

Local Polish People Given Full Details of Conditions in Poland

On Recent Visit Here Polish Consul Gives Information on the Brutal and Criminal Reign of Terror Continued by the Nazis Since Their Entrance Into Poland. Many Examples Given.

Some weeks ago when Dr. Tadenz Brzezinski, Polish Consul at Montreal, paid a visit to Timmins he gave a graphic account of the deplorable situation in Poland due to the contemptible methods of the Nazi invaders. In addresses here to his own people the Polish Consul, who narrowly escaped capture by the Nazis, gave the facts in detail and with the most careful accuracy. His presentation of the case is the most definite arraignment of the Germans that could be presented. Some of the case as outlined by the Consul was published in recent issues of The Advance in the form of interviews and reports of addresses. For the record a more complete summary is presented herewith:

German terror has raged in Poland from the earliest days of occupation and executions took place for the slightest attempt of self-defence, expression of national feelings or any disobedience to the harsh invaders. In November, 1939, a girl student of the university in Warsaw was executed for defacing an anti-British poster. Prof. Stanislaw Pawlowski, of Poznan, was executed for resisting the barbarian eviction of himself and family from their home. Other executions of prominent citizens, mostly real estate owners and bearers of well-known names in the Western part of Poland, were for vengeance for patriotic activities of these good people in the past. Among those so executed were—Edward Potworowski, Papal Chamberlain and leader of the Catholic Action in Poland; Thomas Komierowski, Papal Chamberlain; M. Chkepowski, brother of the former Polish ambassador in Paris; Count Jan Szokroski; Count Poninski; the mayor of Bydgoszcz; canon of the cathedral in Gniezno; mayor of Inowroclaw and many others. Nearly all executed were about sixty. In addition men and women alike are being sent to concentration camps. Among the women so treated were the wife of the former ambassador to Paris, and Countess Potocki, whose husband was executed.

The executions soon reached the dimensions of mass murder. According to verified information, 5 hostages in Szanowski, 100 persons in Leszno, 50 in Kosciel, 134 in Bydgoszcz, were shot in November, 1939. In one city 5,000 people were killed. In the city of Poznan 5,000 leading persons were also executed. Three hundred hostages, including doctors, lawyers, judges, were forced to dig their own graves before being shot. These mass murders were but samples of conditions in all the Western provinces. A balliff of Tuohola died from heart failure during a fire at his home and ten Polish people were put against the wall and shot in reprisal.

At Grudziadz, anti-German posters appeared on some walls and the German commander arrested several hundred Polish people and issued an order that they be executed if any disorder occurred.

An outstanding feat of brutality was the murder of the former burgomaster of Cieszyn, Dr. Olszck and his wife, aged respectively 65 and 80. They were both flogged with steel rods while lying prostrate on the floor until they became unconscious. After this torture the four members of the Gestapo assaulted the maid of the doctor. Dr. Olszck died as result of his injuries. His wife, though seriously injured, appeared to recover and was sent to a concentration camp where she died.

In Gdynia the boast was made that in case of any disorder thirty Polish hostages would be executed for every German hurt.

In November, 1939, an Extraordinary Tribunal proceeded with the utmost severity, the defendants being deprived of all rights of defence, and the usual sentence being capital punishment.

The practice of taking hostages at random and executing them on any excuse was the common practice.

An official announcement by the German authorities shows the means and methods adopted. All Polish people of both sexes were required to give way to Germans. "The streets belong to the victors and not to the vanquished," said the proclamation. Polish men were to uncover their heads when meeting any German. Germans must be served first in shops, markets, etc. All Polish uniforms, even for railwaymen was forbidden.

"Unequaled in history is the mass expropriation, eviction and expulsion of the civil population in the Western provinces of Poland," said Dr. Brzezinski. "The invaders are openly aiming at a complete depopulation of the provinces, Pomorze, Poznan and Silesia, and for this purpose are throwing people out of their homes, mostly without any warning and without permitting them to take anything but the clothes they have on."

