

Notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths... Additional for poetry.

BORN

PATTERSON—At St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph, on Sunday, January 16, 1944, to Mr. and Mrs. Ross Patterson, a son.

DEED

BROWN—At the Western Hospital, Toronto, Saturday, January 15, 1944, Ethel Lipsitt, beloved wife of George Brown, in her 60th year.

McWILLIAMS—At Edmonton General Hospital on Thursday, January 13th, 1944, Jean Gurney, beloved wife of Albert McWilliams, of High River, Alta.

LASHBROOK—Early Monday morning, January 17th, 1944, at Toronto General Hospital, William Robert Lashbrook, and dear father of Mrs. A. H. Darvell (Gena) and Howard F. Stratford.

MURRAY—At her late residence, Mill Street, Acton, on Wednesday, January 19th, 1944, Emily Jane Williamson, widow of the late William Murray.

Resting at her late residence where a private funeral service will be held on Friday at 2:30 o'clock. Interment at Fairview Cemetery, Acton.

IN MEMORIAM

OAKLEY—In loving memory of a dear mother, Annie Melissa Oakley who passed away January 24, 1933. You oft times said 'I'd miss you, those words have proved too true. I lost my best, my dearest friend, dear mother when I lost you.

Ever remembered by

Her husband, Albert Oakley, Daughters: Georgina, Paul, Harris Grandchildren.

CARD OF THANKS

Mr. F. Rookes and family wish to express their thanks and appreciation for the help and kindness extended to them by friends and neighbors in their recent bereavement.

Words cannot express our appreciation of those friends who have so helped to lighten our sorrow in the loss of our dear mother. No sweeter memory can live in any heart than the memory of their untiring devotion to the one that has just left us, and to those who sent flowers and expressed sympathy we tender our sincere thanks.

Reg. F. Johnstone Mrs. E. McLean (Gertrude) Mrs. S. S. Russell (William) Mrs. V. B. Rumley (Alice)

This and that

—The skating rink is a lively spot these days and others are still enjoying the skating at the pond.

—St. Alban's Guild contributed \$50 to the funds of Acton and Vicinity War Service League this week.

—The High School held a skating party on the pond last night and lunch was served afterwards at the school.

—Once again we remind readers that we do not publish unsigned letters. They are consigned to the waste basket.

—Pilot Officer Jimmie Jones has been promoted to Flying Officer, the appointment being made effective as at May last.

—Acton Branch of the Navy League received a donation last week of \$20 from the Lakeside Chapter of the I.O.D.E.

—Please send your copy in as early in the week as possible. That is the only way of assuring your paper being issued on time.

—A look at the coal bin these days impresses the truth of that prediction last fall that we'll have a shortage of coal this winter.

—The blasting and heavy explosions heard the past week have been for construction work at the Beardmore Co. plant where a ramp for loading trucks is being built.

—The Free Press mailing list will be corrected next week. If you haven't renewed, get your label changed now. Only mail in advance subscriptions can be continued.

MANUFACTURED NAME FOR MOUNTAIN STOP

Libourg is a flag stop on the Laurentian Mountain Line of the Canadian National Railways. The stop has been there since the line began as a colonization line but the name is new, being recently added to the timetable to replace Orphanage and is a manufactured one, the first three letters representing the corporation known as Les Industries Scolaire, while bourg was added to indicate a small village. An industrial school has been established in the community, replacing a former orphanage. It is 62 miles from Montreal and in a country which is noted as an all-season recreational area. Beginning at Shawbridge (and continuing through St. Sauveur, Morin Heights, and on to Lac Remi) this branch of the National System serves some of the finest ski territory in the Laurentians. In other seasons numerous communities are favored for holiday purposes.

Obituary

MRS. E. H. ROOKES Mrs. Ernest H. Rookes passed away rather suddenly on January 10th at St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph. She had undergone an operation and it appeared her recovery was very favorable when pneumonia developed and she passed away.

Mrs. Rookes has been a resident of Acton for thirty years and was highly esteemed. She was born in Devonshire, England, a daughter of John Cox. After coming to Canada she resided in Toronto before coming to Acton. Besides her husband she leaves one daughter, Mrs. W. Hall (Olive) of Acton and in their bereavement they have the sympathy of a great many friends here.

She was a member of St. Alban's Church and actively interested in the various organizations and the church work. She was a kindly neighbor and will be missed in many places about the town as well as in the home.

The funeral was held on Wednesday of last week with a service in St. Alban's Church in charge of her minister, Rev. E. A. Brooks, assisted by Rev. P. A. Sawyer, now of Caledonia. Here many friends gathered in tribute to a life they admired.

