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EDITORIAL

A SAD LOSS TO RUPERT

The drowning of Mr. and Mrs. Don Crerar near Francois Lake at the week-end is a tragedy that will be deeply regretted, not only by officials of the railway of which Mr. Crerar was a valued employee but by large numbers of the people of Prince Rupert to whom both victims were well known and by whom they were highly respected. Especially will the loss be great to the only son, who is at that age when the companionship of parents is particularly valuable.

The other victims, O. Polombo and Alex. Erickson, will also be missed. The former had had a wide experience in railway work and was a faithful employee.

CANADIAN'S GOOD WORK

Lieut. Robert Davies, who led the little band of men known as a suicide squad in digging up and removing a live shell from the neighborhood of St. Paul's Cathedral and then loaded the half ton missile on to a truck and drove it through the streets of London to the Hackney marshes, will be a name to remember. So many people know the Cathedral and reverence its lofty dome as an emblem of spiritual expansiveness that when they heard it was in danger they took almost as much interest in the saving of the Cathedral as in the progress of the war. The fact that it was a Canadian who ledthebomb removing party and his spectacular driving of the bomb through the streets of the city all added to the interest of the event.

DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND

While we have always known that the British were good fighters, we had not realized how superior they could be to the Germans, especially in the air. While British people were talking peace, cutting down armaments and preparing to lead the world in all kinds of peace gestures, the Germans were building up their air force, training their men and preparing for the present war. In addition to that they had the experience of the Polish invasion before the British got into the fight. Even then, it took the British some time to get really started on the preparations which might prove effective in such a war as that now being conducted. In fact Germany had such a lead that it was feared by many that she might prove invincible. Evidently, Hitler thought he was invincible and the world was inclined to the same opinion.

Then came the real war. The British went in for intensive training and the Canadians also were beginning to cross the ocean to take part. It was soon found that the British were much more effective in the air, man for man, but the Germans had the great advantage of numbers. Also she had the co-operation of Italy with another large air force. It seemed like terrible odds but each day that passed showed increased British effectiveness, even though there was still a disparity of numbers. It was at the evacuation of Dunkirk that the air force first showed its real effectiveness. It seemed like the turning point in British fortunes. From that time on there was a change until today the British mastery of the air is so great that it has Hitler worried. Only recently the German broadcast announced that only in one night in four months was there no air raid warning sounded in Essen where the famous Krupp works are located. The Germans are getting more than blow for blow and the supply of British planes is still increasing.

The big air victory of Sunday was an outstanding one and indicates to the world that the Germans can hope for nothing in the way of victory from its air bombardments.

BULGARS NOT FOOLED

"Another strange Nazi manoeuvre has been noted in Bulgaria. Germany has used, and is still using, all her arts and wiles to gain influence with the Orthodox Church," says the Victoria Times. "She has played her cards strongly, suggesting that only under the protection of Germany can the churches of eastern Europe find security against Communism! How far this may be illustrative of deterioration in Russo-German relations, if at all, it is difficult to say. The axis "deal" with Rumania may produce a new phase. On the other hand, of course, this new Nazi trick in Bulgaria may have nothing beyond local significance. But the cards have been adroitly played.

"The Bulgarian government may not like Communism; it has authorized the arrest of some Leftists, including a few harmless persons. King Boris, however, is a man of strictly moderate political views; he has done his best to hold extreme elements in check. And he has not been enticed far off the correct diplomatic pathway. He promised his friends his good offices at all times. The peaceful settlement of the Dobruja question with Rumania has naturally pleased him—and both Britain and Russia. The monarch, by the way, has preserved his sense of humor. 'My critics,' he once observed, 'say that my government is pro-German, my people pro-Russian, my Queen pro-Italian, and that I am pro-British.' As matter of fact, as the record shows, King Boris is just a very good Bulgarian."

IMPOSING BUILDINGS

Local Headquarters Of Irish Fusiliers Being Rushed To Completion

An imposing array of buildings is being speedily run up on both sides of Sixth Avenue, on the two blocks just west of McBride Street for the local "war station" of the Irish Fusiliers, headquarters of which were recently moved from Vancouver to Prince Rupert.

Largest of the structures is a model cook kitchen with two wings which, on completion, will have accomodation for between four hundred and five hundred men in one sitting. The site of this is immediately below English Hill.