The first mass eviction took place in Gdynia, where in connection with the repatriation of the Germans from the Baltic countries, the German authorities ordered the evacuation of the whole Polish population. This meant the eviction of the whole population of the city and port, numbering nearly 130,000 men, women and children. The police started to evict people from their homes, allowing them to take only what they could carry themselves, and giving them only ten or fifteen minutes to vacate their homes. They were trans-

ported 300 miles by train—1500 to 2000 people in a transport. The evacuation was conducted under conditions of unprecedented brutality. Many cases of childbirth occurred during the transport. Many children fell victims to dysentery and diphtheria. Before the departure of each train the Brown Shirts took away all money and jewelry from the unfortunate people.

The recent Vatican broadcasts, based on a memorandum of the Primate of Poland, Cardinal Hlond, containing a detailed description of German atrocities in the diocese of Gniezno and Poznan, characterize these mass evictions as a "true extermination conceived with diabolical cunning and carried out with unequalled cruelty. . . . The victims of these transportations lost all their land, houses, furniture, shops, clothes, linen, money and other valuables. People were suddenly turned into beggars. . . . In the spring many of them will be in danger of dying."

The Gestapo raided homes during the night and seized between 500 and 700 people at one time. In Poznan, says the report describing one of these raids, the expulsion of the people from their homes took place under heart-breaking conditions. At 9.30 p.m. the lights in the houses and streets were turned off and then the hunt for the Poles began. These poor people cannot sleep but remain in darkened rooms near the windows, waiting their turn. . . . Sometimes a more human agent allows them to take some few extra woollen clothes. But they must leave their homes with what they are wearing. If they are not ready they are taken away in their night clothes. No one is allowed to visit those who are in the concentration camps. No one can bring food to them.

German plans in regard to the future of Western Poland as described by a high official:—The Germans will take the Western provinces of Poland and incorporate them with the Reich as the "Warthegau." The territories on the Vistula will be organized as a separate unit under a German Governor-General. All Poles in the Warthegau will be forced to emigrate forthwith. Thus the Poles and the Jews will be allowed to live on territories which the Germans have no intention of incorporating with the Reich. The centre of the Polish area will be Cracow, and this area will be divided into four provinces—Cracow, Nadom, Warsaw and Lublin. The last-named province will be entirely reserved for the Jews. The existence of even the smallest Polish state will not be tolerated. The Polish population in the provinces of Pomorze, Poznan and Silesia, which has been incorporated with Germany outright, is to be expelled and settled on German territory described by the Germans colloquially as the "remainder area."

In order to realize the full extent of the German plan it must be emphasized that up till now the Germans have incorporated with the Reich 33,000 square miles of territory inhabited by 9,000,000 people, of whom only 460,000 were German.