Interment was made in Fairview Cemetery. The pallbearers were Messrs. Robert Lawrie, B. Paragter, Geo. Holloway, J. A. Chapman, S. Ferry and C. Clifton.

MRS. ANNIE M. JOHNSTONE

This community was indeed shocked to learn of the sudden passing away of Mrs. William Johnstone at her home on Sunday, January 9th. While not enjoying good health for some time, Mrs. Johnstone had been about as usual that day and during the evening. She passed away as she was retiring that evening.

For nearly forty-five years Mrs. Johnstone has been a resident of Acton and few women were more active or more interested in church and community affairs. Born at Strathroy, a daughter of the late James Fulton and Ann McFarlane, she married the late Wm. Johnstone December 22nd, 1886. Before coming to Acton, Mr. and Mrs. Johnstone resided in Freelon and Campbellville.

She was an able helpmate to her husband, the late Wm. Johnstone, who was so well known, not only in Acton but in the country for miles around and his death thirteen years ago left a loneliness that even her bright disposition failed to conceal, but she maintained the family and community and church interests.

Mrs. Johnstone was a member of Knox Presbyterian Church and an active worker in the various organizations. She was a life member of the Women's Missionary Society and the Ladies Aid Society of the church. She was a charter member of the Duke of Devonshire Chapter of the I. O. D. E. and active in its interests.

A family of one son and four daughters remain to revere her memory. Reginald F. Johnstone of Toronto; Mrs. F. A. McLean (Gertrude) of Tilbury; Mrs. S. S. Russell (William) of Oakville and Mrs. V. B. Rumley (Alice) of Acton. Her grandchildren and four great grandchildren remain and she was justifiably proud that four of these grandchildren were serving in the armed forces overseas.

Two sisters also remain, Mrs. Jas. Purvis, Whitelaw, Alta., and Mrs. R. J. Moore, Burlington, Ont. To the bereaved sympathy of many friends here goes out.

The funeral was held on Wednesday afternoon with a private service at the Johnstone and Rumley Funeral Home followed by a service in Knox Presbyterian Church. Here many friends gathered to pay tribute to a life they admired and a wealth of floral tributes also bore testimony of esteem. The service was in charge of her minister, Rev. Forbes Thomson.

Pallbearers were Messrs. F. Foster, Minto; Wm. Russell, Oakville; E. J. Hassard, Alex. McNabb, W. K. Graham and Alex. Mann, all of Acton. Interment was made in Fairview Cemetery beside the beloved partner who had gone on a little while before.

MRS. C. C. SPEIGHT

One of the oldest, if not the oldest resident, who was born and has spent all her life in Acton and district, Mrs. C. C. Speight passed away on January 10th at her home on John Street. She had been in failing health for some time and never fully recovered from an operation of a year or so ago. She was a daughter of the late Wilson and Sarah Easton Ramsdew, who were pioneer settlers in this district. She was born on a farm near Acton and spent all her life here.

Married on November, 24th, 1881 her husband, the late Charles Chapman Speight predeceased her twenty years ago. One daughter, Miss Bertha H. Speight, Municipal Treasurer and Secretary of Acton Public Utilities Commission, remains to mourn the loss and revere the memory of a beloved mother. All through her long illness no daughter could have been more faithful and attentive to the care of her mother. A brother, Hall Ramsdew, of Detroit, Mich., and a sister Mrs. Robert Moore, of Galt, also remain and to all of these warm sympathy of many friends here goes at this time.

Mrs. Speight was a member of the

Acton United Church and one who through the years has been a pillar of the church, faithful and willing to do what her hand found to do. Rarely indeed was she absent when in good health, from the family pew. She taught a class in the Sunday School for many years. For 14 years she was Treasurer of the Women's Missionary Society and was also the president. She was a life member of this society.

The funeral was held on Thursday afternoon last with a private service at the home conducted by her pastor Rev. A. W. Fosbury, assisted by Rev. C. I. Poole. Interment was in Fairview Cemetery. The pallbearers were Messrs. Chas. Wilson, John Lambert, Jas. Chalmers, J. K. Gardiner, Roy Brown and A. T. Brown.

