

British Morale Holds In Bombed England

Another in a series of articles written by W. H. Legge and C. V. Clifton, who represented the Canadian Weekly Postmaster Association in a recent tour of England.

ARTICLE No. 20 By W. H. Legge

All Canadians are intensely interested in the bomb damage in Britain. We found, on our return to Canada, that everywhere we went we were certain to be asked about it. It has been said that there is not a village in England that has not had a bomb dropped on it, but I know of several places that up to the time that we were there had not seen a bomb. After hunting and hearing the train for London, we were surprised to see the signs of bomb damage until after we had been travelling for several hours. There are now signs of bomb damage to be seen in any of the smaller places, except near the coast and north coast. Even in London there are large areas that appear to have been untouched. We began to realize how small a start the Germans had made toward the destruction of Britain.

Where a building has been totally destroyed, it is difficult for anyone who has not seen that building to visualize the amount of the destruction. For instance, when we were being shown around Bristol, one day, our guide halted in the centre of a large area that had been demolished. Pointing to a part of it, he said, "That is where one of our largest departmental stores used to stand." We could see a heap of rubble, but never having seen the store it was impossible really to appreciate the extent of the destruction.

In other places where the walls are still standing, it is much easier to understand the damage. We drove through parts of London, and later walked through part of Bristol, on brilliant moonlight nights, and the moonlight, shining through roofless and windowless buildings, made a terrible picture, never to be forgotten.

We visited blitzed areas in London, Bristol, Bath and Portsmouth, but there are many other places that have been badly battered areas — Hull, Dover, Coventry, Plymouth, etc. In some cases areas of several blocks have been absolutely destroyed, while in others, one house in the middle of a block may have been demolished as if cut out by a huge knife.

We were told that there is a well defined pathway between London and the coast, leading toward Germany, along which the fields were ploughed up by bombs which had been dropped by raiders who, unable to penetrate the London defences, had turned back and covered their bombs at random.

In April, 1942, Hitler carried out what is known as the "Beecher" raids, so called because they were aimed solely to destroying famous places on Exeter, Bath, Norwich, York and Canterbury. Civilian casualties at Bath, Exeter, Norwich and York were 335 persons killed and 988 injured. Many of the killed were never identified. The pathetic description of one at Bath read, "Age about two years, hair, fair, eyes, blue gray; division between top row of teeth; no other distinguishing features."

The most deplorable architectural loss in Bath was the Assembly Rooms. The rooms said to have been the most beautiful in Britain, were first opened in 1771, and had been refurnished in 1928 at a cost of fifty thousand pounds sterling. These rooms delighted Charles Dickens, who made

Whitewash Recipes For Farm Buildings

There are two simple recipes for making whitewash for farm buildings. Take a large clean tub and mix one quart of limy lime, and dilute it with clean water, covering it during the process to keep the steam. Strain the liquid through a fine sieve, then add 3 lb. of commercial sulphate of zinc, 1 lb. of alum, and two lb. of common salt, the alum and the salt having previously been dissolved in hot water.

On Stone and half barrel of limy lime with boiling water in a barrel; strain and add two-quarter peck of soft slaked lime, warm water, 3 lb. of sulphate of zinc, a thin paste with boiling water; and one-quarter lb. of alum dissolved in warm water. It is recommended that this whitewash be applied hot.

Where a disinfected whitewash is desired, a recipe recommended by the Dominion Experimental Station at Stett, Sask., is as follows: Dissolve 50 lb. of lime in eight gallons of boiling water; add six gallons of hot water which has ten pounds of alum and one pound of salt dissolved in it. Add a can of lye to every 25 gallons of the mixture. Add a pound of cement to every three gallons generally, and stir thoroughly. A quart of cresol disinfectant may be used instead of the lye, but lye is preferred when the color is to be kept white.

One of the aims of the enemy was to destroy the morale of the people. It was interesting to study the actual effect. We found that the stories we had heard of the way in which the people had taken the punishment dished out to them were absolutely true. Their spirit is simply wonderful.

One of our guides in Bristol, who had been a prosperous merchant, showed us a mass of rubble in the midst of the bombed area, and quietly remarked, "That is all that is left of my life's savings." No complaints. Just a grim determination to carry on.

An official of an establishment where one of my relatives was employed was bombed out of three floors the same night, but he was on time at the office in the morning. There have been cases of employees coming to work in the morning before some of their relatives had been rescued from ruined buildings. England is a tight little life packed with heroes and heroines, even if they do not all wear uniforms.

Their morale is proof against any terror that can be launched against them. Here's to heroes and heroines, valiant and stoic. Who carry on bravely, no matter how long. Through darkness and peril they're steadfast and true. The people of Britain — Here's to you.

AGATES FOR JUNE

The agate is usually accepted as the birthstone for June. It is one of many varieties of the common mineral quartz. Examples in the Royal Ontario Museum show that it can be anything from drab to extremely beautiful with irregular bands of color. It is quite plentiful and is not ordinarily of very great value although it was once believed to increase the wearer's ability to acquire riches.

