

The Acton Free Press.

Sixty-Ninth Year.—No. 5.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, JULY 29th, 1943

Eight Home-Print Pages—Five Cents.

Weekly War Commentary

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

The thundering guns of the Allies on Sicily are probably doing as good a job of shooting holes in Axis morale as they are in Axis defences.

As the week rumbled by with the Allied advance grinding steadily forward, cautious observers in the capitals of the United Nations dared hope that perhaps the British, Canadian and American forces were gambling for bigger stakes than the island of Sicily, or even the country of Italy. They visualized the freeing of the Balkans and an eventual tie-up with Russia's vigorous offensive.

Announcement of the ousting of Premier Benito Mussolini of Italy and his Fascist cabinet was hailed with jubilation throughout Allied countries Sunday. It marked the first big crack in the foundations of the Fascist structure built up in Europe by the Axis powers.

It is too early to predict Italy's future course in the war, but undoubtedly dramatic events may be expected to follow King Victor Emmanuel's appointment of Marshal Pietro Badoglio to form a military government. The new government was given full power by the king.

Prime Minister Churchill told the House of Commons Tuesday that "we shall continue to make war on Italy from every quarter as long as she continues to side with the Germans."

"The keystone of the Fascist arch has crumbled," said the Prime Minister. "Without attempting to prophesy it does not seem unlikely that the entire Fascist edifice will fall to the ground in ruin if it has not already done so."

Rumors regarding the new Italian government's plans flow like wildfire through European capitals. Stockholm heard that preliminary negotiations for an armistice were started in Vatican City Monday, but this report, like all others, lacked confirmation. Demonstrations against Fascism occurred in several Italian towns and cities and bloodshed was reported at Milan where German troops fired on the crowds.

Mussolini's downfall came after 21 years of dictatorship. Marshal Pietro Badoglio, 71, is a former chief of staff of the Italian army. It is believed he never gave his outright support to Fascism and he was dismissed by Mussolini in 1940.

Future developments depend on several factors. Such as how long the Sicilian campaign will last, how well Mussolini's henchmen will defend their homeland, and how much help Hitler can afford to give his rapidly-withering partner.

But with indications already pointing to a successful finish to the island campaign, these observers believe Hitler's entire eastern Mediterranean front may fold up like a collapsible deck chair. They think Italy will be deserted by the Nazis and will capitulate, bringing with her under the white flag the Balkan nations.

This is backed up by German commentators themselves. They no longer talk of fighting from the "Fortress of Europe." Rather, they appear to take for granted that the final fight will take place deep within the continent, perhaps from the fortresses of Germany itself.

Messence to Balkans

If that occurs, Germany may find the flank and rear of its Eastern front bristling with enemy arms. Led by the famous 8th Army, of which the Canadian 1st Division is a part, and strengthened by British armies at present in Iraq and Iran as well as

IT ALL DEPENDS ON WHOSE MONEY IS BEING INVESTED

In these days when so many tempting new things are held out to the electorate perhaps the following item might be interesting and assist in deleting some of the confusion in the public mind.

"For a man who spent so much time cursing the banks and all their ways, the late Premier Aberhart of Alberta seems to have put a lot of trust in their affairs. Reports of his estate show that he had \$19,061 cash in accounts in Imperial and Commerce branches in Edmonton. He didn't seem to think much of Alberta government bonds. Of these he only held two \$500's valued for probate at \$365 each. Of Dominion Government bonds and war savings certificates he held \$3,500. Though he preached tearing up the whole financial system, he held six insurance policies of a total value of \$10,000. Another \$2,060 represented 20 shares of stock in Canadian Western Natural Gas Light, Heat and Power.

"Thus the late Premier had \$25,351 plus \$10,000 of insurance providing for himself and for his dependents all entrusted to the safekeeping and the earning power of institutions which he constantly attacked, and which, publicly at least, he mistrusted. Only \$17,350 of the assets in his \$41,000 estate did he entrust to the safekeeping of the offspring of his own financial wisdom, the Edmonton branch of the Alberta treasury house."

American forces, the Allies could cause a lot of trouble if they wish to attempt a junction with the Russian offensive via the Balkan route.

Admittedly, these are long-term possibilities. Of immediate concern is the cracking, or by-passing, of the key city of Catania in Sicily so as to effectively kill off resistance there.

While the veterans of the 8th Army have been bearing the brunt of the fighting, Canadian and American troops have slogged across the island and are now bringing their weight to bear against the Germans protecting that city.

Gen. Sir Harold Alexander, second in command of the invasion venture, told correspondents Canadian troops have gone "fast and far" in this campaign, and predicted confidently "they will be as good as any troops."

