News Parade

Commentary on the Highlights of the Week's News . . . By Elizabeth Eedy

PRECOCIOUS YOUNGSTERS—Just twenty-three hours after her birth, a baby girl in New Bedford, Mass., had two fully developed teeth extracted from her lower jaw, this week. A couple of days before, we had heard of a six-months-old child coming successfully through an appendicitis operation, another medical record.

Must be the accelerated pace of modern life that is responsible. Eh, doctor?

—o—

STILL OUT OF REACH—Winning mothers in the Millar Will Derby have not yet caught sight of the wealth which has purportedly been coming to them ever since eccentric Charles Vance Millar of Toronto died, 12 years ago, nor are they likely to see it till on in 1939. Appeals lodged against court rulings have been made by two mothers (Mrs. Pauline Clark, Mrs. Lillian Kenny); appeal is also being made against the judgment of the Supreme Court of Canada that Millar's next of kin are not entitled to share in the money. The latter case would have to be heard before the Privy Council.

Until these appeals are disposed of, the four mothers will have to wait and wait . . . .

—o—

EMERGENCY DICTATOR—At an historic session of China's Nationalist Party (Kuomintang) meeting in Hankow last week to place the political organization of China on a wartime basis, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek was formally invested with sweeping political authority amounting to dictatorial powers.

Already Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese armies resisting the Japanese invasion, General Chiang now holds in addition a post of great power that has been empty since the death of Dr. Sun fourteen years ago—he is supreme leader of the nation.

The Kuomintang's position in China is similar to that of the Communist Party in Soviet Russia, and the Fascist Party in Italy. Although individual leaders have challenged its claims to supreme authority, there are no rival parties.

This granting to General Chiang of virtual dictatorship is a departure from the party's former line of action which heretofore has shied away from the concentration of power in the hands of an individual.

The immediate aim of the move is to create a stronger and more united front than ever against Japanese aggression.

EASTER FINERY—Sales of women's hats, coats, dresses, shoes, and the other feminine doodads that accompany the new spring costume are up, this year of Grace 1938. Toronto retailers say that buying is definitely heavier than last year and business is better. The same apparently goes for ready-to-wear merchants throughout Ontario.

As an index of general business activity, however, such findings are not too reliable. After all, Easter is three weeks later this year . . . .

—o—

"TOTALITARIANISM" DOMINANT—Eight months ago when she began her war in China, Japan was not generally considered to be a Fascist state. Since then, it has rapidly become so although the last stages of fascisation within the country may not yet have taken place.

Last week after a fearful struggle in the Japanese Parliament (Diet), militarism gained formal control of the government with the passing of four measures designed to extend state control to the limit. The National Mobilization Bill is the most important of these, placing the life and property of the lowliest citizen, as well as the greatest corporation, in Government hands during "time of war or national emergency."

The important point is this — through declaration of a condition of emergency, the Government may at any time expropriate personal goods of the average citizen, impress him into "national mobilization work", deny him the right of free speech, suppress his newspaper or close his bank.

—o—

NIGGER IN THE WOODPILE—After the first outburst of indignation at Prime Minister Chamberlain's policy of appeasement of the dictators, public anger against him appeared to die down in the Old Land.

True, the Opposition continued to move votes of censure against the Government, stormy scenes took place in the House on an average of once a week and the National Labor Council issued a manifesto calling for a general election. But nothing happened.

Where the National Government is going to strike a real snag, however, is when it attempts to step up re-armament to the new unprecedented levels. Prime Minister Chamberlain will first have to obtain the consent of the trade union heads before he can initiate the program. Their refusal to co-operate would prove a serious embarrassment to the Government at this time.

He Grew Tomatoes Under The Snow

Farmer Furnishes Home With Produce

Growing corn in a novel hot house, with walls of snow was the recent feat of R. G. Chase of Milestone, 50 miles south of Regina. He told of his feat in a letter to a Regina newspaper.

Heavy snowfall gave him the idea, he wrote. He woke one December morning to find his farm buildings almost buried in snow.

