

Bomber Press Visits London in Wartime

This is another in a series of articles written by W. E. Logan and C. V. Charlton, who represent the Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association in a recent tour overseas.

ARTICLE NO. 22
(By Walter E. Logan)

We arrived in London late in the evening after an all-day train journey. There was no moon that night. London in the black-out is really black. There were army automobiles to meet us and we had a sudden and complete introduction to being driven through the blackness at what seemed to us to be about thirty miles an hour, and on the wrong side of the street.

Our car narrowly missed a pedestrian who was crossing the street in the middle of a block. If he had been hit it looked to us as if he would have been entirely at fault, but our guide said that in such case the chauffeur would be "Joe," which in army parlance is the fellow who gets all the blame.

London in the daytime is just as strange to us. On the streets are men and women in uniform from all parts of the world. Signs on nearly every corner pointing the way to shelters. Other signs showing where there are tanks of static water, shelters built in the streets, closed stores, store windows boarded over except for small lights of glass, and if there were anything else needed to show that we are in the war zone, we could look up and see countless balloons in the sky.

The barrage balloons, which look something like huge fish, are a silver color that blends with the sky, so that they are hard to see at any distance, but in spite of that, one could often count forty or more.

The static water is for use in fighting fires in case the water mains are destroyed or are inadequate. In many cases the basements of buildings that have been demolished are cleaned out, cemented, and filled with water.

The number of stores that are closed is astonishing. Most store windows have been broken by concussion even when the buildings have enough glass to replace them even if it were safe to do so. Therefore the windows have been closed up, leaving only small panes of glass three or four feet square in the centre.

The acute shortage of labor is apparent in many things, as for instance, in the elevator services, or "lifts" as they are known there. People are expected always to walk downstairs, no matter how many stories, and to walk up if not more than three stories.

No one is supposed to have more than one bath a week, and then to have only five inches or less of water in the tub. The hotels no longer give a fast service for laundry, and one must allow several days before expecting its return.

Debris from bomb damage has been well cleaned up, but little or no attempt has been made to rebuild. Plans for a finer and more beautiful London still exist only on paper.

Transportation is much better than we expected. Taxis are under severe restrictions as to gas and speed, but it is possible to get one when required, with a little delay. The principal method of travel in London is to take the underground or a bus, and there are plenty of the latter. They are of the double-deck type. People queue up for them in a very orderly manner which is a tremendous improvement over the crowded confusion usually found around the entrance to a street car in Canada.

The London subway system is said to be the finest in the world, and it probably is. Most of the subways are much deeper in the ground than those in America. For that reason they have suffered little or no damage, and the stations make excellent shelters. At nearly all these stations there are now double-deck iron cots, similar to those used in soldiers' barracks. We were told that there are still a few people who regularly sleep in the subways, but it was a long time before we actually saw some of them.

There are many things in London that are the same as ever. The pigeons haven't left Trafalgar Square, although there may not be quite so many. It is a mystery what they live on, as people are not supposed to give them any food.

And the orators still hold forth in Hyde Park. Our hotel was just across the street from that part of the park where Free Speech is enjoyed or abused, according to your viewpoint. Here the soap box speakers can say anything they wish without fear of prosecution. There are not so many listeners now, but on the Sunday that we went over to hear the orators there was a fair sized crowd. It is excellent free entertainment, as there always are a number holding forth on all kinds of subjects. One of the most popular just now is "Monolulu" who waves a number of flags in the air, and talks about what the negroes have done to help the world. He wears a colorful costume to add to the show. Later, when we queried a

abinet minister about these orators, some of whom appear to preach almost treason, he declared that "Every building needs a good ventilating system."

Theatres are still providing good shows, but on account of the black-out, the curtains go up about half past five or six o'clock for the evening performance. Prices for orchestra seats, or "stalls" as they are called over there, are very high, but about half the price in for instance, a large proportion of the audience is in uniform, probably men on leave.

Although only automobiles for military or authorized purposes are used, there are many on the streets. Some of them are driven by gas which is carried in huge fabric bags which cover the roof of the car, and are about four feet high when inflated. We were told that one filling of gas will drive the car about a hundred miles and costs about six dollars. Many of the signs of London were of great interest to us. On one restaurant, there was a sign "Kilney-Racon-Toad," which caused us to wonder if the people of London were even eating toads. However, it was explained that "Toad" is the name for a sort of sausage roll.

Another restaurant had a sign, "This restaurant will stay open during raids as long as the walls are standing." Another sign on a badly wrecked building read, "You may think this is bad, but you should see our Berlin branch."

On the whole, we found the people of London to be cheerful and optimistic, so busy at the task of winning the war that they have little time for anything else. Everyone is anxious to help strangers, and the city is full of them, so we found it surprisingly easy to make our way around.

Easter Greetings!

Easter brings us hard-boiled eggs, rabbits, flowers, hot cross buns and Easter cards. Strangely enough, most of these present-day objects and customs had their birth so far back in antiquity that digging into records for origins and birthplaces is like trying to dig a well in quicksand.

