

The SNAPSHOT GUILD

CAMERAS BY LAKE OR OCEAN



Enlarged from portion of negative taken with a folding camera giving postcard size pictures. Exposure 1/100 second at f.11 on fast film.

COMES the time every year when many of us make for the lake or seashore for cool breezes, swimming, sailing, motorboating, fishing, and the many other pleasures that go with a sojourn by the water.

Any one can enjoy this fun without a camera, but verily to go and return without having made a picture-story of your visit seems as useless as trying to write a book about it with water for ink. When you have finished, your memory may retain some of it for a time, but eventually you remember little else than the fact that you went there. Years later you will say, "Yes, I had a good time that summer," but what did you do, whom were you with, what did you see? Bet a million that with nothing in your snapshot album to show for it, you will remember scarcely anything of the details of that good time, and regretfully wish you could.

Another reason for taking your camera to the lake or seashore is

that where water is, with its bright reflections, you have exceptional chances for making fine pictures. Usually by the lake or seashore, even on cloudy days you have more light to work with than inland. The extra light gives you opportunity to "stop down" (use a smaller lens opening) and thereby obtain sharp, clear-cut details.

Also there is no better place for interesting action pictures than a beach resort. Except for the beach itself and the hotels, cottages and wharves, everything seems to be in motion. Of course, if you want close-ups of fast action you should be equipped with a fast camera, but don't forget that splendid work with many water scenes is done with an inexpensive fixed focus camera. If it is rapid motion such as an approaching motorboat, shoot from an angle at a distance of 75 to 100 feet and usually you get it without blur. Then have an enlargement made when you get home.

John van Guilder.

Endless Variations in Designs for Oil Lamps

Oil for the lamps of America! From 1825 through the 1850s when pewter lamps were the vogue, there seemed to be endless variations in their designs which could not be attributed to particular makers. The lamps can only be classified according to the fuel they burned.

Pewter whale-oil lamps were the most common type, and at times have been considered an American invention—but not so. Lamps of the sort were used by the early Romans.

Whale fishing in America was a thriving industry before 1880 and it was easy to obtain this oil which served so well. But it was not until the Nineteenth century that whale-oil was burned in closed lamps here. The wick came up through a tube which was often made of brass for strength; the tougher metal could better stand the wear and tear as in most early ones the tube had to be unscrewed to fill the lamp.

Many newer lamps had two or three wicks to give better light; two, side by side, caused a current of air and the increase of oxygen resulted in a stronger flame. As ever three's a crowd and two wicks proved more satisfactory—another Benjamin Franklin discovery, so they say. Towards the middle of the Nineteenth century, camphene became as popular as whale-oil, but being highly explosive, lamps for this fluid had much longer wick tubes than did the whale-oil lamps, to guard against the flame spreading down near the bowl full of oil.

Male Kiwi Sits Happily On Eggs; 'Wife' Watches

If you become really friendly with an aviator he will begin talking learnedly about the kiwi. But if you pin them down most will admit they have never seen one. All they know is that a kiwi is something that should fly but can't. Pilots use the word as a final insult in any argument with aviation executives who have neglected to learn how to leave terra firma.

The kiwi is a bird found only in New Zealand. It is the size of a hen, lays eggs that weigh a quarter as much as the hen's, is covered with coarse hair instead of feathers, and has bony stubs instead of wings. The female is a third larger than the male but the latter sits happily on the eggs and cares for the young while his "wife" stands guard. The female, on a small scale, can kick like an ostrich. Whenever she wishes she can tear her mate to pieces with her toenails. The birds' eyesight is so poor that they must get about by using their long beaks as tapping canes. There should be a law against calling a man a "kiwi."

Everybody Has Ability And Equipment to Sing

What fun to know how to sing—whether for just your own pleasure or to entertain friends.

And you can sing—everyone can sing! You may think you have a weak voice of no range. You may go into a shrill quaver singing such a simple air as "Three Blind Mice."

But still you have all the equipment any singer uses; you simply haven't learned what to do with it.

The reason your voice breaks is that your breathing machine isn't working well. Learn to inhale deeply, expanding your ribs and stiffening your spine. Exhale slowly until lungs feel completely deflated.

