

GARAND RIFLE HAILED WAR'S BEST WEAPON

Lt.-Gen. G. S. Patton Says Canadian - Born Inventor's Rifle Is Greatest Battle Implement Ever Devised

WASHINGTON, April 11 (AP)—One would expect Lt.-Gen. Patton, famed for his swift armored operations in command of the U.S. Third Army, to consider tanks the most important weapon in action on the western front.

But Patton recently told U.S. ordnance chief, Maj.-Gen. Levin Campbell: "In my opinion, the M1 (Garand) rifle is the greatest battle implement ever devised."

That's the consensus of many

military men regarding the "United States Rifle, .30 calibre, M1," which is the standard shoulder weapon for all the U.S. Army in 1936 after its inventor had labored 16 years on its perfection.

The inventor, modest, 56-year-old John C. Garand, was born at St. Remi, a village near Montreal. For some years he has been a United States citizen, and now is engaged as chief engineer at the Springfield, Mass., government arsenal.

Characteristic of shaggy-haired Mr. Garand is the way in which he has given over full domestic and foreign rights to his invention to his adopted country. He holds a civilian post which returns him a salary of something less than \$10,000 a year, while the U.S. government retains the patent on his life's work, and hence is saved some millions of dollars annually in royalty fees.

The fame which he shuns came late to Mr. Garand. When his mother died, John, one of 12 children, went with his father to Jewett City, Conn., where father and children found employment in local textile mills. The Garand boys became rifle enthusiasts as members of a small shooting club, and soon became expert marksmen.

An Inventive Mind

John's inventive turn of mind turned first to mill devices and then motor-cycle engines, though little profit accrued from either. Then he developed a new type of machine-gun, and although it was not immediately accepted by the U.S. Army, ordnance experts saw his value as an advanced gunsmith and gave him a job at the Springfield army, where, in various capacities, he



LIFE IN THE HOCHWALD—The problem of keeping warm during the rain-sodden days on the German front is solved by Canucks who, in peace time, have been accustomed to the hunting camp and fishing stream. At left these lads fry chicken (it did not come up with the rations). They are left to right: Pte. J. G. Mackie, Selkirk, Man.; L/Cpl. T. A. Casey, Winnipeg; and Cpl. R. D. Gosse, Belle Island, Newfoundland. At right, lads of an infantry unit try to keep warm around a log fire. They are, left to right: Pte. P. Jaskow, Brandon, Man.; L/Cpl. W. R. Banner, Victoria, B.C.; Pte. A. E. Davies, Plumas, Man.; and Pte. E. Vallancourt, of Ottawa, Ont.

has since remained. Then came acceptance of his rifle — after nearly two decades of work.

After years of experimentation, the first working model of the Garand rifle—which was to replace in the hands of U.S. soldiers the old 1903 Springfield—was assembled in 1933. Its principle was similar to that of the colt automatic pistol invented in 1896 by J. M. Brown, but Mr. Garand was the first to employ the principle effectively in a service rifle.

In effect, the new rifle works

thus: gas generated by the exploding powder in the weapon's barrel is used not only to send the fired bullet toward its mark but also to eject the used cartridge case and push another cartridge into place in the firing-chamber. The gun therefore is semi-automatic, requiring merely a squeeze of the trigger between shots, instead of additional bolt - manipulation. Firing its bullets from eight-cartridge clips, the Garand theoretically can get away considerably more than 100 rounds a minute. In practice a moder-

ately-trained infantryman can fire 30 well-aimed shots a minute. The Garand has 73 parts, 35 fewer than the Springfield it replaced, and its recoil is considerably lighter. Just what improvements the inventor has made in his rifle since it was accepted is something the enemy must find out only by daily—and lethal—experience. And self-effacing Mr. Garand—who has been described as the Canadian doing more than any other one man to win the war—works on at Springfield.

Controls Burning Plane As Crew Mates Fight Fire

WITH THE R.C.A.F. OVERSEAS, April 11 (AP)—Blinded by smoke and choked by acrid fumes when his Lancaster caught fire over enemy territory, P.O. W. Danyluk of Rennie, Man., clung grimly to the controls and kept the aircraft level while other members of the crew fought the fires for 20 minutes.

Pte. Sgt. C. G. Robinson, wireless operator from Toronto, and Sgt. J. E. Bridger, English mid-upper gunner who was awarded an immediate D.F.M., seized the fire extinguishers and finally got the blaze under control though the bomber still was smoking when it landed in southern England.

Hardly able to read his instruments for smoke and sparks, the navigator from Hamilton, Ont., carried on throughout the dangerous incident.

There's a blue bootie in the right breast pocket of Pte. Sgt. W. J. Tinney (3510 Fourth Ave.

