

News Parade

Commentary on the Highlights of the Week's News... by Peter Randal

FAST PACE—In the old days, so they tell us, history moved more slowly, at such a leisurely rate, in fact, that people could sit back and speculate a while about each event after it happened. In these times we are allowed no such privilege. Terrifying things occur in a great many parts of the world simultaneously, nation-wide movements surge up and threaten to engulf us whenever we pause to take thought. Dr. Alexis Carrel, world-famed medical scientist, says the reason for this state of affairs is that man's control over matter and over his own mind has not kept pace with the mechanization of the age. Machines have gone ahead. Man has stayed behind until now things are happening too swiftly for him.

Where does it all end? If we wish to turn aside the sure and fearful fate awaiting our present-day civilization, we shall have to become once more, masters of our own destinies.

REST IS BEST—The best way to fight a cold, either bad or indifferent, is to stay at home and go to bed, says the Toronto M. O. H., Dr. Gordon P. Jackson. Rest is the most important thing, if you want to stop short of influenza or pneumonia. Incidentally, your staying home will help your fellow-workers to avoid infection.

A NEW SPIRIT—There's something going on in Canada which belies the separatist attitude shown by the Premiers of Ontario and Quebec, and that is, according to John W. Dufour, editor of the Winnipeg Free Press, "a national integration, the extent and strength of which is not yet known." Following this strengthening of the popular will, he continued, it will be found that the country called Canada is a real country, and that the name "Canadian" borne by its people is not a term merely of convenience.

Haven't you noticed it, too, this new spirit which has just begun to be felt within the past year or so, the last couple of months? A great many factors are contributing to its growth, not the least of which is the deplorable state of affairs in many foreign countries. By contrast we feel ourselves extremely lucky, draw closer to one another within our own borders, are prouder to call ourselves "Canadians."

Editor Dufour expresses the hope that our whole Canadian system may be strengthened and vitalized by the new spirit instead of torn asunder by sectionalist agitation in this and that part of the country.

BOYCOTT WOULD DO IT—A highly-educated Christian Japanese, delegate to a foreign missions conference in Toronto last week, admits that there would be a cessation of hostilities in the Sino-Jap conflict if an international boycott of Japanese goods were imposed by other Governments, led by Great Britain.

The causes of the war are primarily economic (Japan having to strike out in search of new raw materials); the cure for the evil situation is necessarily economic, too.

Japan, of course, would be ruined by the boycott measure.

TURNING TIDE—The Loyalists in Spain are at last finding their feet after other nations had for good reasons or otherwise, given up their cause as a lost one. For the first time since the civil war began in July of 1936, the army is well organized and well supplied with ammunition, tanks, etc. General Franco is running into some 1st-class opposition.

The Loyalist Government's successful attack on Teruel marked the turning of the tide. If Mussolini would stay out of the combat, keep his volunteers at home, it is probable that the Loyalists would win the war.

Many observers say that they would have done so in the first place if Spain had been left alone when hostilities originally broke out.

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from Great Britain via Hong Kong. It could not be helped, Admiral Suetung added, if Japan came into conflict with Britain in such action. In an interview with foreign correspondents he declared the anti-British feeling which he admitted existed in Japan could be attributed to British efforts to prevent Japanese economic expansion in China.

Spanish War In Winter
TERUEL FRONT—The crucial battle for Teruel, which slowed down last week due to bitter cold and the exhaustion of the contending forces, began again and raged along a fifteen mile front.

Insurgent forces launched a drive to encircle the Aragon front stronghold. At the two wings of the insurgent army severe fighting was underway. It was rendered confused and difficult by the nature of the terrain, by snow which blanketed the battlefield, and by the cold, exceptional even for Aragon, which is the coldest part of Spain.

German Transatlantic Airship
NEW YORK—German airship service between Europe and the United States will be resumed in about five months with a sister ship of the Zepplin Hindenburg, which plummeted to earth in flames at Lakehurst, N.J., last May.

Against Waterway
OTTAWA—The International Joint Commission this week confirmed a recent forecast that under existing conditions it was reporting against the proposed construction of a deep waterway from Montreal to New York by way of Lake Champlain. The Commission has filed its report with the Governments of United States and Canada.