To test the evenness of your breathing, stand before a candle. If the flame keeps steadily horizontal when you exhale you are breathing evenly.

As for the range of your voice, you can enlarge it with such simple exercises as this one: Speak these syllables in a low, soft voice: BAH, BAY, BEE, BO, BOO. Hold the sound OO, gradually changing from a speaking quality into a soft singing tone. Repeat in a slightly higher speaking tone, changing the OO to a singing tone as before. And continue—raising the voice a little each time—as long as you can without strain. Then lower the voice step by step.

U. S. Buys Vast Reindeer Herd for Preservation

Santa Claus is not going to have to thumb a ride for some time yet, anyway, for Alaska will have enough reindeer to supply the old gentleman's sleigh power from now until daisies grow at the North pole. The government recently completed the largest reindeer purchase in history, involving a third of the territory's vast herds.

"The government had to buy the herds because the industry was really faced with extinction," said Charles Burdick, a special agent for the department of the interior. "The white owners could not afford to take care of their herds and they had to be bought to be sure the industry kept going."

Eventually the plan is to get all reindeer under the control of the Eskimos, Burdick explained, so it will be entirely a native industry. He pointed out that the reindeer is the only dependable meat source the Eskimos have, and if the industry fell off it would mean a high relief load to the government.

When the deer finally get into the hands of the Eskimos, it will mean a much higher standard of living for three-fourths of their population, Burdick declared.

Just how this is to be accomplished has not been entirely determined yet.

Marries Wife Twice

Jackson married Rachael Robards in Natchez, Miss., in the summer of 1791, believing that the legislature in Virginia had granted her husband a divorce, instead, as was the case, of a mere permission to bring suit for divorce. The suit was not brought until 1793 and the divorce was granted on the grounds that, technically, Robards' wife was unlawfully living with Jackson as his wife. Jackson immediately procured another license and had another ceremony performed in 1794. There is no evidence that Jackson's wife was unfaithful, or that Jackson was not acting in good faith in the honest belief that a divorce had been granted. Nevertheless, as a lawyer, he should have known that the Virginia legislature did not grant divorces at that time, but only gave permission for a suit to be brought in the proper court. The incident was used mercilessly by the partisan press in the presidential campaign of 1828, but the result shows that those who knew Jackson believed in his honesty.

Near-Perfect Calendar

A thousand years before Columbus discovered the New world, there existed a civilization in Central America that was the most advanced in the Western hemisphere prior to the coming of Europeans. But only within the last 40 years have the achievements of the Mayas been fully appreciated. The civilization had reached its peak and declined before Spaniards reached Mexico.

Modern archeologists have uncovered ruins of magnificent cities—Chichen Itza and Mayapan—discovered sites of palaces and temples, artificial reservoirs and paved highways. Mayan inscriptions are now decipherable, provide a written record of this great race.

Mayan culture centered in Yucatan. Although the Mayas and Aztecs are believed to have a common ancestry, the Mayas far surpassed the people Cortez conquered in Mexico. Civil strife, resulting in destruction of their cities, ended the glory of this early American people.

He Hears It Now

City Councilman Leroy H. Haskett of Edenton, N. C., complained at a council meeting that the town's firemen, situated on the waterfront couldn't be heard by the resident of North Edenton, where he lives. A committee was appointed to look into the matter. It reported there was much merit to Haskett's complaint. The council then decided to have the siren removed and put at the new waterfront directly behind Haskett's home. Haskett is uncertain about his satisfaction.

Moving Accident Victim Dangerous

Serious and unnecessary injury can be caused by a person who takes upon himself to lift an accident victim and place him in a car in order to rush him to a hospital.

