

Notice of Births, Marriages and Deaths
 are inserted in this column without charge.
 In Memoriam Notices, 50c and 25c per line
 additional for poetry.

BORN
DUCKETT—To Mr. and Mrs. W. Duckett (nee Marie Paradis), on Sunday, April 4th, 1943, at Guelph General Hospital—a son.
SMITH—Mr. and Mrs. Earl Smith of Capriago are happy to announce the birth of a daughter, Jean Marie, at Guelph General Hospital on Monday, April 5th, 1943.

DEED
AKITE—At his late residence, Brock Street, Acton, Ontario, on Sunday, April 4th, 1943, John Wallace Akite, beloved husband of Agnes Akite, in his 75th year.

IN MEMORIAM
MacPHERSON—In loving memory of our dear father, Robert J. MacPheron, who passed away April 11th, 1942.

EUGENE and DOROTHY.

Oh, and that

—Good Friday is just two weeks from to-morrow.

—The first instalment of municipal taxes must be paid before next Thursday.

—If you think snow storms are a bit late just recall that about two feet fell in a storm a year ago this week.

—Another Acton young woman has joined the armed forces, Mrs. Joan Walde has enlisted in the R.C.A.F. Women's Division.

—Mrs. A. K. Mann has received word that her brother Kenneth Buck now overseas with the R.C.A.F., has been promoted to the rank of Flight-Sergeant.

—There's quite a movement of wool these days in and out of the storage at the arena. It is processed at the plant here of the Wool Combing Corporation.

—A special appeal for more clothing for the Aid to Russia has been received. All having articles of used clothing are asked to leave them with Mrs. J. F. Wilds before April 30th when the last shipment will be made.

—Commissaire Geo. Mason, Troop Leader Dave Dills and Patrol Leaders Jack Mainprize, Don Evans, and Bill Knight attended the meeting of the newly formed Scout Troop in Georgetown on Monday night and were guests at the Lions Club dinner that evening.

—County Chairman A. Mason presided at a meeting of the Victory Loan Executive held in Milton last evening. Others attending from Acton were Warden J. M. McDonald, Messrs. H. R. Force, W. J. Beatty, E. S. Force, W. J. O. Oakes and G. A. Dills.

How Bumper Crop Potatoes Obtained

Ideal seed potatoes may be defined as potatoes that are of good type and pure to variety, produced from healthy, vigorous, heavy yielding plants grown under favorable climatic conditions, harvested somewhat immature, reasonably uniform in size and shape, firm and sound, and with the first sprouts beginning to develop at planting time. Seed of this character, says John Tucker, Manager, Seed Potato Section, Special Products Board, is now obtainable in quantity from growers who have specialized in the production of certified seed.

In every province provision has been made for the inspection and certification of potatoes which will qualify to the rigid requirements of good seed. The service is provided free of charge to seed growers to encourage seed production sufficient for prospective demands. It is intended as an aid to table potato growers, to counteract diseases which are carried over in the seed principally, and to stimulate production of good yields of high quality table potatoes at reasonable cost.

The importance of using good seed cannot be over-emphasized. The practice of using what is left over from a crop after disposing of the best of it is decidedly not a good practice. Maximum yields of high quality potatoes are never obtained from inferior seed, nature does not work that way.

Certified seed necessarily commands a reasonable premium over table potatoes but is worth it. The extra cost is small for the quantity needed for planting, compared with the increased yields and better quality which may be expected from the use of good seed and the crop insurance it affords.

When changing seed change to something better, advises Mr. Tucker. Plant only certified seed identified as such by the official tag. No other potatoes should be accepted as seed. All seed and feed stores can obtain supplies of certified seed. Lists of carlot growers and dealers are supplied on request by the Plant Protection Division, Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

HARD TIMES PARTY AT JUNIOR FARMERS MEETING THURSDAY

The regular meeting of Junior Farmers was held on April 1, in the form of a "Hard Times Party". After the business part of the meeting Mrs. Fred Denny, and Mrs. Switzer acting as judges, awarded prizes for the costumes to: Molly Curtis and Margaret McPhail, for the ladies and to Gordon Leslie and Howard Switzer for the gents. Games were then enjoyed by all after which lunch was served, the remainder of the evening spent in dancing.

