## Weekly War Commentary

By MICHAEL O'MARA Canadian Press Staff Writer

As the great battle on the Western front grew in momentum at the weekend, with Gen. Eisenhower's men whittling away at the salient forged by Field Marshal van Rundstedt's thrust one fact emerged from the smoke of still-doubtful battle.

In the closing week of 1944, in weather which a year ago would have made air support for land forces almost impossible, Allied bombers, based in Britain and on the continent of Europe, had mounted the greatest attack in history.

On one day the Allied air forces flew about 7,000 sorties. Some 30,000 craft sighted, 120 were shot down.

The Battle of Berlin, begun in November, 1943, was continued without respite until the end of March, 1944. The equivalent of 20 working days for every one of Berlin's 980,000 industrial workers was lost during that campaign.

Second Battle of Ruhr

From July to September, 1944, 44,000 tons were dropped on communfront now was only 40 miles away, ant Commander (E). and the Ruhr served as a great advan- Lieut. Commander Robertson was its intricate transport system.

United States 1st and 3rd Armies at the week-end had pushed the Germans back 13 miles at the western young officer on the honor and disend of their thrust into Belgium and narrowed the enemy's corridor to Service. 13 miles. Indications were that Field Marshal van Rundstedt's forces were preparing for a defensive stand on the lines of their salient, and front line dispatches referred to the bulge as a retreat corridor.

Time Table Upset

The German offensive has succeeded in dislocating the Allied time-table in Western Europe, and has created a salient threatening to Allied offensive plans. At the same time von Rundstedt has a problem of his own. he cannot resume the offensive he must withdraw his forces before they are pocketed by the American armies.

The German drive has been a sharp closure on the German homeland. Even so Mr. Churchill in a New Year's message expressed a cautious hope that Germany will be finally defeated in 1945. He told the Primrose League that "before many months have passed, the evil gang that has long dominated the unhappy continent will be wiped out."

The visit of Prime Minister Church- achievement. ill and Foreign Secretary Anthony The guest speaker, Mr. Wm. Wall-Eden to Athens has resulted in the ace of Woodslee, Essex County, was acceptance of a regency by King introduced by Edwin Harrop, Presid-George of Greece. An all-party con- ent of the Halton Crop Improvement ference in Athens unanimously con- Association. Mr. Wallace, a prominsented to a regency and when the ent corn grower himself, gave a most British statesmen returned to London excellent and informative address on the king yielded his powers. Arch- corn, dealing with cultural practices, bishop Damaskinos of Athens will be- mechanical corn equipment, harvestcome regent immediately.

For the first time in all his war- keting, etc. time travels, Mr. Churchill was fired Prof. Jas. Laughland of the Field R. E. McAndless. upon in an assassination attempt as Husbandry Dept., O.A.C., brought he stood on the steps of the British greetings and congratulations from Embassy in Athens. The Prime Min- that institution. In his brief remarks, ister was unhurt, but a woman nearby Prof. Laughton stated that in 1944, was shot down.

Canadian In Action

self-propelled guns which enemy for- addresses. Notwithstanding under cover of darkness.

ped across the river were thrown back Freeman, Bronte, Rockwood, Milton, by Canadian gunners.

planes destroyed by Allied airmen and cash awards which were won as folanti-aircraft gunners, and a total of lows:-241 in all fighting.

tack were Allied airfields in France, say, 85.18 bus.; M. T. McNabb & Sons, Belgium and Holland. Fighting to 82.41 bus.; W. H. Reid & Sons, 75.82 elected President. He has thus playhold gains made on the Western front bus.; Spencer Wilson, 68.23 bus.; Edsince the opening of their winter of- win Harrop, 68.10 bus.; Francis development of this country. In his fensive on December 16th, the Ger- Thompson, 65.13 bus.; John Alexander mans failed to check momentum of & Sons 53.50 bus. the Allied aerial offensive which maintained its superiority throughout the whole of the European invasion, and lent invaluable support to the American armies struggling to reduce the enemy salient.