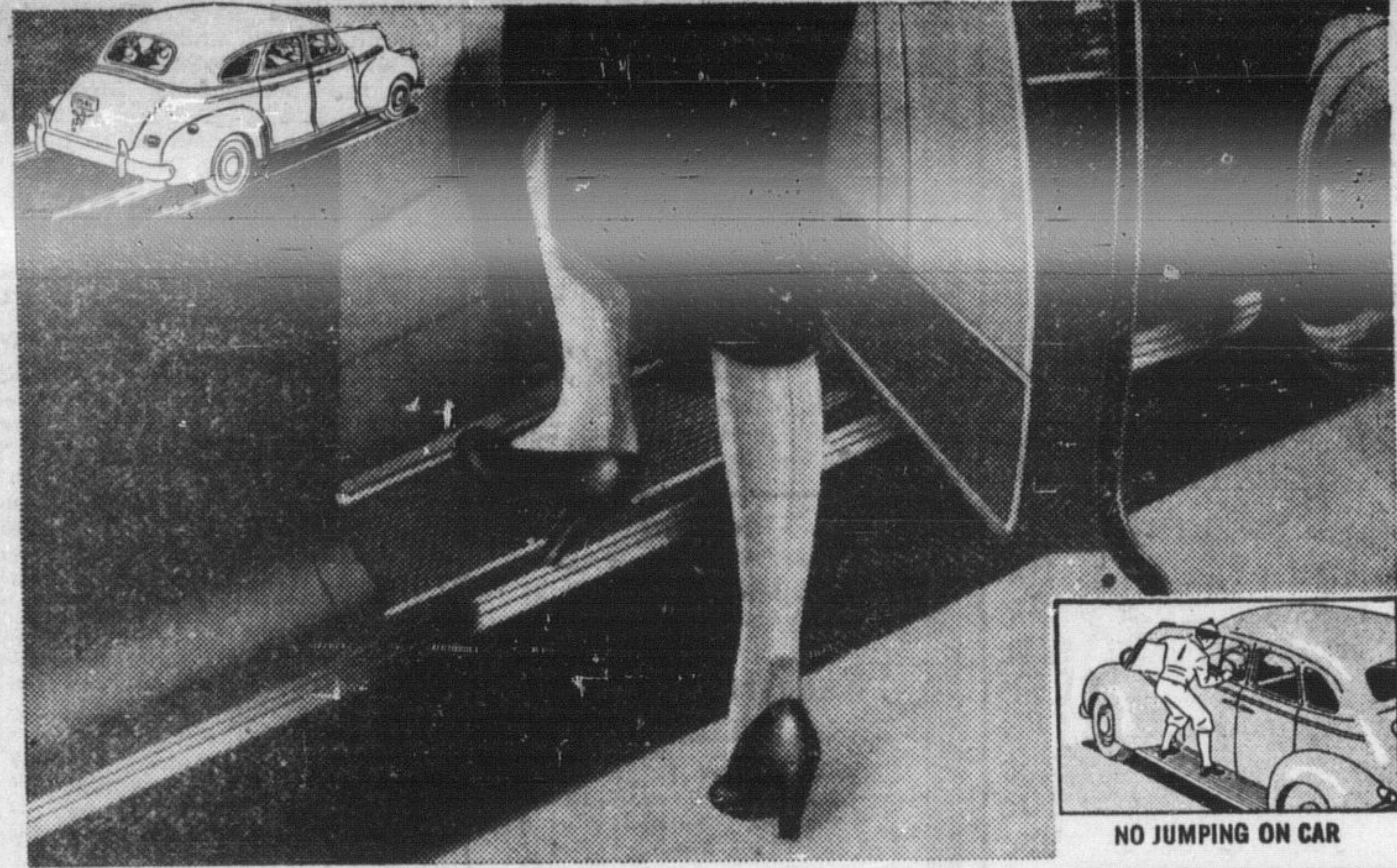
Medical authorities advise against moving an injured person more than actually necessary until medical help arrives or unless someone familiar with first-aid procedure is present.

In the majority of accident cases requiring hospital care the best procedure is to make the victim as comfortable as possible and allow him to rest quietly until the ambulance arrives. Unless there is a heavy loss of blood or unless the ambulance is greatly delayed the danger of inexperienced handling should be avoided.

