THE DAILY NEWS

PRINCE RUPERT, BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Comfort for Merchant Navy . . .

There may have been criticism in the past of the accommodation provided crews in some vessels of Canada's merchant marine but certainly it cannot be directed at that with which the vessels now being turned out are provided with. Recently, the editor of this newspaper had the opportunity of inspecting rather minutely one of these new 10,000-tonners and he, like all others on board at the time, were impressed with this feature of the ship. The men who go down to the sea in ships have trying times these days and they are deserving of the best that can be given them in accommodation and food. This they appear to be getting now in good measure at least on the newer vessels of the merchant navy.

And, speaking generally, they are a fine type of vessel that Canada is producing.

Victory Bonds and Postwar . . .

A silly and harmful suggestion heard too often these days is what when the war is over the Government of Canada may not be able to meet its obligations, with a consequent doubtful future for Victory Bonds. Finance Minister Ilsley, in a speech at Windsor this week, dealt with such talk and it is to be hoped that his words are read widely. Said he:

"It will be of the greatest importance that we maintain, indeed assure, a ready and stable market for all these millions of bonds that we have sold. We have now the monetary and financial machinery and we have developed the methods for accomplishing this, and we will therefore be able to deal with any situation which may develop in a way which will keep faith with the millions of small investors who are supporting the savings program in this emergency."

The notion that this rich country is going to pass into poverty or chaos with the war's end, unable to meet its obligations, is a fantastic travesty of obvious fact. We have the resources, the people, the plant and machinery, the managerial and productive skills —why on earth should anybody imagine that we will be incapable of using them?—Ottawa Journal.

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USO Show Very Fine

Excellent Entertainment By American Troupe Sunday Night

(By DOROTHY GARBUTT)

Sunday night at the Capitol Theatre two men and five girls—five counting "Streaky" of course — comprised the United Services Organization Camp Show troupe Number 100 gave out with some grand clean fun and plenty of first rate entertainment. Just back from nine months in the North, which includes "The Chain" (i.e. the Aleutians), these boys and girls have had some experiences they will remember all their lives, including a few near goes in airplanes which didn't always act as airplanes should in the air. They carry with them a little feathered lady in the minute person of "Miss Streaky," the black and yellow canary, who appears for a brief moment in the magicians' act. "Streaky" has her own parka for her cage, made of warm lambskin-lined fabric which zips around the entire cage. Often when flying even this snug nest was not warm enough for her so the Burnetts, with whom she appears, would put her in a sample cereal carton, all lined with wool, and put this inside their garments so that wee "Streaky" received the warmth of their bodies and so survived. I think the little ladybird deserves some sort of a medal for being the first canary in the Aleutians. I wonder if the northern gulls and penguins, or whatever birds they have up there, were too shy to twitter to her?

Introduced by Chester le Maistre, the show was then taken over by Eddie Burnett, master of ceremonies. The introductory number was pretty Peggy Lynn (Chow How Lynn they call me), in a fast tap dance full of original steps. Later in the show Peggy again appeared in a graceful acrobatic waltz. Peggy is one of the most finished dancers to have appeared in service shows up here. Then came Los Angeles' bid for fame, lovely Helen (Wolfus) McClure who made with the boys with her eyes, all the while bowling them over with her charming songs. For her first appearance she sang the "Swoonatra" hit "You'll Never Know," then "Now and Forever," the words of which this clever young lady wrote herself, followed by "Begin the Beguine" which brought out all the nuances of her warm soprano voice. Finally she quite shamelessly picked out a "Front Rowmeo" and sang "We Could Make Believe" for his unresponsive benefit.

Stan Erickson, the accordian accompanist with the troups, had his turn at the mike. Opening with the Neapolitan street song "Marie" he followed this with an extremely funny Swede act, an impression of a Swedish boy doing an Hawaiian number. By this time the applause was so loud that he came back most generously with encore after encore, "The Victory March of Notre Dame" (as sung by Northwestern), "Dark Town Strutters Ball" and finally the newest contribution to American folk music "Lay That Pistol Down, Babe."

To add to the variety in the show, the Burnetts, Eddie and his delightful little blonde wife, Lucille, gave a demonstration of the most amazing feats of prestidigitation (Magic to you). They tied knots in hankies which seemed to untie themselves; they threw away lighted cigarettes and recovered them from mid-air, to the gaping astonishment of the audience, they drew ropes through the sleeves of a soldier's tunic only to release the tunic a moment later quite free or ropes. They pulled little Streaky out of a roll of paper crushing her to pulp again. And they, or rather Miss Lucille, had nothing up her sleeve. Cause you know why? Cause she had no sleeves, nothing but a sleeveless evening gown. Their act was remarkable, and when a couple is that clever I don't see why they have to work for a living. Except perhaps because they come from Chicago.

Petite Lucille Lane, carrot-topped and all the way from Seattle and points north, the contralto comedlene of the show then proceeded to lay them in the aisles. She is the living exponent of my pet theory that when a woman is funny she is a lot funnier than a man—in other words the fewer the funnier. She attained her effects through a look, a quick little gesture, an unexpected inflection of her voice or a change of mood from the sentimental to the burlesque before you had time to catch up with her. Singing "You Made Me Love You" she inveigled a sailor (Signalman Bob Lippert) on the stage and proceeded to show just how he made her love him. She called this 'cementing diplomatic relations'. Giving encore after encore she sang a medley of Cohan songs, "St. Louis Blues" (and how seldom we hear the words of this song, it is usually an instrumental blare-fest), and "Stormy Weather" after which, with a wicked twinkle in her eye she recited a poem about the village blacksmith with the cinammon hands and his church pew!

