

## Canadian Interference Squad Adds Much to Listeners' Joy

### Fleet of 11 Cars Runs Down and Eliminates Man-Made Static—Listening Tax Pays Upkeep

Eleven automobiles patrolling Canada from Vancouver to Halifax bear on their doors this legend—Interference Car, Radio Branch, Department of Marine and Fisheries. Each car is specially built and furnished with the most sensitive radio receivers and with the cars constitute the ever-watchful Radio Interference Section of the Radio Branch, Department of Marine and Fisheries—the only organization of its kind in the world.

Two years ago, after a number of preliminary tests had proven successful, a staff of one engineer and three electricians was appointed to deal with radio interference from power lines and electrical apparatus. An automobile was equipped with special instruments and sent on tour in Ontario and Quebec. In three months the two radio electricians with this car carried out investigations of interference in 100 towns and villages. Two hundred and three cases of interference were handled, of which 124 were immediately eliminated and the majority of the others ceased to annoy radio listeners as a result of follow up correspondence between the listeners, the owners of the electrical apparatus causing the interference and the radio branch.

Such has been the success of this section of the radio branch from the very first that the following year five cars were in continuous service throughout eastern Canada. With headquarters at Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto, these cars covered their districts thoroughly. Three more cars have been added this year, one for Vancouver, another for Winnipeg and a third for London, Ontario.

Typical of the cases submitted to this interference squad is that of the little town of Orillia, at the head of Lake Simcoe, in Ontario. A complaint was recently sent in to the Toronto radio inspector that terrific radio interference was making radio reception almost impossible. The radio interference car was quickly prepared and Inspector S. J. Ellis, with his assistant left for Orillia, about 80 miles north of Toronto.

On coming within view of the town, Mr. Ellis was greatly impressed with the vast number of trees in and about the community. In fact he fervently believes that there isn't another town with such a distinguished entry. The trees proved to be more than that.

Usually inspection for this sort of interference is done on foot, where a long road has to be investigated the car is used. A receiver, loop aerial and phones are carried by the hunter, the receiver being slung over the shoulder by means of a strap and the loop carried in the hand. Then as a noise is heard on the phones it is tuned in and hunted till it is loudest. This vicinity is then thoroughly searched and the source of trouble quickly found in this manner.

#### Wires Touched Trees

Following this system, Mr. Ellis began hunting for inductive interference on reaching Orillia. He did not have to go far. Coming under some

of the trees a faint sizzling was heard in the earphones. Without the aid of radio this was also to be heard, although very faintly. On investigating it was discovered that in a number of places throughout the town high voltage lines carrying 2200 volts for the electrical consumption of Orillia were touching the trees in various places. As soon as the wires were separated from these branches the trouble ceased. As a result, wherever this condition was found branches were sawn off. To-day Orillia is still a town of trees, but radio reception is excellent.

Each automobile is equipped with a superheterodyne receiver with direction finding loop and volume control. Six and seven tube superheterodynes are used, mounted in a special portable cabinet, which is connected by means of a multiwire cable plug to a second cabinet containing batteries and accessories. This receiver is sufficiently sensitive to record a noise due to a fault on a distributing system many miles away. In fact it was used many recently to locate faults on power lines situated in one case 15 miles away and in the other four miles distant.

The notable feature in these receivers lies in the fact that they may be used while the automobile is traveling at a moderate rate of speed. The interference from the ignition system of the car produces usually a sound in the receiver which is characteristically different from that produced by the power line, so that this type of interference if not too great is not objectionable.

In addition a portable superheterodyne receiver is carried and used in special tests where the two receivers are required. A portable three-tube regenerative receiver, complete with batteries and especially designed to be carried by one man, is also part of the equipment of the car. The last named set is used with a loop or various types of exploring coils for special investigations in power houses and places inaccessible to a car.

The tubes used in all these sets are the tiny "peanut" tubes manufactured only in Canada. They stand but two inches high and notwithstanding that are most excellent tubes.

That this service is provided in the Dominion may seem strange but the listener in Canada is due some help in his reception of radiocast music, when interference would otherwise spoil it for him. An annual license is required by every owner of a radio receiver, the charge being \$1. With these dollars amounting to over \$125,000 during the fiscal year from April 1, 1925, to March 31, 1926, the radio interference cars with their trained staffs of two radio electricians are paid, and a number of other means of improving radio reception for the listeners are made possible.