Postal Service

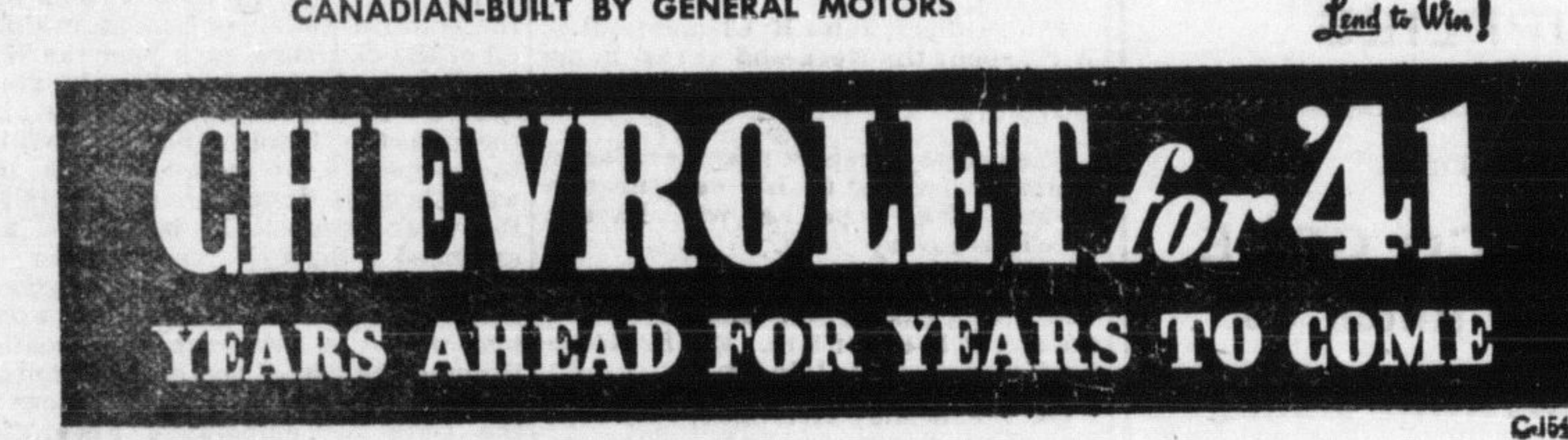
Postal service in the United States has shown a net surplus in five of the past six years and business is still increasing in spite of disruption of foreign mails by war, reaching a new peak recently. In fiscal year ended June 30, 1939, postal revenues totaled \$745,955,075; expenditures, \$784,648,938; gross deficit, over \$38,691,000. Deducting non-postal items over \$53,000,000, net postal surplus is \$14,547,000, report states. In calendar year 1939 receipts totaled \$753,807,444, an increase of over \$25,000,000 over 1938 calendar year. First quarter of present fiscal year, ended September 30, 1940, set a new record with receipts totaling \$178,202,264, highest for period in history of post office department.

