

The Porcupine Advance

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Timmins, Ont., Monday, April 7th, 1941

THE WAR SITUATION

It was with a feeling of relief that most people heard the news over the radio yesterday that Germany had started its offensive against both Greece and Yugoslavia. Few have had any doubt as to the evil intentions of Germany in the matter. Attempted invasion of the two countries by the Nazi seemed inevitable from the very start, and the delay in the actual fighting appeared to be nothing more nor less than wearing on the nerves. Most people feel in a more cheerful and optimistic mood since the actual fighting has commenced. When the actual fighting begins people are so busy—or should be so busy—fighting, or working for the fighters that there is little time for worry. In this connection it is worth noting that ever since the war began the cheerful people have been the busy people. There has been no gloom among the soldiers. There has been no dejection among the Red Cross workers. Those who have been giving of their strength and time to patriotic causes have been sustained by optimism and courage.

The meagre reports available in regard to the fighting on the Greek and Yugoslavian borders, suggest that the battles are among the very fiercest of the present war. The proper way to look at this is to remember that it means the Nazis are finding their path effectually blocked. On the Greek front it is said that one fortified position was carried by the Germans yesterday and that the others all held. This means, of course that military strategy forces the holding up of the Nazi progress until enough fortified positions are taken to make any real advance safe for the enemy. It is well also to remember that most of the reports reaching here yesterday in regard to the progress of the invasions came either directly or indirectly from enemy sources. There were, of course, the announcements from Athens and from London, both of these, though brief, being encouraging, and indicating that all was going well. The other reports were from enemy countries or from so-called neutral sources, more or less in the control of the enemy. Berlin announcements are so notorious for their mendacity that they may be disregarded. The so-called neutral reports need not be taken too seriously.

What Canadians would do well to keep in mind is the fact that the Greek forces are strongly supported by well-armed forces from Britain, Australia and New Zealand, and perhaps from other sections of the Empire. These troops have already written glorious pages into the history of the Empire, and the popular opinion will be that where they are the Nazis will make little progress, except backward. Indeed, it would not surprise The Advance if Hitler's forces, before many weeks have passed, are not shown up as the same sort of idle braggarts as the troops of Mussolini. It may not be good policy to underestimate an enemy's strength, but it is equal folly to belittle one's own. Perhaps the most encouraging news on the air yesterday was the report that General Wavell himself was in Greece and in personal command of the British forces. His record in Africa gives all the fullest confidence in the outcome. There may be a few dark days ahead. No doubt there will be ill news to face from time to time in the next few weeks. But the final result need be cause for little anxiety. There is one thing of which all may be fully assured—that General Wavell and his men may be depended upon to the limit to give to their task all the courage and purpose of which they are capable. That in itself means the final victory. Knowing that those at the front will do their full part, those behind the lines—and it matters not how far behind—need only to do their full part to make the outcome beyond question. The message of the King, months ago, was to one and all—soldiers, sailors, airmen, munitions workers, to one and all, no matter what their place or part:—

"Put into your task whatever it may be, all the courage and purpose of which you are capable. Keep your hearts proud and your resolve unshaken. Let us go forward to that task as one man, a smile on our lips, and our heads held high, and with God's help we shall not fail."

DEFENCE OF THE NORTH

Led by Magistrate E. R. Tucker, a veteran of the last war, the people of Cochrane have been pressing upon the Government of Canada the urgent need for adequate defence measures to protect Canada's Northern Gateway from the enemy. In the matter Cochrane has been joined by the boards of trade, municipal councils and representative citizens of other parts of the North in this campaign to protect Canada from enemy attack by way of the Hudson Bay country. The Canadian Legion at Iroquois Falls is taking a prominent part in this new battle to defend the Dominion, and other branches of the Legion in the North are equally earnest in seeking to arouse

public opinion and governmental action in the matter.

