

SNOW AT SMITHERS

Ground Covered With Several Inches—Fall Ploughing Well in Hand

SMITHERS, Oct. 30.—The long spell of exceptionally fine fall weather that has prevailed throughout this district for the past month came to an end here Thursday night and local people awoke yesterday morning to look out upon a ground white with snow which was still falling heavily. Several inches of snow covered the ground and the indications were that there would be considerably more before it was through. While there was snowfall in parts of the district about a month ago there was none fell in the town at

that time and this is the first fall of the season so far as Smithers is concerned. It looks as though it might stay unless the weather gets mild enough to take it all away again.

Hunters who have been waiting for snow so that they can more easily track moose and deer will welcome the snowfall as will the younger generation who derive so much pleasure from the use of their sleds but to the great majority it means getting out the old snow shovel for several months of intermittent but none too easy work in keeping sidewalks cleared. Most of the farmers throughout the valley are well along with their fall ploughing which will give them an early start on next season's work and certainly none of them can complain that they have not had a spell of weather which gave them every opportunity to get ready for the winter.

AIRPLANES ONLY MODERN FEATURE OF SPAIN'S WAR

(Continued from Page 1)

fael, with the tall buildings of Madrid plainly visible on the skyline. A young lieutenant borrowed my field glasses to correct the fire of his battery of 155's. It was the first pair he'd ever used. Precious practice had been to shift the gun to change its direction of fire.

Aged Munitions

The insurgent battleship "Esperanza" shelled San Sebastian with munitions manufactured in 1903. Most of the shells failed to explode, to the consternation of rebel leaders who declared they had purchased the shells from an English firm as "guaranteed goods." At Irun, this correspondent accompanied a young French reserve officer on a survey of government positions. The officer advised barbed wire to protect a farmhouse from rebel assaults. When he returned the next day the barbed wire had been strung behind the farmhouse.

One of the chief reasons for the loss of Irun by the Popular Front was the insistence of the anarchists that they be permitted to leave the lines to go home for lunch. General Francisco Franco and General Emilio Mola planned their insurgent campaign on road maps, distributed free to Spanish tourists by a French tire company.

An Associated Press correspondent watched an insurgent six-inch gun hammer away at a farmhouse less than one mile away. It took 11 shots to hit the farmhouse and six more to hit it a second time. However, a Spanish Army may come out of the present conflict that will be a force to be reckoned with in international affairs, insurgents assert.

With proper guidance, they say Spain may be able in a few years to put at least 2,000,000 men into battle, most of whom will have had some form of military training. At least 500,000 now wear the uniforms of fascists or Carlist (anti-Bourbon monarchists) in territory the nationalists, or insurgents, have occupied. Many have had little training, but they provide a nucleus for military development with the regular army. Under a military regime, such as Spain may have if the nationalists win, it is assumed the regular army would be built up, with the fascist and Carlist groups used as reserves.

HARBIN IS DULL NOW

Gone is Galety of City at Asia's East Gate

HARBIN, Manchoukuo, Oct. 30: (AP)—After spending a week here once, the late Will Rogers declared this Manchurian town, situated at the crossroads of the world, where the east exchanges drinks with the west, was one of the wildest, gayest and most reckless cities in the world.

But Harbin has lost its reputation as the "city of love, life and laughter," and has become almost a city of sighs and tears. Gone are its gaiety, its beautiful girls, its carefree jovial spirit.

Populated in the old days by generous, jovial, joy-loving Russians and smiling, joss-pigeon Chinese, Harbin was regarded as a sort of international roadhouse, where all the world's races, regardless of color, caste or nationality, could hang up their hats, banish their cares, refresh themselves, gamble, drink, dine, or flirt with the lovely Russian girls, who gave Harbin much of its glamor and lure.

Today all this is changed. Many of the 30,000-odd Russians who still remain here say they have a wretched existence under the Japanese regime. Their only other choice is to return to Soviet Russia, where they fear their lot under the Bolsheviks might be worse.

With the sale of the Chinese Eastern Railway by Soviet Russia to Japan, the chief source of revenue to Harbin ceased. That railroad employed nearly 25,000 Russians in Harbin alone. They furnished not only most of the city's trade, but much of its prosperity and gaiety. Almost all these Russians, unable to make a living under the Japanese regime, have returned to Russia.

The 30,000 Russians who remain, mostly "whites," are too impoverished to support themselves. With Manchuria's former "open door" closed forever, foreigners no longer come here. The Japanese themselves are too bent on making Manchoukuo a political and economic success to spend any time on dancing, drinking, or nocturnal revels, and gambols which once gave Harbin so much of its special character as a sort of Asiatic Monte Carlo.

Girls Hard Hit

Especially hard hit are the thousands of pretty Russian girls, who once made this city famous the world over for its feminine beauty. In former days Harbin was a great clearing-house for women and girl refugees fleeing from Soviet Russia into China. Among them were princesses, countesses, baronesses and other members of the old Russian nobility and aristocracy, seeking to make new lives for themselves.