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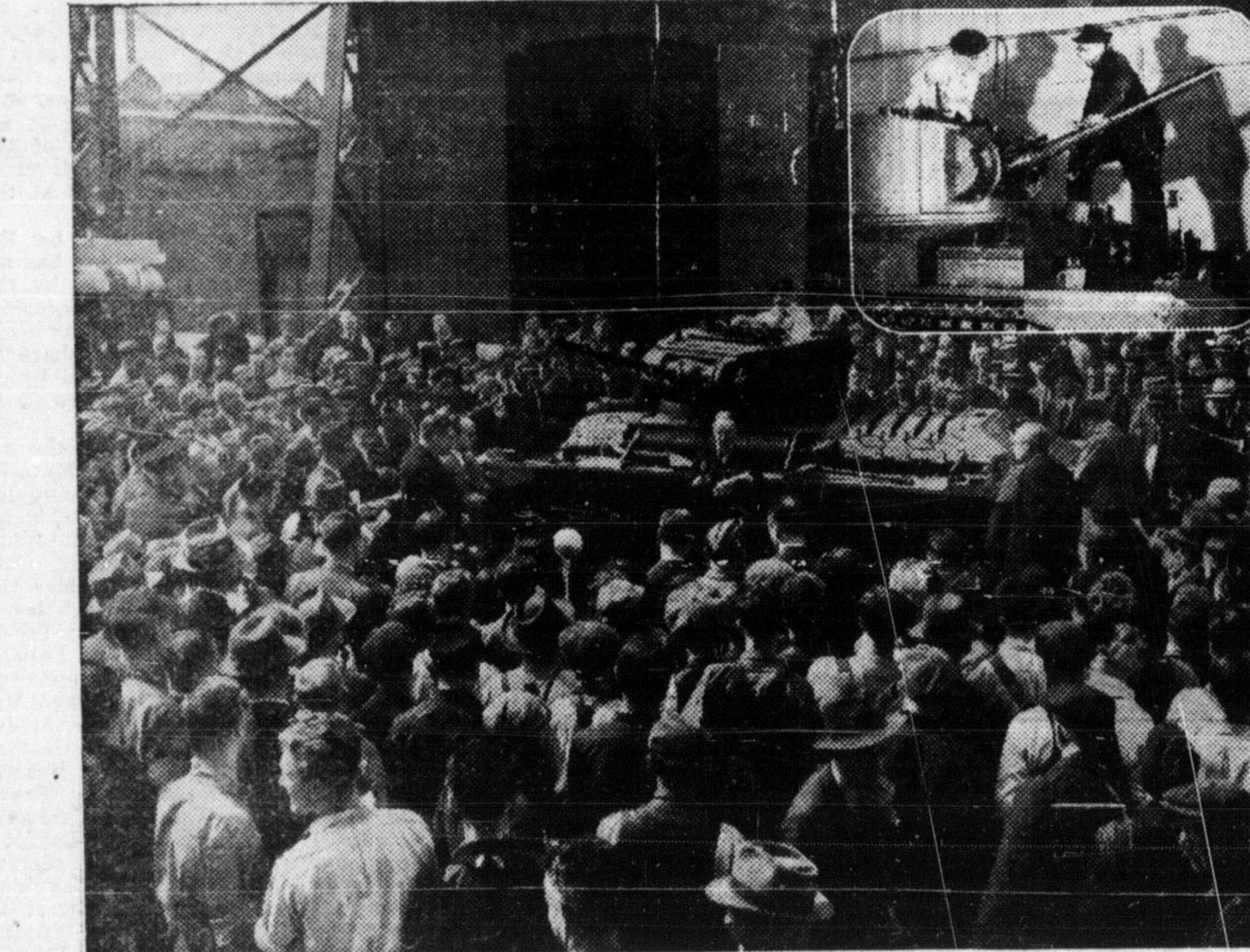
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Canadian Pacific Builds First Canadian Tank



It was a proud day for the Canadian Pacific Railway's Angus Shops at Montreal when D. C. Coleman, vice-president, announced a gathering of Government officials, company officers, workers and newspaper men that he had great pleasure in delivering the first Canadian-built tank to the Canadian Army. "The machine," he said, "is the child of sweat and tears. It will be followed by hundreds and thousands of others to help the Empire to its victory."

"The tank was gratefully accepted by the Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Munitions and Supply, who praised Mr. Coleman, H. B. Bowen, chief of motive power and rolling stock, and other Canadian Pacific men for the effort they had put into building this splendid war machine. He, in turn, gave the tank and all others to come off the Angus assembly line to the Hon. J. L. Ralston, Minister of National Defence, who thanked the Canadian Pacific workers for the fine job they had accomplished. "You men have put your whole heart into this job," he said. He also mentioned that 300 of the thousands of tanks being made at the Angus Shops were being produced for the British Purchasing Commission.

The pictures above show Mr. Coleman officially delivering the first tank to the Department of Munitions and Supply and, inset, Corp. Colin Stirton, of the Royal Tank Regiment, a veteran of Dunkirk, complimenting an Angus worker on the construction of the tank.

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Parole Board Rules Wife, Husband Must Live Apart

"Whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder . . ."

By its own practice and admission, the district parole board of Washington does not feel bound by this Biblical injunction.

One of its parolees was released from the Lorton reformatory recently and told she would be thrown into prison again for a year if she sees or speaks to her husband within the next 12 months.