The work of the interference section is considered to have amply justified both its establishment and its continuance on a more extensive scale in the future. — Christian Science Monitor.

## Painleve Forbids Saint-Cyr Hazing

### Serious Accident at French Military School Ends Picturesque Tradition

Saint-Cyr.—Paul Painleve, Minister of War, will not tolerate hazing even in the mild form in which it is practiced at French military schools. A serious accident to a pupil at Saint-Cyr, which is France's Royal Military College, has brought down the Ministerial thunder and ended forever a picturesque tradition.

It has been the custom as long as anybody can remember for the seniors to invade the dormitory of the newest arrivals in the dead of night and make them rise and pass in mock review. One of the new men in getting out of bed failed to see a trap door which had been left open so that the seniors could make a hasty getaway in case an officer appeared. The victim fell through the open door and fractured his skull. His condition is serious.

M. Painleve has circularized all the schools forbidding, under the penalty of dismissal, the continuance of such practices. In addition General Collin, Commandant of Saint-Cyr, sent seventeen students involved in the hazing to serve as common privates in various regiments.

Walking Cane  
"Where is my cane? Wherever I stand, when I look for it, it's gone."  
"Well, it's a walking cane, isn't it?"

## England's Guest



Ancient enmity and mutual suspicion will be buried when Amanullah Khan, Amir of Afghanistan, will be the guest of King George for three days during early December. Afghanistan is now a friendly buffer-state between the Indian empire and Soviet Russia.

## Sea Raider Turns Pacifist

### Skipper of "Seadler" is in States to Lecture on Peace

Count Felix Von Luckner, better known as the "Sea Devil," who became a modern buccaner as a Lieutenant Commander in the German Navy during the war and with his disguised windjammer ravaged allied shipping, has turned peace crusader. He has come to the United States to lecture, particularly at schools and colleges, until December. Peace is his theme, though he rams it home with burly gestures and exclamations delivered with all the force of his huge physique.

The transformation from buccaner to advocate of international accord might have seemed unexplainable but for his unusual career. On the face of it, his war record appears almost bloodthirsty. With a small crew and a mere three-masted windjammer, the Seadler, in a day of fast, power-driven ocean greyhounds, he sailed through the British ships blockading Germany, undergoing careful inspection, and roved the sea at will, capturing ship after ship of the allied merchant marine and sending 68,000 tons of it to the bottom. He traveled 64,000 miles, though ships of the allied navies were searching for him everywhere, and he sank 58,000 tons of precious saltpetre the Allies wanted for ammunition.

#### Never Killed a Man.

Yet this strange buccaner makes the proud boast that he never killed a man. He took every member of every crew he captured, he says, and held all captives as guests aboard his ship. As many as five crews were on board at one time.

"The Seadler, in fact," said Count von Luckner, telling his story, "was not armed. She was a bluff. She had wicked-looking holes under her deck, threatening her onlookers with deadly broadsides. The enemies with their cannons saw an antique muzzle-loader made in 1817, which was made to look extra dangerous by being covered with a painted barrel.

We attacked only merchant ships. We sailed under a Norwegian flag, and, posing as a lumber ship, we would run up close to the prey, bearing signals telling the other Captain that we had a message to deliver. When our quarry came to a stop, the Seadler would draw up alongside and launch a small boat.

"The small boat would have only five men in her, but they were husky. One had been a successful German prizefighter, another an accomplished wrestler, and the other three were worthy companions. As they arrived on deck, supposedly to deliver their message, the whole five would suddenly throw off their coats, showing themselves stripped to the waists, ready for rough action.

"Two watchers on the Seadler were aloft, meanwhile, waiting to add the final touch. As the boarding party threw off their coats, these two lookouts would suddenly boom out through megaphones, as if giving orders to our crew: 'Clear for torpedoes!'

"The effect would be instantaneous. The men of the merchant crews, illiterate for the most part would be taken by surprise by the proceeding. When the last cry came, they would rush to the rail, waving their hands in surrender. Then we would take them aboard the Seadler, commandeer any supplies we needed, and send another few thousand tons of the precious merchant marine of the Allies to the bottom."

"Crickets is a dry game," says an American visitor. He evidently hasn't seen it played in England this summer. London Opinion.

A door-knocker is missing from Windsor Castle. One theory is that an American took it as a souvenir because the authorities refused to sell him the building.—London Humorist.