In the theoretical airship of the early eighteenth century, large agates over-head were expected to gain magnetism from the sun's rays. With the aid of powerful magnets they would help in lifting the ship. Unfortunately it did not work. Agates are still of no use as a substitute for gasoline. They are, however, popular as stones in almost every type of jewellery.

Some Facts About Weeds

The best time for a farmer to begin thinking of weeds is now. Winter dormancy is broken by the various weeds in many ways, according as they are annual, biennial or perennial in life-duration.

Ordinarily an annual is a weed that germinates in spring, grows and ripens before winter, and then dies or is killed by frost, leaving its seed ready to perpetuate it.

After harvest cultivation helps control, for example, when a weed like wild oats refuses to be trampled or ploughed until after a period of rest. Fall ploughing, drainage, raking up of water and promptly harrowing all help fields in spring all tend to start and dispose of annuals. Lightly harrowing spring fields not needed to grow may still destroy annual weeds like Russian thistle, and other weeds of that kind. Hoed crops can also be useful.

Winter annuals differ in surviving the winter as seedlings, and may include some annuals favorably situated. With root systems developed they are ready to outstrip spring operations and are soon too sturdy for easy uprooting. They are early in bloom, establish and absorbly pump even going into the winter, flowering at an inch or two in height. Biennials start growth early enough to provide themselves with a

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most prolific tap-root, and a sheltering mantle of leaves on the ground for the winter. Unless destroyed as seedlings in the fall, biennial weeds may have to be spaded or hand-pulverized when the ground is left the next year.

Perennial weeds, while also propagating by seed, maintain themselves chiefly by their root systems. The single operation in fall or spring will suffice to kill the average perennial; it is usually best to let them spend themselves in preparation for seed production and then by timely cutting of hay or grain prevent this. Ploughing before the plant can replenish its best stores and then harrowing it shallow underground by cultivation, is a good general rule, although dragging out to dry in the sun, or bodily removal, is an alternative for weeds like couch grass and dock.

CROP PROTECTANTS MUST BE MARKED

Homeowners are reminded that dealers can refuse to accept coupons for rationed commodities from an unassigned ration book. Ration regulations state clearly that each page of coupons must be signed by the person to whom the book is made out. This is meant to protect the consumer as well as the holder and the latter is quite within his right in refusing to accept coupons from a sheet of coupons which does not bear the proper signature.

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Fighting French Armored Car Patrol Leader Plots Desert Offensive



Picture shows: A 2nd Lieutenant, leader of an armored car unit, attached to Fighting French Flying Column under 1, sets his course before starting out on offensive operations. In this Flying Column, made up of tanks, armored cars, mobile guns and supporting infantry, are men from Paris, Bordeaux, French Morocco and the Foreign Legion. Working with a British armored brigade, they have co-operated to the full with the Eighth Army.



ONTARIO

MAINTAINS

PAY-AS-YOU-GO-POLICY

At the time of bringing down the Provincial Budget on March 19th, 1943, it was indicated that the figures were Interim figures and that definite and final figures would be supplied as soon as the accounting of the Treasury Department was complete for the year.

These are the final figures for the twelve months ended March 31st, 1943. Certified correct by H. A. Cotnam, Chartered Accountant, Provincial Auditor. They speak for themselves.

Combined surplus on Ordinary and Capital Account.....	\$27,766,504.72
Reduction in the Gross Debt	19,906,519.85
Reduction in the Net Debt.....	11,686,815.15
Reduction in Contingent Liabilities.....	2,505,441.37
Reduction in the Funded Debt.....	7,868,100.00
Reduction in the Treasury Bill Debt.....	6,500,000.00

A bank overdraft left over from the previous fiscal year of \$5,793,286.92 was paid off.

There was added to the Provincial Sinking Funds the sum of \$1,196,805.66.

Every tax-payer in every Ontario city, town, village and township has benefited from the Provincial Government's Pay-As-You-Go Policy. For as a direct result of this Policy, the Provincial Government has passed on the following actual financial benefits to Ontario municipalities between April 1, 1935, and March 31, 1943, amounting to over seventy millions, five hundred and forty-three thousand dollars.

1. Municipal Subsidy.....	\$31,564,144.90	7. Pensions for the Blind.....	145,580.00
2. Maintenance of Indigent Patients in Sanatoria.....	7,233,500.00	8. Mothers' Allowances.....	12,724,438.00
3. Township Road Subsidy.....	2,000,640.00	9. Municipal Hydro Radial Relief.....	1,246,622.82
4. King's Highways.....	17,192,059.00	10. Training Schools.....	123,657.83
5. County Roads.....	1,249,442.50		
6. Old Age Pensions.....	7,007,948.00	TOTAL.....	\$70,543,033.05

*Cumulative to December 31, 1942, end of Sanatoria Year.

The Province of Ontario

Further information gladly supplied upon request to

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, PARLIAMENT BLDGS., TORONTO

HON. A. ST. CLAIR GORDON, Provincial Treasurer

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