Latest reports on the ground fighting in the Bastogne buldge in Belgium and some do not, say veterinary auindicate no major changes though the thorities. The surest way of making gains. Two Nazi counter-attacks were which animals make the best gains,

(Continued on Page Three)

REEVE OF ESQUESING



G. Wesley Murray who is Reeve of men—the equivalent of three divisions Esquesing Township for 1945. After -were aloft, concentrating their at- serving as councillor and Deputytacks in or behind the battle area. The Reeve he was accorded an acclama-Luftwaffe was at last compelled to tion to the highest office by the elcome into the open, and of 700 air- ectors at the Municipal elections last

## Milton Man Earns Promotion In New Year's List

The New Year's promotion lists of ication centres and indutrial areas the Royal Canadian Navy included in the Reich. In October, the second those of a Milton officer, Ernest Edbattle of the Ruhr began. The battle win Robertson, who is to be Lieuten-

ce base, especially valuable because of born in Milton, a son of the late Duncan and Mrs. Robertson, who now resides in Toronto.

Milton friends congratulate this tinction he has won in the Naval

### WINS TOP AWARD IN HUSKING CORN COMPETITION

The awards of the Esquesing Township 75 Bus. Husking Corn Competition were recently announced by Agricultural Representative J. E. Whitelock at a banquet in the Norval Presish hall. The competition and banquet were sponsored by the Esquesing Agricultural Society and the Halton Crop Improvement Association, Craig Reid of the former organization presided as toastmaster. The top Harvey Nurse of Georgetown, whose on Wednesday of last week. competition field produced 92.84 bus. officers for 1945 are as follows: of shelled corn per acre. In the ab- Worshipful Master - W. Bro. S. sence of B. Leslie Emslie of Canadian Featherstone. Industries Limited, the presentation was made by James Emslie of Norval, ham. who on behalf of his father congratulated Mr. Nurse on his outstanding

ing, storage, disposal of stalks, mar-

240,000 acres of corn were grown in Ontario in contrast to 190,000 in 1943.

The Canadian sector of the West- W. E. Breckon of Freeman, Chairern front flared into action early this man of Halton's newly organized week as the Germans carried out County argicultural Committee, very their first major thrust against the ably extended the appreciation of the Canadians in six weeks. Canadian ar- gathering to Messrs. Wallace and tillery beat off an assault by German Laughland for their very worthwhile ces ferried across the Maas River, stormy night and blocked roads, some north of Kapelle in northwest Holland, 60 guests enjoyed the banquet and program. Nearly all sections of the Two German patrols which also slip- County were represented, including, Hornby, Georgetown and Norval dis-The German Luftwaffe in its great- tricts, which indicates the keen interest offensive since 1940-41 opened the est manifest in this new crop in all new year with a desparate attempt to sections of the County. Garfield Mcsmash Allied air superiority over the Gilvray, Secretary of the Esquesing Western front. They sacrificed 208 Agricultural Society, presented the

T. J. Brownridge, 91.1 bus.; F. W. Chief targets of the German air at- Ruddel & Son, 89.26 bus.; K. C. Lind-

## WIDE HEADS

The old idea that cattle with wide heads and muzzles make the best gains in the feed lot is not founded on fact. Some wide-headed cattle do,

the same breed.

# Inaugural Meeting of Milton Council on Tuesday

Committees Are Appointed for Year—Nominations for Vacancy Election Results Caused by Death of Councillor Monday's Voting Buck Will be Held on January In Two Townships 10th—Special Meeting re Sew- In Two Townships age Details

The inaugural meeting of Milton land, S. A. Fay and C. G. Riddell ation. subscribed to the declaration of office.

The Standing Committees for 1945 were appointed and the chairmen of the various committees are as fol-

Finance-S. A. Fay. Fire, Light and Police-C. H. Hes-

Streets and Walks-J. W. Higgins. Waterworks-G. C. Gowland. Town Hall and Property-R. H.

Ptolemy. appointed.

Two by-laws were read and passed.

One appointed the auditor for the year. The other by-law authorized the treasurer to borrow money for the Corporation for the current expenditures.

Accounts were passed which amounted to \$526.93.

It was moved by C. H. Heslop and BARN MEETING seconded by C. G. Riddell that the OF HOLSTEIN BREEDERS Mayor issue a warrant for the nomination and election of one councillor to fill the vacancy cause by the death of the late Stanley Buck.