"BAMBI" BASED ON BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB NOVEL

In "Bambi," Walt Disney for the first time brings to the screen a best-selling novel. As a novel, "Bambi," by Felix Salten, was a choice of the Book-of-the-Month Club. It has a record of more than 650,000 sales. It is the most adult story Disney has ever offered the public, yet it is in the pure Disney tradition in that the unique story is told with the animal characters Disney has made beloved all over the world.

"Bambi," distributed by RKO Radio and photographed in Multi-plane Technicolor, was five years in the making, even having been in production before "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." Lovers of the novel will be glad to know that the serious overtones of the story have been kept through all the gaiety, romance and slapstick fun. It will be the feature at the Gregory Theatre here on Friday and Saturday.

War Prisoners For Four Years—A Tough Break

Battle-Wearied When They Were Taken to Camps in France and Spain Veterans of Spanish Civil War Still in Custody

LONDON, (CP)—The world's most experienced prisoners of war, under-graduates of the barbed-wire enclosures of a dozen European countries, are those of the ragged, battle-wearied men of the International Brigade interned in France or imprisoned in Spain after collapse of government resistance in the Spanish revolution—and still in custody. Wearing their old school ties in the form of a battle or whip scar, a stomach ulcer or anxiety neurosis, they are dwindling in numbers. In the four years since most of them were imprisoned, there have been many deaths. International Brigade Association headquarters here believes most of these deaths were caused by insufficient care for old wounds or illnesses made fatal by poor food and shelter.

Mostly European
 Many of the men have been extradited from French and Spanish prison camps to the palm-skilled hands of the German Gestapo and Italian O.K.s. But about 1,400 of them are said by the Association to remain prisoners in France or Spain. There are no Canadians or Britons known to be among these men, because their release was obtained shortly after the end of the civil war. Americans and Russians also were extradited and most of the men still imprisoned are from Germany or Italy or such Axis-controlled countries as Yugo-Slavia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, the Netherlands, Belgium and Norway.

Some Extradited
 At the outbreak of the second Great War the official figure of interned International Brigadiers was given by French relief organizations as approximately 3,000 men. Since then some have reached safety through the efforts of the United American-Spanish Aid committee of New York, the International Brigade Association and various governments which obtained extradition for interned nationals.

Money is being sent to these imprisoned Brigadiers through an organization which works—mainly underground—from Lisbon. The official side of this aid is restricted almost entirely to formalities which have had only slight success so far in seeking influential support for representations to Vichy for extradition of Brigadiers interned in France.

Labor Unions' Help
 Labor organizations and trade unions, largely representing the people who supported the Republican cause during the Spanish revolution, have been heaviest financial supporters of funds to provide money and comfort to these veteran war prisoners.

One letter received at International Brigade Association headquarters from an interned Brigadier was from a Czech, writing to an Englishman with whom he fought in Spain. His name will not be given here because of possible reprisals but the letter, written in French, urged use of the Portuguese Red Cross in future when sending help. It inferred that other channels were not reliable. Brigadiers here remember this Czech as one of the bravest of men, but the tone of his letters reflected the strain of nearly four years of imprisonment under unhappy conditions. It ended on almost a pleading note. "I hope you will not leave me without your assistance."

Weekly War Commentary

Specialty Written for The Acton Free Press BY H. H. GORDON Canadian Press Staff Writer

Germany's activities in the Ukraine are convincing proof that Hitler is staking everything on holding that great productive area in order to obtain the tremendous quantities of foodstuffs and raw materials necessary to the prosecution of the war. In spite of invasion threats from the west and south, the German High Command is reported to be massing large concentrations of troops in the great grain-producing territory. It is possible that the stage is being set for another summer offensive, but it is not likely that drives will be attempted on a scale comparable with those of 1941 and 1942.

