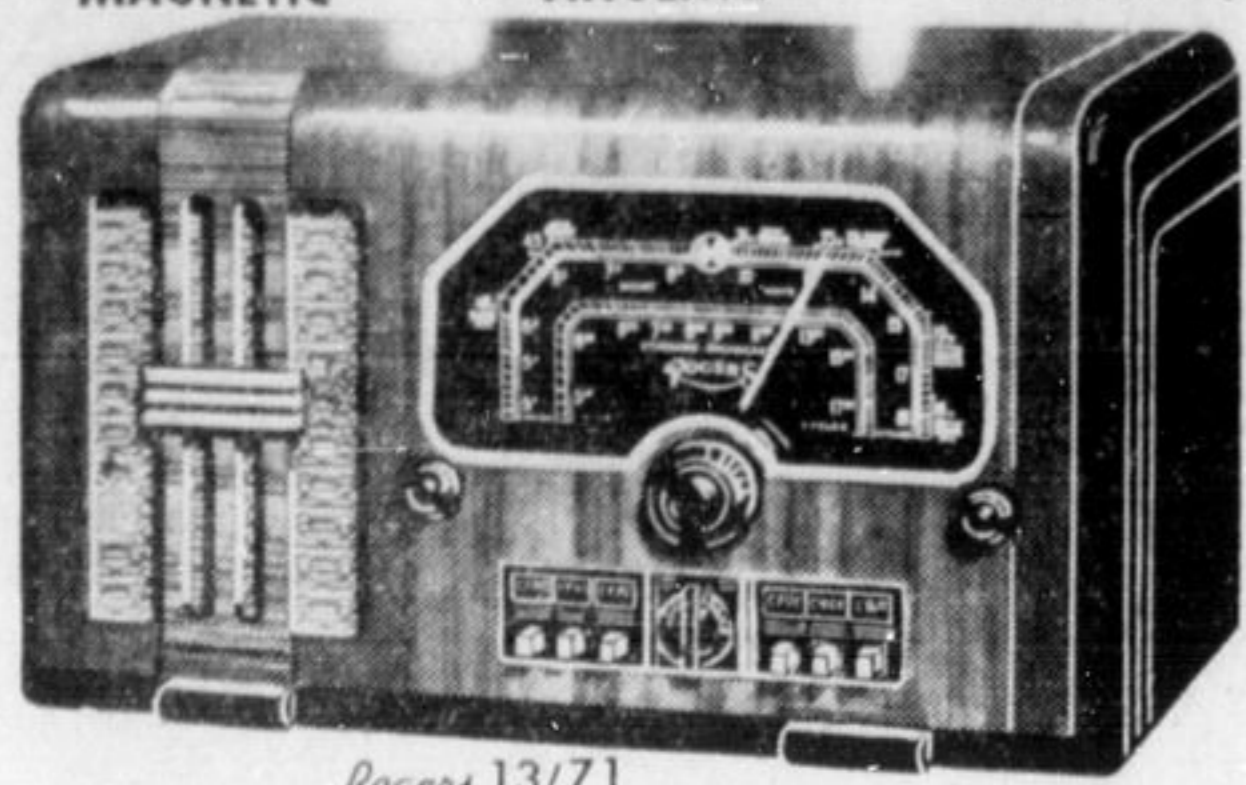


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Some women talk on and on about things that leave them speechless.

Democratic Nations Tackle Big Problems

France's Serious Situation Being Faced Resolutely.

(By Wellington Jeffers in Globe and Mail)

I find the international situation quite cheering these days.

True, there are wars in China and Japan and recurring rumors of possible wars elsewhere; there are persecutions and ominous moves by dictators, who have failed to read the lessons of history as to the ultimate futility of war and of victories won by war; true, too, Mr. Hitler by the threat of force has had his way in Austria and Czechoslovakia and on the surface of events at least seems to be winning greater political and trade influence in the Balkan States; true, the Italian deputies staged a demonstration the other day by calling out for the return of Corsica, Tunis, Nice and Savoy, which want nothing less than so to be returned; true, stability and security are yet over the horizon, if indeed business and industry are moving toward those ideals at all in advances which owe so much to government deficit spending.