On the part of a few there is a tendency to scoff at the whole question. It is said that ice blocks the Hudson Straits most of the year, and that no Nazi ships could possibly navigate the way through Hudson's Bay. Last year Magistrate Tucker took a personal trip through the Straits and saw for himself that not only does the voyage involve few hazards for skilled navigators with the necessary data, but also that there are ideal locations natural, and acquired, for landing and caring for troops and aircraft. It is a fact well authenticated that the Germans have not only the most comprehensive maps of the Hudson Bay area, but that in addition these are supported by practically innumerable photographs, some taken from the air. There are several months when the Straits and the Bay are free from ice and safe for navigation. Those inclined to scoff at the possibility of any trouble from the enemy in the far North, when forced to admit that German craft might be brought into Hudson Bay, are ready to stomp opposition with the question: "But how are the German ships to get across the seas to reach Hudson's Straits?" The answer to that one is the fact that enemy craft have been on this side of the Atlantic on several occasions.

The danger of the menace from the far North can not be lightly disregarded. It is nothing to sneer about. It was exactly that sort of superficial smartness and supposed deep knowledge—that idea that certain things were impossible and absurd—that contributed to the downfall of so many European nations. Hon. Winston Churchill some years ago was branded as a flighty alarmist for warning Britain of dangers that at the time appeared as absurd as the present thought of the invasion of Canada by way of Hudson Bay.

There was a time when the Government of Canada took that superficially "high and mighty" attitude of the impossibility of the apparently difficult. The Advance understands that today with greater information at hand the possibility of danger from the northern approach is not so lightly brushed aside. Instead, it is understood, the present-day attitude is understood to be that there are so many other calls upon Canada, so many other "fronts" to watch, that this one must be left to chance. The suggestion is even made that should the danger materialize Canada would have warning enough to take adequate measures. "The Eskimos," it is said, "will give very prompt notice of the appearance of strange aircraft in the far North, or the arrival of any foreign vessels near the Straits." The Eskimos do send word of strange happenings of any kind. A week ago they relayed information of three murders on Belcher Islands. But the murders had occurred weeks before the word reached the authorities. That sort of sentinel duty would be of little service to Canada in case of any mad attack from the far North.

It is admitted that there is little chance of a conquest of Canada from any force coming by way of Hudson Bay. But the fact remains that the most deplorable damage could be done by the enemy by an adventure of the type feared by many in Cochrane. An enemy vessel carrying aircraft could wreck mines and communities in the North, destroy power plants and do so much damage as is not heartening to consider: Canada's back door should certainly be guarded carefully and well. The Cochrane proposal is that this may be done economically and effectively by maintaining a small chain of air fields and air forces in the Hudson Bay area, joining them up with the other chain established to guard the West. As an aside, it may be said that there are some airfields already in the area referred to.

THERE ARE TOUGH SPELLS

The present war appears to have brought forth all the kindness and sympathy that seems to be inherent in the kindly people of Canada. There is generous sympathy for the direct victims of the war. There is thoughtful sympathy for the soldiers, the sailors, the airmen, in their dangerous and dreary duties. There is kindly sympathy for the Red Cross, the doctors, the nurses, the orderlies, the ambulance drivers, in their brave work of rescue and help. There is ready sympathy even for the radio announcers who have to pronounce all the strange names of men and places that the war has brought into prominence. Yes, there is even some sympathy for the editors who have to publish all the shocking names. This is a plea for sympathy for the modest linotype operators who have to set up the outlandish names and get no credit for success but all sorts of abuse for any slips that may be made. The radio operator gets by simply by muttering the name and leaving the rest to static. The editor simply looks up the strange word in the gazetteer or encyclopedia. If the first letter is right, he will eventually find the correct spelling, if he looks earnestly enough. It may be that he will need to look for Yugoslavia under "Y," and for words beginning with "W" under "V," but that is only an inconsequential detail for an editor. Even if he eventually gets the word wrong he can blame it on the linotype operator. The linotype operator, however, may mutter like a radio announcer, but that won't help the spelling of the word. He has no reference books to consult. He is supposed to "follow copy," and the copy is always right. If it is wrong it is because the linotype operator misread it. That is tradition, and the law of the Medes and the Persians that altereth not.