Among the wealth of floral tributes which also bore testimony of the esteem in which Mrs. Speight was held were those from: Bertha, Ernest, Bertha, Roy, Marguerite and Ernest Brown, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Schriener and Mrs. Jenner, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. McDermid, Laura and Sister Hannah, Mr. and Mrs. J. Easterbrook and Mrs. J. M. Cheyne, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Matthews, United Church Choir, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Holt, Lynn and Robert Holt, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Brown, Miss N. Williamson, Miss M. Z. Bennett, Miss Flora Moffat, Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Fosbury, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Hearn, Mrs. Peter Smith and Miss Pearl Smith, Mr. McCartney and Zella, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Gardiner, Commission and Staff of Acton Public Utilities, Mrs. Partridge and Miss Mahel Howie, Mrs. E. O. Richards, Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson and Capt. and Mrs. Forlyce, Mr. W. H. Speight and Miss Almes Speight, Robert Durr, by and family, Mrs. Cowie and Miss Isabel Cowie, Woman's Association of the United Church, Reeve and Councillors, Municipal Officers and Press.

AN ESTIMATE OF CHURCHILL Mr. Churchill has become more than a great political and military leader. He is, in his own lifetime, a legendary a symbol, the personification of his people. When one thinks "Britain," one sees his face, and hears his voice and the words uttered by that voice. It is that which makes him unique, as no other leader is unique. For he is not merely the leader of the nation; he is a timely apostrophe of the nation.

He is subject to mistake and error, as a nation is. His virtues, though, are the virtues that every British child has been taught by his history and his great personalities to admire. Above all, and the parent of it all, virtue, courage, generosity and chivalry. Thus Churchill appears to his people as they would wish to appear themselves and in his character they find that which they would unconsciously emulate.

He has exactly the same faith in his nation that he has in himself, neither more nor less. Certainly no other conservative would say of the Communists of his country, "They are Englishmen, and I fear no Englishman." At the time of his greatest grandeur when Britain under his leadership stood alone and staring into the terrible eyes of defeat, he seemed to drag the dead out of their coffins and stand them on their feet, to support him and England—Elizabeth and Wellington, Drake and Nelson, Cromwell and Pitt—as though to say: "These are England; these are you; these live on and fight in and through you.—Dorothy Thomson in New York Post.

Canada Stands High

To-day Canada stands higher among the nations of the world than before the outbreak of the war. Amid all the internal wranglings, Canadian minds will keep this fact in mind, "The strain of maintaining the pace of the struggle is splitting the country in several ways, but it is still nominally one country and it is still engaged in the war. Canada is a charter member of the war, one of that smaller company among the United Nations that took up the war's burden of their own free will and has continued all these terrible years, not because she was herself attacked, like Russia and the United States, but because she foresaw an attack was certain to come and went out to meet it for the safety of every Canadian home. In spite of the blunders this country has made, her good works far outweigh her mistakes. Her Allies have not always been right in all their plans and operations, and her enemies made the vast miscalculation of trying to bring the whole world to heel. In comparison with these other peoples who live on the earth to-day, and in the long view of the records of nations, the less than a dozen million Canadians, by early facing up to disaster, are now seen as contributing greatly in arms and armed men to the victory that begins to appear in tender focus somewhere through the flames and misery ahead.—The Printers Word.

RADIO REHABILITATION

LONDON (CP)—Radio location, whose war-time job is to detect enemy aircraft and submarines, may have a peace-time role too. A select committee on National Expenditure has recommended that radio location could be used in peace-time to locate leeches, rocky shoals and other obstructions.

Weekly War Commentary

BY MICHAEL O'NEILA Canadian Press Staff Writer

During the week in which units of the Red Army drove deep across the pre-war Polish border and Anglo-British forces in Italy staggered their way forward in the face of bad weather and bitter Nazi resistance, the British based bombers and fighters of the Allied Air forces continued to strike often and effectively at Axis-dominated Europe.

Most spectacular attacks in the air were carried out in daylight Jan. 11, by United States heavy bombers and fighter escorts against Ascherode (Braun), deep hidden away centres of Germany's air craft industry.

An additional news of the raids became known it was realized that probably the fiercest air battle in history was fought in the flaming skies over northwest Germany, as swarms of German fighters—some said to be armed with rocket guns—rose to intercept the invaders. American Army intelligence officers set their losses at 60 bombers and five fighters, against 152 German planes shot down. The 65 plane figure exceeded by three the previous record loss of American planes, suffered in the attack on Schweinfurt last Oct. 14.

A spokesman for the United States 8th army air force said the losses were not unduly heavy for the damage done. "We have plenty of replacements—we can take a whole lot more in war losses than we suffered in that raid," he said.

Gen. Henry H. Arnold, chief of the U. S. army air forces described the losses as "about 5 per cent," which meant rather more than 1,200 planes took part in the three-hour flaming battle over northwest Germany.