But it is cheering to know that the democracies are getting their backs up and preparing "to go places." They are canvassing their resources and their friends, and they are great. They are beginning to realize, for instance, that if Germany or any other nation deliberately adopts a policy of unfair dumping as a method of trade warfare there is something they can do about it, and that trade treaties are only one way. They have higher trade cards than Germany, and their trade is better worth having if they are willing to take all the measures which will turn a reasonable share of diverted trade their way.

If Ataturk Had Been Hitler

Germany itself has much more to gain by joining the concert of nations in a way that shows good faith. I do not hold with the doctrine that it is impossible to get good faith from a dictator nation. If President Kamal Ataturk, who recently died in Turkey, had been President of Germany during these years of reconstruction, I firmly believe he would have accomplished all that is good that Herr Hitler has accomplished and very much more. The man who has given the citizens of Turkey more liberty, opportunity, self-respect and forward-looking than they ever had would have chosen as the true way of advance the policy of making old foreign enemies into friends, and of establishing with as many markets as possible the idea that Germany played fair, kept treaties, acted honorably. A great general in war, he was infinitely greater as a statesman. In restoring Turkey he had more difficulties to encounter than any other European ruler has had, and yet he made so many social, economic, political and religious transformations in his country that no man who emerged from the Great War will stand higher in the annals of statesmanship. I am told there are olois, but I am looking at the large picture.

If Hitler had done as well in Germany as Ataturk in Turkey, Germany would now be friends with France, Great Britain, the United States and all her recent enemies in the World War; he would as well have found the way to bridge the trading gulf that exists between Communist Russia and Nazi Germany; he would have encouraged private enterprise instead of ruthlessly compressing it into state moulds. He would have encouraged the main avenues for acquiring freedom, and I verily believe he would have preferred and have worked to bring about an even more adequate expression of the main streams of democratic opinion and to lead them more adequately for furthering human advancement than was done before the days of dictatorship.

Messrs Hitler and Mussolini have done for their peoples, but their regimes have worked far more grief in so far as they have stifled individuality and liberty. Premier Chamberlain has the Ataturk vision! It takes more than one year and more than one peace-loving leader to get success. But he is on the road to try out the Ataturk way. Munich is not the last word. The European post-war cargo had shifted, and some of it was thrown over to save the ship of peace. If Ataturk had been Hitler, there would have been no need of a Munich meeting. If Ataturk had been Chamberlain, that meeting, too, might have been a different ending. The main thing now is that the Munich pact was made, and that, whether it was a mistake or no, every day is another day in which it is possible to do something to save the peace by agreeing to measures for repairing the real misfortunes of the world.

Gallant Fight to Restore France

Look at France. If ever a Government made a gallant fight to bring order out of disorder, to save essential freedom from being lost by putting Communists or Fascists, or other types of central planners at the helm, the Daladier Government is doing it. Especially M. Paul Reynaud, Finance Minister, whether he succeeds or not, is tackling the world's most difficult current job in a most workmanlike way. Naturally he has to face the inevitable grumbling that comes with drastic economics, with abandonment of grandiose public works that should never have been attempted, and with increasing taxes. For a long time he has been saying that such things were necessary and now he is being given a chance to put into effect what he believes. His entire frankness is winning praise and support. He refuses to take any course which interferes with

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France's obligations under the Tripartite agreement and—Mr. Aberhart, take notice—he absolutely refuses to resort to a forced conversion of State bonds. France is under a capitalist system, he recognizes, and his work is to make it work more efficiently and yield a greater surplus for the imperative needs of the country. A change of system now would be a major disaster, he believes.