Thawed Out In Tunnel

"So I dug a good wide tunnel from the house door to the barn and put in some skylights with some old storm-sashes. I found the barn so warm I was obliged to leave the door open and the inner snow of the tunnel started to melt.

"It wasn't long until the ground thawed out and small weeds started to grow.

"I then worked up the ground on both sides of the path and planted corn and vegetables. I found the soil to be fairly blushing with fecundity. It was kept continually moist by the slowly melting snow and the climate was most salubrious.

"The growth in this tunnel has been extremely phenomenal and I kept furnishing the house with about everything that grows in a garden and had corn fodder enough to feed by stock until spring.

"It seems hard to believe that it was the month of February as we had green corn on the cob every day and now expect tomatoes.

Colossal Shell

SYDNEY, N.S.W. — A giant clam shell—large enough to be used as a baby's bath—was on display in the American museum this week.

The shell was found on a reef off the Gilbert Islands some months ago by C. A. Swinburne who presented it to the museum. Museum Conchologist, T. Iredale, described it as a "beautiful specimen which may be anything up to 500 years old."

The museum specimen weighs about 450 pounds, and is three feet two inches long by two feet one and one half inches wide. The conchologist said it was the largest specimen in any museum.

Rheumatism Has Twenty Varieties

Expert Discloses the Progress In Treatment—300,000 In Canada Suffer From Them

Medical research has changed old-fashioned rheumatism into a modern complicated disease in which more than twenty separate types, requiring different treatments, have already been discovered.

This was revealed to the Victorian Order of Nurses by Dr. Douglas Taylor last week at Montreal when the Royal Victoria Hospital expert estimated that there were approximately 300,000 in Canada suffering from chronic arthritis and rheumatic diseases. As a cause of disability rheumatic diseases, he said, outranked tuberculosis, heart disease and cancer combined, being only exceeded by all types of accidents.

Much Can Be Accomplished

Until recent years, Dr. Taylor stated, chronic arthritis, or rheumatism as it is more popularly known, had not been studied seriously. Successful treatment depends entirely upon a correct diagnosis and study of the individual case.

"There is no justification for the pessimism associated with this group of diseases. Much can be accomplished with proper treatment. Most of the crippling deformities can be prevented," Dr. Taylor said.

"The great problem of rheumatic diseases can only be solved through the education of the public along the same lines as was followed in the combatting of tuberculosis. At present there is both a lack of facilities for the treatment of these diseases and a lack of funds to promote continued research."

May Withdraw After War

ROME—The proposed British-Italian friendship treaty will bind Italy to withdraw troops from Spain after —but not before—the civil war is over, informed quarters said last week.

Italy agreed to retire troops also from the strategically important Balearic Islands in the Western Mediterranean at the same time, these sources said, after another meeting between negotiators, the Earl of Perth, British Ambassador, and Foreign Minister Count Ciano of Italy.

A—C

Japan's Thirteen Commandments

Code For Proper Conduct of the People In Wartime Has Been Laid Down

Thirteen "commandments" have been laid down for the Japanese people by the Central Federation of General Spiritual Mobilization as a code of proper conduct during wartime.

"Spiritual mobilization" was instituted in the early months of the China fighting. It is designed to condition the people, mentally and spiritually, for the duties and sacrifices the Government believes necessary. The "thirteen commandments" are:

Spiritual Mobilization

1. "Every morning, give prayers to the Imperial Grand Shrine and pray for the safety of the Imperial Family.
2. "Hoist the National Flag properly on holidays.
3. "Worship the deities and endeavor for the harmony of the family.
4. "Live on a budget, pay cash, save regularly and buy National bonds.
5. "Wear simple clothes and avoid foreign-style hair-dressing.
6. "Observe wedding, funeral and other home affairs simply but solemnly.
7. "Reform the mad custom of late to bed and late to rise.
8. "Economize on metal, wool, cotton, paper and fuel and utilize waste and other buried things.
9. "Endeavour to prevent fire and prepare for air raids.
10. "Rear the children to be strong in mind and body.
12. "Economize in drinking sake (rice wine).
12. "Be friendly to neighbors and help one another."