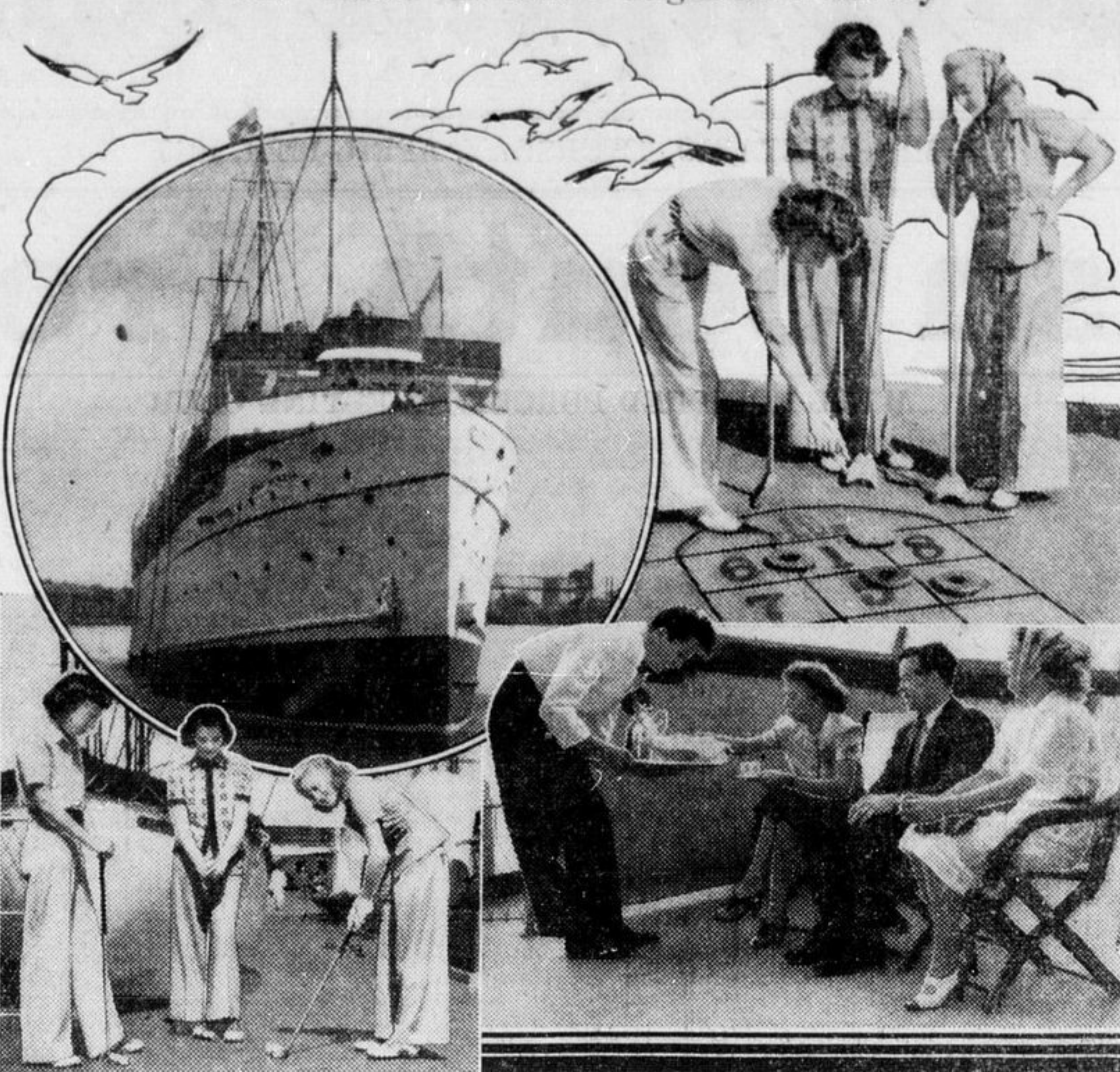
The German "nation of scientists and philosophers" did not refrain from destroying Polish cultural life and documents of great historic value. In the Western provinces all schools were closed some to re-open as German schools. All universities were closed.

Collection of art treasures in Polish museums have been stolen and taken to Germany. Artistic parquet flooring in ruined Polish castles has been torn up and shipped to Germany. The Warsaw zoo has ceased to exist, its treasures being destroyed. The famous Sigmund bell of the cathedral in Cracow, known to every child in Poland, representing an immense historical and sentimental value, has been ordered melted down for metal. It was cast in 1520.

An insult to civilization was the arrest and deportation of the professors and lecturers of the University of Cracow, many of them old men, who were treated with senseless brutality.

A special chapter in the persecution of the civil population in Poland has been the fearful sufferings of the Jewish people, singled out for special Nazi hate and abuse. . . . A ghetto has been created in Warsaw into which over 50,000 Jews have been crowded, and where they are existing under terrible conditions. . . . Throughout the country all Jews are obliged to wear yellow armbands and are forbidden to leave their homes during certain hours. . . . Jews have only a ration of 1 pound of bread a week, while the rest of the population is allowed that much daily. . . . Robbery and murder of the Jewish people is a sad commonplace. The Jewish community in Warsaw has been ordered to bury the dead. On the average 600 bodies were interred daily. The Jews were also forced to collect all statistics in regard to the Jews. The total number of Jews in Warsaw was shown as 366,000 on Nov. 1st. . . . Food shops in the Jewish quarter of Warsaw have been closed, forcing them to buy only at German stores. . . . Sixty-three Jews arrested in Warsaw were arrested and executed shortly after. . . . In Zodz, the greatest industrial city in Poland, 12,000 Jews were arrested, including all rabbis and all important men. Some went to concentration camps. . . . So far nearly 600 parcels containing the ashes of murdered Jews have been received by their families in Zodz. . . . A program was staged in

Great Lakes Cruises Delightful Holiday



A delightful break in the long trans-Canada rail journey and perfect summer cruises are combined in the services offered by the Canadian Pacific Great Lakes steamers. Two gleaming white ships, the "Assiniboia" and the "Keewatin" make convenient connections at Port William and Port McNicoll, terminal points for their water journey of 542 enchanting miles, and cruises are operated especially for vacationists who like the charm of the vast inland seas.

