

Weekly War Commentary

By MICHAEL O'MARA
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Germany is now caught in a gigantic vise with the Russians attacking towards Berlin from the Oder River front in the east and the Allied forces including the 1st Canadian Army—hammering at enemy positions west of the Rhine on the Western Front.

But despite the mounting two-way pressure it seems unlikely that the collapse of Germany will be either sudden or soon.

The concentration of all power, civil and military, in the hands of the Himmler group and its ruthless employment in reorganizing Germany's war economy undoubtedly helped the country to survive the crisis of last summer. There is considerable evidence to show that the great mass of the German people agree with Goebbels that, since surrender and total defeat alike involve the destruction of Germany, it is better to go on fighting and so preserve the idea of national socialism for the future. It is an unemotional and passive acceptance of the doctrine that there is no alternative but to go on to the bitter end.

This raises the question of what Germany's Nazi leaders are planning. In this connection it is significant that the S.S. (Black Guards) have been developed from a private political army for the support of the Nazi regime into a dominant military force to which the Wehrmacht is subservient. Reliable informants say that in December alone 75,000 soldiers, chosen for their fighting qualities, were transferred from the Wehrmacht to the S.S. Thus this force has superseded the old Prussian military caste as the determining factor in German destiny.

Plan Guerilla Warfare

Extensive preparations have been made for guerilla warfare in central Austria, part of southern Germany and possibly also in northern Italy. In these areas the Germans have established strongholds, built fortifications and made comprehensive plans for a lengthy stand.

Canadians Attack

Latest week-end dispatches from the Western Front in Europe said Canadian and British troops had streamed through the main Siegfried Line and into the second line of enemy defences in their drive into the Reich forest west of Kleve. Earlier reports told of a steady stream of reinforcements moving into the field to join Field Marshal Montgomery's new offensive. In the first 24-hour period of the drive on the northern end of the western front, the Canadian 1st Army widened its sector to 10 miles and advanced five miles, capturing 14 towns.

Meanwhile the American 3rd Army drove to within three-quarters of a mile of the important road hub of Pruem. United States 1st Army troops have lunged to within a mile of the most important dam on the Roer River. The Germans opened the spillways of the Schwamman Dam, flooding the lower Roer River in an attempt to halt the American drive to the Rhine.

The Russians continue to prepare for their frontal assault on Berlin with the Red Army troops on the northern flank within 25 miles of Stettin, the great Baltic seaport. Moscow dispatches say Marshal Zhukov will strike directly for Berlin once his front is wide enough for large-scale manoeuvring.

In the Pacific

In the Philippines, the battle for Manila seems far from over. Japanese resistance on the south side of the city is still strong, radio dispatches from the Philippine capital said, and American commentators expressed the opinion it would take considerable time to drive the Japanese from the city.

Another Superfortress raid on the Japanese homeland was reported at the week-end. Five aerial giants took part in this attack on the northern part of the Kanto area on the main enemy home island of Honshu, Domei the Japanese News Agency said. Explosives and incendiaries were dropped, the broadcast said, but there was no report of the extent of damage.

Last Minute Developments

Early this week the Canadians on the Western Front had driven through the ruins of captured Kleve to within two miles of the Rhine industrial city of Emmerich and within 20 miles of the Ruhr valley community of Wesel. Other Allied troops had penetrated the Reichswald to the eastern edge of that great forest.

Meanwhile, Luxembourg had been cleared with the capture of the frontier town of Vianden, giving Gen. Eisenhower a continuous 145-mile front inside Germany from Karken near Saarbrücken. The northern part of the front is so badly flooded that the battle has virtually ended.

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Splendid Reports at Annual Meeting of Bethel Church

At the recent annual congregational meeting of Bethel United Church a very successful year was reported. Rev. J. O. Totton, pastor, after opening the meeting with prayer, gave a brief report of the year's work. There are 90 members on the roll, three having been removed by death. A minute's silence was observed for Mrs. W. McCartney, Mrs. D. Featherstone and Mr. D. Frank Ford. During the year there were six baptisms and one marriage.

