THE NEWS INTERPRETED

A Commentary On the More Important Events of the Week.

By ELIZABETH EEDY

WATCH FRANCE: France has often been called "the key nation of Europe." Now, as never before, this designation is apt. For the eyes of all European governments are watching the shifts and changes in the French Cabinets these days, and foreign policies of many countries are modified accordingly.

An article in "Current History" points out that, since the National (Chamberlain) Government of Great Britain is a Government of the Right or Conservative element, it is greatly to its interest to have a government of the Right in France, too. Hence the break-up of the French Popular Front, coming simultaneously with the resignation of Leon Blum, Leftist Premier, last week, was cheered mightily in London.

In Berlin, too, the fall of the Blum Cabinet was hailed as the opening of a new era, with French policy more favorably disposed toward Germany. A likelihood of the early drawing away from the France-Soviet pact by the new French Government was also cause for rejoicing there, strengthening Hitler's hand to make faster work of Czechoslovakia (or Alsace-Lorraine or Danzig or Lithuania).

At home in France the nation was apparently not so pleased. Leon Jouhaux, French labor leader, claiming followers numbering six million, was furious at the forced break-up of the Popular Front, threatened a general strike of all industry. Socialists and Communists alike, who together form the largest bloc in the Chamber, cried "Down with the Daladier Government!" The former would not lend the government their support when invited to do so; the latter were excluded as being too extreme for a Centre or Right government.

For a moment, then, France was close to revolution which was kept from coming to a head by the realization that "another 1789" in France would precipitate a general European war. Why? Because civil war in France would create a situation there directly comparable to the situation in Spain; the armies of Hitler and Mussolini would undoubtedly plunge into the conflict and there you would have it.

The new government is representative of only a small section of the French people, with pressure being brought to bear on it from both the Right and the Left. The crisis is still on; France will be worth watching for the next few weeks and every new development will be significant.

CONSERVATIVE LEADER: Every day in every way the list of prospective candidates for leadership of Canada's Conservative Party is growing bigger and bigger. Sometimes rumor augments it, later to be denied. At present five candidates are prominently mentioned: Arthur Purvis, former Chairman of the National Employment Commission; Hon. Dr. R. J. Manion, former Minister of Railways and Canals; Hon. J. Earl Lawson, once Minister without portfolio in the Bennett Cabinet; Denton Massey, Toronto M. P., and Sydney Smith, President of the University of Manitoba.

WHAT HITLER MAY PROPOSE: The foreign affairs commentator who writes under the pen-name of Augur reported last week in his private service to London subscribers that Germany would propose a sensational deal for extensive territorial acquisition when Chancellor Hitler visits Premier Mussolini in Rome next month.

Augur said Germany would ask a free hand in gradual absorption of the Danubian region as far as the Black Sea. In exchange, it would offer to help Italy eventually to take from France the rich strip of French territory along the Italian border including the Savoie region and the Mediterranean port of Nice; the Mediterranean island of Corsica, and the North African possession of Tunisia.

PRESIDENTIAL SETBACK: President Roosevelt's administration staggered under an overwhelming blow dealt in the United States House of Representatives last week when a number of Democrat members "crossed the floor of the House" and voted with the other side against the President's Government Re-organization Bill. The issue was one of increasing Presidential powers to permit long overdue reforms to be made in the executive branch of the government.

Observers say the defeat in such a manner of the Re-organization Bill means a big drop in the prestige of the President, that it will mark the beginning of a nation-wide struggle between F.D.R. and his "big business" critics.

READY IN AUGUST: The long-heralded transatlantic air service on a twenty-four-hour schedule between New York and Foynes, Ireland, will start this summer, perhaps by the first of August, it was officially announced from New York last week. (Passengers and mail will be carried—commercial flights must wait till later.) According to the schedule, two planes will take off simultaneously from opposite sides of the Atlantic, an Imperial Airways "pick-a-back" plane from Ireland, a Pan-American Airways Boeing seaplane from Port Washington, N.Y.

News In Brief

Japs In Bad Position

SHANGHAI.—Foreign military observers believe the Japanese are in an extremely difficult military position in South Shantung Province, where persistent Chinese counter-attacks have put the Japanese on the defensive along the 150-Mile battlefront.

Will Not Return Properties

MEXICO CITY. — It was learned authoritatively this week that Mexico has delivered a note to the British Legation rejecting Great Britain's request that expropriated oil properties be returned to their former owners.