In June, 1939, Charles R. Simms, 33, and his wife, Mary, 22, were arrested and indicted on narcotic charges. They pleaded guilty and threw themselves upon the mercy of the court. Simms was given six months to a year and his wife was sentenced to one to two years.

After serving his full term Simms was released last May. Mary served a little over a year when she was paroled in August.

Simms was waiting outside the gates of Lorton reformatory when they swung open to release his wife whom he had not seen for a year.

"I can't see you, Charles," she wept, as he rushed up to embrace her. "I can't go back with you. I'm afraid to talk with you. I don't want to come back here for another year behind bars."

Charles went back to their home full of bitterness against the kind of justice which continues to exact punishment after the prisoner has served his term in jail. Mary took an apartment a block away. In desperation, Charles appealed for help to the parish priest who had married them a short time before they got into trouble.

Parasitic Fungus Growth Attacks Potatoes, Beets

That finicky fungus, known widely as Rhizoctonia, and causing an equally well-known disease of potatoes, sugar beets and other crops, shows differences which may account for some of its eccentricities, according to E. L. LeClerc of Louisiana State university, as the result of investigations in co-operation with the United States department of agriculture.

Reported in Phytopathology, the plant-disease specialists' journal, LeClerc shows how the Rhizoctonia from the potato will not attack sugar beets, whereas the same organism from sugar beets will attack potatoes.

Investigating further, LeClerc found that the threads composing the body of the sugar-beet Rhizoctonia were appreciably thicker and significantly thicker than those of the potato organism. The sugar-beet form also grew faster in laboratory tests, and made its best development around 86 degrees Fahrenheit, while the potato form, the slower grower, developed best at around 77 degrees. The sugar-beet Rhizoctonia also seemed to be more highly parasitic against other test plants than did the potato form.

Grass Silage

Much interest among farmers is spreading in grass silage. For centuries the Swiss dairy producers of the Alps cut their grassy meadows even during rains and without heat-treatment stored the hay in silos without loss. Since grass has less sugar than corn or sorghum crops it is necessary to add dilute sulphuric or hydrochloric acid to the grass as silage. However, more recently farmers have found that if they add a little molasses to the grass it also will go through the right kind of fermentation and make excellent silage. Whey or whey powder, a by-product of cheese factories, can also be added to the grass silage and give similar results. Molasses is becoming popular with farmers to add to other fodder or silage as animal feed and it very likely will increase in popularity in Texas because of regular importations of black strap molasses from Cuban sugar mills to the Texas Gulf coast from where it reaches the interior by tank car or truck.

'Don't Fire Till'

Some day, some time, somebody will establish with certainty who actually gave this famous order. That it was issued at Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775, to the Continentals who were about to be attacked by the British regulars under the command of William Howe is agreed, as is also the circumstance that the Minutemen were short of ammunition and heavily outnumbered.

Traditionally credit for the line goes to Col. William Prescott, who, knowing that his men would be tempted by the crimson coats and white breeches of the king's grenadiers and cognizant of his troops' lack of sufficient equipment, had them hold their fire till the enemy was almost upon them.

Others to whom the words have been attributed are Corporals Israel Putnam, Warren and Stark, the last of whom is said to have adjured his men:

"Don't fire till you see the whites of their eyes, or Mollie Stark's a widow!"

Courtroom 'Ghost'

The county court room "ghost" in Charlotte, N. J. is gone. For 10 days justice was interrupted by walls emanating from the walls of the chamber. Finally workmen opened the grill work over one of the huge ventilators, just above the judge's dais. Out stepped "Ginger," the county jail's big fat cat that disappeared two weeks ago.

Right Amount of Soap

For the best laundering results the soap and water should be in the right proportions. Washer manufacturers have made it simple to tell when the solution has reached the best stage.

Start with a cup of soap for each load, they advise, then churn up the suds before adding the clothes. Keep adding more soap until two or three inches of thick suds have formed. In washers which churn the suds below the surface the thick soapy feel of the solution will indicate when the suds are sufficiently abundant.

If clothes are not too soiled, two or even three loads can be washed in the original solution. Sometimes it is necessary to add a little more soap to the second and third loads.

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