Noted Record Established By Chief of UN Force

Special to The Daily News

OTTAWA—Maj.-Gen. Burns, soldier, writer, scientist, authority on mapmaking and lecturer, who was general officer commanding the 1st Canadian Corps during some of its toughest battles in Italy, has now been named commander of the emergency International United Nations Force.

Following his retirement from the Canadian Army in 1945 he was director general of rehabilitation and later Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Prior to his present appointment he was Chief of the United Nations Truce Supervisory organization.

Born in Westmount, Que., June 17, 1897, Maj.-Gen. Burns speaks English and French fluently and is proficient in German. He received the Order of the British Empire for developing a method of making extremely accurate maps from air photographs, something revolutionary at the time.

On graduation from the Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont., in 1915, he was commissioned in the Royal Canadian Engineers in the month of his 18th birthday.

At the end of the First World War he had attained the rank of captain. By 1924 he was an instructor at RMC and subsequently attended the staff college at Quetta, India.

Gen. Burns was attending the Imperial Defence College in England when the Second World War began. He was immediately posted to the newly-formed Canadian Military Headquarters, London, and with Gen. H. D. G. Crerar laid the foundations for the reception of the 1st Canadian Infantry Division which arrived in a few weeks' time, and for the many thousands of troops who came later.

Gen. Burns returned to Canada in 1942 to command the 4th Canadian Armoured Brigade, a formation of the 4th Canadian Armoured Division.

In May 1943 he was promoted to the rank of major-general and assumed command of the 2n2d Canadian Infantry Division. Early in 1944 he went to Italy to command the 1st Canadian Corps with the acting rank of lieutenant-general.

Later he came to the Northwest Europe campaign and commanded First Canadian Army Lines of Communications troops as a major-general. He served in this appointment until the end of the war.

THE MOVIES offer a world of enchantment for most children, but when their mother is the star, the scenes are even more thrilling. Reflecting this feeling, songstress Judy Garland's daughters, Liza, 10 (left), and Lorna, 3, sit on the edge of their chairs as they watch their famous mother perform in the film, "The Wizard of Oz." The film, made in 1939 when Miss Garland was 12 years old, will be presented on CBS-TV's "Ford Star Jubilee." The special preview marked the first time Lorna had ever seen the picture.

Best Newcomer Award Likely for Jim Backus

Special to The Daily News

HOLLYWOOD — There is a grave possibility that the same thing that happened to Jim Backus in radio will happen again to him in motion pictures.

Jim, in 1947, after 12 years of playing leading roles on many network radio programs, was voted "Best Newcomer of the Year."

Since 1947, Jim has made a number of movies, including the Mr. Magoo cartoons, in which he is heard but not seen as the title character.

Now, as a result of his roles in "Rebel Without a Cause" (James Dean's father) and "The Girl He Left Behind", (Tab Hunter's long-suffering top sergeant), the fan magazines predict that Jim is on the verge of "discovery" by Hollywood.

Jim and his wife, the former Henrietta Kaye, couldn't be more amused.

"I have no doubt," says Mrs. Backus, "that after 'The Girl He Left Behind,' Jim will win the annual Audience Award poll as 'the most promising new male personality.'"

Born in 1913, Jim's talent as a boy was for ball; he played a lot of golf. While attending Kentucky Military Institute, for example, he spent more time away from school for golf than he did in the classroom. However, it might be said he learned geography the hard way, having toured the country to participate in tournaments.

The 190-pound Backus once teamed with Bob Hope, a fellow Clevelander, to play golf with Bob Feller as a promotion stunt for the Cleveland Indians. Backus later attended the University School in Cleveland and got a radio job with Lum 'n Abner. He next worked in Detroit as an announcer. Jim couldn't resist acting though, and, in 1936, he went back to New York.

There he appeared regularly on radio and acted on Broadway in "Hitch Your Wagon" and "Too Many Heroes," both with Keenan Wynn. More recently, from Hollywood, he created the role of Joan Davis' husband on TV's "I Married Joan."

Off screen, television and radio, Jim Backus is a naturally funny man. He is neither the dour sourpuss of some Hamlet-aspiring comedians; nor the offensive lamp-shade-on-the-head prankster. His approach to matters prosaic is light. He has a flip attitude and a natural wit.

Tuberculosis claims more victims among men than among women. In 1955 the death rate for men was 10.8 per 100,000 while for women it was 6.9. Parallel figures are common throughout the countries which published detailed health statistics.

Tito To Play Host

ATHENS (AP)— Greek Premier Constantine Karamanlis will make a four-day visit to Belgrade Dec. 4, it was officially announced today. The invitation was given when Yugoslavia's President Tito was holidaying last summer as the guest of the Greek royal family.

JCs, Oil Firm To Sponsor Roadeos Again

MONTREAL— The success of Canada's first Teen-Age Safe Driving roadeo, in which 10,000 young Canadians took part this year, has led Imperial Oil to sponsor the regional contests again, G. L. Filippelli of Trail, B.C., president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Canada, said today. The idea behind the contest is to promote and reward safe-driving habits among the nation's teen-age drivers.

Sights for the 1957 contests have been raised to include 20,000 youngsters across Canada, Mr. Filippelli announced. Competitions are staged by Junior Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade.

