

U. S. Population Now 150,362,326

Represents An Increase of 8.6 Per Cent in Past Ten Years — Includes Overseas Possessions

The U. S. census bureau late in Nov. placed the total population of the United States, its territories and possessions at 150,362,326.

This represented an increase of 11,923,257, or 8.6 per cent. over the 1930 census, on the basis of preliminary figures.

The population in the territories and possessions, the bureau reported, had increased three times as rapidly during the past decade as it had on the mainland.

The continental United States population previously had been placed at 131,409,831, an increase of 7 per cent. The population of territories and possessions, excluding the Philippine Islands, was placed at 2,596,445, a gain of 445,422 or 20.7 per cent.

The Philippine Islands count, an estimate based on censuses taken in January, 1939, and December, 1918, was 16,356,000, an increase of 2,843,000 or 21 per cent.

The great increase recorded for the outlying group was 31.3 per cent. in the Panama Canal zone. The Virgin Islands had the smallest gain, 13.1 per cent.

New Ordnance Chief



Victor W. Sifton of Winnipeg has been appointed as acting master-general of the ordnance branch of the defence department, succeeding P. A. Chester, who will return to his post as general manager of the Hudson's Bay Co. Mr. Sifton will serve without salary and, like Mr. Chester, will serve as a civilian in the defence department post.

VOICE OF THE PRESS

GOOD HUNTING DOWN HERE
Hunters go away up north to shoot game while the cutest things in furs are seen everywhere walking along the streets right here.
—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

NEEDED ON HIGHWAYS
The railways have succeeded in reducing accidents to a minimum by the co-operation of all their employees in Safety First. Those boys ought to be out on the highways for awhile.
—Oshawa Times.

NOT ABOVE THE LAW
The very worst thing that could happen to law enforcement in this country would be for the impression to get abroad that soldiers are immune from prosecution by the civil authorities and that the only tribunal qualified to try them is a military one. That idea exists to some extent already and it would be unfortunate indeed if it were to gain strength.
—Peterborough Examiner.

NEWSPAPERS ARE HISTORY
The newspaper is current history. Fifty years from now no man would dare to write a history of this moment without studying our newspapers, for from no other source could he get such an accurate day-by-day record of what is taking place. If it weren't for newspapers the public would be sadly misinformed, for all it would have to go by would be what somebody thought they heard over the radio.
—Brandon Sun.

Biscuit, Aged 78

What is believed to be the world's oldest biscuit is owned by W. D. Hudgens, of Luverne, Alabama. It was baked in Alabama in 1862 by Joseph Hudgens, a soldier in the Confederate Army.

Saving Ontario's Natural Resources

By G. C. TONER
Federation of Ontario Anglers (NO. 19)

OUR NATIVE TROUT

Mention trout to the average angler and he thinks of only two kinds, the native speckled trout and the native lake trout. If the angler has fished elsewhere the word "trout" will recall to his mind other kinds; perhaps rainbow trout of the West; steelheads of the Pacific coast or brown trout of New York or Pennsylvania. However, there are in Ontario no fewer than three introduced non-native species and four indigenous kinds.

The non-native species are the rainbow, the steelhead or brown, the rainbow trout, originally lived in the mountains of western North America in the fast rivers and streams. In Ontario they are found in several rivers flowing into the Georgian Bay and Lake Superior and in some northern Ontario streams. The steelhead trout is not a true species for most biologists now regard it as a sea-going rainbow trout. This last has a tendency to run downstream after spawning and where the rivers are short, as on the Pacific coast, they sometimes reach the sea where they find plenty of food.

And Non-Natives
The steelhead is a rainbow trout that lives permanently in salt water except when on the spawning runs into the river. Both the United States Bureau of Fisheries and the Ontario Game and Fisheries Department have planted steelheads in Great Lakes waters where they have largely reverted to the rainbow type from which they are indistinguishable.

The brown trout is a native of northern Europe. Two varieties have been widely introduced into the streams and lakes of eastern United States and Canada. Most of the original stock came from Germany, hence the name "German brown," but some lots of eggs came from Loch Leven in Scotland where a somewhat different variety of brown trout was native. These Scottish fish are known as "Loch Leven trout" but are indistinguishable after one or two generations in our waters.

SCOUTING . . .

17,000 used medicine bottles of the desired size were collected by the Boy Scouts of Saint John, N.B., for the district hospital unit of the R.C.A.M.C.

A number of British Scout Troops have suffered the loss of their meeting places "through enemy action." In one recent week two Troop Headquarters were struck by German bombs and reduced to ashes.