Plan Memorial For News Woman

WINNIPEG, April 11 (AP)—The friends of Garnet Clay Porter, pioneer western newspaperman who died here March 6, plan a memorial to perpetuate his memory.

Known as "the Colonel," he is buried in Elmwood Cemetery where it is planned to erect a stone memorial over his grave. The Porter Memorial Fund has been established to raise the necessary funds. Bruce Boreham of Winnipeg is secretary.

W.), Vancouver, these nights as he flies over Germany.

You couldn't convince Tinney that the bootie of his six-month-old son Bill hasn't brought good luck. After all he's made more than 30 trips over fiercely-defended enemy territory without a night-fighter attack or serious flak damage.

Tinney's pilot is Pte. Lt. A. E. Jung, Canadian-born Chinese of Vancouver and Victoria (728 Cormorant St.).

CHRONIC BRONCHITIS

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Do the children of Canadian service men or overseas get an allowance immediately upon return to Canada?

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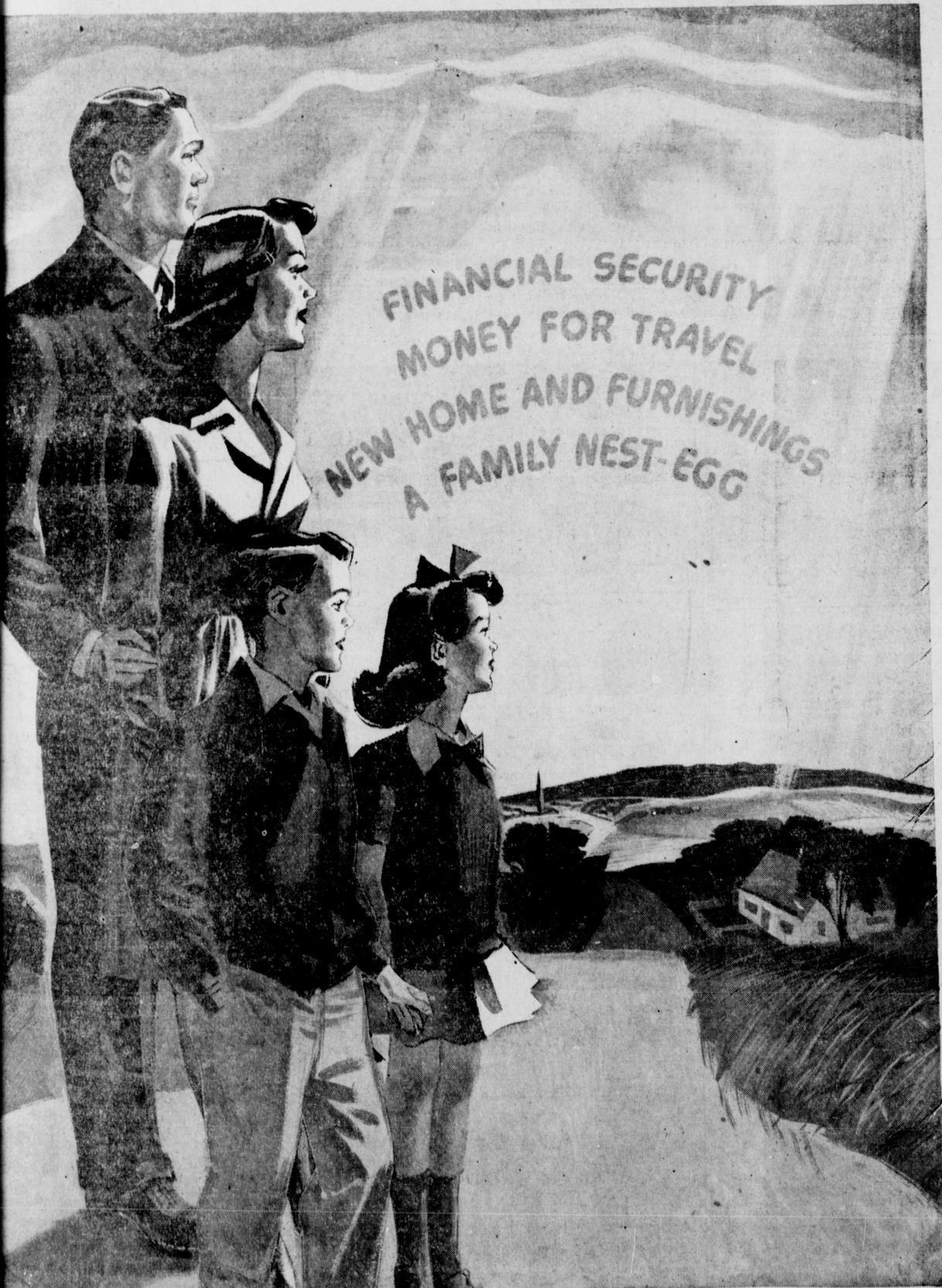
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