Stand at Catania

At the week-end Axis forces in the Catania area were fighting from high ground with Mount Etna as a bulwark at their rear. To the west, rivers and valleys that cut across the Catania plain furnish natural barriers behind which the enemy is entrenched.

It was reported July 24 that the Allies had captured 60,000 Axis troops in Sicily and with the entire western part of the island under the control of the invaders it was probable the number would soon be increased to well over 100,000 men.

There is little doubt that Germany will soon be called upon to carry the whole burden of the defence of the Balkans, with the possible exception of Italy's Dodecanese islands in the eastern Mediterranean. Reports from Turkey indicate that Mussolini's troops in these virtually isolated islands will be able to do little if the Allies attempt an invasion.

It is probable that the menace to Italy has caused the Italian government to withdraw her forces from the Balkans. If this is true Hitler's only support in the area would come from the satellite countries. Rumania has suffered heavy losses in the campaign against Russia and unconfirmed reports state that she has refused to give any more assistance. Bulgaria is recalcitrant and willing to defend only her own frontiers, while Hungary's help would be negligible.

These factors lend color to the belief that Germany will be called upon to carry the whole burden of the defence of the Balkans, with the possible exception of Italy's Dodecanese islands in the eastern Mediterranean. Reports from Turkey indicate that Mussolini's troops in these virtually isolated islands will be able to do little if the Allies attempt an invasion.

(Continued on Page Five)

Firemen Here on Week-end for Annual Convention

Thirty Communities Will Be Represented at Forty-Second Event

Delegates from about thirty communities from all parts of Ontario are expected to register on Saturday at the forty-second convention of the Ontario Firemen's Association. Each centre will send two official delegates and many towns will send delegations of many more who will attend the convention sessions.

The sessions and election of officers will be held on Saturday morning and afternoon in the Town Hall. On Saturday evening a parade of the firemen and Brigade equipment will be led by Acton Boys' Band from the Town Hall. At the park a big carnival will be held. The proceeds go to the Acton and Vicinity War Service League.

On Sunday afternoon a Drumhead Service will be held in the park. The parade will form up at the Town Hall at two o'clock and all local organizations are invited and urged to participate. The service will be held in the park at 2.30. The parade and singing will be led by the Lorne Scots Band.

The local ministers will be in charge of this service with Rev. E. A. Brooks, M.A., of St. Alban's Church, giving the address.

MONUMENT IS TOPPLED OVER IN PIONEERS' CEMETERY

Mr. J. W. Plowes of London, a grandson of the late John Plowes, the first miller in Acton, was in Acton last week. He came to secure a photograph of the monument of his grandfather in the Pioneers' Cemetery. He was naturally much perturbed when he found that someone had toppled the stone over and it was lying in sections on the ground.

After the splendid work done a few years ago by the trustees in preserving these stones it is regretted that any damage such as this should occur here.

Acton Golfers Play for Golf Trophy in Guelph

At the Cuffen golf course in Guelph, Acton members came into prominence in playing for the Percie Mason Trophy which was won last week by Mr. E. S. Force of Acton. The finals were played between Messrs. W. J. Beatty and E. S. Force, both of Acton.

This trophy is for a matched play and is a handicap event. A number of Acton enthusiasts are members of the Guelph Club. Congratulations to "Ted" Force on lifting the cup from the Royal City and bringing it to Acton this year. We believe this will be his first out of town trip.

PROGRAM AT THE MEETING TUESDAY OF THE R.Y.P.U.

The regular meeting of the B. Y. P. U. was held in the church Tuesday evening. The president had charge of a brief business discussion. Mrs. Chas. Lincoln was in charge of the program. Pte. Chas. Lincoln read the Scripture Lesson and Mrs. Anderson led in prayer. Freddie Cripps gave a reading. Jean Matheson played piano solo. Wilma West gave the topic of the evening, "Canada, Back to God." A hymn and prayer led by Mrs. Lincoln brought the service to a close.

Little One Strangled By Harness of Baby Carriage

The sympathy of Acton friends is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Gibbons, of Oshawa, in the death of their infant son. The little one had been left in the carriage with the harness on to protect him from falling out and in some manner turned over with the strap around its throat. Medical aid was quickly summoned but life was extinct.

Mr. Gibbons and family had just returned home after spending a few days with Mrs. Gibbons Sr. and Lawrence on the Second Line, near Acton.

ACTON BOYS ENLISTED This Week's Register

Elmer Rozell has joined the R.C. A.C. and is stationed in Toronto.

GRADUATES AS DOCTOR



Miss Elizabeth Emily Harrison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Hartley Harrison, now of Toronto, who tomorrow will be in the graduating class at the University of Toronto, and receive her M.D. degree. We join many other Acton friends in extending congratulations.

