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THURSDAY, AUGUST 29th, 1940.

**NAVY NEARLY SIX TIMES STRONGER THAN
 A YEAR AGO**

The Royal Canadian Navy is now nearly six times stronger than it was a year ago, according to a statement made by Hon. Angus L. MacDonal, Minister of National Defense for the Navy. In inaugurating his press conferences The Minister gave an encouraging report of activities since the start of the war, dwelling on the Navy's expansion, on the high quality of its work performed while seeing service with the Royal Navy and pausing long enough to hit at Nazi planted rumours concerning ship movements.

The Canadian fleet has grown from 15 vessels, a year ago, to 120 vessels now commissioned for active service. During the coming year 95 more ships will swell this total to 215. These include three destroyers. More than 15,000 men are busy in Canadian shipyards pushing the ship-building program ahead of schedule.

The personnel of the Navy has grown to about 10,000 officers and men. More are being trained every day to meet growing needs.

A cablegram from Hon. Vincent Massey, Canadian High Commissioner in London was read by the Minister. It paid high tribute to the units of the Canadian Navy in action with the Royal Navy, noting the British Admiralty's praise for the work of Canadian destroyers in hazardous duties, rescue work and the convoy of ships.

The men of the Canadian Navy serving in units of the Royal Navy and the officers in training in England were singled out for special praise. Over 400 men of the R.C.N. are with the British fleet.

YONGE STREET BOTTLENECK

Over a period of the past ten or fifteen years the Provincial Government has done a very great deal to improve the Highways of this Province, and to-day we rank about tops in this respect on the Continent, but there are still exceptions to this rule and for some inexplicable reason, nothing seems to be done to improve these sections. Take the most notable example, that of the famous bottleneck between Steele's Corners and Richmond Hill on North Yonge Street. The lack of any effort to improve conditions there is undoubtedly responsible for rendering useless to a very great extent the enormous work already done on the whole Yonge Street highway. A chain is only as strong as its weakest link and a highway is only as useful as its narrowest and most dangerous portion allows it to be. The congestion of traffic between the points mentioned above is not a new thing, or something the Government cannot be aware of. All over the United States to-day, tourists are probably telling one another of the curious official quirk which provides thousands of miles of the finest of paved highway in the Province, and then practically ruins the usefulness of a great percentage of the whole system by the persistent neglect of conditions over this five or six miles of roadway. Great sums of money have been spent in the past two or three years on the new highway to Hamilton. It is undoubtedly a fine one, but there were already two wide and sufficient highways connecting these two cities when the construction of the third one was begun, but for some strange reason, the Government will not even discuss the horrible conditions indicated which seem to make Yonge Street a dangerous menace to life, speed and comfort.—Hudson Herald.

**CHECK-UP BY POLICE STARTS AS NATIONAL
 REGISTRATION ENDS**

A national check-up of registration by police authorities started the day following close of registration booths, according to Mr. Justice T. C. Davis, deputy minister of National War Services. During the three designated days for registering, millions of persons called at registration booths, manned by 50,000 appointed officials and 100,000 voluntary workers, to answer questions and receive a registration certificate.

"Only a very small minority failed to comply with registration," stated Mr. Davis.

Gratification of the manner the huge task was carried out was expressed by Hon. James G. Gardiner, Minister of National War Services.

Those who reached the age of sixteen after August 21 and hereafter will have to register within 30 days of their birthday.

According to Justice Davis some constituencies have already reported that the task was carried out entirely free of charge to the government.

EVERY BUSINESS MUST JUSTIFY ITSELF

The small business, the independent merchant, the Main Street business man, can give a human, friendly type of service that the big organization, no matter how efficient, cannot equal, but the small business today must push and promote and justify its existence. The locally-owned business is a greater asset to any community than the outside-owned organization, although the latter, with its greater resources, makes a contribution to the community, too. Too often the small independent business takes a defeatist attitude and merely aims at "getting by", whereas the big organization thrives on the theory that not to go ahead is to go back.

In urging our merchants, as we do each week, to take a page out of the merchandizing books of "big business" and to keep everlastingly at it with newsy items about their stores, we believe that we are making a contribution to the community's welfare, and are not merely securing the advertising that makes a newspaper possible.

The merchant who must write an interesting announcement about the values to be found at his store will spend a good deal of time securing the kind of stock that will provide something to write about.

—Bowmanville Statesman, Ont.