Anti-Jewish Riots
BUCHAREST—Violence against Jews, although still of a minor character, is growing throughout Rumania, reports from various provincial towns indicate. Rumors spread of new anti-Semitic measures to be taken by the Goga Government.

At Bacau, in Central Rumania, a mob smashed the windows of the home of a Jewish industrialist, and in a nearby town, a Jewish restaurant was demolished by a crowd, according to reports received here this week.

Canadian Statesman Dies
OTTAWA—Rt. Hon. Sir George Perley, veteran member of Parliament for Argenteuil and chief lieutenant of Right Hon. R. B. Bennett, died in his sleep at his home here. He was 80 years old.

Ultra-Rapid Freezing Suspends Life Process

In Plants and Certain Animals—Scientists Say It's Theoretically Possible to Suspend Life in a Human Being and Revive Him a Thousand Years Later.

Creation of an ultra-frozen state of matter in which life is suspended indefinitely but can be revived again was announced at Indianapolis last week before the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. B. J. Luyet, of St. Louis University, declared he had been able to produce suspended animation—a favorite theme of fiction writers for many years—in plants and some small animals by taking them from room temperature to several hundred degrees below zero within the fraction of a second. Both the plants and animals were brought back to life after their life processes had been stopped by cooling.

Put Into Vitreous State
These plants and animals were not frozen, Luyet declared, since freezing destroys living cells. Instead, they were put into a vitreous state by the rapid cooling. A vitreous substance, something like glass, which cools without the formation of crystals.

Discussing the dreams of fiction writers who have suggested the possibility of suspending life in a human being and reviving him a thousand years later, Luyet declared such a thing is "theoretically possible," but highly impractical.

Speed Is Necessary
In all the St. Louis University experiments the substances frozen were only a tiny fraction of an inch thick, he said. The gaseous state of matter was attained with a combination of water and gelatin. If anything, such as a human being, could be preserved in ultra-ice, the process would have to be performed in about one-thousandth of a second by dropping the temperature almost 300 degrees.

Suspension of life can be attained with nematode worms, which contain less 50 per cent. of water with some bacteria and yeast cells and with thin plant leaves, all of which can be converted into the glass state readily, Luyet added. Other higher forms of life are being experimented with now to give them what approximates immortality on earth in their living state.

Bring Them Back As Quickly
In order to revive plants and animals preserved in the ultra-ice, it is necessary to bring them back to room temperature at almost the same speed they were put into suspended animation—a difficult problem only solved at present in the lower forms of life, he said.

Rare "Ice Bug" Found in B. C.

Nine Specimens Have Been Discovered Near Kamloops—Are Hailed as "Revolutionary Find"

Hailed as a "revolutionary find," nine specimens of the rare "ice bug" have been discovered by two members of the Dominion Entomological Department near Kamloops at a lower altitude than they were known to exist.

G. Allan Mail announced last week that he and J. D. Reigson found the bugs, less than an inch long with a light brown shell somewhat resembling crickets or cockroaches. The find was made at about 1,660 feet near Mount St. Paul, across the Thompson River from Kamloops.

Lives at Higher Altitude
The grylloblatta campodeiformis, as it is known to science, has been discovered only in some six other places in the world, all at about 6,000 feet.

"I don't know where they went in the hot weather," said Mr. Mail, for the bugs were found on a mountain face with a southern exposure subjected to terrific summer heat.

Prof. G. J. Spencer of the University of British Columbia zoology department said the discovery was "revolutionary." The bugs' presence at less than 2,500 feet would upset previous theories, he said.

First Discovered in 1913
Dr. E. M. Walker, of University of Toronto, first discovered "ice bugs" near Banff, Alta., in 1913 at 6,500 feet. In Toronto last week he said the insects newly found might be of a different race of the same species found at Banff.

The insects endure at low temperatures and usually live on mountains near the edge of glaciers. Dr. Walker said they generally live through the day under rocks and come into the open at night.

Specimens were found last year at a 6,000-foot altitude in Montana.