Damage to the war plants was extensive. Official commentaries described the results of the raids as "excellent" and said that factories engaged in the manufacture of Focke-Wulf 190's, Junkers 88's and Messerschmitt 110's were severely hit.

What the gigantic raid will mean to German air strength in the coming months of war climax is not yet known. But Allied observers are satisfied that even at a heavy price paid in men and machines, the attack will pay dividends.

Most commentators believed the battle was a full dress rehearsal for an impending attempt on the part of Allied air armadas to gain complete control of European skies and form a protective umbrella as troops moved across the Channel to attack Hitler's continental fortress.

The Germans, meanwhile, claimed to have perfected a new defensive system of chains of airfields from which interceptors might rise to defend the Reich. Day after the raid, German radios beamed reports that American losses had been "at least 200" planes, while the German air force had lost nine.

And, to further the campaign to exterminate a source of supply for the Nazi air force, R. A. F. and Canadian planes followed the big American action with another attack on Brunswick, burying that plane-manufacturing city with 2,000 tons of bombs. In the Balkans, Allied air blows on Sofia have caused the Bulgarian government to order immediate total evacuation of that nation's capital.

Meanwhile, Britons were speculating whether the Nazis were using a new type of noiseless plane to escape detection. The speculation was raised after seven persons were killed, and 31 injured when, without warning, a bomb dropped squarely on a suburban London theatre during a performance. It was the first time in weeks that a known German plane was able to get as far as a suburban London without detection by the elaborate coast defence radiolocation system.

On the Russian front, two twin offensives by Red Army troops under Gen. Konstantin Rokossovsky and Gen. Nikolai Vatutin were rolling westward about 60 miles apart along the only two rail routes serving east-west traffic through the Pripet marshes.

The drive of Gen. Vatutin's 1st Ukrainian army south of Sarny in old Poland, threatened to outflank Lwow from the west, while Gen. Rokossovsky's White Russian army surged deep into the heart of the frozen Pripet marshes as it approached the industrial river city of Pinsk, 95 miles to the west.

On the Italian front as last week ended, spearheads of Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's Allied 5th army hammered away at the approaches to heavily-defended Cassino, strategically situated town on the main inland highway and railroad 70 airline miles from Rome.

One of the three 5th army spearheads—French troops under Gen. Alphonse Juin—captured Acquafredda seven miles northeast of Cassino, and chased the Nazis from 3,800-foot Mount Forno, two miles northwest of Acquafredda.

And on the Italian front this week, tank-supported Canadian troops went into action on the Adriatic side. They jabbed forward despite strong German resistance in the Tommaso area, about one mile inland from the sea on the southern bank of the Arigliero River.

Field despatches said a barrage from 100 guns preceded the Canadian thrust and that thousands of shells were poured into a 1,500-yard stretch of the German lines. On the Allied 5th Army front, patrols are feeling out the strength of the main German defence line before Cassino. French troops followed up their successes of last week by occupying Sant'Elia, three miles northeast of Cassino and another village two miles farther northeast.

Meanwhile, another shattering blow at German communications in Russia is in the making. Spearheads of Gen. Vatutin's army are thrusting to the railway center of Ilovno in Old Poland where rail lines crisscrossing Berdichev and Warsaw, Sarny and Lwow, intersect. Rovno is the key to Nazi positions over a vast area of southern Russia.

Troops of Gen. Vatutin's right wing were within 50 miles of their next major objective, the city of Pinsk, and in the south the Nazis hurled savage counter-attacks against Red Army troops advancing against Red Army escape routes from the Dnieper head. And, in the north, the new Soviet offensive on the Leningrad front kept up its momentum.

Pravda Story Decried On the diplomatic front, the British Charge d'Affaires in Moscow has officially called the Russian government's attention to London's denial of a separate peace rumor published by the Communist newspaper Pravda. In an item detailed Cairo, Pravda said two British officials recently conferred with a Nazi Foreign Minister Von Ribbentrop on the Iberian peninsula and discussed terms for a possible separate peace.

The London Daily Mail called the story "an insult to the British people." The item was printed by Pravda without any comment. Responsible quarters in Cairo said the item was not passed by the British-controlled censorship. The dispatch evidently left Cairo by some means other than normal, censored routes.

Acton on the Allied 5th army front in Italy blitzed this week when British troops crossed the lower Garigliano River at three points converging on the ancient Appian Way, for centuries the main coastal highway to Rome.