Mr. John Picket, Treasurer of the Board of Trustees reported receipts for the year of \$629.03, with a balance on hand of \$83.44.

Mrs. J. Lister, treasurer of the W. M. S. reported receipts amounting to \$107.

The W. A. report given by Mrs. John Picket showed receipts totalling \$460.60 with a balance on hand of \$160.59 in addition to a \$200 Victory Bond purchased last year.

Miss Lois Merry, Treasurer of the Sunday School reported receipts of \$108.21 with a balance on hand of \$31.24.

Mrs. W. Alderson gave a report of the Supply Secretary and Mrs. W. Ford the Hydro report.

Officers for the coming year were elected as follows:

Board of Stewards—W. E. Ford, Ellison Ball, Emerson Ford, W. S. Alderson, John Picket, Percy Merry, Clarence Ford and Robert Ford.

Elders—John Picket, John F. Ford, Percy Merry, Victor Hall.

Parsonage Board—J. F. Ford and Victor Hall.
S. S. Supt. Emerson Ford; Assistant, Tom Alderson; Secretary, Tom Alderson; Assistant, Keith Merry; Treasurer, Lois Merry.

W. M. S. President, Mrs. P. Merry; Secretary, Mrs. W. Ford; Treasurer, Mrs. J. Lester.

W. A. President, Mrs. Fred Cavanagh; Secretary, Mrs. F. Tuck; Treas., Mrs. J. Picket.

Treasurer of Missionary and Maintenance Fund, Miss Lela Featherstone.

Organist of Church, Mrs. P. Merry. Organist of S. S., Miss Anne Clifton.

Rev. J. O. Totton expressed his appreciation of the loyalty and co-operation of the congregation and asked for their continued prayers for the spiritual welfare of the church.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Totton for his faithfulness.

MEETING OF AFTERNOON AUXILIARY OF W. M. S. AT MRS. R. B. GALBRAITH'S

The monthly meeting of the Afternoon W. M. S. Auxiliary was held at the home of Mrs. R. B. Galbraith on February 8th, when the president Mrs. R. M. Clements presided. The Secretary and the Treasurer's reports and those of other officers were presented. Mrs. James Bell and Mrs. Butts were in charge of the devotional part of the meeting. The theme of Mrs. W. B. Clements was "Building for Eternity." Mrs. Galloway contributed a lovely solo and Mrs. James Bell gave an interesting talk from the study book, "French Indo China." Concluding prayers were by Mrs. Grundy and Mrs. R. M. Clements.

Slid from Snow Bank Struck by Car on Highway No. 25

Flora McIsaac eight year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allan McIsaac had a narrow escape from serious injury on Monday when she slid from one of the big snow banks on Highway 25 just south of Acton in the path of a car driven by Allan Clarke 51 Boustead Ave, Toronto.

Flora was returning from school at Dublin School shortly after five on Tuesday. The banks along the highway opposite M. J. Steele's farm are quite steep and it was from one of these banks that Flora slid to the road.

Fortunately Mr. Clarke was driving slowly and was able to get her from under the car before the machine ran over her. She was struck by the front fender and badly bruised. After receiving treatment by Dr. Kenney in Acton she was able to return to her home.

NEW BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE TO READERS AT MILTON LIBRARY

Many new books have been received by the Milton Public Library this year. Among the numbers are the following titles: Hollow Men, Green Years, Battle Within, Labyrinth, Keep Your Quilt Mary Ann, The Higher Hill, Carrying Place, Listening Valley, Road is Before Us, Murder of a Stuffed Shirt, Blood on the Snow, Onwards to Victory, Kabloona.

Boy Scout and Girl Guide Week February 18-24

Several Events Planned by Milton Groups to Mark Week

Next week, February 18th to 24th, will be Boy Scout-Girl Guide Week throughout the Dominion of Canada. Every friend and member of the two great organizations should do his or her best to make sure that the memory of Lord Baden Powell, the founder of the two movements, is fittingly observed in his or her district.