REV. C. L. POOLE WELCOMED SUNDAY TO FORMER CHURCH

Rev. C. L. Poole of Moffat, a former beloved pastor of the United Church occupied the pulpit on Sunday morning again during the vacation of Rev. A. W. Fosbury. Mrs. Poole also contributed a solo which was greatly enjoyed and appreciated. The visit of this former pastor and his wife to the congregation here was enjoyed by all.

Next Sunday Rev. Chas. Hackett, another former minister of the congregation will conduct the morning service.

COUPON BOOK NO. 3 TO BE DISTRIBUTED

Coupon Ration Book No. 3 which becomes valid in September, will be distributed during the week of August 23 to 28. It is announced by the Ration Administration of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Consumers are warned not to discard the old books as there will be a period of overlap when coupons from both books will be good.

Civic Holiday on Monday Seroll Accepted by Council

Accounts from St. Michael's and Toronto General Hospital and Guelph General Hospital were discussed by council.

A letter was received from the County Clerk regarding the hearing on county equalization. The hearing had been on July 6th.

A letter was read from the Fuel Controller thanking Council for the brief sent and the co-operation given in the distribution of fuel. It pointed out how Council could give further co-operation.

Charles Spires and the dog assessing. In the absence of Reeve J. M. McDonald, Councillor Chas. Kirkness was chosen as Acting Reeve.

Mr. W. R. Norton was present regarding permit for purchase of truck. The Clerk gave a report on the proceedings thus far.

Mr. V. B. Rumley on behalf of a group of business men asked what action was going to be taken in regard to Civic Holiday. He presented a petition from the Retail Merchants, requesting that Monday be proclaimed a Civic Holiday.

A motion was passed authorizing the Reeve to proclaim Monday, August 2nd as Civic Holiday.

Mr. Beverley Hepburn was present regarding dog tax charged to him. The dog had only been in Acton a few weeks and the dog was in Erasmus Township now where Mr. Hepburn lived at that time. The dog was not the property of his brother living in Erasmus Township. Council decided that the tax should be paid and a claim made at the Court of Revision when the matter could be decided.

Accounts were passed for payment as follows:

E. E. Harrop, gasoline for mixer	\$.67
The Municipal World, dog tags	2.09
E. E. Harrop, postage	4.87
Len Sagaski, labor	1.75
James Kerr, cutting grass and labor	29.30
Henry Wedge, labor	2.80
Jas. McCallum, labor	5.60
A. T. Brown, supplies	1.51
County of Halton, use of Grader	33.60
County of Halton, Calcium Chloride	270.90
Bell Telephone Co., services	11.33
Direct Winters, Transport, carting an Calcium Chloride	4.40
Acton Public Utility, services at Town Hall, Pumps, Street Lights, etc.	173.60
Welfare Accounts	80.78
City Battery & Electric Service re fire truck	38.65
Albert Harris, 2 trips to Hamilton	16.00
W. Fryer, cutting grass	20.00
C. F. Leatherland, salary, telephone, supplies, etc.	101.53
Harvey Walters, plastering Town Hall	300.00
County of Halton on county rate	544.14
Acton Free Library, grants	203.85
Acrow Faxx Passa, advertising	33.60
Welfare Account	22.51
	\$1,903.36

The action of the Reeve and Council on the purchase of the tile drainage was confirmed.

A letter from the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, pointed out the ruling regarding new businesses and expanding of business and asked Council's co-operation.

Attention of Council was drawn to the fact that a monument had been knocked off its foundation in the Pioneers' Cemetery. The monument was to be replaced.

A letter from the University of Western Ontario requested that any relics from this district be deposited in their museum for safe-keeping.

Timely Comments Cleaned from the Canadian Weeklies

Items From Here and There as Cleaned for Free Press by The Canadian Press

Better and Better

The country paper is getting better and better as time goes on. The number grows less but the quality improves. The town weeklies might well contain more discussions, by their own readers, on questions of national importance. This does not imply political questions — politics warps judgment but issues can be discussed on their merits. The town paper is a real institution. It should have more help from the community. The success of the country paper depends on the interest of its subscribers.—Lachute (Que.) Watchman.

Out On a Limb, Eh?

Maybe you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, but you've got to admit that a silk stocking certainly improves a calf.—Picton (N.S.) Advocate.

Swimming On Sunday

The decision to allow bathing in the pool on Sunday afternoons is a departure from custom. However, with gasoline rationing and the consequent decrease in visits to lakes, it is felt that the children should not be denied the right of bathing during hot weather.—Perth (Ont.) Courier.