Not forgetting, in spite of the war, the Scout's promise to be kind to animals, the 1st Harmondsworth Boy Scout Troop, England, has converted its cycle trek-cart into an animal ambulance, and is helping look after animals, particularly cats and dogs, injured during air raids.

Wide publication in Canada of a Louisville, Ky., dispatch announcing that two experimental troops of Air Scouts were to be organized by the Boy Scouts of America brought inquiries concerning such plans for Canada.

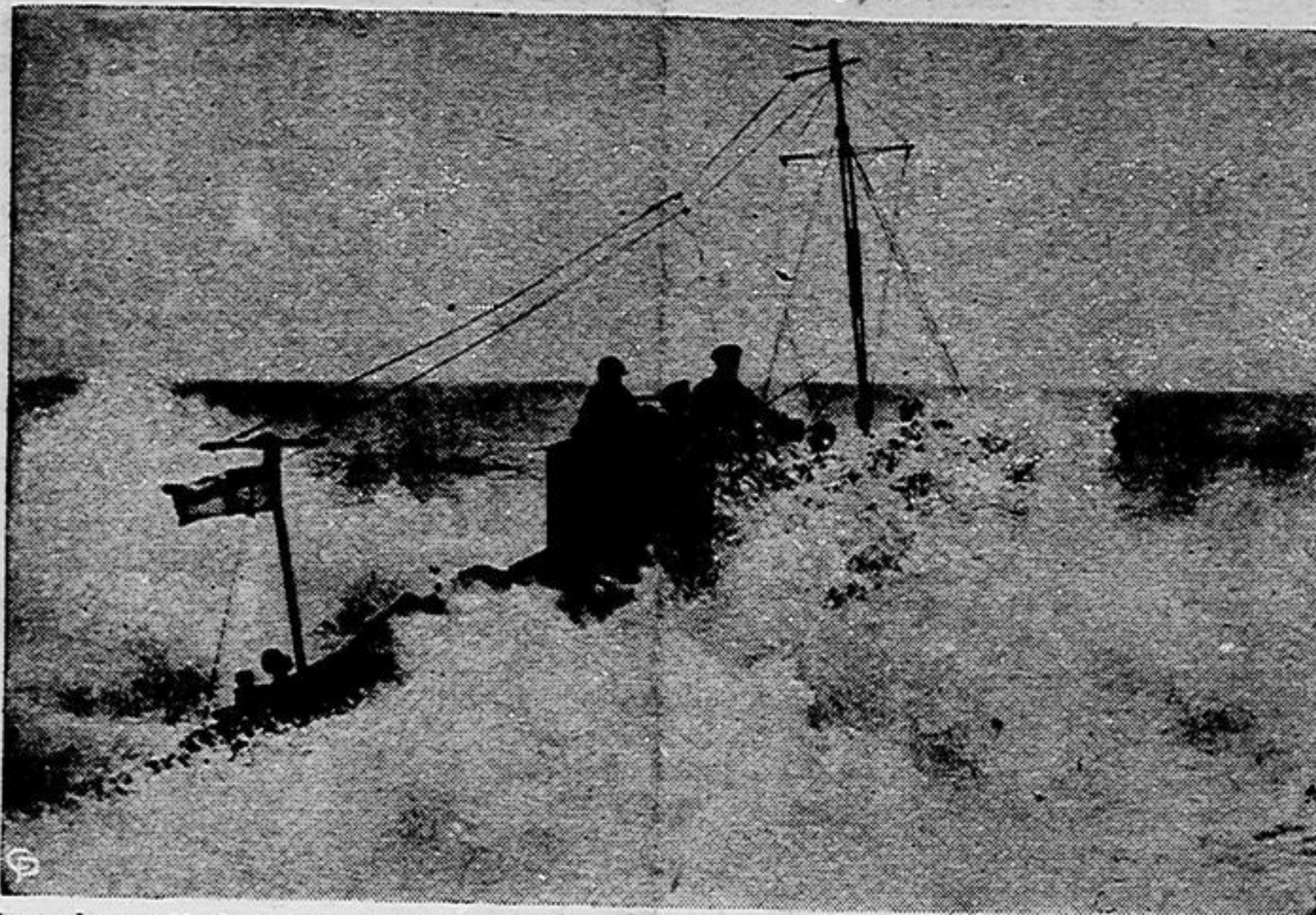
There is no intention of teaching Canadian Boy Scouts to fly. Two new Scout Airman Proficiency Badges recently inaugurated, the "Flying Lions," were adopted with the object of generally instructing Scouts in the principles of aviation, but particularly with the purpose of qualifying them to give landing directions and other aid to flyers circling to find an emergency landing place. Special attention in the instructions is given to procedure to be followed and help to be rendered in case of an airplane crash.