On the other hand the Germans will need strong forces to stabilize and maintain their present positions already threatened by Russia's growing might. There are many indications that Hitler realizes the futility of attempting further invasions. Even the retention of the vast territories already occupied will strain his resources to the utmost.

The Ukraine is the chief granary of Europe and in addition has great deposits of coal and iron ore. To the north lie other occupied lands—White Russia and Estonia with a wealth of agricultural and dairy products and Lithuania and Latvia, both timber exporting countries.

Must Fall eventually
 With the wealth of these countries at the back door, Germany is reported from various sources to be building up great industrial and munition plants in Western Germany, Czechoslovakia, Austria and Poland. In Russia she is comparatively free from the United Nations' devastating air attacks. If this feature of Germany's strategy is successful and the submarine menace is maintained, the Nazis may hang on for some time. But in the long run Germany is bound to fall before the weight of Allied strength, bolstered as it is by resources far greater than those available to the enemy.

Apart from all this the military situation in southeastern Europe is giving the Nazi High Command plenty of cause for apprehension. Despite all their efforts in the past few weeks the Germans have been unable to force a crossing of the Danube River in the region east of Kharkov and at the week-end their precarious hold on the western corner of the Caucasus was being threatened by the Russian drive on Novorossisk, important Black Sea base.

Turkey's intentions pose a query for German officialdom, already having trouble to keep Bulgaria and Rumania in line. A successful Allied invasion of Greece might result in the definite alignment of Turkey with the United Nations and cause immediate repercussions in the Nazi satellite countries.

Huge German Losses
 In a special communique at the week-end Russia announced the Red Army's winter offensive had resulted in the killing of 850,000 Germans and capture of 343,225 others. It was reported that between Nov. 10 and March 31 a total of 5,990 German planes were destroyed or captured together with 9,190 tanks and 20,360 guns.

The German radio countered with a claim, unconfirmed from any Allied source, that the Russians had lost 37,283 planes since the war began on the Eastern Front.

In the meantime Allied airmen are continuing to pound Axis targets in Western Europe and in various parts of the Mediterranean. The Luftwaffe's aerial strength in Tunisia received two particularly damaging blows when devastating attacks were made on airfields, docks and communications on Sardinia and Sicily. Much of Germany's air power for the protection of Tunisia has been centred on these Mediterranean Islands.

Gains in Tunisia
 While Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's 8th Army is preparing for another great smash at the German Africa Corps following his success in breaking through the Mareth Line, the British 1st Army, commanded by Lt.-Gen. Kenneth Anderson, is pushing Axis forces in the north back on their bases at Tunis and Bizerte. At the week-end the 1st Army had made further progress east of Sedjenane. The advance is in the direction of the important rail and highway junction point at Mateur, 18 miles south of Bizerte.

At Algiers, Gen. D. D. Eisenhower disclosed that the British 1st Army had been reinforced. He had just returned from conferences with Gen. Sir Harold Alexander and Sir Bernard Montgomery. The American general revealed that United States forces no longer form part of the British 1st Army. They have been grouped under Gen. George Patton, Jr. and are now fighting in central Tunisia. The 1st Army incorporates a French corps under General Koeltz.

The veteran British 8th Army includes among other units a New Zealand division, an Indian division and two British Infantry divisions.

Berlin radio reports early this week indicated that the British 8th Army might shortly resume the offensive against Axis forces north of Gabes. British gunners were reported to be laying down test shots on enemy defence positions while tanks were said to have been moved near the front. Berlin also repeated earlier statements to the effect that British and American forces in Tunisia are being reinforced constantly.

Air Power Grows
 Enemy attempts to reinforce troops in Tunisia are becoming increasingly difficult. Allied airmen are stepping up raids on enemy ports both in Tunisia and Italy and Naples suffered a particularly heavy attack early this week. Twenty-four vessels were crippled and wharves and docks set ablaze. As well as hammering the dispatch of reinforcements to North Africa, the bombing raids are dealing heavy blows to Rommel's retreat facilities.