**Interesting War
 Sidelights**

Himmler, dreaded Gestapo chief, has ordered all the inhabitants of occupied France to hand over their gold and foreign exchange to the Nazi authorities. The death penalty is threatened for those who withhold their gold.

Italy is so short of metal that her new three-engined Cant bomber is being built with a wooden fuselage. Another score for Britain's blockade.

Goering, the much-informed chief of Germany's Air Force, has to close his pet oil-from-coal plant near Hanover and is removing it to an area less subject to R.A.F. raids, which have destroyed a large part of the plant.

An R.A.F. pilot who hails from Guelph, Ont., in a recent raid over Germany, flew so low over his target that the explosion of his own bomb threw his machine 300 feet higher in the air, injuring him and damaging his plane. He gained the Distinguished Flying Cross for this exploit—and deserved it.

Britain's first woman air pilot death occurred recently. She was Mrs. Elsie Joy Davison, a member of the women's section of the Air Transport Auxiliary, whose job it is to fly new planes from the factories to R.A.F. stations. She was killed during an instruction flight.

Hair from the heads of German women is going into socks for Nazi soldiers. A Berlin announcement reveals that 4000 pounds of hair has been collected and turned over to spinning mills where felt socks will be made for Hun warriors.

Inland farmers of Britain now have the option of billeting children at \$2.25 per head per week, or sheep at 8 cents per head per week — or both if they can manage them. Over 40,000 sheep have been evacuated from the southeast coast region.

Tradition means much to Britishers, but winning this war means even more, so guns of the frigate Bellerophon, on which Napoleon surrendered after Waterloo, are being melted for military scrap iron. The Bellerophon, launched in 1736, escorted Lord Nelson's body home after Trafalgar, where he was wounded fatally. In announcing the decision to scrap the guns, the Falmouth Town Council said: "We don't need mementoes to remind us of Britain's glorious past."

Do you feel inclined to grumble about what you have to do towards winning the War? If you do, just think of Alf Lea, of Ormskirk, England. He works 12 hours a day, 7 days a week on war work. In his off hours he helps to dig his garden, writes letters for the disabled, acts as secretary for both the British Legion and the local band, does special constable duties, rarely misses a meeting as a local town councillor and is always at the service of an ex-service man night and day. And an empty sleeve tells of his services in the last war. Now are you doing your bit?

**VILLAGE SCHOOL BOARD
 CANCEL BUILDING PLANS**

Construction of a \$2500 addition to Woodbridge public and continuation school, planned for this summer, was cancelled by the school board in special session on Thursday evening of last week.

Announcing the decision, Secretary William Blake declared a scarcity of labour, unsettled conditions, and an increase in plumbing and building costs were factors influencing the board's action. He announced a revised requisition for the year's funds, \$1800 less than the original 1940 figure will be sent to the council immediately. It will be in answer to a request from the councillors, who, at their last session, ordered a reduced budget if construction work was not to be started.

Debate on the government's plan for a delayed school opening resulted in a decision to open the village schools September 16th. "We decided to abide by the decision of the premier," said Mr. Blake.

THE THUG WITH THE PISTOL

It is remarkable how easily thugs can acquire a lethal weapon. A youth of sixteen was arrested and sentenced in this city recently. He was found to have a loaded revolver in his possession. The frequency of arrests of criminals carrying revolvers conveys unmistakable indication of laxity somewhere. Some of these weapons are stolen from citizens of law-abiding intent, but it is difficult to see why peaceful citizens should feel it necessary to own a death-dealing weapon. While Parliament is engaged in collecting rifles and shotguns it should also make a further attempt to round up lethal weapons of all kinds. Much stiffer penalties in the courts for those found in illegal possession of arms might serve as a deterrent.—(From the Calgary Herald.)

As Other Editors See It.

Goodwill Ambassadors

Representatives from all classes of families in the United Kingdom are pouring into Canada as fast as transportation can be arranged. In the case of the 'teen age old they will probably spend the most impressionable part of their careers in Canada. Some will return to the Old Land as unofficial ambassadors of goodwill and to tell of the really fine country Canada is, while others will doubtless remain and become citizens of the Dominion. With all this free and personal advertising for the Dominion there is no doubt that new interest will be created in England and Scotland and a new rush of capital and immigration may be expected when circumstances permit.—Delhi News-Record, Ont.