A solemn interlude then took place when Lucille, Eddie, Helen and Mrs. Eddie lined up on the stage. Mrs. Eddie gave a bottle of coke to Helen who opened it and gave it to Eddie who drank the whole of it, while all poor expectant Lucille got was the satisfaction of a mighty burp. As Arthur Peacock says, it was a clear case of oral burpitude!

The show's finale was a demonstration of "Boops-a-Daisy" with the girls and four service men volunteers. Grace was the least of their accomplishments but the boys were well rewarded fo their efforts by a kiss from each girl. In fact, the chap with the Robey eyebrows, wasn't going to wash again—ever!

Thanks, USO Show Number 100 for a swell evening!

LETTERBOX

REPLY TO FINANCIAL POST

Editor, Daily News:

"Soviet Buries Marxism and Returns to Capitalism!" Such is the startling heading of an article reprinted from the Financial Post last week on the front page of the Daily News.

Now people are saying, "Is this really true?"

The truth is that the article is entirely false, that the Soviet union remains a Socialist State in which there is no exploitation of one man by another, that the victories of the Red Army show Marxism to be stronger than ever.

Why is it important to point out the untruths in this article? It is because the unity of the Socialist Soviet Union with the capitalist members of the United Nations is indispensable to the victory over world fascism and to a peace of democratic, orderly social progress, rather than civil wars, mass poverty, and chaos leading to world war III.

The problem of a capitalist state establishing unity in action with another capitalist state is a very different problem from that of establishing unity with a socialist state. To base ourselves on the pipe dream that the Soviet Union has gone capitalist is to fail to get to grips with the problem at all.

The Post gets its "information" from the New York Times, whose reporter, Will Lessner, is the man who scooped the world on this "burial of Marxism" (the latest one). He purports to base himself on a 23-page article on the teaching of economics by such leading Soviet economists as Leontiev and others.

A reading of the original, as reprinted in abridged form in "Science and Society," shows Mr. Lessner has either stupidly or maliciously misread it to a fantastic degree. There is no room for a detailed analysis of his garbed reporting but the following, based on what the Soviet economists actually did say, refutes his main contentions:

(1) The doctrine of the class struggle, which Mr. Lessner claims is repudiated, is not even mentioned.

(2) Far from abandoning historical materialism, the whole article is based on it.

(3) Neither is the theory of surplus value abandoned. The article points out that surplus labor, which creates surplus vlaue (divided under capitalism into profit, interest, and rent) continues to exist under socialism. But instead of being privately appropriated by "parasitic exploiting classes," the surplus product is "systematically devoted to purpose of accummulation" for the expansion of production and "to cover the current needs of society as a whole."

I raise these points because Canadian-Soviet friendship must be based on understanding rather than illusions.

The most amusing part of the Financial Post-Daily News item is the part which speaks of Mr. Coldwell as being surrounded by Marxians and pseudo-Marxians. Mr. Goldwell himself would look with horror on any such prospect and there are no scientific socialists in the leadership of the CCF whatsoever.

B. MICKLEBURGH,
Chairman, Prince Rupert Labor - Progressive Club.

Quads Remain 100 to 1 Shot

WASHINGTON, May 2 (AP) — Despite number of headlines devoted to births of quadruplets and quintuplets throughout the world this year, the United States Bureau of Census reports unemotionally:

"The proportion of plural birth cases (twins, triplets, quads) to the total remains fairly constant from year to year."

Lloyds of London, which will insure you against twins or more if you like, also reports no change in their rates on such policies, which are based chiefly on individual family history.

Since births have been tabulated in this country there have been only four years when no quadruplets were born. Most years there were more than one set. Six sets were born in 1920, 1927, 1930, 1932, 1934 and 1936.

Peak year for multiple births in the United States since 1915 was 1920, when the rate was 11.7 per 1,000 live births. Six sets of quadruplets, 184 sets of triplets and 17,339 pairs of twins were born that year. In 1941, there were twelve sets of quadruplets born in this country, but the rate of plural births per 1,000 was only 10.7.

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See Pictures Of 'Snow Doughnuts'

Photographs of the famous "Snow Doughnuts" of Listowel, Ontario, a story of which appeared in the Daily News some weeks ago, were brought into the editorial office on Saturday by W. J. Moore, of Prince Rupert.

The doughnuts were the result of a freak wind which blew little balls of damp snow down hillsides until they had accumulated into spheres as large as two feet in diameter, then in some impish way, whisked out the centres.

The photographs were sent to Mr. Moore by his sister, Mrs. McLaughlin, of Listowel, whose children posed holding some of the medium doughnuts, thousands of which covered the countryside.

AUSTRALIA'S HARVEST

MELBOURNE (AP) — Australia has just harvested a 100,000,000-bushel wheat crop and her reserve at June 30 last was 236,000,000 bushels, greatest in the history of the Commonwealth.

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