Correspondence Music School Progresses

The Correspondence Conservatory of Music, Toronto, has received many enrollments from musical aspirants throughout Canada. Its progress is due to the unique musical courses written by Canada's most outstanding musician-teachers.

A private in the Royal Sussex Regiment is claimed to be the oldest soldier in the British Army. When he enlisted in a home defence unit at the outbreak of war, he gave his age as 64; he was really 69.

Torpedo Boats Help Patrol English Coast



Somewhere off the coast of England, this torpedo boat is really making the spray fly as it speeds along on patrol duty. So high does the water leap that it obscures the lines of the craft and gives it the appearance of a submarine. Scores of these tiny craft are doing a full-size job in protecting Britain from raiders.

THE WAR-WEEK—Commentary on Current Events

BULGARIA MAKES STAND; BALKAN TENSION DROPS

When the Bulgarian government, fortified by the backing of Russia, refused to sign up as No. 7 in the German-Italian-Japanese-Hungarian-Rumanian-Slovak axis, the democratic world breathed easier. Hitler's plans for a quick push down into Greece were effectively scotched; his Near East drive was stalled within 200 miles of the Dardanelles, while Axis-partner Mussolini's legions floundered about in Albania.

How Long A "Breather"?
There was unqualified relief in Sofia, where a government official declared that "it now appears certain to us Bulgaria will not be involved in war this winter." Nevertheless the most optimistic observers there believed that only a temporary respite was being afforded by the "Bulgarian breathing spell," that the Greek-Italian war would inevitably spread to involve the remaining Balkan countries. How long could Yugoslavia resist Axis advances? How long could Turkey stay out if Greece found herself in serious difficulties under a new Italian counter-offensive?

Air War Grows Fiercer
If Balkan tension relaxed last week, the same could not be said of the state of affairs in the Battle of Britain. Both sides intensified their air bombardments (the R. A. F. launched terrific attacks on German and Italian war factories, ports, railway centres, supply bases; English towns and industrial centres underwent merciless treatment by the Luftwaffe). According to the British version, damage to Germany's industrial machine was much heavier and far more concentrated than anything the Nazis had been able to accomplish in England. Both sides suffered heavily, wrote Edward Beattie Jr. of the Associated Press, but England could count on the advantage of Canadian and other Empire production and a growing stream of new planes, guns and shells from the United States. At the worst, England could even move her factories to Canada, while Germany had only the doubtful and difficult possibility of transferring her war plants to Russia.

Invasion Still Possible
Some experts in London last week held the view that growing British war strength, especially in bombers, and prospects for greatly increased American aid, might cause Hitler to abandon other plans in favor of invasion of Britain this winter. Profiting by the period of heavy fog which greatly restricts flying activities, the Germans might be tempted to risk an invasion without the usual air preparations, counting on the element of surprise and the difficulty of dislodging their troops once firmly entrenched. Hitler, they evidently believed, might be feeling that the risk of a winter invasion was now

less than that of a Mediterranean adventure; that if he waited till spring, he might be too late.

"We Must Have Ships"
Hitler's use of long-range bombers, operating from Brest in an attempt to cancel-out American help by blockading Atlantic shipping lanes still constituted a most serious menace to the British war effort—one which was evidently uppermost in the minds of Britain's war leaders last week. Ronald Cross, British minister of shipping, said in a broadcast that Britain was "anxious to get more ships built overseas. We are looking primarily to the shipyards of the United States. . . . We must have ships—our life here and the issues which hang on our having enough ships are so tremendous we cannot make too sure of our shipping position in the months and years ahead. . . . By themselves, the resources of the Empire are not enough."

U. S. Loans in Offing
Lord Lothian, British Ambassador to Washington, who returned to the U. S. last week, when asked if his report on Britain's position was optimistic, replied: "Optimistic, provided that we get help from you." The Ambassador told newsmen that financial assistance from the U. S. for Great Britain was one of the problems to be met "in the first half" of the new year, but that it could wait for action by the new Congress which convenes in January. (It was well-known in both London and Washington that before the loans could be made to Great Britain, Congress would have to repeal or amend the Johnson Act which bans credits to countries which defaulted on their First Great War debts; and the Neutrality Act, which for its loans to belligerent nations.)

Japan After Singapore?
Meantime, the United States continued to link its own defense with that of Britain's on an increasingly larger scale. Forty-six of the world's most powerful bombers were released for use by British airmen; and public endorsement began to be sought, for "total aid" to Britain.