Quality Egg Program

Complaints are still being heard as to the quality of eggs being marketed and it would seem that most of the trouble could be overcome by better care of the product from the time the egg is laid to the time of the marketing. What Haldimand needs is a Quality Egg Program.—Jarvis (Ont.) Record.

Big City Privilege

Arnprior town council received a jolt last week when they were refused permission by the motor vehicles controller to purchase a tractor as motor power for snow plowing equipment. If the city of Ottawa can get snow plowing equipment there is no earthly reason why similar equipment cannot be available for the county of Renfrew, the town of Arnprior, or any other place that needs it.—Pembroke (Ont.) Bulletin.

Ditty Bags Coming?

We are into July now. Two more months after this and the fall breezes will be hitting it up and will be real cold on the Atlantic. The thought hit us to-day as to how the ditty bags are getting along. That the Navy League needs for the sailors.—Brampton (Ont.) Conservator.

Wanted—A Forest Policy

Next to policies for maintaining industrial employment and rehabilitating agriculture, Canada's most urgent need is for a constructive forest policy, intelligently conceived and consistently practised.—Cochrane (Ont.) Northland Post.

Indiana War-Minded

The Indians of the Couchiching Reserve are taking this war very seriously. Besides a number of their young men being in the armed forces they are buying a depth charge through the purchase of War Savings Stamps during the current stamp campaign.—Fort Frances (Ont.) Times.

THIS WEEK

Specially Written for
The Acton Free Press
By WILLIAM JOHNS
Canadian Press Staff Writer

TORONTO, (CP)—With Nomination Day over and about 275 candidates of all parties listed for the balloting in 90 constituencies in the Ontario general election next Wednesday (Aug. 4) the province has entered the last hectic week of the campaign.

Observers who have had an opportunity to survey the field in city and country report far livelier evidence of a general election in town and rural ridings than in the city constituencies. "You have to get outside Toronto to appreciate this campaign," said one veteran politician. "See and hear the fight in the country constituencies and you feel that the general victory in this election will be decided there and not in the big cities."

Ninety Contests

Nominations include a candidate of the Liberal and Progressive Conservative parties in every constituency, including Elgin, where Mitchell Hepburn, former premier, is named as an Independent Liberal although the party organization lists claim him as a Liberal. Candidates of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation number 85. All these figures are subject to possible last-minute withdrawals or additions. There are several Socialist-Labor and Independents of various groups in the official nominations.

Meanwhile proxies for the much-discussed service voting are arriving from overseas and other Canadian provinces and are being validated in the various ridings to which they belong. While the total proxies already validated is not very impressive it is pointed out the last date for their registration is Aug. 3. It is expected many proxy votes will be validated by that time in practically every riding and made available for use by proxy-holders on Election Day. Arrangements have been made for members of the Army reserve units in camp to exercise the franchise.

Make Sure to Vote

One thing sure—there will be no acclamations. Nominations indicate a contest in every seat, generally a three-way contest with Liberal, Progressive Conservative and C.C.F. all in it. Further observers say there will be few big majorities for candidates of any party—close fights in many ridings.

Again—this is the advice of all leaders—Vote as You Like but Vote. Only thus can Old Man Ontario be assured he is doing his duty as an elector and a citizen of a democracy. Within a week the Election will be over. Wednesday Aug. 4 is Election Day—all over the province.

MURRAY COLES SUSTAINED INJURY IN FALL FROM HORSE

X-ray pictures taken at St. Joseph's Hospital last week revealed that Murray Coles, Acton, suffered a broken back—when he was thrown from his horse almost three weeks ago.

On July 3, Mr. Coles was enjoying a horse-back ride near his home. Suddenly the horse took a violent leap and a few minutes later the rider, who had been rendered unconscious when he was thrown, found himself lying in a ditch.

Mr. Coles was able to walk to his home and seemed to suffer no ill effects from his tumble until last week, when he felt severe pains in his back. According to a report from the hospital this morning his condition is fairly good.

ADMIRAL SIR JOHN TOVEY



Picture shows: Admiral Sir John Tovey, recently appointed C-in-C, The Home Fleet, and formerly C-in-C, Home Fleet, on board the flagship with members of his staff before he gave up the command of the Home Fleet. L. to R.—Lt. Colonel C. W. B. Lubbock, R.N.V.R., Admiral Sir John Tovey, K.C.B., D.S.O., and Paymaster Captain R. W. Faffard, the Admiral's Secretary.

Canadian Ingenuity Saves Millions



Re-design of Canadian Army rifle brought about 100,000 pounds of steel, 210,000 work hours and released 37 machine tools for other vital work.