The two fine passenger ships travel westbound on Wednesdays and Saturdays; eastbound on Saturdays and Tuesdays. The route of these "Circle Cruises," from July 15 to mid-September, is most interesting. Westbound from Port McNicoll, the ship glides through beautiful Georgian Bay, past Manitoulin Island, and into Lake Huron. It sails up St. Mary's River, through Sault Ste. Marie to Lake Superior, largest of the Great Lakes, to Fort William.

The schedules provide for popular week-end cruises from Sault Ste. Marie or either terminal point, half the length of the full cruise. Other delightful five-day cruise trips are made by the spacious cruise ship "Manitoba," 303 feet long, 2,616 tons and of steel construction. These cruises from July 1 to August 26 are from Owen Sound and Port McNicoll to Fort William but the route is via the North Inside Channel of Manitoulin Island and there is a special stop at Mackinac Island, rich in stories of early explorers and fur traders.

Zodz. . . Jewish women were forced to fog their husbands and the husbands forced to fog their wives in public. Those who hesitated were severely maltreated. Many Jews were killed, and many more badly injured. . . . Barabaz mass deportation of Jews has taken place. . . . Up till Nov. 10th, 55,000 Jews were imported from Vienna, the Czech protectorate and Western Poland. All men up to 70 years of age were employed on forced labour, the men on road-making, the women in agriculture. The working day counts twelve hours.

That Body of Hours
By James W. Barton, M.D.
Finding it Room Substances Are Causing Asthmatic Attacks
Now that it is known that patients do not "have" to have attacks of asthma, that there is some cause for them, it would be well for asthmatics to not rest content with "treatments" which relieve the attack, but to seek the cause.

Word has been received by the father's sister, Mrs. D. Martin, 8 Dixon Avenue, that the father and son had met in England, although the full details of the meeting were not stated. It was the father's wish, however, as soon as the son sailed, that they would meet in England, and the family is pleased to know that this meeting did take place. Mrs. Ray Stewart has gone to the family home at Ottawa.

To Resume Probe Into Lands Dept. on Monday

Toronto, April 17—Preliminary to resumption next Monday of sittings by the Ontario Legislature's special timber committee, the conference of forest products industries organized by the government a month ago will meet here Friday to consider briefs prepared by various groups within the industry during the past month.

The committee instructed Hon. Peter Heenan, Ontario minister of lands and forests, shortly before prorogation of the legislature, to call a conference of "groups interested in the effective utilization of our forest resources" and an organization meeting was held March 12. Representatives of the entire industry, pulp, lumber, railways, labor and power interests, attended. That meeting was described by government spokesmen as the most representative of the industry ever held in Ontario.

Friday the committees appointed by these various groups will each present to the whole conference briefs covering their particular angles on timber policy and use. The report of the conference is expected to provide a vital part of the discussions by the legislature committee next week.

Says Italian People Not in Favour of Germany

Manchester, Eng., April 17—A majority of the Italian people will oppose a possible attempt by Premier Mussolini and the Fascist party to push Italy into war on the side of Germany, the Manchester Guardian said today. The royal family and Italian general staff are against intervention, the newspaper said.

"The general public in Italy, it added, "is not and never was pro-German." It is not for war. "The Vatican and responsible Catholic opinion in Italy are very definitely against Italy entering the war. The royal family are believed to be against intervention and so is the Italian general staff. The business world is also unwilling to see Italy engaged in war. "If Mussolini and the Fascist party are really ready to put Italy into the war on Germany's side, which remains to be proved, it is clear that they will do so against the wishes of a majority of the Italian people and all responsible quarters outside the Fascist party itself."

Horrors of War Creeping Closer to United States

Globe and Mail:—The horrors of war creep closer to the United States. It is announced that the new state of affairs in Denmark will interfere with Barbara Huton's plans for another divorce.