Nominations are to take place on Wednesday, January 10th, from 10 to 11 a.m. and an election will be held if necessary on January 15th from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

A special meeting of Council is to be held next week in connection with matters pertaining to sewerage dis-

## Officers Installed In St. Clair Lodge Last Wednesday

The newly elected officers of St. award, namely commercial fertilizer Clair Lodge, A.F. & A.M. were inblow to optimistic hopes for a swift to the value of \$50.00 donated by Can-stalled by W. Bro. M. S. Sproat, asadian Industries Limited, was won by sisted by a number of Past Masters

I. P. M.-W. Bro. R. C. Cunning-

S. W. -Bro. G. F. Thompson.

J. W.-Bro. Lorne Walker. Chaplain-Bro. J. B. Moore. Secretary-W. Bro. J. H. Willmott. Treasurer-Bro. W. B. Clements. D. of C.-W. Bro. J. E. Whitelock S. D.-Bro. G. H. Dawson. J. D.-Bro. E. B. Clements. I. G.—Bro. E. L. Randell. S. S.—Bro. A. T. Woodley. Organist-Bro. J. E. Hartley.

J. S.-Bro. F. Hayward. Tyler-Bro. Kenneth Watson. Auditors-W. Bros. F. H. Gilroy and

### THOS. H. HALL NATIVE OF LOWVILLE RETIRES AS ACTIVE HEAD

Thomas H. Hall, who retired at the end of last year as the active head of the General Accident Assurance Group, is undoubtedly the Dean of Canadian Insurance Managers. He became Canadian Manager of the General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation Ltd. in 1908 and in 1917 was appointed General Manager of the General Accident Assurance Company of Canada. In 1922 when a third company was essential to the progress of the Canadian Group the Scottish Canadian Assurance Corporation came into being and Mr. Hall was its first General Manager. In 1924 he took the title of Managing Director of The General Accident Assurance Company of Canada.

In 1917 he was elected Vice-President of the Canadian Underwriters As- the Military Medal to four other sociation and the following year was ed a prominent part in the economic younger days he was an outstanding sportsman, excelling in tennis, bicycle racing and golf and is well known from from one end of Canada to the other.

aian Islands. F.I.I.A. succeeds him.

Trafalgar Township

In Trafalgar Township elections Council was held on Tuesday even- held for Councillors and School Area Ptolemy, J. W. Higgins, G. C. Gow- gar Deputy Reeve also by acclam-

> Council vote with the first three elected was: W. G. Sargeant, 459; W. S. Hall, 425; Emerson S. Ford, 401 and Major Drennan W. H. Devlin, 355.

The vote for School Area trustees Of Streetsville with the first five elected was: Percy Merry, 368; Milton McCleary, 366; Receives Decoration James Marshall, 361; J. D. Orr, 347; Kenneth Giles, 310; D. H. Pope, 217, T. S. H. Gibbs, 201.

Esquesing Township

Voting in Esquesing Township on Printing and Contingencies—To be Monday was very light. The condi- lent Order of the British Empire. tion of the roads would largely ac-Industrial and Arena-C. G. Rid- count for failure of electors to exercise their franshise.

Howard May, the former Reeve headed the poll with 353 votes; Geo. Currie received 350; R. N. Brown polled 249 and W. O. Brownridge, 145. The first 'three are elected. G. W. Murray was elected Reeve and Geo. Cleaves Deputy-Reeve by acclamation.

# HELD AT GRAYMAR

A Barn meeting sponsored by the Halton Holstein Breeders' Club, was Globe Hotel In held December 27th, at the Graymar Farm of E. J. Meagher, Oakville. Erin Destroyed There was an attendance of over 90 breeders. Agricultural Representa- By Fire Wednesday tive J. E. Whitelock, called the meeting to order following which Wm. Robinson, Georgetown, acted as chairman. Mr. Meagher welcomed the gathering to Graymar.

Registration for the Holstein-Friesian structure into a roaring inferno. Association of Canada, Following an nes, those present tried their skill at aged to reach the ground uninjured, officially graded them pointing out his Horton, 68, proprietor of the hotel, ferent classes. This very educational was unable to descend the full disinterest to the breeders.