If the French nation responds to M. Reynaud's clear call, that would be for all the democracies the most cheering news of all. Somehow, I believe it will, for Frenchmen may fight among themselves and disagree on all sorts of questions, but when the emergency is clearly seen, la France takes the first place in their hearts. It means more to a Communist, or Socialist, than his own does. The recent troubles in France, the dismissal of railway workers, the failure of the strike—regrettable though they are as incidents—are welcome as showing that a man is at the helm in France and that means that workers and all others will be better off in the end if Reynaud is backed up to the hilt.

And, by the way, M. Daladier and M. Reynaud should send by special messenger to Mr. Mussolini for his private eye alone the thanks of the French nation for the scene played up in the Italian Chamber asking France to return Corsica and the others. A more signal contribution to securing French unity it would be hard to imagine.

Young Man Badly Burned When Motor Oil Ignites

New Liskeard, Dec. 8.—Keith Alderidge, 19-year-old Hanbury youth, is in Red Cross Hospital here in critical condition as a result of severe body burns received in a fire which de-

stroyed the home of his parents, nine miles north of here late Saturday afternoon.

His young sister, Alice, suffered leg burns and cuts on her hands when she leaped to safety through a living room window. Their mother, Mrs. Fred Alderidge, escaped uninjured but is suffering from shock. Her husband, Fred Alderidge, well-known lumberman, was not at home at the time.

The fire started in the large frame dwelling when a pot of motor oil Keith Alderidge was heating on the kitchen stove ignited. He grabbed the flaming pot from the stove in an attempt to throw it outside, but the burning oil spilled on his clothes and the floor, setting both afire. Alderidge was heating the oil to use in starting his car.

Loss is estimated at \$7,000. Employees from a nearby construction company and neighbors formed a volunteer fire brigade and while they were unsuccessful in saving the house they managed to keep the fire from spreading to an adjacent barn and garage.

Blairmore Enterprise: A California man was elected constable the other day by a flip of a coin. A flip of the coin in the right direction has elected lots of people to office.



Advertisement for Good Year Lug Tires. Text: 'Make bad roads good roads WITH GOOD YEAR LUG TIRES'. Includes image of a tire and text: 'These big, husky Good-Years are designed to keep trucks, buses, tractors and graders on the move. They provide maximum traction forward and backward in deep mud or snow. Ride quietly and smoothly on hard and improved roads. STUDDED TIRES For cars Goodyear Studded tires are "tops" for rural "bad road" service. Don't wait for bad weather, trouble and delay... see these tires at your Goodyear dealer's today! MORE PEOPLE RIDE, MORE TONS ARE HAULED, ON GOODYEAR TIRES THAN ON ANY OTHER KIND'

Yoke of Oxen Travel on the Streets of St. Mary's

(St. Mary's Journal-Argus) An unusual sight on the streets of St. Mary's the other day was a yoke of oxen. The oxen, a smart young pair, rising three years old, are native St. Maryites. They belong to Chris Scheuerman, Church Street South. He raised them, broke them in and uses them for work on his property. According to Mr. Scheuerman, Pete and Joe work separately or yoked together and they can scuffle better than any horse. Mr. Scheuerman has always had oxen since boyhood days on his father's farm near Durham. Years ago he used oxen for drawing gravel and stone from St. Mary's quarries.

Powassan News: A certain man who celebrated his 90th birthday was heard to remark that he would live to be 100 or die in the attempt.

Claims Was Given Wine Mixed with Marijuana

Magistrate Convicts Two Reckless Drivers. Fines Each \$20 and Costs With Alternative of Thirty Days. In Both Cases Automobiles Crashed Into Parked Cars.

She was not drunk when she was arrested, said Hilda Pakala in police court on Tuesday, she had been doped. Someone had given her half a cup of wine and in it had been mixed marijuana.

In halting English, aged Mrs. Pakala told her story. She faced a charge of being drunk. However, marijuana or no marijuana, Magistrate Atkinson decided that the woman had been intoxicated. Consequently he imposed a fine of \$10 and costs or thirty days.