THE BOOK SHELF

by Elizabeth Eedy

"THE SEALERS"
By Peter Tutein

Books like "The Sealers" stand or fall, not on their literal accuracy, but on their power to make us, who have never been in the Arctic ice, feel and see the whole thing. Peter Tutein has a naive manner all his own and it is remarkably effective.

Mr. Tutein joined the Norwegian sealing steamer "Quest" in Bodo. Two winters in northern Greenland had only whetted the young Dane's appetite for the Arctic. No matter how bad the weather nor how poor the catch, the sealers always rejoin. They come back swearing they have enough, but next spring they sign again.

Heaving Slush Ice

When you are off on a voyage that lasts for months without a chance to get ashore, the last night before sailing means something. And the sealers can only get off the ship onto the ice, which is moving in all directions. Peter Tutein's account of seal hunting on the heaving slush ice is hair-raising. There is a thumbnail sketch of two of them crawling on all fours on the loose ice, their legs getting nipped now and then, when they heard a pup-seal crying. He says: "There the little creature lay, its hinder parts half buried in the ice, its foreflippers frantically beating the air. Great tears were welling from its eyes. We killed it and managed somehow to remove the skin. On all sides young seals were screaming, either from fear of going under or from sheer terror of the storm."

Natural Simple Folk

You learn about ice in this book. There is, for instance, pulp ice, which is like sinking into a bog. Horrible. Yet the sealers love it. They go back every year. Peter Tutein has made the life they lead into a most real one in book. There is nothing hard-boiled about him, or do we have to skip pages of hurricane swearing. It is all very natural. They are simple folk and they have the vast elemental outlines of the original Vikings. The icy seas are their natural element. This book, if the reader is not utterly sick of the world, is their modern saga.

"The Sealers," by Peter Tutein, 247 pp. . New York; G. P. Putnam's Sons. . . $2.50.

Thought Waves Are Just Sugar Burning

Human thought has been declared by a Harvard University scientist to be due probably to sugar burning in the brain and setting up a chain of chemical and electrical vibrations in it.

It has long been known that the brain generates currents of electricity, some of which are associated with thinking and others with other functions of the body, Dr. Frederic A. Gibbs told the American Physiological Society last week.

Research at Harvard has recently shown that these waves are the result of chemical vibrations in the brain, and that the "energy supply in the case of brain oscillations appears to be derived from the oxidation (or burning) of sugar."

Like Tuning Forks

Further studies on the electrical activity of the brain covering "indicate that it, and probably the whole brain, is an aggregation of small chemical oscillators which can join together to form large oscillators" acting like tuning forks vibrating in harmony, Dr. Gibbs added.

These chemical vibrations of the brain in turn produce the electrical brain waves. In many mental diseases these waves become unbalanced.

Take An Imaginary Journey To Moon

Stunt Is Staged By Astronomy at Hayden Planetarium — Done By Means of Projector.

A new stunt in astronomy, a trip to the moon, was put on last week by the Hayden Planetarium of the American Museum of Natural History.

Spectators at first saw the night sky and moon as it normally appears. Then with the aid of the projector and 2,000 square feet of painted scenes, they had the illusion of travelling through space toward the moon.

It grew larger by the second, until the spectators seemed to land in a moon crater. There they looked back at a sight which astronomers have verified, but which the human eye never has seen.

Blood-Red Halo

This was the earth, a big black ball far larger than the moon, hanging in space, surrounded by a blood-red halo. The halo is the color of sunset, and is made by sunlight shining through the earth's atmosphere. It is visible to the mythical "man-in-the-moon", during eclipses.

On the moon itself the spectators saw the jagged crags and mountains which telescopes disclose. They also looked back, on their return trip, to volcanic eruptions and huge meteors crashing against the moon. Astronomers are in doubt whether eruptions or meteors caused the moon's craters.