The note was in reply to a British protest sent to Mexico last week charging the Mexican Government was moved by "political desire" in taking the properties.

New Type Cruiser Rumored

WASHINGTON.—The Navy Department has been informed that Japan is constructing a powerful "hit and run" fleet that may revolutionize naval tactics.

Despite a screen of censorship, this Government has been advised that the island empire is building a type of super cruiser that has no match from the standpoints of speed, mobility and striking power.

Not Guilty

SAULT STE. MARIE. — Vernon Spencer, of Wixom, Mich., was a free man this week-end, after a jury had found him not guilty of murdering Helen Grier at a Long Lake cabin last October 28.

Spencer showed no emotion when the verdict was announced, and the applause which rose in the courtroom was silenced immediately.

Ice Jam Breaks Up

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont.—Break-up of the Niagara River Gorge ice jam last week took a big toll of wild life, observers reported.

William (Red) Hill, riverman, said hundreds of wild ducks were crushed as they sat on the ice field. He said thousands of perch, apparently baf-

Sneezes Are Clue To Pet Allergies

Seven In Row Sure Sign That One Is Victim of Strange Infection

If you sneeze more than six times in a row, you are almost certainly allergic.

This means, the American College of Physicians was informed last week, that you need to beware of too much touching, swallowing or breathing of the things that cause allergies.

Allergy means sensitization. It includes headaches, skin rashes, dyspepsia, unaccountable swellings, watery eyes and nose, hay fever and some asthmas.

Dry Skin Good Protection

The things you must beware of contacting to excess range from good food like milk and oatmeal to horse-hair and feathers, to cosmetics and even medicines that may now and then be needed to save your life.

All this was brought out in a new point of view on the queer class of ills named allergies, presented by Dr. Richard A. Kern, of the University of Pennsylvania. The new view is that it is now possible for doctors to tell who is subject to catching one of these strange infections and to warn him how to avoid it.

Heredity, Dr. Kern said, is the first and easiest way to tell whether you are susceptible to the allergies. A dry skin, Dr. Kern said, is a good protection.

Art Of Eating

Some Valuable Pointers—Moderation, Pleasant Atmosphere, Rest Help Health

We are very often told how to eat and how important it is that our meals consist of a variety of foods. The proper selection of foods is the first item to be considered, and the next is to eat food in the right way after it has been selected. The following suggestions are made to cover the important subjec of How to Eat:

Moderation should be practised at all times. It is harmful to over-eat, even of the proper foods. Excess does harm; it throws an unreasonable strain on the body and so tends to wear it out early. Premature old age is the common result of neglect of the watchword "moderation."

Meals should be eaten in a quiet, restful manner. Food is not readily digested when the body is tired, or when the individual is worried or angry. A rest before meals is recommended to overcome body fatigue. Arguments or scoldings should never be carried on at meal-time. Active exercise should not be taken immediately after eating. Exercise is needed by the body, but so is rest, and one of the times when comparative rest is required by the body is after eating.

Thoroughly Chewed

This same idea of rest is the reason why meals should be eaten regularly. The number of meals and the hour for meals is a matter of individual preference and custom. When meals are eaten irregularly, or when food is taken between meals, the digestive system is not given the periods of rest which it requires if it is to do its work properly. Eating between meals should be avoided. The person who requires extra nourishment should take it regularly.

Nature has provided means for the mastication of food. Food should be eaten slowly and it should be thoroughly chewed before it is swallowed. It should not be washed down with a drink before it is masticated. There is no objection to the use of beverages in moderation with meals, but they should be taken when the mouth is empty.

Moderation at all times!—that is How to Eat!

The Papers Say

EDITORIAL COMMENT FROM HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE.

CANADA

Morning's the Time

A watch that is wound in the morning will last longer. The tightly wound main spring will stand the shocks and jars of day better than a loose main spring. For the same reason people are fresher and do better work in the mornings. By night they get run down.—Windsor Star.

—o—

Better Be Careful

Dr. W. T. Crombie, Superintendent of Queen Alexandra Sanitarium, London, Ontario, and noted authority on tuberculosis, has an unpleasant thought for us. If proper tests were taken, he asserts half of the population of Canada would be shown to have tuberculosis. Not that they should be in sanitaria, decidedly not, but they should protect themselves against care and overwork lest they find themselves there. — Canadian Magazine.