Three bridgeheads were secured despite violent enemy resistance which included a rain of fire on the river itself, 80 miles southeast of Rome. The first bridgehead was established near Sula, a village seven miles inland from the Tyrrhenian coast; the second along the railroad running from Capua to Rome, four miles from the coast, and the third at Argento, almost on the coast itself.

The stress of war brings the Lord's name to many a serviceman's tongue. So some reverently, to others profanely. There are those, too, who attempt both uses, but their spiritual needs in this all-out modern warfare are forcing a realization that to revere one minute and revile the next surely brings down the "blessing of heaven" as the first commander-in-chief pointed out to the United States Army of 1776.

The general is sorry to inform that the foolish and wicked practice of profane cursing and swearing, a vice heretofore little known in an American Army, is growing into fashion. He hopes the officers will, by example as well as influence, endeavor to check it, that we can have little hope of the blessing of heaven on our arms if we must first by our impious and folly. Added to this, it is a vice so mean and low, without any temptation, that every man of sense and character detests and despises it.—G. Washington.

This admonition has been conveyed to present-day troops by means of camp bulletin boards and camp newspapers, and in other ways the army is attempting to curb profanity.

On the home front, however, the trend appears to be in the opposite direction. So-called realistic writing—in books, magazines and newspapers—is so inferssed with oaths and what were hitherto considered, unprintable expressions that it not only offends adult taste, but stands in danger of becoming an accepted mode of expression of the younger generation. Mothers and fathers particularly are concerned at this turn of the pen, and ask what can be done to check its flow.

That flow is governed to a considerable extent by public opinion. If the many readers "of sense and character" were to make known to those in charge of such publications their distaste for and serious objection to the intrusion of such profanity into their homes, it could not help but have a purifying effect.—The Christian Science Monitor.

Profane Pens

Two things strike us as imperatively important if we must win this war. One is that we must keep our mouths shut on military matters; the other, that we haven't got the Huns licked yet and we must not let over-confidence throw us.—Trenton (Ont.) Courier Advocate.

DON'T BEAT OURSELVES

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Fear Within Limits Is Healthy Emotion

Some Airmen Believe It to be Vital Asset in Reacting to an Emergency

LONDON (CP)—Night bomber crews are the greatest nervous sufferers, says Air Commodore C. P. Symonds in the British Medical Journal. He makes the point that healthy fear, by sharpening an airman's judgment, may be vital to his success. Fear within limits "is not only a natural but a healthy emotion, stimulating attention, sharpening judgment and evoking maximum effort."

"I have frequently heard the opinion from distinguished pilots," he wrote, "that fear in due measure may be a vital asset in reacting to an emergency, whether in flying or in combat and that the absence of fear in a situation of this kind may be fatal to success."

"An experienced pilot told me that he liked a man to have enough imagination to fear the worst and hope for the best. The fighter pilot, if he has the right spirit, gains in value from a narrow escape."

"Fear within limits is a stimulus; only when it exceeds these limits is it a weakness." But, he wrote, an airman must have confidence, because lack of it "is a major cause of flying accidents, operational failures, and psychological breakdown in air crews."

BABOONS VALUABLE IN RESEARCH WORK

JOHANNESBURG (CP) Prof. J. C. van der Horst, Professor of Zoology at the University of the Witwatersrand, and Dr. Joseph Gihman are at present in Graaff-Reinet organizing a regular supply of live baboons for medical research. The professor said in an interview that baboons were particularly valuable in studying malnutrition problems and the deficiency diseases as widespread in South Africa. A research station should, he added, be established in the Cape Midlands.

HADGE OF HONOR

"Occupation of Housewife" is a badge of honor these days. It takes research and patience and good temper. And any time we need encouragement we can ask ourselves if we'd prefer the job in Germany? Norway? Holland? Poland? and set out on our task again with gratitude.—Pictou (N.S.) Advocate.

ROYAL PALACE GUELPH'S LEADING THEATRES. FRIDAY UNTIL MONDAY Kay Kayser in "AROUND THE WORLD". TUESDAY TO THURSDAY Lon Chaney in "SON OF DRACULA". PLUS Bela Lugosi in "THE MAD GHOUL".

THE LINEMAN. Thus subject of this sketch by Grant Macdonald, noted Canadian artist, is a Royal British, Canadian National Telegraphs Lineman. He is one of a large group of workers who aid effectively in Canada's war effort by maintaining the nation's vast communications system. The artist has depicted him using a spanner to tighten the straps by which cable is suspended from the supporting wire, technically known as the "messenger wire." The increase in channel mileage, the measure of message traffic, of the Canadian National Telegraphs since the start of the war would circle the globe nearly four times.