of.
54 Railroad (abbr.).
55 Either.



POP—All in Tune

By J. MILLAR WATT