—o—

A Big Attraction

Every effort must be put forth by the authorities at Queen's Park to conserve and increase the game fish and wild life in general in this province. That the great Northern Ontario playgrounds and fisherman's paradise are the main attractions to American tourists who left something like $295,000,000 in this province in 1937, is evidenced in the constant stream of inquiries flowing into the Canadian Travel Bureau each spring. —Guelph Mercury.

—o—

Canada's War Debt

As shown by the Canada Year Book the war and demobilization expenditures of Canada up to and including the fiscal year 1920 totalled $1,670,466,236. In the next three years, 1921-23, there were further expenditures of $23,000,000 odd and since then there have been additional small items chargeable to war. These figures apply only to actual war expenditures. To get the cost of the war there would have to be added to them the large, continuing, outlays for pensions. From 1914 to 1920 the gross debt of Canada rose steeply from $544,391,369 to $3,041,529,578. This enormous increase was chiefly but not entirely due to the war expenditures.—Kingston Whig-Standard.

—o—

Those Royal Commissions

The Ottawa Journal laments the now familiar orgy of royal commissions which has marked our Canadian political scene in the past few years . . .

But it is a splendid way for a government to skate around responsibility; it is assumed that by appointing a commission they have "done something about it."

The list of commissions in the past few years would be an impressive one. Whether the price of clearing the air in some cases was worth the cost is an open question. Yet one might well wonder when the responsibility of politicians in action begins and where it ends—or if the royal commission is going to become a convenient vehicle for holding electoral support.—Hamilton Spectator.

THE EMPIRE

Inconsistency

The whole of Hungary's agricultural labor market has been disorganized. Why? Because Germany has engaged 20,000 Hungarian agricultural laborers for work in East Prussia.

Yet Germany still keeps up her demands for colonies, saying that she needs to find an outlet for her surplus population. — London Sunday Express.

—o—

"It Has No Parallel"

Those in Canada who cherish the freedom of speech, writing, and public meeting guaranteed by the Constitution are much concerned at the "Padlock" Act recently passed in Quebec. The measure has no parallel in a British Dominion. One clause declares it to be illegal for any house to be used to "propogate communism or bolshevism by any means whatsoever," though it is to be noted that in no part of the Act is any attempt made to define these pernicious doctrines . . . Among elementary principles of British constitutional government are freedom of speech, of the press, and of public meeting, subject to the limitations of the criminal law; the right of a man to a fair trial in open court if charged with an offence; and the freedom of the home from arbitrary search. All of these are violated by the new Act, and the anxiety of liberal opinion throughout Canada at the reactionary nature of the measure can well be understood.—Manchester Guardian.

"Perhaps some day we will all think of armies as police forces to preserve the peace of the world and they will become that instead of forces of aggression."—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

"The stock market has no more real effect on American business than the results of a dog race in California."—Henry Ford.

The BOOK SHELF

By ELIZABETH EEDY

MURDER ON SAFARI, by Elspeth Huxley.

A new type of murder story came into being last autumn with the publication of Elspeth Huxley's "Murder at Government House," which was at once a satire on high official life in Chania colony and a cracking good thriller. All-round fun. Now Mrs. Huxley has done it again with "Murder on Safari."

Vachell, the Canadian sleuth who tracked down the killer of Chania's Governor, is back, too, with some even stranger problems to solve. Can a herd of buffaloes prove the alibi of Rutley, Lady Baradale's conceited chauffeur? Why did the elephants take alarm and move mysteriously away? Who put walnuts on the improvised coffin containing the remains of Lady Baradale? Then there's the thrilling climax in which Vachell sets a trap for the murderer with himself as bait.

The characterization, the witty style and the swift-moving action of the plot grip the reader's interest from the first page to the last, and vividly re-create, from the writer's first-hand knowledge, the sights, sounds and smells of the African wilds in which the scene is set.

Murder on Safari, by Elspeth Huxley, pub. by Reginald Saunders, Toronto. $2.

10,000 Murphys Attend Picnic

Justice Charles S. Murphy of Worcester, Mass., announced this week this his annual "Murphy Day" will be held June 19 and said he expects 10,000 Murphys to show up.

And with that he started conning directories. Every New England Murphy whom he finds therein will get an invitation. Five thousand came out last summer.

Rattlesnake Rheuma...