## Milton Major Awarded M.B.E. In Latest List

Major John Daniel Duncan of Corps of Signals Receives High Honor

Milton, a member of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, has been created a member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, it was announced by the Department of National Defence.

The department announced 74 honours and awards to members of the Canadian Army serving in the Mediterranean theatre of war, overseas.

The list included: appointment of four officers as Commanders of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire; award of the Distinguished Service Order to a Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps Colonel; appointment of nine officers as Officers of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire; appointments of 39 ficers and other ranks as Members of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, award of the Military Cross to three officers, award of the captain (matron) of the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps; award of ranks; and award of the British Empire medal to 13 other ranks.

Major Duncan was born August 20, 1906 in Aberdeen Scotland. university graduate, he was an electrical engineer and a member of the RCCS (NPAM) in Toronto, prior to his appointment to the Canadian (Active) Army, September 8, 1939, Mr. Hall has travelled extensively with the rank of lieutenant. He proes in Milton.

### NOW PRISONER OF WAR



Pte. Chas. John Auger, of Milton, rents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Auger, Milton.

Major Drennan, a brother of Mrs. Frank Thompson, Milton, was among the Canadian officers who were created members of the the Most Excel-

Major Drennan, M.B.E., E.D., Canadian Infantry Corps, is a native of Streetsville, Ont., where he was born, September 28, 1903. Municipal clerk for Streetsville, he was a member of the Lorne Scots (NPAM) prior to his appointment to the Canadian (Active) Army, April 21, 1941, with the rank of captain. He proceeded overseas July 17, 1941, and was confirmed in his present rank, May 11, 1944, returning to Canada on October 18, 1944. He was awarded the efficiency decoration in 1943. His brother B. L. Drennan lives in Streetsville.

Erin early Wednesday morning, leav- Among recommendations adopted was The principal feature of the pro- ing only smouldering ruins in its one calling for greater agricultural gram was a demonstration of the wake. Loss will amount to thousands teaching at normal schools. Selective Registration system of clas- of dollars. The six residents of the Watson H. Porter of London urged sifying animals according to their building escaped via a second-storey necessity of world free trade after conformation. This was very ably window in their night clothes, escap- the war to permit absorption of Canconducted by J. Durno Innes, Wood- ing death by a matter of minutes as ada's agricultural surplus. stock, Chief Inspector of Selective surging flames transformed the entire

Assisted by a neighbor, W. A. Matexplanation of the system by Mr. In- thews, five of the six occupants manclassifying a group of cows. Mr. Innes sliding down a rope. Mrs. Florence, reasons for placing them in the dif-suffered a broken ankle when she part of the program proved of great tance to the ground before losing her grip on the rope. She was removed to the Guelph General Hospital.

The others included Mr. and Mrs. George Horton, their two children, Douglas 5, and Shirley 10, and an employee, Richard Sherwin.

All personal belongings were lost, even to their clothing, money and bonds. Victims of the conflagration ents. were hurried to a nearby tea room, where they took shelter from the freezing 8-below zero wind.

o'clock yesterday morning. Horton Sr., was awakened by an odor portance and for his promises to reof smoke, and at about the same time, organize obsolete features." Major John Daniel Duncan, 38, of Mr. Matthews of the Roxy Tea Room across the road noticed flames in a lower room of the hotel.

Neighbors manning fire-fighting FOR MOTOR VEHICLES equipment managed to save the hotel STARTS NEXT WEEK garage and a car, and prevented the flames from spreading to the adjacent Leitch Garage. The hotel blaze was beyond control however, and workers were not able to even save any of the furniture. Outside help could due to delay in manufacture of the not be brought in from Guelph or Orangeville because of the impassable

building in Erin district, the two- be the local date for issuing. story hotel was built by the McMillans | This year vehicles will carry one ellers from coast to coast knew the ent 1943 plates and 1944 windshield old hotel with affection and many a stickers will be abandoned. About business trip in that district was in- 680,000 plates are being manufactured spired as much by a desire to sample under an easing in the use of steel by once again the establishment's old- the federal steel controller. Royal Red Cross, Second Class to a fashioned hospitality, as by the prospect of a financially-successful visit to the village.