It would be a good thing, however, if the

linotype operators would get together and agree on the spelling of names. For instance, take that place in Eritrea that the radio operators call "Massaw." In one daily paper last week it was spelled "Massawa" and "Massaua." The Cassel's Gazetteer gave it as "Massawah." One encyclopedia had it "Massowah." Another's version was "Massauah." Perhaps the variety is due to the difference in linotype operators. The Encyclopedia Britannica adds one more to the variations. Here is part of what that distinguished reference word has to say about Massaw, Massawa, Massaua, Massawah, Massowah:—

"Massawa or Massowah, a town on the African coast of the Red Sea, chief port of the Italian colony in Eritrea. . . . Population, 12,275, including 137 Europeans. The town stands at the north end of the Bay of Massawa and is built partly on a small coral island of the same name, and partly on the islets of Tautub and Sheik Said, and the neighbouring mainland. The harbour is formed by the channel between the island and the mainland. It affords good anchorage in from 5 to 9 fathoms. . . . The town possesses several good public buildings, chiefly built of coral, as are the houses of the principal Europeans and Arab merchants. . . . Since 1912 a railway has connected Massawa with Asmara, the capital of the colony. . . . The trade consists mainly in exporting hides, butter, cotton, coffee, etc., and importing European and Indian cotton goods and silk."

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Any who may feel somewhat discouraged because the British have withdrawn from Bengazi should recall last year when they were equally grieved because General Wavell's forces



Mr. E. Plewman was a visitor to Kapuskasing last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Jarvis, and baby son, Johnny, left on Sunday to visit at their parents' homes in Toronto.

Gunnar Kallunki, in training at North Bay, spent a week-end leave with his parents in town.

Sammy Guseppi, in training for four months at North Bay, spent week-end leave at his home in town.

Earl Walden, student at Toronto University, arrived last week at his home here, and will spend the summer months in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Foster were visitors at the home of Mr. Foster's parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Foster, Halleybury.

Mrs. James Tappenden was a recent visitor to Tomstown, where she was the guest of her father, Mr. William Graham.

The tax rate at Englehart has been set this year at 57 mills, which is the same rate as last year, but three mills lower than in 1939.

Mr. Van Smyth, student at Toronto University, arrived here last week and will spend the spring and summer months in Schumacher.

Private Percy Aude, who has been stationed at Camp Borden, spent the week-end at his home, Maple street south.

Among those home on leave for the week-end from their training duties at C.A.B.T.C. No. 22, at North Bay, were: Warren Carver, Peter Moroz, Norman Rudd, Freddie De Guidice.

Messrs. Henry and Albert Kelneck, and Johnny Kolnyck, left early Sunday morning for the south, where they will spend a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Kelneck, in Thorold South.

Mrs. J. Lomas returned last week from Hamilton, where she visited friends and relatives. From Toronto to Hamilton she was accompanied by a friend, Mrs. H. Ness, of Brockville.

Mrs. Harry Bledow and Mrs. John Bledow have returned home to Golden Lake, Renfrew County, after spending a month the guest of relatives and friends in Timmins and district.

Born—At Porcupine General Hospital, South Porcupine, on Saturday, April 6th, 1941, to Mr. and Mrs. A. Brisson, 57 Rea Street North—a daughter (Joanna Evelyn).

Passion Week Services at the United Church.

Passion Week services will be held at the United Church during the present week with a general meeting on Monday, a meeting for the members of the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Sunday School on Tuesday which will be illustrated by lantern slides, and on Wednesday a Lenten Message for youth. A general invitation to all these meetings is extended to any interested. On Good Friday a service of Holy Communion will be held. All meetings will start at 7:30 p.m. On Sunday morning over ninety persons were received into the member-

seemed to be withdrawing all along the line. It developed last year that General Wavell's withdrawals were but the prelude to greater advances.

Again it is timely to ask why the Government does not utilize the air field at Porquis Junction—one of the best in Canada—for the training of airmen under the Empire Air Training Plan?

It is high time that the Government decided to treat soldiers on leave with some sort of fair play and consideration in the matter of transportation. The honourable plan would be to provide transportation for soldiers on leave. In the meantime, however, the Government should see to it that soldiers on leave should not be improperly penalized in regard to the tickets purchased from the railways with the soldiers' own money. Reports from Camp Borden are to the effect that the railways are adding to the troubles of the soldiers on leave. Some soldiers wish to purchase single fare tickets to their homes with the idea of returning by bus, the latter plan suiting the time better. The soldiers, however, are not allowed to buy single tickets. Neither can they buy a return ticket and dispose of the return part. Recently a soldier was in police court charged with the "crime" of selling the return part of his ticket which he did not wish to use, as he intended to return to camp by bus. This brings up the question as to the desirability of maintaining that discriminatory legislation in regard to the sale of railway tickets. When a man buys a suit of underwear or a radio, he can dispose of the property as he pleases. Why should there be any difference in reference to railway tickets. It is true that refunds may be secured on some tickets, but this takes unnecessary time and trouble. Now, that the railways have made an issue of this matter with the soldiers as the victims, it might be a good time to revise the law and take away this discriminatory privilege from the railways.