British, Canadian and Allied airmen are pounding enemy targets in Germany and the occupied lands of western Europe. Saturday night Essen was subjected to a heavy attack and the following day American flying fortresses smashed the Renault A.F. bombers were over the Nazi submarine base at Kiel. On Monday industrial objectives at Antwerp were attacked in a successful daylight raid.

Attack Jap Ships
 American bombers at the week-end swept over a concentration of Japanese warships and other vessels in the Far East and in two attacks sank two cruisers and a destroyer and damaged seven other ships, including four destroyers. The enemy ships were in harbor at Kavieng, New Ireland.

Kavieng is 150 miles north of Rabaul in New Britain, heretofore one of the most-bombarded bases for Japanese aircraft and naval vessels. The attacking bombers drove through heavy anti-aircraft fire but were not molested by Japanese planes. Other American planes blasted the Kavieng airbase with bombs to prevent enemy fighters from interfering with the attack on the harbor.

On the Eastern Front, Russian forces continued to hammer at German defences about Novorossisk, Black Sea naval base in the western Caucasus. A Soviet communique stated Tuesday that more than 60 enemy firing positions had been destroyed.

Russian troops in the Ukraine repulsed further German attempts to cross the Danube River and in the central front near Smolensk activity

has been largely confined to artillery engagements.

The expected drive by the 8th Army in Tunisia started Tuesday morning when attacks were made on Rommel's positions 20 miles north of Gabes after aerial and artillery bombardment. Prime Minister Churchill in announcing Wednesday that the 8th Army had smashed through defences at Wadi el Akarit said that more than 6,000 prisoners had been taken.

Advancing British and Indian divisions were covered by a barrage from 500 guns. Mr. Churchill declared that the successful frontal attack should soon enable Montgomery's forces to join hands with the American who have been pressing the enemy unceasingly from the west.

ENGLISH-ITALIAN NEWS
TRIPOLI, (CP)—Within two days after the British captured this city from the retreating Axis armies, the Tripoli Times, a one-page newspaper, hit the streets for the first time. The Italian population scrambled eagerly for copies of this newspaper in the English language.

Gordon Highlanders

A glance through the directory of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board is convincing proof of the care with which directors and administrators are chosen for the various divisions. Mr. Short and Mr. Close are in the rationing section, as is quite fitting. Gallup is hooked up with farm machinery, naturally. Mr. Scythe, however, is not with the farm section, but cutting down waste in Cotton Waste under the textile heading.

Mr. Weaver is closely connected with full fashioned hosiery, and Mr. Shoemaker is in the leather division. There's a Stoker in the coal department, and Dr. Finn is in Fisheries. Mr. Olive belongs to the Food Administration as does Dr. Plants, urging greater victory gardens.

There's an ecclesiastical touch to the Board too, which has an Abbot and a Deacon. And it might be added that Mr. Atkins is in the ranks also.

WANT NEWS BEST
 LONDON, (CP)—Importance of quick dissemination of war news should be much emphasized said Baron de Cartier de Marchienne, Belgian ambassador, saying that because the public was not informed Britain had in 1940 suspected Belgium's king and army of sinister motives.

FAVORS WOMEN RULE

LONDON, (CP)—The Debating Club at Hoburn, Bedfordshire, has decided by a majority of one vote that the country could be ruled better by women.

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Can You Shun This Call?
 You owe it to your family! You owe it to your business! You owe it to your town! You owe it to your country! You owe it to yourself! You owe it to the boys in the front line. Train yourself now to protect these interests.

Join the Lorne Scots Now!
 To be eligible for the Lorne Scots Reserve, a man must belong to one of seven age groups: 17 and 18 years of age, single men 42½ to 50 years, married men 28½ to 50 years, Great War veterans up to 55 years (these four are open to men of categories "A," "B" and "C"), all men 17 to 50 years in category "C". Those who have received Active Army postponement and those who have been rejected for Active Service.

If You Can't Go Active—Go Reserve