## Winning Poem on Lindbergh's Flight

### Schoolgirl Gets \$500 Prize for "Wings of Lead" in Kennerly Contest

#### 4,000 MSS. SUBMITTED

Nathalia Crane, the 14-year-old Brooklyn school girl "whose poem, 'The Janitor's Boy,' aroused a controversy a year ago," was announced recently as the winner of the \$500 prize offered by Mitchell Kennerly for the best poem on Lindbergh's flight to Paris. Nathalia's sixty lines of swinging verse, entitled "Wings of Lead," was adjudged the best from among 4,000 manuscripts submitted by 3,000 contestants from every State in the Union, from Canada, England, France, Germany, Italy and even Monaco.

Nathalia, now in her second year at the Brooklyn Heights Seminary, had no thought of winning a prize when she started her poem on Lindbergh's flight last May on the day that he landed in Paris, and it was not until her composition was well along toward completion, she said, that she learned of the competition.

#### Says Flier Saw a Vision.

On the night that Lindbergh was flying through her darkness somewhere east of Newfoundland, as the girl lay awake thinking of the flier and his audacity, she called out to her mother:

"He saw a vision. He accepted a challenge from the gods."

Mrs. Crane did not know what the child was talking about, and Nathalia, a bit surprised, told her. The next morning she told her parents that she thought she would write a poem about the flight, and set about developing an outline. On June 12 Mr. Kennerly announced the competition and Mr. Farrar suggested to Nathalia that she enter it. "The Wings of Lead" was then nearing completion, and Nathalia, who had been busy on her second novel, set to work and finished it. She explained what she meant by "Wings of Lead."

"Why, 'wings of lead' signify the impossible," she said. "You see, Lindbergh just came in unknown and said he would do it, and every one said 'ridiculous, impossible.' Then he did it; he did the impossible."

#### Poem in Kipling's Style.

Nathalia's poem is in the Kipling manner, a narrative of the flight, a picture first of the gods looking down on a dull world and deciding to stimulate it to extraordinary achievement. To their challenge Lindbergh made answer:

And then one night there landed on a  
Minoela swale  
A plane that looked like pewter, with  
a carrier of mail.

Its wings were tinged like tea-box  
skins, each truss of shadow-  
gray.  
Its cabin had an alcove slung beneath  
a metal ray.

The Spirit of St. Louis was inscribed  
upon the lee;  
It came from out a province that had  
never seen the sea.

The pilot entered for the course, the  
quarter quadrant glide—  
To fly the full Atlantic and the tag  
ends of the tide.

He listed in as "Lindbergh" just one  
pace behind the ranks;  
He had a moon-stained paddle and  
some star gas in his tanks.

A chemist from Olympus with a ladle  
nicked the rays;  
He said the ore was purer than it was  
in Caesar's days.

Invisible, he passed the word, the  
barograph was sealed—  
A plane with leaden wings went down  
the Minoela field.

It rose and fell and rose again and  
then attained to breath—  
The trapezoid of the bubble when the  
bubble goes to death.

And somewhere near to noontime as  
the fishers turned to scan,  
They saw a pearl-gry monoplane  
slide east of Grand Manan.

A single-motored miracle, a lead mine  
on each flank;  
Below a shadow swept and awed the  
hundred-fathom bank.

Upon a billow rocked and cheered a  
lanterned spindle buoy,  
The off-shore bells were chanting for  
the Spirit of St. Louis;

For o'er the darkened deep there flew  
a carrier of mail,  
His engine drunk with star gas and  
berserk in the fall.

He made the course the gods had set,  
the quarter quadrant glide,  
He flew the dull Atlantic and the tag  
ends of the tide.

Foolish.  
A Dutchman who has deposited a  
dollar in a savings bank says at the  
end of 500 years it will amount to  
\$2,500,000. But by that time he'll be  
too old to get any fun out of it.

Every cloud has a silver lining,  
and even an old suit of clothes has  
its shiny side.

Red tape should never be, but unfortunately sometimes is, of the adhesive variety.

## King George Shoots Venison for Feast

### Windsor, England—King George himself shot the royal buck which was served this year at the annual venison banquet tendered by the Windsor City Corporation.

The custom of the King providing the deer for the feast is of ancient origin, but it is rare that the King personally has done the killing.

The Prince of Wales, high steward of the royal Borough of Windsor, accepted the Mayor's invitation to the dinner, which was held October 27.