Will Erect This $3,000,000 Memorial on Site in Washington

Officially approved by the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Comission, this pantheon type structure will be erected on the Tidal Basin in Washington, D.C., as a memorial to the former President. The building will cost $3,006,000 to construct.

VOICE of the WORLD AT LARGE

CANADA

Good Drivers Rewarded

The safe driver is being recognized in the United States. Soon he will be able to buy, on a much broader scale than ever before, liability insurance on his automobile on terms which offer rewards for avoiding accidents.—Calgary Herald.

—o—

Starting Early

A writer in Belleville Intelligencer makes timely comment upon the prevalence of profanity among young people. At that, however, they may not be starting so young as in bygone days, for we read in Scripture that Job cursed the day he was born. —Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

—o—

Contented Canadians

Cigarettes released for consumption in Canada in February totalled 476,291,960, against 418,344,845 in February last year. The cigar totals were 9,602,502 and 7,375,795, respectively. If smoking is a solace, Canadians seem to be growing more contented.—Montreal Gazette.

—o—

"Master of Bohemia"

Bismarck once said that "whoever is master of Bohemia is master of Europe." Today no one is master of Bohemia and the mastery of Europe is an uncertainty that brings the danger of war close to everyone. Bohemia is now a part of Czechoslovakia, that part of Czechoslovakia peopled by the Sudeten Germans. The affairs of the Sudeten Germans may yet plunge the world into war. Bohemia is the current centre of the rapidly-shifting trouble map and the actions of its people are likely to have results of the greatest importance on people in far lands who hardly realize the Sudeten Germans exist.—Halifax Chronicle.

—o—

Planting With Optimism

If favorable weather prevails, another month will see Alberta farmers on the land and Spring work for the 1938 season fairly well launched. There is a degree of hopefulness manifest in the province this year which was not in evidence to the same extent in immediate past years. This is due to the improved moisture conditions and the expectation that a series of wet years is in sight. The farmer is a natural optimist, particularly in the Spring of the year. He would need to be in view of the adversity experienced in many parts of the province since 1930.—Calgary Herald.

—o—

Ideal Of Free Speech

A great deal of human betterment is due to rebels, agitators and martyrs, people who wanted to improve existing conditions, and said so, and often died for it. If the idea of free speech had always prevailed—if free speech had always been permitted in the world's doings—there would have been less rebellion, less bloodshed, less martyrdom, and we think probably far greater advance for humanity. With this thought, we have hope for advance in the future, notwithstanding the temporary crushers of free speech in Europe—notwithstanding the Fascists and Nazis who would crucify Communists rather than let them talk, and the Bolsheviks who would crucify Fascists and Nazis. Free speech is a principle of the English-speaking world. That principle will prevail.—Ottawa Journal.

"The blind do not need to be coddled; they do not need to be treated differently from ordinary people."

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$21.50 Solid Oak Dining-room Suite —Buffet, extension table and six leather seat chairs; new condition.

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$65.00 Beautiful 9-piece Oak Suite, buffet, extension table, china cabinet and 6 leather seat chairs. Completely refinished.

$119.00 English Oak Suite, sample, nine pieces, buffet, server, (credenza type), refectory table, closed front china cabinet and 6 leather upholstered chairs.

Kitchen Cabinets, $11.00; Breakfast Suites, 6 pieces, $13.50; Singer Sewing Machines, $12.50; Gas Stoves, $4.95; Dining-room Extension Tables, $6.50; Refrigerators, $4.95, Etc.

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MATTRESSES—SPRING BARGAINS—New Felt Mattresses, $3.50; New Spring Mattresses, $5.50; from factory to user. Veteran Bedding, 893 Queen St. West, Toronto.

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Issue No. 16—'38

A—C

HAVE YOU HEARD

Philosophy

Most things are made for various uses,
And this includes our poor excuses.

Here's one to deal with the man who tells fish stories:

He had long outstayed his welcome. At last the host said.

Host — "Tell me, how long was the fish you caught the other day?"

Guest — (holding his hands wide apart) — "Oh, so long!"

Host — "Well, so long, if you really must be going."