The name Easter itself comes from the name of the old pagan Saxon goddess of spring Ostara, or Eostre. In their springtime celebrations each year, the early Saxons defied the lowly rabbit which, because of its conjugal habits, was considered to be the symbol of fecundity. Thus the little chocolate rabbits one sees in the candy-store windows of Easter.

The egg goes much further back in the annals of human history. Ancient Egyptians first started the custom of painting eggs at Easter. In China, the egg has always been the symbol of life eternal. Even today, the Chinese venerate the egg, and the older the egg the more they venerate it — which might be considered as carrying ancestor-worship a little too far.

Easter-lilies were originally Egyptian and had a major part in all springtime religious celebrations. It is known that in the excavations at Herculaneum in Rome two fossilized hot cross buns were found complete and intact in a buried oven. Their remarkable state of preservation is not very flattering to the skill of the Roman housewife who baked them.

Even the Easter greeting card, which might justly have been called an English invention, is found to have its origin in the multi-colored eggs which the Russian peasants passed around at Easter. Each egg had painted on it a few words of greeting and good wishes.

Truly, there is nothing new under the sun. Perhaps even the astounding hats worn by the modern Miss at Easter have their counterpart in ancient Rome or far Cathay!

Battle Rifle Testing Well

New British Weapon Has Two-Groove Rifling and Aperture Sight

LONDON, (CP)—Field tests of the British Army's newest rifle, known as the Battle Rifle, have proved its superiority over other types, according to the British Information Service. Designed to assist mass production without affecting accuracy, it is distinguished by two-groove rifling, a slightly heavier barrel and an aperture sight.

All other British rifles have five groove rifling. The new weapon's barrel is of a small thrusting type. "It looks like a skewer," King George commented during a recent inspection.

POPULAR MRS. SMUTS

JOHANNESBURG, (C. P.) — Mrs. Smuts, wife of the prime minister, received a tumultuous welcome here when 3,000 people applauded her when she arrived upon her of an honorary LL.D. at Witwatersrand University.

The Sunday School Lesson

SUNDAY APRIL 13

PETER AND JOHN IN GETHSEMANE

Golden Text.—Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation. Matt. 26:41.

Lesson Text.—Matt. 26:35-46. Read also John 18:10-12.

Time.—Tuesday night and Wednesday morning, April 4 and 5, A.D. 30.

Place.—Gethsemane.

Exposition.—I. Jesus Sorrowing Even Unto Death, 36-38.

The three whom Jesus took with Him now are the same whom He took into the Mt. of Transfiguration. Jesus as He came closer to the agony of the cross and of all involved in the bearing of man's sin longed for human sympathy. But He did not get it. He trod the winepress alone. He took with Him into the inner shadows of Gethsemane the innermost circle of the chosen ones, Peter and James and John. But even they slept while the Saviour agonized and prayed. There is something awful to contemplate in the absolute loneliness of the Saviour.

Jesus was in a state of great mental and spiritual sorrow, "exceeding sorrowful, even unto death." It was not mere dread of the physical agony that lay a little ahead, but His sinless spirit was beginning to feel most heavily the burden of man's guilt and His heart, that clung with utterly unparalleled love to God, was beginning to feel the tearing agony of separation from the Father, necessitated by man's sin. There was an awful storm of bewilderment and agony sweeping over the Saviour's whole being (Mk. 14:33). His heart was at the point of breaking (Luke 22:44) as it did indeed break at last on the cross. It was all for us that He suffered thus (Isa. 53:6). He bade the three watch while He pressed still farther into the shadows of the garden. He wanted company, yet He wanted to be alone with God.

II. Jesus Praying, the Disciples Sleeping, 39-46.

Jesus went forward about a stone's cast and first knelt down, then fell upon his face in an awful agony of sorrow and intensity of desire (Luke 22:41). What a sight! the Holy One of God on His face in prayer before Him. The prayer is differently recorded by the three evangelists (cf. Mk. 14:36; Luke 22:42). Doubtless He said all that is recorded and one evangelist gives one part of the prayer and another, another. He prayed that the cup might pass from Him.

It was not a prayer for deliverance from the cross. From that, though Jesus dreaded it, He never drew back (John 12:27, 28). Moreover, we are distinctly taught in the Bible not only that the Father always heard Jesus (John 11:41, 42), but that He was heard in the specific case (Heb. 5:7), and when a prayer is heard the very thing asked is given (1 John 5:14, 15). Jesus got what He asked in this case. The cup passed on, until the appointed hour on the cross. He was dying of agony then and there (v. 38) and God strengthened Him (Luke 22:43) and He went to the cross and accomplished His work.

While Jesus prayed the disciples slept. They had not fallen asleep all at once. They had heard something of His agony and prayer. But they had been more occupied with their own sorrow than with His and were soon overcome with it (Luke 22:45). We too are more occupied with our own grief than with the griefs of Jesus over a perishing world, and we too sleep when we ought to watch and pray. The sleep of the disciples was natural but it was not excusable. It was a fulfillment of the prophecy, "I looked for comforts but I found none" (Ps. 69:20). Jesus asked them—a gently reproachful question that revealed His own heart breaking and longing for sympathy on the one hand, and their lack of self-sacrificing love on the other.