Residents of Erin are not certain just when it was erected, but declare that it was a great many years ago. Built with huge hand-hewn beams, the structure still smouldered though reduced to a heap of cracked stone

## FIBRE FOR WAR

The greater part of the fibre proand some years ago, he was entrusted | ceeded overseas January 27, 1940 and | duced in Canada goes to Britain where by the Corporation to perform im- was promoted to the rank of captain it is spun into thread and yarn for portant work in Mexico and the Haw- March 1, 1941. He returned to Can- the manufacture of parachute cords, ada, February 2, 1942 and proceeded collision mats, coverings for guns He was born at Lowville, in 1871, overseas for the second time, Decem- and aeroplanes, and other essential American 3rd Army has made some gains in cattle, they say, is to observe that parish and the youngest of nine ber 11, 1942. He was confirmed in products. Even the comparatively children. His son Douglas, B. Hall, his present rank December 12, 1942. small amount remaining in Canada thrown bacg. American troops ad- then follow through to keep others of a son of Rev. T. Hall then Rector of His wife, Mrs. Jessie M. Muncan, liv- has its manufacture restricted to wartime uses.

## THIS WEEK

By H. L. JONES Canadian Press Staff Writer

TORONTO (CP) - Premier Drew broadcast a pre-new year message to the people of Ontario during the week, declaring that confidence in the future was Canada's main need as 1945 dawned.

He spoke of frozen prices, frozen wages and frozen rents and said "this must never become a land of frozen opportunity."

"If we create a rigid society in who was reported missing on Septem- which honest ambition may not move ing. Mayor Geo. H. Dawson, Reeve Trustees W. N. Gilbert was elected ber 14th, is now a prisoner of war then Canada will cease to be young. C. H. Heslop, and Councillors R. H. Reeve by acclamation and W. H. Big- according to word received by his pa- That need never happen. The simple truth is that Canada offers greater opportunities for all its people than any other nation in the world. Our day is tomorrow."

He warned against over-confidence and said the first concern of every one for the months to come should be the all-out prosecution of the war.

As to the prospects after victory, the premier said that was the question everyone was asking and the answer was to be found only in the future of Canada itself. There would be difficulties as there always has been and always would be. But what Canadians needed was a good healthy dose of confidence in their future based on a clear appreciation of their

opportunities. "Every government, every municipal body, every group and every association—and even individual—should be thinking new ways of employing the great resources which God has placed in our hands."

Junior farmers and agricultural representatives from 15 eastern Ontario counties attended a conference of junior farmers at the agricultural school at Kempville, Ont., during the week. They heard Dr. G. E. Reaman of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph lead a discussion on education, stressing the need for a type of education which would emphasize the benefits of rural living.

Discussion among junior farmers stressed the need for a curriculum Fire of undetermined origin swept which would give rural pupils a propthrough the historic Globe Hotel at er grounding in agricultural subjects.

The matter of religious education in the schools came up before the annual meeting of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation at Toronto during the week, but the teachers declined to take a stand. Only a minority of delegates were present when the mattter of the recent introduction of religious educa-

tion in Ontario schools, was discussed. The convention did, however, expressed approval of provincial plans for increased teaching security and compensation for better school equipment and accomodation along with larger grants. It was urged that state scholarships be extended to include technical and commercial stud-

A report on provincial education department policy expressed congratulations to Premier Drew in his capacity The fire was discovered about one of Minister of Education "for his Mrs. many forceful statements on the im-

# SALE OF PLATES

Minister of Highways George H. Doucett said Ontario's 1945 motor vehicle license plates will not go on sale until between January 10 and 15 new plates which are a light blue background with white figures. The plates were planned for sale Tuesday Believed to have been the oldest January 2nd. The fifteenth will likely

-pioneer settlers of that region. Trav- new plate on the rear, and the pres-

SOME ODORS

Some odors are objectionable to rats. They will not live near the smell of flake naphthalene cresote, carbolic acid, and other coal and tar deriva-

## Events Just Ahead

Announcements of Meetings, Concerts, or Other Events, under this heading, are charged, to cents per line, average 6 words to line, with a minimum charge for any announce-

Dance sponsored by the Busy Bees Club dated January 8th, postponed until further notice.

ment of 25c.