Passenger — "Oh, Captain, what would happen if this ship hit an iceberg?"

Captain — "Madam, the iceberg would go on its way just as if nothing had happened."

Passenger — "Oh, thank you, Captain! I feel so relieved!"

He — "Honey, would you love me just as much if I told you that I was broke?"

She — "You aren't, are you?"

He — "No."

She — "Of course I would, darling."

READ IT OR NOT!

The average depth of the ocean below sea level is 12,540 feet.

A young woman organist wanted to make a good impression on the visiting clergyman. The organ was pumped by the venerable sexton, who occasionally gave up the job, or else failed to work vigorously enough, very much to the chagrin of the fair organist.

On this very special occasion she wrote a note intended for the sexton's eyes, only, in which she said: "Oblige me this morning by blowing away till I give you the signal to stop. Miss Allen."

Imagine her discomfort to see the sexton take it up the aisle and hand it to the visiting clergyman for whom he thought it was intended!

Recruit Instructor (to a squad of new boots at the Naval Training Station) — "Halt!"

But one of them marched on.

Recruit Instructor — "See here, Jones, what did you do before joining the navy?"

Jones — "I was a teamster, sir."

Recruit Instructor (next time he gave the command) — "Squad halt, Jones whoa!"

To the man who has been forced to swim rivers, creeks look small.

Friend — "I started in life without a penny in my pocket."

Bright — "And I started in life without a pocket."

The press room philosopher who is full of years and puns, asked us the other day why a man usually makes the most racket when he is well oiled.

Officer (to midshipman in ranks) — "Sound off."

Plebe — "Midshipman MacTavish, fourth class, sir."

Officer — "Why are you late for formation?"

Plebe — "I squeezed out too much toothpaste and had a hard time getting it back into the tube, sir."

When your neighbour goes wrong, you want the home newspaper to tell all. When you go wrong, it occurs to you that the people are not concerned about your private affairs, and that your trouble has no news value. — Atchison Globe.

Love may be blind, but the average mother-in-law is an eye opener.

A Five-Ton Pain

Ever broken a tooth and experienced the agony of an exposed nerve? Or—milder, but bad enough —jumped under the probe of a dentist as he "excavated" a tooth before putting in a filling?

Consider, then, the case of "Boy," Munich Zoo elephant, who weighed more than five tons and was claimed to be the biggest elephant in Europe. In a fit of temper he charged a tree and broke off his tusks. The nerves were exposed, and his sufferings drove him frantic. They had to shoot him.

Dr. Heck, director of the Zoo, did the job with a rifle. But he wasn't taking any chances. In case the first shot failed and trouble followed, a machine-gun was in readiness.

"Boy" was 26 ft. long from trunk to tail, stood 10 ft. 6 ins. high at the shoulders, and had a girth measurement of 17½ ft.

TEN WAYS TO LOSE MONEY

Twenty years' experience looking over investment portfolios shows us that 90% of investment losses occur the following way:—

1st. **Attempting to catch the short swings of the market.**
2nd. **Acting on "TIPS" from strange salesmen.**
3rd. **Market gambling on "Short" positions.**
4th. **Trying to pick one or two "Low priced winners."**
5th. **Maintaining a precarious margin position.**
6th. **Over concentrating in one security or industry.**
7th. **Buying at the top regardless of market position.**
8th. **Investigating AFTER investing.**
9th. **Disregard for business cycles which control markets.**
10th. **Not keeping a balanced account at any time.**

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Dogs For Rent

Chicago Bureau Hires Them Out For Every Purpose

A dog-less person longing to walk a canine thoroughbred along the boulevards these spring days need not buy one. In Chicago it is possible to rent a dog by the day, week, or month. Many people do, in fact, reports Mrs. Michael Von Motzek who, with her husband, runs the odd dog livery.

It started when commercial photographers began to use dog models for their pictures.

The Von Motzeks decided to supply the demand. To their usual notice about their kennels in the classified telephone directory they added the line "dog models rented," and noted that Mr. Von Motzek had trained Airedales for Orphan Annie of the radio. That was enough. Requests began to arrive.