Radio and the 'King's English'

One can be pardoned for speculating on the question whether the proprietors and operators of radio stations throughout the country are fully alive to their responsibilities in the matter of the use of the English language and the pronunciation thereof through their facilities. Pronunciation in Canada is in process of formation, and when one listens to radio announcers broadcasting the news, one wonders in what direction we are heading. Perhaps there should be a national school for radio announcers in order to ensure some uniformity.—Alameda Dispatch, Sask.

Enforce Traffic Laws and Save Life

It is certain that this could be made a much safer community not only for children but adults as well if a more thorough enforcement of traffic laws was exercised. There is no reason whatsoever why any motorist should feel free to drive through the town at the same speed he travels over the more open parts of the provincial highway system.—Grimsby Independent, Ont.

Honoring Canadian Humorist

The Windsor, N.S. home of Judge Thomas Haliburton, the father of published humour on this continent, has been converted into a museum and formally opened to the public. Judge Haliburton was a native of Nova Scotia and it was while on circuit as a judge that he secured the material for his great book, "Sam Slick of Slickville". The witty sayings of Sam Slick were undoubtedly duplicated to a considerable extent by the author of David Harum, an American novel of 40 years ago which went over big. After he had served many years on the bench, Judge Haliburton resigned and went to England where he was elected to the Imperial Parliament.—Hartland Observer, N.B.

Treat Nazi Sympathisers as Spies

Nazi sympathizers in this country should get little consideration when caught. Any enemy alien residing in Canada, and working for the foes of Britain, is nothing more or less than a spy. He should be treated as a spy and not allowed to pay a nominal fine or serve a comparatively short sentence in jail. He should be given the sentence that is handed out to spies, whether he in this country like the system or not. In times like these, we have no mercy for spies. This is one time they should be given justice — at the hands of a firing squad.—Forest Standard, Ont.

Tell-Tale Shoes

The shoes tell the story in Canada and in nine cases out of ten, newllyeds are spotted by experienced station and train employees by

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the couple's shining new shoes, according to an assistant general traffic manager. Less rice is now thrown on trains than in previous years, he adds, but the shoes still tell the story.—Pictou Advocate, N.S.

Hitler's Growing Pains

A rapidly growing world opinion believes that Adolph Hitler's "peace feelers" of recent weeks reflect a Nazi realization that the problem of assimilation is far greater than that of conquest. Obviously the sea-power, air strength and unlimited raw material possessions of the British Empire greatly outmatch those owned by the Nazis, and therein lies the uneasiness of an Adolph Hitler sending out "peace feelers". His eyes were bigger than his stomach.—Port Elgin Times, Ont.

The next trick may be to keep the war out of the United States, not the United States out of the war.—Brandon Sun, Man.

Township of Vaughan

1. The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Vaughan intends to construct as a local improvement, (draining, grading and graveling) the easterly part of Birch street in the Township of Vaughan between the westerly limits of sub-lot 52 and Avenue Road, a length of 1746 feet, and intends to specially assess the cost upon the land abutting directly on the work.
 2. The estimated cost of the work is \$700.00. The estimated cost per foot frontage is 20.6 cents. The special assessment is to be paid in five equal annual instalments and the estimated annual rate per foot frontage is 4.6 cents.
 3. Application will be made by the Corporation to the Ontario Municipal Board for its approval of the undertaking of the said work and any owner may within twenty-one days after the first publication of this notice file with the Board his objection to the said work being undertaken.
 4. The said Board may approve of the said work being undertaken, but before doing so it may appoint a time and place when any objections to the said work will be considered. Dated this 9th day of August, 1940.
 J. M. McDONALD, Clerk.
 Maple, Ont.

Notice to Creditors

In the estate of Annie Hall, late of the Village of Thornhill, in the Township of Markham, County of York, school teacher, deceased.

All persons having claims against the estate of Annie Hall, late of the Village of Thornhill, in the Township of Markham, County of York, who died on or about the 29th day of March 1940 are hereby notified to forward to the undersigned on or before the 21st day of September 1940, full particulars of their claims against the said Estate verified by affidavit. After the said date the Executrix of the said Estate will distribute the assets of the said deceased, having regard only to claims of which she will then have notice, to the exclusion of all others, and she will not be liable to any person of whose claim she shall not then have notice for the assets so distributed or any part thereof.

Dated at Toronto, in the County of York, this 27th day of August, A.D. 1940.

Margaret Hall, Thornhill,
 Executrix,
 By her Solicitor,
 Alexander MacGregor,
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