Japs After Singapore
By contrast, the United States' relations with Japan did not improve, as Japan gave more and more indication of preparations to flout American interests in the Far East. Withdrawing almost all troops from China's southern provinces, Japan renewed pressure on French Indo-China, demanding air and naval bases, including Saigon, most important French port in the Orient. In these they were aided by Thailand. ("Time" magazine, Nov. 25, said: "South of France's naval base at Camranh Bay, south of Hong Kong, south of Manila, Saigon dominates the sea lanes from all these points to Singapore.")

Revenue freight loaded at railway stations in Canada and received from foreign connections during July, 1940, amounted to 8,943,065 tons compared with 6,274,181 tons in July, 1939, an increase of more than 40 per cent.

SIROIS REPORT: ITS BACKGROUND

Momentous Decisions, Made Upon Its Recommendations, Will Affect All the People of Canada

This is the first of a series of articles on the significance of the Rowell-Sirois Commission and its report. They will stress particularly the effects of its implementation on our farm and rural population.

On January 14th, a Dominion-Provincial Conference opens at Ottawa to discuss the recommendations of the Rowell-Sirois Commission.

What is the background of this Commission? How did it come into being? What conditions did it uncover in its two and a half years of inquiry?

These are questions many Canadians are asking. Momentous decisions, — for action or against action, for this reform or for that reform—will be made in the coming months. These concern every tax-payer, because they affect his pocket-book. They interest every Canadian because they affect the whole present basis of Confederation and will influence many of the future trends in social welfare, national development and the standard of living.

Grew Out of Crisis

The Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations — to give its full title — grew out of grave financial and social conditions created in Canada by the financial burden of the last depression, falling unequally on the various governments.

The collapse in 1929 and subsequent years is too well remembered to need recalling in detail. Mass unemployment on a vast and prolonged scale appeared for the first time in Canadian history. Family resources of the unemployed were soon exhausted. Work became impossible, for many thousands, to obtain. Private and church charity were soon overwhelmed. Governments had to step in.

Plight of Municipalities.
The hardest-hit municipalities soon came to the end of their tether. They tried to increase taxes, but revenues fell rapidly in spite of heavier imposts. They tried to provide work for the unemployed, but this involved expenditures they could not finance. They cut essential services to the bone and into the bone. They borrowed to bridge the gap between revenue and expenditures.

Still unemployment increased. Destitute people required food, clothing, shelter, medical and dental care, schooling, civic services of various kinds. They had to be supplied at least with the minimum necessities of life. Municipalities in the wheat areas of the West found them-

Thumbs Up!



Their faces reflecting determined courage, two London boys are shown as they left a bomb shelter for a bus scheduled to carry them to the comparative safety of the English countryside. Their home was destroyed in a German air raid.

selves in similar plight due to crop failure and the partial or complete loss of income of their residents and tax-payers.

When municipalities had borrowed to the limit, and their credit was gone, they had to approach senior governments for grants, or loans.

As the depression deepened, the weaker provinces followed the same path as the municipalities: namely, rising expenditures, falling revenues, more onerous taxes, stringent economy, sacrifice of essential services, use of all reserves, borrowing, which entailed heavier interest costs at higher interest rates, and finally, in the case of several provinces, the complete exhaustion of provincial credit.

The Load of Debt

After the exhaustion of municipal credit and provincial credit in the hardest-hit areas, it was only possible to continue to maintain normal activities of government and relieve the distressed by borrowing from the Dominion Government.

The old principle of financial independence of government was violated over large areas of Canada. Weaker units were tending to become financial wards of the Dominion Government.

The sound policy, that the government unit which collected money should also spend it, had to be abandoned. Vast expendi-



Bee Hive Syrup

tures and borrowings shackled a heavy dead-weight debt load on many governments, which even a return to normal times would not lift.

Remedy Must Be Found
The health and welfare of hundreds of thousands of people were suffering because governments were not financially able to do so. Remedial action was imperative.

Either the loads on certain governments must be lightened, or their revenue sources must be amplified, or these two procedures could be combined.

The government, early in 1937, appointed the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations to inquire into these conditions, to find facts and to make recommendations.

New Architecture Aids Camouflage

Great Britain has entered a new phase of camouflage, with a special kind of architecture which blends with the landscape. This fact is reported in Nature, Britain's official journal of science.

"Photographs (from the air) of one of the few buildings which has been designed from the outset in co-operation with camouflage experts make one realize what could be achieved," it states.

The huge structure is part of the English landscape, complete with fields, woods, roads and hedges, and is as nearly indistinguishable as could be imagined."

REG'LAR FELLERS — Round Trip