New promotional and program kits will be sent out this year and competitions will be held in the first half of 1957. Imperial Oil will pay expenses of local winners to the regional finals, for awards of permanent trophies and cash prizes, for equipment needed in the obstacle courses and for an awards banquet in each of the eight regional contests.

The 1957 roadeo will be similar to this year's. The contestants took written and driving tests conducted by 300 local Junior Chambers of Commerce; then the winners competed in regional finals. From these, 12 emerged as regional champions and these competed in Ottawa last July for the national championship sponsored by All Canada Insurance Federation. The Roadeo earned praise from educationalists, traffic safety experts, civic authorities and business men.

Start Christmas Tree Transport

VANCOUVER— From the land of the tall evergreens, Canadian National Railways is helping to make it a merrier Christmas for some 125,000 families throughout Canada and the United States.

This season, according to J. N. Brown, CNR's general freight agent for British Columbia, more than 120 carloads of trees will be loaded at various points in the province to be transported to neighboring provinces and to the north-western states.

"Each year," Mr. Brown said, "Canadian National ships millions of Christmas trees all over Canada and the U.S." Time, he said, was one of the most important factors in the movement of trees. "These million-dollar shipments are all but worthless if any major delays occur," Mr. Brown pointed out.

More than half of the total number of Christmas trees carried by CNR are for export. This year, Canadian National will ship some 75,000 trees south of the border from British Columbia.

NOT BEING KEPT under wraps, Angus is merely keeping warm until he's ready to exhibit his champion form in the contest. The mastiff was one of the entries in the Ladies Kennel Show at London.

Fireman Ends 27 Years on Job

MONTREAL (CP)—Charlie Blickstead has fought his last fire.

At 49, with 27 years' service on the Montreal Fire Department behind him, Mr. Blickstead says "I decided to retire before I was ready for the scrap pile. The last time I went away for a real holiday was in 1926. But I plan to make up for it now."

As a divisional chief in charge of training fire department recruits, he is perhaps one of the most popular firemen in Montreal. He is best-known for his work in organizing the modern fire rescue squad which has saved hundreds of lives here since its inception eight years ago.

Mr. Blickstead, who served with the Canadian Navy in the last war as a lieutenant-commander, speaks modestly of his record as a fire-fighter.

"I've never saved any lives—directly, that is—but I've spent time in hospitals convalescing from broken bones and smoke poisoning."

He is considering an idea to open a consulting office for organizing and training industrial and municipal fire brigades. "There is a definite need for this kind of service," he said.

He has delivered many papers on fire-fighting and fire-prevention at conventions.

"All fires are basically the same and are best fought by routine methods," he said. "The fireman must size up each blaze from the point of view of building content, life hazard and exposure of nearby buildings."

Station Wives Help Hubbies Take Day Off

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP)—The boys at radio station WNAR wanted to take a day off to go hunting. But you can't just shut down a radio station.

A little ingenuity—and some help from home—solved the problem.

Yesterday, the wives of the 11 members of the station's staff took over all announcing duties while their husbands spent the day in the woods.

Sweden Alerts Armed Forces

STOCKHOLM (AP)—Sweden yesterday reduced military leaves because of the international tension. The Swedish defence staff said the commander-in-chief had also ordered guards to be reinforced at military establishments and ammunition dumps throughout the country.

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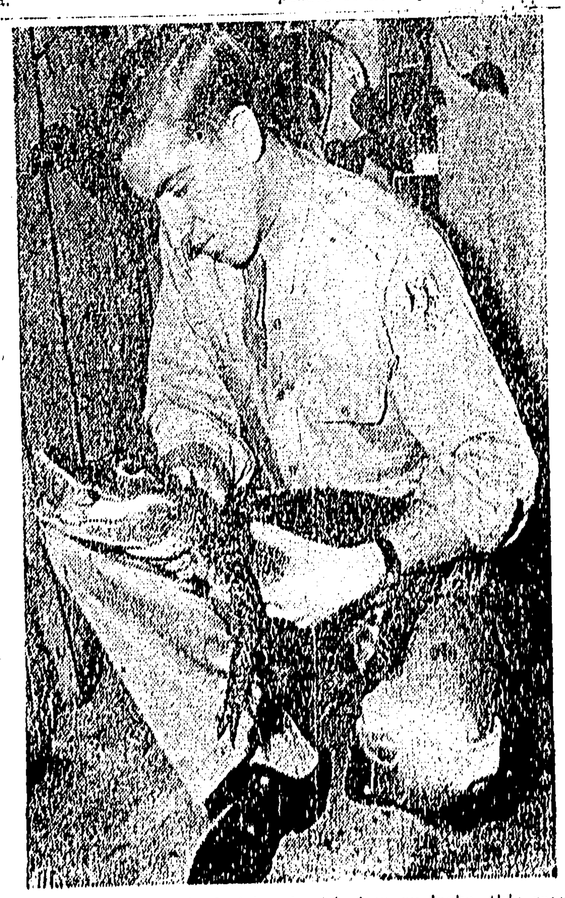

REPTILIAN RARITY—Judging by his hungry looks, this rare Chinese Alligator must have worked up a hearty appetite during his long trip from the Warsaw Zoo to New York's Bronx Zoo. Held by Bob Raabe, keeper of the reptile house, the squirming 'gator is 47 inches long and weighs 12 pounds. He is believed to be the last of his kind. The Warsaw Zoo got him from Peiping, China, in 1955.

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