The business developed along unsuspected lines. A woman, lonely during her husband's absence from the city, hired a dog for company. Another family engaged a watchdog to keep an eye on their baby.

Small Fees Most Popular

Another business man rented a German shepherd dog for a party. He wanted to show his friends how well he could handle animals, he said. He returned it the next day.

"What breeds are in the greatest demand?" Mrs. Von Motzed was asked.

"It all depends upon the purpose for which a person wants a dog," she said. "Russian wolfhounds are popular for fashion shows, dobermans for the out-of-doors, and Great Danes are popular, too. Generally speaking, people that have small apartments want little dogs, while those with big houses prefer large ones."

Missed by 1,500 Miles!

Two champion Australian axemen entered for the wood-chopping events at the annual agricultural show at Maryborough, Victoria, but failed to appear. They went to Maryborough, Queensland — 1,500 miles away—by mistake.

Series of Oh's

New baby born to the Flynd family in Indiana has been named Oakley. His elder brothers are Oral, Odie, Othie, Ovie, Orval, Otis, Oscar, Oliver and Omer. Mother's name is Ollie.

2-Egg Power

A hen which regularly lays two eggs a day is owned by Mlle. Kakasovitch, who lives in a small Yugoslavian village.

GARDENING

LAWNS

For best results grass seed must be sown in the cool weather. This means, according to the experts, that all the lawns or regular work must be made well before the first of June. At this time there is usually plenty of moisture and nights are cool. Success lies in the selection of the highest type of seed. There are all kinds of qualities offered, but the best blends for permanent results prove least expensive. In Canada there are laws governing grass seed but these have been designed only to protect the inexperienced from getting a lot of weed seeds instead of grass.

With new lawns, the spade work should be done as early as possible. The main thing is to get the ground level. After digging or plowing, the ground should be allowed to settle for a few days at least, and then levelled again. If there is time, it is advisable to repeat this process several times. The top soil should then be raked fine and on a windless day the grass sown at a liberal rate, once across and then once lengthwise. This double sowing insures an even distribution. In covering, the gardener is advised to take one way only and then firm the soil with a heavy roller or pounder. The first cutting of the grass is made when about three inches high and it should be done with a very sharp mower. Frequent rolling when the ground is soft, regular mowings, and an annual application of good lawn fertilizer is advisable.

PERENNIALS

Even with a very small garden, there is a big advantage in having a few perennial flowers. With these there is something to build the rest of the garden around and there is less likely to be long blank periods when there is no bloom available. About a dozen different kinds will make a fair foundation. Here is a fair selection:

Delphinium — Hardy Chrysanthemum
Phlox — Iris
Hollyhocks — Oriental Poppies
Lillies — Dianthus
Trollius — Peonies
Yucca — Columbine

SEED CATALOGUES

Seed catalogues put out by the large firms contain much more than a mere mention of the many flowers and vegetables available in Canada. They specify important points such as time of planting, resistance or lack of resistance to frost, height, color, season of blooming, whether scented, and also the suitability of the flower for cutting purposes. All of these points should be taken into consideration in planning a real garden, as only with such knowledge can a comprehensive and practical scheme be worked out.

A Two-Ton Pain

Ever broken a tooth and experienced the agony of an exposed nerve? Or—milder, but bad enough —jumped under the probe of a dentist as he "excavated" a tooth before putting in a filling?

Consider, then, the case of "Boy," Munich Zoo elephant, who weighed more than five tons and was claimed to be the biggest elephant in Europe. In a fit of temper he charged a tree and broke off his tusks. The nerves were exposed, and his sufferings drove him frantic. They had to shoot him.

Dr. Heck, director of the Zoo, did the job with a rifle. But he wasn't taking any chances. In case the first shot failed and trouble followed, a machine-gun was in readiness.

"Boy" was 26 ft. long from trunk to tail, stood 10 ft. 6 ins. high at the shoulders, and had a girth measurement of 17½ ft.