Production at Preston Totals \$179,799 in March

Preston East Dome Mines, Porcupine district, produced \$179,799 in March from milling of 13,481 tons of ore for an average recovery of \$13.34 per ton, compared with \$184,557 from 12,128 tons and an average of \$15.38 in February. Output for the first quarter of 1940 amounts to \$365,663 from 33,447 tons for an average of \$14.71 per ton, while gross production since commencement of milling operations in March, 1939, amounts to \$2,631,865.

Highgrade Samples From Week's Run of the Newspapers

Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph:—When a man and wife understand each other there is always the danger that they don't think much of each other. Sudbury Star:—So that, if all the Canadian voters had been soldiers, the National Government party would have won. Kitchener Record:—Waitresses are warned against painting their fingernails as it takes the customer's mind off his food. It also stains the soup. Carleton Place Canadian:—The man who originated the white stripe on the pavement to regulate motor traffic has just died at Belleville. He was William H. Sweet and while acting as chief of police in the town of Oakville made this gift to motor car drivers which has made night driving comparatively safe. At one time he served as chief of police at Smiths Falls and was well known in this section of the province. Sudbury Star:—In an attempted hold-up a bandit was shot in the stomach, the sergeant was shot in the hip, while Miss Vandernoodle was shot in the excitement. Blairmore Enterprise:—There are still a number of eligible bachelors in Blairmore waiting for a place in the casualty list. Girls wake up! It's still leap year!

BRITISH ANNOUNCE THEY HAVE MINED CLYDE AREA

London, April 17—The admiralty announced today that the west coast of Britain in the River Clyde area had been mined. The mine field, protecting the important Clydeside ship-building region covers an area between the lines joining Dunningham Point, to Craigani and Rhoad Point and to Bennand Head.

FLOW OF ALLIED SOLDIERS TO NORWAY SAID INCREASING

Paris, April 17.—The flow of Allied troops to Norway is steadily increasing it was understood here today. It was said that French as well as British troops are on their way. Some estimates placed the number of French troops at about 20,000.

lend that wisdom comes with age have never heard a college sophomore telling what is wrong with the country.

Blairmore Enterprise:—Dad Palmer, commenting on how he enjoys The Enterprise, says the paper's so soft that he often uses it when he's goin' to have a sh-sh-shave.

Sudbury Star:—Lord Haw Haw has said over the Nazi radio that the Germans were satisfied as to the progress of the war. So are the Allies, only more so.

Chesley Enterprise:—Pay of British army chaplains runs from \$2,500 to \$5,000 a year, with an allowance of \$285 for the wife. And we presume the pay is more regular than in some Canadian parishes.

Sense and Nonsense:—The petroleum supply seems to be a problem in Europe. But some of the boys seem to have a fine supply of natural gas.

Toronto Telegram:—A taxi is something which a man sees at every crook and turn until he is in a hurry to catch one for an important engagement.

N.Y., enclosing Ten Cents to cover cost of handling and mention this newspaper.

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Father and Son Meet While on Service in Britain

Kirkland Lake, April 17—Father and son, who volunteered for active service with the Canadian Army at the outbreak of war but who were separated because their services were accepted two months apart, Pte. Ray Stewart and Signaller C. J. "Buddy" Stewart have been reunited in England.

At the outset of the war in September Buddy left High School here to join the Canadian army. He was accepted only a few weeks after the declaration of war. Late in November his father Ray also was accepted but Buddy went overseas first.

Word has been received by the father's sister, Mrs. D. Martin, 8 Dixon Avenue, that the father and son had met in England, although the full details of the meeting were not stated. It was the father's wish, however, as soon as the son sailed, that they would meet in England, and the family is pleased to know that this meeting did take place. Mrs. Ray Stewart has gone to the family home at Ottawa.

Ray served in the American flying force in the last war as a mechanic. He was stationed in Texas during that period. Three brothers served overseas in the first Great War and one of them, William, lost his life at Paschen-daele in 1917.

The father is 44 years of age and the son 18 years. The father's services apparently were accepted because of his electrical trade and his good physical condition despite his age.

Sudbury Star:—"I can't stand this housecleaning. What chance has a man when his wife grabs an armful of his neckties and demands that he pick out two he wants to keep?"

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