In all, there will be between fifteen barrack or sleeping huts, three of which were completed some time ago and have since been in use.

Still other structures include administration and quartermasters stores buildings.

At the northeast corner of McBride Street and Sixth Avenue ground has been prepared for a military hospital building.

Meantime in Westview near Seventeenth Street construction of signallers' headquarters buildings is proceeding.

Conviction Is Quashed

County Court Judge Reverses Decision Of Port Essington Justice

Conviction by C. D. Pogson, justice of the peace at Port Essington, against T. Fukuhara on a charge of permitting liquor to be kept in a restaurant was quashed on appeal by Judge W. E. Fisher in County Court and the fine of $50 and costs was ordered returned to the appellant.

T. W. Brown acted as counsel for the appellant while C. H. McLean acted for the crown.

Daily News Classified Ads bring results

DRAFT IS NOW LAW

Presidential Signature Given To Important United States Measure Today

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 16 (CP)—Setting in motion machinery to send 75,000 draftees to camps in November, President Franklin D. Roosevelt yesterday gave enacting signature to peacetime draft legislation requiring registration of approximately 16,500,000 men from 21-35 years of age for military service. The president's signature followed first the Senate approval Saturday and soon thereafter that of the House for the amended draft bill.

The President made his official signature a few minutes after noon at the executive office of the White House in the presence of Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson and other officials.

Soon after a presidential proclamation set October 16 as the date for registration. By the end of the year 400,000 men are expected to be in camp with 400,000 by spring.

The date for registration in Alaska will be set later.

President Roosevelt, in a statement Saturday, said that due arrangements had been made to protect insurance, all social gains and rights of workers under the selective service legislation.

Gayda Forecasts More Intensive Axis Assault

ROME, Sept. 17:— A new and more intensive phase of the attack of the Axis powers on Great Britain is impending, declares Virginio Gayda, authoritative Fascist editor. There is no point in the British Isles that can consider itself exempt from air attack, declares Gayda.

ISN'T BOMBING ENOUGH?

MANCHESTER, Sept. 17: (CP)—Two shopkeepers here were fined for failing to observe the new requirements of the Explosives Act by retaining fireworks in their possession.

Chanteeler
Slow Burning
CIGARETTE PAPERS
NONE FINER MADE
DOUBLE AUTOMATIC BOOKLET

Plumbing Let For Seal Cove Airport Buildings

Airport At Bella Coola Also To Be Established With Two Hangars

The contract for the plumbing at the Seal Cove Airport has been let to Barr & Anderson Ltd. of Vancouver.

This is part of the contract of $290,000 for erecting nineteen buildings including a double seaplane hangar, fifteen bed hospital, canteen, workshop, stores, 12-car garage, officers quarters, officers' mess, N. C. O.'s quarters, men's mess, guard room, and military guard room.

The following letter was received by the Minister of Finance. Permssion to publish it has been granted providing the writer's name be withheld.

My Son Has Gone To War...

Toronto, Canada,
September 13, 1940.

Honourable J. L. Ilsley,
Minister of Finance,
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:

My son has gone to war. In that he is no different from thousands of other young men, but naturally, his Mother and I are proud of him. Before he enlisted we talked it over . . . for he was at the threshold of his career—a junior partner in this business—with all the flame of his bright youth unspent.

"God knows, Dad, he said, "I hate war . . . I have read and heard of what the last war meant to you and to others. But there's a job to be done and my job is to help to do it."

"How about trying for a commission?" I asked. "You have the qualifications."

"No," he answered, "I'm not going to wait for a commission. If I earn it, alright, but I am enlisting as a Private. Which he did. He is now a Sergeant.

If such men as these are not worth backing to the limit, when it comes to investing in Canada's Second War Loan, there's something tragically wrong with the Spirit of Canada. At any rate, my last dollar, and all that I can borrow from my bankers has been invested in Second War Loan Bonds.

I was in Germany and Italy in the last war. I know both countries well. I've seen what it means to men to be deprived of freedom. Sometimes I wonder whether we in Canada prize freedom as we should.

Yours very truly,

A. S.

What else need be said to those who are able—and who should—but who have not yet done their duty and bought Canada's Second War Loan Bonds?