In Milton the following events have been planned:

Sunday, February 18th, 7 p.m. Scout and Guide Church Service in Grace Anglican Church.

Monday, February 19th, 7.15 p.m., Cubs "Open Evening" at Town Hall.

Wednesday, February 21st, 7.15 p.m. joint Scout and Guide "Open Evening" at the Town Hall.

It is hoped that all Committee members, parents and friends of the Cubs, Scouts and Guides will make it a point to attend the above events. There is no better way to show the boys and girls that you are interested in them than by attending their service and "Open Evenings" above mentioned.

The Scout Troop can take in six or eight more Scouts and Scoutmaster Fred Brown will be ready for any new boys on Wednesday evening, February 22nd. Any parents or boys who are interested should attend the "Open Evening" on February 21st, and get application forms from the Scoutmaster.

E. V. McCORMACK ADDRESSED MEETING OF GARAGE OPERATORS

The February meeting of Halton Branch of the Ontario Garage Operators' Association was held on Monday evening, February 5th in the Farmers' Hall at Milton and although road and weather conditions were very bad a large number of very enthusiastic members turned out and those who did not missed a fine evening.

Under President Fred Sinclair the first part of the evening was spent in dealing with questions of interest to those engaged in the automotive trade. Following this discussion Mr. A. R. Speight, of Georgetown, introduced Mr. E. V. McCormack, Georgetown who was the guest speaker of the evening. His address was one of the best treats the members have enjoyed for sometime from a point of interest and inspiration. Mr. J. Wausley on behalf of the members moved a vote of thanks to the speaker for his address.

A social hour was spent when coffee and sandwiches were served.

CRIME STORY

Six year-old Jimmy ran afoul of the law the other day. He took matches to school and when apprehended with another boy who was sharing his elementary experiments in combustion engineering, he told a fib.

The principal of Jimmy's school does not believe in corporal punishment for all offences, and was willing to pass over some of the counts of the indictment with a reprimand; but justice decreed spanking for untruthfulness. He explained to Jimmy that the law must take its course, and then asked:

"Now, do you know why I am going to spank you?"

"Was it because I took the matches at home?" asked Jimmy.

"No."

"Because I gave them to another boy?"

"No."

"I give up. Let's play something else. I'm tired of this game."

BLOOD DONOR CHAMPION



Uriah J. "Joe" Water, of Milton is believed to be Halton's champion blood donor. He is a veteran of the first world war and has given 23 pints of blood to the Red Cross since 1942. Forty of the 145 volunteers attending the last clinic in Milton volunteered for the first time. It was Mr. Waters' twenty-seventh trip to the clinic.

WOMEN OF WORLD JOIN IN SERVICE OF PRAYER TO-MORROW

The World Day of Prayer which is being observed on Friday, February 16th this year, is always held on the first Friday of Lent. For one day each year Christian women hold the world together by prayer. "The voice of prayer is never silent." All day long groups of women come together to worship and bring gifts which make possible the furtherance of God's kingdom.

The day begins at sunrise in the Fiji Islands and ends forty hours later on an isolated island in Alaska. It is a privilege no woman should neglect. Join the women of Milton in this service to be held this year in Knox Church at 3 p.m. Thus we shall all be joined in a closer fellowship and unity of spirit, into which women of all races and every church are lifted by the Father of us all.

REPRESENTATIVES OF WEEKLY PRESS TO GIVE RADIO ADDRESS

On Saturday, February 17th from 7.45 to 8 p.m. on the CBC Canadian network the weekly CBC talks feature titled "This Week" will originate from Ottawa and will feature two officers of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association in the capital for the semi-annual executive meeting. They will speak on the part played by the weekly newspapers in Canadian life. Speakers are C.W.N.A. President, F. P. Galbraith, editor of Red Deer (Alberta) Advocate and 1st Vice-President Hugh Templin, editor of Fergus (Ontario) News Record.