## Britain's Naval Policy Defined By H. W. Stead

### "We Shall Not Enter Into Competition With You," Editor Tells America

New York.—The growing need for international friendship and understanding and the declaration that Great Britain would not tolerate a policy of naval rivalry with the United States, was stressed by H. Wickham Stead, publisher of the Review of Reviews of London and formerly editor of The Times of London, at a dinner given in his honor in New York.

A tenet of international friendship which, comparable to the Monroe Doctrine, would establish the United States as a "peace loving" nation, was urged upon this country by Mr. Stead. He declared that the collapse of the Geneva arms limitation conference in no way reflected the real British attitude toward America.

The British Cabinet failed to consider the broader questions involved in the Geneva conference, Mr. Stead said. He placed the blame for the failure at the door of the British Ministry, which permitted its deliberations to be conducted by an admiralty rather than a diplomatic group.

#### Promotion of World Peace.

The possibility of armed conflict with the United States lies entirely outside of the outlook of the British people on the naval question," Mr. Stead said.

"As far as we are concerned the seas are free for you to put on them, if you wish, the biggest navy the world has ever seen. The only question for us is that of determining the minimum requirements of the safety of our trade routes—which we never expect you to threaten—and how far that minimum can still further be reduced by a sound and constructive policy of world peace.

"You may take it that, however you solve your own naval question, whatever the number and tonnage of the cruisers and eventually of the battleships you may decide to build, however large the sums which you may appropriate of the purpose, we shall not enter into competition with you."

## His Majesty's Plum Pudding

### Ingredients Come From The Empire. Combined Symbolizes Colonies and Dominions Goodwill

London.—King George will take Christmas dinner with his whole Empire this year. His plum pudding is to be made entirely of ingredients produced in the Empire and is to be of heroic size and flavor. It will contain the following:

Five pounds each of Australian currants and raisins, 5 pounds of stoned South African raisins, 1½ pounds of minced Canadian apples, 5 pounds of English bread crumbs, 5 pounds of New Zealand beef suet, 2 pounds of South African cut candied peel, 2½ pounds of English flour, 2½ pounds of West Indian sugar, 20 Irish Free State eggs, 2 ounces of ground Ceylon cinnamon, 1½ ounces of Zanzibar ground cloves, 1½ ounces of Straits Settlements ground nutmegs, one teaspoon of pudding spice from India, 1 gill of Cyprus brandy, 2 gills of Jamaica rum and 2 quarts of old English beer.

## NEW RADIO BEACON

The first Canadian radio beacon on the Great Lakes has been established at the Southeast Shoal, Lake Ontario, by the Canadian Government. It transmits on a wave length of 1,000 meters during thick or foggy weather every 150 seconds groups of 1 dot and 3 dashes for 60 seconds and silent 90 seconds.

A new radio beacon is soon to be established at La Point Light Station, on the south side of Lake Superior, by the U.S. Government and will transmit every 150 seconds groups of 4 dashes for 60 seconds, silent 120 seconds.

Every cloud has a silver lining, and even an old suit of clothes has its shiny side.

## To Solve Mystery

### The Fugitive Aurora Borealis Faces An International Quiz

A campaign more than ever resolute is now under way to rob the aurora borealis of its secrets. For centuries this strange phenomenon has fired the imagination of scientists and of late years much valuable data have been organized. But a great deal remains to be learned. The effort has now been made international in scope. At a recent meeting of the International Geodetic and Geographical Union, held in Prague, Czechoslovakia, it was decided that the cooperation of all nations should be solicited in the quest of running these beautiful, mysterious and, in certain respects, these mischievous Northern Lights to their lair.

Mischiefive, yet. The present offensive waged by specialists of many lands is not altogether a matter of scientific curiosity, for in this age of electrical expansion the Northern Lights represent frequently an inimical force of greater or less potency—principally less, of course, though they can, on occasion, play very queer and sometimes rather disconcerting pranks. Only the other day it was reported that the aurora borealis had been caught upstating telegraph operations—charging the wires with excess electricity and making it impossible for a time, over a certain area, to send any messages.

According to N. H. Heck, who was an American delegate to the meeting in Prague, "Dr. Carl Staermer, famous scientist of Norway, reported interesting experiments in photographing the aurora against stars. Plans were worked out or more effective use of magnetic methods in studying underground formations."