Left without employment by the abandoned cabarets, restaurants and dance-halls, these girls have gradually scattered to other parts of the Orient, particularly to Shanghai, Tsingtao and Chefoo, where they pursue a rather precarious existence entertaining the officers and sailors of Asiatic fleets when they come to these ports.

The more fortunate ones have landed husbands among these sailors. But many have wound up in the streets. Without a country, without home, without money, no country wants to receive them.

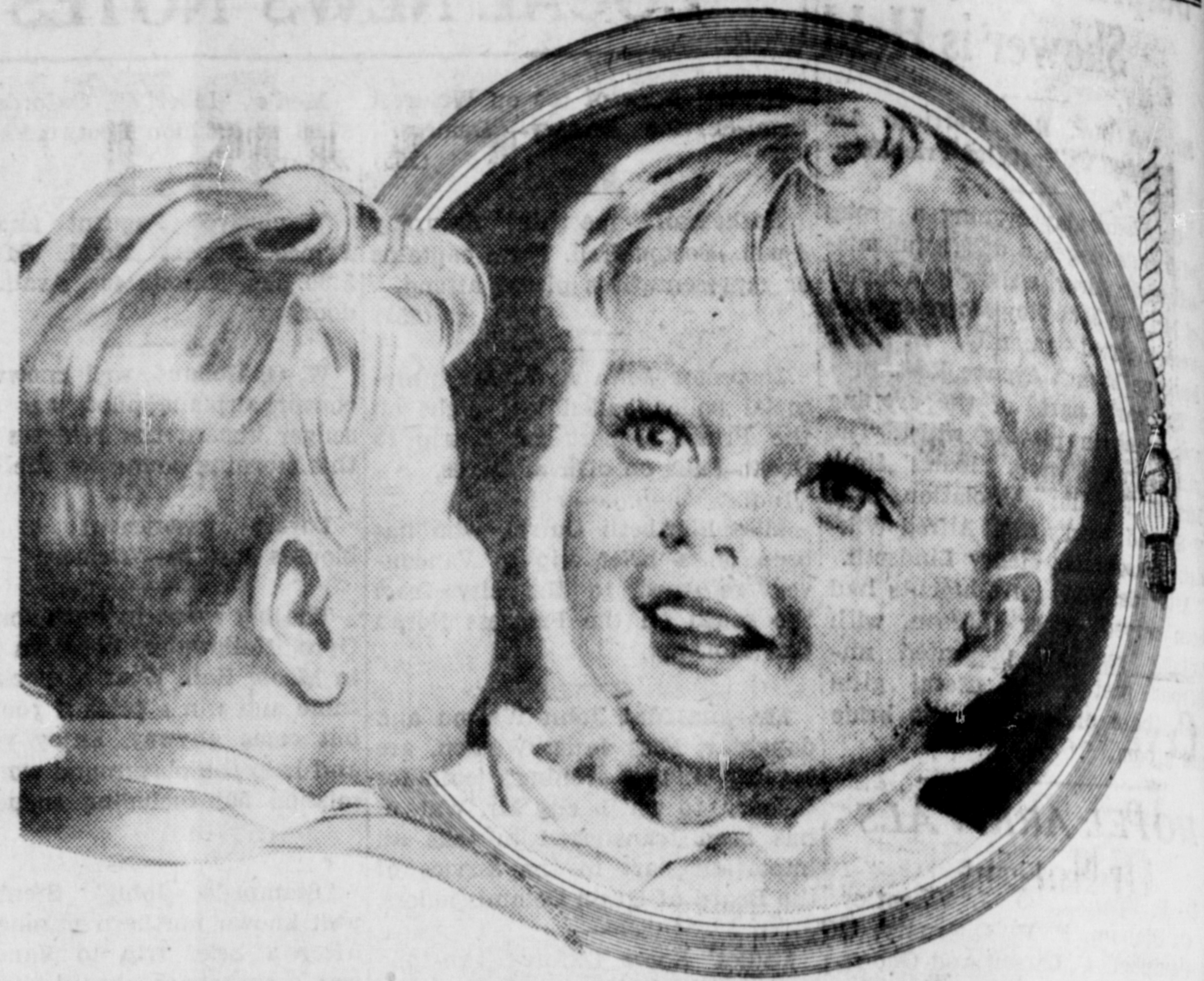
The "open door" in Harbin is now closed, jammed and locked forever, the key is lost, and would-be visitors can only dream of the days when Harbin was the centre of revelry, romance and recreation. The beggars that haunt the streets, the empty stores, the thousands of Russians without work, are evidences of the change in the city, which was once Asia's playground.

CUCUMBER SNAKES

SPRING COULEE, Alta., Oct. 30: (CP)—Visitors detour when approaching the farm home of Fred Wagner, near here. A large patch of cucumbers in his garden resemble snakes until closely inspected. One measures 60 inches in length and is coiled to present a perfect likeness.

RAT ROUTS SNAKE

POWELL RIVER, Oct. 30: (CP)—The tall end of what would have been a meal for the rat was all the snake left him. A battle between the two ended when the snake slithered away, leaving a section of his tail in the rat's teeth.



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Kitselas Native Brotherhood Is Active Just Now

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