EBENEZER GROUPS MET AT HOME OF MRS. GEO. THOMAS

The W. M. S. group of the Ebenezer United Church met at the home of Mrs. George Thomas. Rev. Mr. Pickersgill presided for the election of officers for 1945. The officers are: President, Mrs. Arthur Diamond; Secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Thomas; Pianist, Mrs. Clare Picket.

After the installation of officers the roll call was answered by paying the members' fees. A short program was given and then the W. A. took charge. Mrs. Wilbert Darby presided and following a business discussion arrangements were made for quilt materials in order to continue the regular quilting bees. In closing a social half hour was enjoyed with the hostess serving a very dainty lunch.

Milton Soldiers Arrive Home after Service Overseas

Pilot Officer Dave Brush, R.C.A.F., arrived home in Milton last Saturday after being overseas for two years. Milton friends, as well as his parents, wife and brothers are indeed glad to see him home safe again.

During his two years away he has served in England, Scotland, Iceland, Gibraltar and the Azores.

He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brush, Milton and was active in sports before enlisting. His wife (formerly Audrey Grenke) resides in Milton and a brother Bob. Another brother Harvey is serving in Italy and John resides in Hamilton. Before enlisting Pilot Officer Brush was employed by Canada Packers in Toronto.

Pilot Officer Charlie Sayers returned home Sunday evening from overseas. He has completed a tour of operational flights as navigator on a Lancaster Bomber on bombing missions over Germany. Friends are indeed glad to see him safe home again.

Bacon Export Show Planned For Halton County

100 Halton farmers filled the Farmers' Building at Milton to capacity on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Halton Crop Improvement Association which was held recently. A somewhat lengthy and excellent report was presented by the Board of Directors covering projects conducted during the past year. This covered demonstrations and tests with Permanent Pastures; Hay and Pasture Mixtures; Annual Pastures; Soil Fertility Build-up Tests; Variety Tests; Husking Corn; a Boys' and Girls' Grain Club, etc. Brief but most interesting reports were presented by the following Halton farmers: Cecil Lawrence, Sheridan; Emerson Ford, Hornby; Ross Segsworth, Freeman; J. H. Willmott, Milton; Harvey Nurse Georgetown; Claude Picket, Georgetown; and Victor Hall, Hornby.

Prof. N. J. Thomas of the Department of Chemistry, O.A.C., Guelph, gave a most practical and illuminating address on "Soil Fertility in Relation to Pastures and Conservation."

President Edwin Harrop was in charge of the meeting which recommended the holding of a Bacon Export Show in conjunction with the Annual Seed Show at Milton on March 16 and 17. Both events are open to all Halton farmers. Entries for the Bacon Show close on February 23rd. An entry calls for the marketing of one hog between February 26 and March 5 which will permit curing into a Wiltshire in time for the Halton Show on March 17th. An excellent prize list is offered and inasmuch as there is no entry fee or other expense entailed on the part of the hog producer it provides an excellent opportunity of determining the kind of carcass which the live entry will make.

The following were elected to the Board of Directors of the Halton Crop Improvement Association for 1945:

Esquising—Robt. Miller, M. T. McNabb, T. J. Brownridge and Edwin Harrop.
Nassagaweya—Archie Service, Mansell Nellis and Arthur Diamond.
Nelson—W. E. Breckon, C. L. S. Falmer and A. T. Woodley.
Trafalgar—Cecil Lawrence, V. J. Lawrence, Frank Hall and J. H. Willmott.

Erin and Eramosa—Wallace Swackhamer.

Auditor—F. H. Gilroy.

SCHOOL CAR DRIVER FINE RECORD OF NO SCHOOL DAYS MISSED

Students from Tansley and Nelson attending the Burlington High School owe their high attendance records largely to C. H. Norton, who daily drives them to school and back, not having missed a day except when there was no school, during this winter's heavy snowfall and drifted roads.

Mr. Norton has been making three trips each morning to transport 18 boys and girls to their seat of learning, taking six at a trip. In the late afternoon he goes back to the school and takes them all home again.

IT TOOK FOUR DAYS

It took four days for factories, offices and transportation facilities to return to normal following the snow blitz of December 12.