Sir Frederic Stupart of Canada was elected a member for North America to serve on a newly formed international committee whose work it will be to conduct special studies of the aurora borealis. So the campaign is well under way and results may reward this new effort. It is not thought likely, however, that even with international mass formation and the aid of all the resources of modern science this ancient wild spirit of the North can be brought to bay without a prolonged struggle.

## How About Head Tax?

### Maine Is Threatened By Bears From Canada, Trapper Says

Dover-Foxcroft, Maine.—Maine is threatened by an invasion of marauders from the Gaspé Peninsula in Quebec, if the observations of a veteran trapper of this region are correct.

Bears which he has examined this Fall he says strongly resemble a variety peculiar to the Gaspé Peninsula, where he has had many years' experience in trapping. Their heads, he explains, are of a different shape from those of bears commonly found in Maine.

He figures that the Gaspé bears are migrating to this State, possibly on account of extensive railroad building operations in the district where they have previously thrived. We wonder if Washington will institute the recent quota ruling against these Boys. —(Ed.)

#### Will Have the Last Word

They say it is wool loss or freeze for the women this winter, but bless 'em, we'll bet the girls show their independence by refusing both.—Atchison Globe.

#### Magnanimous

Henry Ford hasn't built any cars for quite a spell. Evidently he is waiting for his rivals to catch up far enough to make it a sporting race.

#### One Advantage

Presidential candidates in Mexico can't be bothered much by life insurance solicitors.



#### Hot Weather Hunch

"That fellow thinks nothing of flirting with death."  
"Why, what does he do?"  
"Well, everybody he meets he asks: 'Is it hot enough for you?'"

Elinor Glyn, another of "Three Weeks," says that reporters are "snakes," robbingly if they were puff adders it would be all right.

Mussolini has abolished celebrations, explaining that they distract the attention of the authorities, waste time and weary the public. It is to be hoped that no overenthusiastic follower of Il Duce will start a movement for an annual celebration of this great step.

## Puts Levine in Ne

### Trans-Atlantic Fly Considered a Jew Pe a Clown Really

#### SAVED U.S. 47

Nathan S. Jones, President of the Manufacturers' Trust speaking recently at a luncheon to Charles A. Levine, a trans-Atlantic air pilot, said that the flight of the latter was a "clown really."

Brooklyn at Sherrill, announced that as to the trans-Atlantic business he had no York to know that the slightest blench or contact as a business.

Denouncing "Senator Levine's first was not Federal Government," the details of those "knowing that Mr. Levine not wish to be seduced, but in simple justice."

"When he was 35 he ran a dollar business venture," the banker received the idea of Government from some of the metal in the war. He salvaged it and sold it at 50 per cent of its value, which was not all new. Under this contract he obtained \$7,000,000 in gain of that amount.

"Mr. Levine is entitled credit in the world for doing something and through which even the experts themselves had of. As banker and friend, Mr. Levine is a pioneer of not always credit that is due them."

Mr. Jones also reveals Levine was the donor of the Jewish Hospital at its building purpose of a sign.

"It was an advertisement didn't want it however, his modesty," he said, stand it has already been.

## Why We Call 'Cops'

### London Ex-Inspector Turns Etymology Digs Up Tale a Copper Va

London.—Who is a cop? a "cop" or a "copper," named in England, when ed a "bobby"? The term had been lost in antiquity until an ex-inspector of London police, Allen, revealed it, as he is in a letter to the London.

The policeman, he tells world, takes his sibilant kitchen copper, the name without which no English used to be complete. Age ago according to certain policemen was a cook in her mistress's kitchen as she was devaluing a mistress was heard say "Robert," in dinner, was the "copper." The police mediate orders that the copper be lighted for the which caused lively. From that day until this contents, the word "cop" abbreviation "copper" associated with the police.

Mr. Allen supports pointing out that he is aged 50. South London has called "The Jew" in the door of which was an depicting the alleged student.

## FOUR MEN CAST TO FACE FIRING

### Youngest of Bolivia President's Must Draw Fatal Ballot

La Paz, Bolivia.—Four victed of the assassination of General Jose Manuel Pando, President of Bolivia, were to select the one who for the murder.

The youngest of the 28 drew black balls amidst a deluge of spectators and the stoical of the condemned.

Jauriquegui protesting his right to the court to make his execution by a firing said that he would not be fardan. An appeal, however, had been made to the President's behalf.

The daughters of the General were present. They were convinced of the fog men.

"When Donald proposed a life a fit out of course. He knew he was