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Somebody's Doing It
China's casualties have passed the million mark. Even Japan should be prepared to admit that this indicates that somebody is at war.—Financial Post.

Training In Taste
Music is being taught in 123 classrooms in the rural schools of this district. In spite of that fact we imagine that many of the pupils still continue to tune in Cab Calloway.—Peterborough Examiner.

Those Markers!
Science has now changed its mind about the atom. Is it, in these circumstances, too much to hope that the Ontario Government can change its collective mind about the 1938 automobile markers?—Toronto Globe and Mail.

Murder, Not War
War, says Vittorio Mussolini—"war is the quintessence of beauty." What that young megalomaniac doesn't know about war would fill the archives in Rome. To ride safely thousands of feet in the air and rain bombs on helpless natives is not war; at most—and at best—it is cold-blooded murder.—Halifax Herald.

An Important Selection
Parents should take enough interest in the public school to at least attend the annual meeting and vote for the election of a trustee whom they believe has the interest of the pupils at heart rather than the saving of a few pennies to the ratepayers. The years spent in school are very important in the lives of the boys and girls.—Farmer's Advocate.

All-British
"Under the Red Robe" (British)—A swaggering adventure tale of the days of Cardinal Richelieu, produced by an American, directed by a Swede, photographed by a Chinaman, designed by a Swiss, and played by a German, a Frenchwoman, a Canadian, and a Mexican. Otherwise, an all-British picture.—London Observer.

Solitude Wanted!
Did many readers notice a small advertisement in The Argus recently inviting intellectual and refined people to form a colony on a South Sea island? Apparently many did, for the advertiser has received more than 250 replies from those seeking solitude—provided it is not too lonely. The advertiser, who produced his credentials, is a member of the Royal Australian Air Force, perfectly sincere in his intention to form an ideal social centre, "to eliminate hatred and poverty and fear." In his Utopia he promises wild horses and cattle, cascading streams, tropical fruits, and no tax collectors or other pestilences. It is not true that the replies already received to this alluring advertisement nearly all came from politicians and bookmakers seeking success from turmoil. They came from ordinary simple folk who cannot stand the noise of the trams in Elizabeth street any longer.—Melbourne Argus.

When Mount Katmai, in Alaska, exploded in 1912, dust in the air cut down the sun's brightness 20 per cent. for two months, over the entire northern hemisphere.

A—C

Royal Bank of Canada Reports Good Year

Total Assets \$869,538,000 up \$14,000,000 — Deposits Increased \$10,000,000 — Liquid Assets 65.53% of Liabilities to the Public—Increased Profits Shown

The Annual Balance Sheet of The Royal Bank of Canada made public shows a moderate growth in deposits and total assets and a strong liquid position. Total deposits amount to \$756,039,696 and are higher than at any period in the bank's history, with the single exception of 1929.

Commercial Loans Increase
Current Loans in Canada, including loans to Municipalities and Provincial Governments, amount to \$200,563,727, an increase of approximately \$12,765,000 as compared with the previous year. Current Loans outside of Canada amounting to \$101,147,198 are approximately \$4,000,000 lower than last year. Coming as it does after a steady decline in current loans over a period of seven years, the reversal in the trend of commercial loans is encouraging. As might be expected in view of the present stock market situation, call loans both in Canada and abroad have been substantially reduced. Call Loans in Canada amount to \$19,392,906, a reduction of approximately \$6,700,000. Call Loans abroad amount to \$10,070,583, a reduction of \$4,500,000.

Strong Liquid Position
The liquid position is strong, total readily realizable assets being \$514,671,335. Of this amount \$168,638,928 is represented by cash on hand or on deposit with the Bank of Canada and other banks, while

Profits Higher
Net profits for the year are shown at \$3,711,339 and compared with 1936 indicate an improvement of \$207,133. Dividends paid absorbed \$2,500,000. The usual appropriation of \$200,000 was made for Bank Premiums but the contribution to the Pension Fund Society was increased to \$300,000 as compared with the former appropriation of \$200,000. Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward totals \$2,325,176, an increase of \$411,380.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the Home Office of the bank at 11 a.m. on January 12, 1938.

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