Engineers of The Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario know because the storm caused a falling off in demand for power in the Southern Ontario System to the extent of approximately 175,000 horsepower.

As citizens dug themselves out and business finally got on "the road back", the demand for power gradually increased and at the end of the fourth day the loads were back to normal peak.

THIS WEEK

By FRANK HINDS
Canadian Press Staff Writer

TORONTO, Feb. 14 (CP)—The exemption of co-operatives from income and excess profits taxes was discussed in Toronto this week as the Royal Commission on Taxation of Co-operatives held a three-day hearing.

The Canadian Retail Federation, representing 15,000 retail merchants, the Toronto Board of Trade and the Canadian Manufacturers' Association presented briefs favoring taxation of the co-operatives. Opposing taxation is the Ontario Co-operative Union.

The commission will attempt to decide whether the income and excess profits tax acts should be applied to co-operatives which under present regulations are exempt from tax. Hearings will move on to Ottawa, Feb. 16-17; Montreal, Feb. 19-21; Quebec, Feb. 26-27; Moncton, March 2-3; and Halifax March 5-7. Briefs have already been heard by the commission in Vancouver, Edmonton, Regina and Winnipeg.

Development of linen and woollen industries and the promotion of handicrafts in general was urged by Anthony Adamson of the Canadian Handicraft Guild as a field of employment in the post-war era and as an economic factor in the Ontario tourist trade.

Addressing the women's division of the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies in convention in Toronto, Mr. Adamson said that more than \$1,000,000 worth of flax is grown in Ontario every year and part of this flax was being exported to linen manufacturing countries. There was an opportunity to develop such an industry of her own in the post-war era.

A training centre was needed to teach farmers' wives the technical craft of weaving and design either as a cultural pursuit or to supplement the family income.

Hon. Leslie Frost provincial treasurer, said handicrafts would be encouraged in the province with the ultimate aim of creating another major industry.

"They already constitute a great industry in Quebec, but they have never been developed on a large scale in this province," he said.

Mr. Frost said the government had plans for the teaching of handicrafts in the schools of the province and would put up prizes for handicrafts at fall fairs.

Reverses in the war in Europe upset plans for increased supplies of farm machinery in the near future and no improvement in supply is foreseen before 1946. H. H. Bloom, administrator of Farm and Construction machinery for the Prices Board told the association convention.

"Our 1945 production may be 10 per cent. below that of 1944 and in the United States it may fall off 25 per cent.," he said.

R. E. Goodin of the corps branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture, said that ensuring a high standard of living for farmers should have first place in the aims of post-war planners. If adequate provision were made for agricultural prosperity, secondary industries would automatically prosper. Prior consideration to farm needs would be a just reward "after the extremely low price period of the thirties and the magnificent war contribution of the farmers."

Events Just Ahead

Announcements of Meetings, Conventions, or Other Events, under this heading, are charged, in cents per line, average 6 words to line, with a minimum charge for any announcement of 25c.

The regular meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary Canadian Legion, will be held in the Legion Rooms, Tuesday February 20th, 8 p.m.

Be sure to come and have a cup of tea at the Red Cross Valentine Tea on Saturday afternoon. Specials at the Bake Table, Lollypops, Baked Beans and Potted Meat.

SKATING CARNIVAL Georgetown Arena, Friday, March 2nd. Prizes for races and costumes followed by public skating for all. Music by 25 piece band. Auspices Lorne Scots Band B

The 4Teen Club is holding its Valentine Dance in the Town Hall, Milton on Saturday night, February 17th. Proceeds are for the Ladies Auxiliary Canadian Legion and music by the Rhythm Rascals.

The Women's Canadian Club will meet on Friday evening, February 19th at 8 o'clock at the High School. The speaker will be Mr. Dick Bird, who will give an illustrated lecture on "Bird Life in Saskatchewan." Everyone interested is cordially invited.



"SCOUTS OF THE WORLD — BROTHERS TOGETHER"