Federation of Men Teachers Holds Interesting Meeting

Mr. L. Murray, principal of the Timmins High and Vocational School, was guest-speaker at the regular meeting of the Men Teacher's Federation, held at the Schumacher Public School on Saturday evening. Mr. Murray chose as his subject "Let's Do Our Own Thinking," pointing out that so many people were apt to take other people's opinions, without considering matters themselves.

Among the thirty-five men present, were ten teachers from Kirkland Lake, to whom an invitation had been extended, and the business meeting was interesting and well-conducted. Mr. Dunn, of Kirkland Lake, was appointed as delegate to the general session of the Federation, to take place in Toronto at the time of the General meeting of the Ontario Educational Association (Easter week).

A well-prepared supper was served, and routine matters were discussed.

Porcupine Skating Club Carnival on April 19th and 21st

The Porcupine Skating Club Carnival will be held this year on the 19th and 21st of April at the McIntyre arena. The event will finish up all the ice activity for this year.

The dates were changed to the 19th and 21st to enable miners who were changing shifts to see one of the performances without having to miss any shift.

The guest artiste for the event is Constance Wilson Samuel, former North American champion.

Over three hundred people are in the cast and they include a large number of beautiful girls in gorgeous costumes who put on a dazzling display in rhythm and beauty and grace.

Special rates will be in effect on the T. & N. O. and N. C. R. railways.

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FOR RENT

FOR RENT—3-room heated apartment located in the Jarvis Building, Fourth Ave., rent reasonable; apply C. Desaulniers, 50½ Third Ave. 28-29

FOR RENT—Bright offices; also suitable for a beauty parlour; apply C. Desaulniers, 50½ Third Ave. 28-29

LOTS FOR SALE

LOTS FOR SALE—Eleven residential lots; priced from \$450 up. E. W. "Gene" Gladstone, 208 Sky Block, phone 2135. 28-29

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED, by the Childrens Aid Society, families willing to give homes on a boarding basis to Protestant children 10 to 14 years of age. If interested, phone 855, or call at Room 4, Municipal Building, Timmins. 60-621f

MORTGAGE SALE

Under and by virtue of the powers contained in a certain mortgage which will be produced at the time of sale, there will be offered for sale by Public Auction on Friday, April 25th, 1941, at the hour of 2 o'clock in the afternoon at the offices of E. C. Brewer, Limited, 3 Pine Street North, Timmins, Ontario, the following property namely:

Being in the Town of Timmins, and known as the Westerly 44 feet of Lot 21, according to Plan M-47 (Temiskaming) now deposited in the office of Land Titles at Cochrane.

There is said to be a two family residence on the said lands and also a small house at the rear of the said lot.

The sale shall be subject to a reserved bid and subject to a first mortgage.

TERMS: Ten per cent. of the purchase money to be paid down at the time of sale, and the balance to be paid within ten days thereafter.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to E. C. Brewer Limited, Auctioneers.

DATED this 28th day of March A. D. 1941.

HERMAN MOSCOE,
Solicitor for the Mortgagee,
Schumacher, Ontario,
28-28-30.



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Corroboration Required in Divorce Proceedings

At Supreme Court sittings in Halleybury last week, Mr. Justice Atsile Greene adjourned an application for divorce because the testimony of the alleged misconduct of the man in the case was not corroborated. "I am not suggesting that there is any collusion in this case," said His Lordship, "but certain practices must be followed in such cases." He added that to grant decrees on uncorroborated evidence of one of the parties of the case would be "the simplest door to illicit divorce." There were two other decrees granted, the plaintiff in each case residing at Kirkland Lake and the defendant at Timmins.

Police Lay Another Charge of Careless Driving Here

Gustave Kesota, who gave his address as 50 First Avenue, Schumacher, was charged by police late Friday night with careless driving. The man was driving a Dodge car and it is alleged that he turned the corner at Spruce and Third too fast.

A couple of vagrancy charges were laid by police on Friday night and another couple were charged with infractions of the Traffic By-law.