The rebuke was intended specially for Peter, who had boasted he would

do with Jesus and now could not even "watch one hour" (cf. v. 35). Jesus also spoke to them a word of earnest warning, "Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation." But they heeded it not and were soon fast asleep again. So the next day, while Jesus triumphed through that night of prayer, they fell. But Jesus died and when all the forces of hell swept up against Him on the cross He put them on and triumphed over them in it. Three times does Jesus meet the Father with the same cry before the victory is fully won. What a rebuke to those, spiritually lazy souls that would have us believe that it is a mark of lack of faith to ask the same thing a second time.

When Jesus returns the last time to the disciples He no longer needs their sympathy—the battle is over—and furthermore it is too late, and He says, "Sleep on now." Will we sleep so long that the hour will pass by when we can be of any use to our Lord? The sleep so dearly purchased was short; for in a moment the torches of Judas and his horrid band are seen among the trees. The disciples must now arise, but to what a scene of terror and dismay. The victorious man of prayer is calm, but they flee.

We too need this solemn warning. "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation." It is thus alone that we can find daily victory. One must never watch at all seasons; for the

devil is ever alert; and, again, the Lord may come at any moment (1 Pet. 5:8; Matt. 24:42). But watching should always be accompanied by praying (1 Pet. 4:7). The reason why the mass of Christians to-day have so little realization of the need of prayer is because they do not watch (Eph. 6:18). The Christian who is watching and praying has no need to fear the outcome (1 Cor. 10:12, 13; 2 Pet. 3:9). But the Christian who does not watch has no right to rest upon these promises. The flesh is still weak, but there is a way to conquer this weakness, by walking in the Spirit (Gal. 5:16). This can only be done as the outcome of prayer (Luke 11:13; Ac. 4:31).

ARMY BOND MEN PREFER HOME TO BUY BONDS

Bond sorting and letter writing have become the sparetime pastimes of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Yamin, 2922 Canton Avenue, because five of their sons are in the army. Yamin, a lieutenant for the Grand Trunk lines of the Canadian National Railway for 23 years, buys war bonds regularly as does each of his sons in the service. The boys send the bonds home for safe keeping. That does the bond sorting in addition to working seven days a week on the Grand Trunk to keep war freight moving. Mrs. Yamin and the girls do the letter writing, posting at least 15 letters each week to the five boys.

Smuggled Baby To Its Mother

Foundling on Farmer's Doorstep Was Child of Mother Escaped from Germans

STOCKHOLM, (CP)—A 14-month-old baby girl was recently smuggled

from German-held Norway to neutral Sweden. A farmer near the border discovered a bundle on his doorstep one morning. Inside was the baby, with a tag attached to its clothing giving its mother's name and address. Swedish police traced the mother who had fled to Sweden from Norway when her husband was arrested by the German authorities. Friends of the family had now sent her child to her and there was a happy reunion.

Keep Them Rolling



You can help to eliminate unnecessary delays by buying your ticket and obtaining all the information you require BEFORE you board the bus.

HAROLD WILES

PHONE 58

GRAY COACH LINES



Every war-worker's TWO-FOLD JOB!

- 1—Maintaining and increasing production
- 2—Helping finance the war

WHEN the Allied forces went on the attack, your two-fold war responsibility became greater than at any time during the war.

For on the attack, war materials just seem to melt away. The consumption of the supplies you are making is going on at an unbelievable rate—hastening the day of Victory and Peace.

This means that the production of war supplies must go on; ever faster. It also means that the cost of the war is becoming greater.

A great deal of these two responsibilities must be carried by war workers like yourself. Only you can maintain and increase the flow of essential war materials. And you, in common with every loyal citizen of Canada, can help finance the increasing cost of the attack.

Your purchase of Victory Bonds is an essential part of the Allied war strategy. Bonds are intended to

be purchased by anyone. They are not reserved for financiers, merchants, bankers or people of wealth only. You and I, and all of us can and should own Victory Bonds.

The fourth Victory Loan will open soon. The millions of workers employed in industry—war and otherwise—are counted upon to loan a definite part of the amount required in the biggest loan yet asked of the Canadian people. To reach it, more men and women and children must become bond purchasers, and it will be necessary for those who have purchased bonds in previous loans to buy more bonds.

When your fellow worker calls on you to buy Victory Bonds BE READY. Give him two orders. One for cash, and the other for the very limit that you can buy out of earnings, on the Payroll Savings Plan. Plan now to do your part to sustain the attack!

NATIONAL WAR FINANCE COMMITTEE

You Roll Them Better With
OGDEN'S FINE CUT
CIGARETTE TOBACCO



MRS. MURIEL BURROWS found out the reason a skin four years long had been on her face. It was a skin disease called "Furunculosis" which she had contracted. It was cured by using OGDEN'S FINE CUT CIGARETTE TOBACCO. OGDEN'S FINE CUT CIGARETTE TOBACCO is Canada's Largest Selling Cigarette.