Reckless Drivers Although he convicted in both cases, Magistrate Atkinson complimented two reckless drivers on their honesty in admitting their fault.

First case was that of W. E. Chappell, who was alleged to have driven recklessly on November 25. Carson Young told the court that his car had been parked on the side of the road near the Hollinger. He had been waiting for Chappelle, who had been following, to go by so that he could turn in to the mine.

Suddenly for no apparent reason Chappell's car crashed into the rear of his, Young said.

Constable Jack Atkinson said that Chappell told him that the accident happened when he reached into his pocket for a cigarette. He momentarily took his attention from the road and in that moment the accident occurred.

Questioned by the Magistrate, Chappell said that he had taken his attention from his driving when he reached

for a cigarette. "I will fine you \$20 and costs and suspend your driver's license for thirty days. It will teach you to keep your mind on your driving," said His Worship.

Ice on the Windshield The same penalty of \$20 and costs with his driver's permit suspended for thirty days was meted out to William Flynn, who was convicted of reckless driving.

Edmund Belanger said that he and another man and Don Brazier were standing beside the latter's car when it was parked on the Hollinger Road. Suddenly Flynn's car piled into the rear of the parked automobiles. Albert Mako and Don Brazier corroborated Belanger's evidence.

Constable Munro said that Flynn told him that the reason he did not see the parked car was because of ice on the windshield. Asked by the Magistrate, Flynn admitted that ice was the cause of the accident.

Six Drunks There were six drunks. Penalty in each case was \$10 and costs or thirty days in jail. One minor traffic charge drew a fine of \$5 and costs.

Lucien Labelle was sentenced to thirty days in jail for being a vagrant. Sergeant DesRoches said that he had warned Labelle to keep away from the police office but he had persisted in hanging around. He won't be bothering the police for a month at least.

Five charges of assault were deferred until next week.

Washington, D.C., Least Fortified of Capitals

(Toronto Telegram)

London, Paris, Berlin, Tokio and Moscow all are ringed about with forts and airdromes. In a twenty-five mile radius of Washington there are virtually no big guns, the only forts are Civil War relics and troops number less than 6,000. The chief South American capitals are better protected, from a military viewpoint, than the seat of government of the U.S.A. Washington's real defences are about 200 miles away, at the mouth of Chesapeake Bay, strategists explain.

There the big guns of Fort Monroe frown between the Capes. Nearby is Langley Field, Virginia, base of the second of the three wings of the army's mobile general headquarters air force.

Beyond, in time of war, would be warships of the navy, guarding any approach from across the 3,000 miles of the Atlantic.

Defence problems have been altered basically since British troops burned the Capitol in 1814. Now it is more vital than ever that a strategic point be defended as far away as possible. Some American officers are not sure the army would be as eager to defend Washington as some industrial cities, such as Pittsburgh.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

When the smell comes from the kitchen

Of good savory sage, An' it sets my lips t' twitchin' An' my appetite t' rage; When I hear the wimmin gabbin' Whether this or that thing's done, An' I smell mince pies a-warmin' Then I know that there'll be fun; When I hear the dishes rattlin' Cuz the table's bein' set, An' the women fuss and fumin' Over what there's next t' get; When the oven door is opened, An' I get a whiff a-that, An' the wimmin talk of 'bastin' With the grease an' with the fat; When I smell the carrot puddin' An' the "dip" a-bein' made, When the missus yells an' sez: "I Guess the table now is laid." Then I think we men folks ought-a Be ashamed the way we shirk, When it comes t' Christmas dinners, It's the wimmin does the work.

—Ralph Gordon, Toronto.

Waterloo Chronicle: Hanging doesn't pay! This has more meaning than one, for Arthur Ellis, Canada's hangman for years, having swung the trapdoor on over 500 murderers, died a poor man and is reported to have been buried in a pauper's grave.

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