Chinese Ch... Imports

Express ... Goderich, ... marked "Liv... gerly fasting ... air holes ... screens, ... not prevent ... tion.

The ratt... a Chinese ... cago, were ... 200-pound ... suffered fo... tism.

Clear...

It was not ... the consignee ... heads off the ... cleaned and ... liquor, to ... concoction ... the Chinese ... rheumatism, ... in occidental ...

The rattles... ready for st... it is aged, ... rheumatic cu... members of ... gathered at ...

They s...

Express and ... Goderich have ... but this is the ... they have ... Canadians ... they like, for ... there being ... tariff to cover ...

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$69.00 Large Dining Suite in rich walnut finish, dresser, chiffrobe, triple mirrored vanity, full size bed and mattress spring. Completely refinished.

$49.00 Beautiful three-piece Suite in two-tone walnut finish, dresser with swing mirror, chiffonier, full size bed complete with spring and mattress. Thoroughly reconditioned.

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

$45.00 Nine Piece Dining-room Suite in solid oak, buffet, extension table, china cabinet and 6 leather seat chairs. Completely refinished.

$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, 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, **$13.50**; Gas Stoves, **$4.95**; Dining-room Extension Tables, **$6.50**; Refrigerators, **$4.95**, Etc.

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Being Hard-Boiled Is Not Desirable

Preacher Editor Thinks Sentimentality Is Great Need In Life

The words "hard-boiled" have become too common in world affairs, Rev. Robert Graham, B.A., associate editor of the New Outlook, declared in a sermon to young people at a special service at Bellefair United Church, Toronto. Mr. Graham said that it was a sad state of affairs when people denied the presence of sentiment in their lives.

"Some people nowadays profess dislike for sentiment," he said, as he pointed out the prevalence of the self-confessed "hard-boiled" person. Sentiment in writing, reading or thinking has come to be looked on as something childish, he said.

"Nothing But Machines"

"Hard-boiled" are two words that have become too frequently used of late and too many people love to boast that they are "hard-boiled" he said. As a matter of fact, he said, it isn't anything to boast about, for the man or woman who does not possess a heart and cannot feel sentimental at times is dead.

"And the man or woman or business firm who knows not sentiment are nothing but machines and they do not know the real glory of life," he added.

Signs Point Out Onset of Stroke

Curb Is Found For Apoplexy — Withkin Foundation Able to Foresee and Prevent It.

Apoplexy, the "stroke" which heretofore has killed without warning, can now be foreseen and warded off, the American College of Physicians was informed recently.

Eight definite signs which foretell the approach of one of these apoplectic strokes (cerebral hemorrhage) were described by Dr. Albert S. Hyman, director of the Withkin Foundation for the study and prevention of heart disease.

A treatment which reduces blood pressure has been developed by the foundation and proved to be effective in 81 per cent. of the cases treated," he said.

Japanese whalers will send observers to the international Antarctic whaling conference.

....Gardening Notes...

QUICK GARDENS

There are hundreds of annual flowers which may be satisfactorily planted by the person who is not going to stay long in one place. These annuals will make their full growth in a few weeks and bloom profusely from next June until frost. Vegetable gardens, too, can be developed in a few weeks and will give ample returns in the same year.

Even a fair layout of grounds can be carried out by a tenant. Quickly growing grass will make a very fine lawn in less than six weeks and one infinitely better than a patch of mixed grass and weeds. Instead of permanent shrubbery and bushes, a perusal of any good seed catalogue will disclose many bushy annuals among the flowers and some climbers which grow up to twenty feet in a few months. There are at least a score of big, bushy annuals which reach a height of from four to seven feet and can be used for screening just as effectively as tall, slower growing shrubs.

EARLY VEGETABLES

The first of the garden peas, leaf lettuce, radish and spinach will be among the earliest vegetables sown. These may be planted as soon as the ground is fit to work. All of the first named seeds should be sown at least three times, at intervals of ten days so that there will be a succession of vegetables. The second sown will be carrots, beets, onions, potatoes, etc, that can stand a little frost, and then the beans, corn and tomato, cabbage and cauliflower plants, etc., which kill with frost. Final seeding or planting will be those hot weather vegetables like lima beans, squash, well started egg and pepper plants, cucumbers, melons and similar things.

WHY WE CULTIVATE

A constantly cultivated garden, will seldom be affected by drought. This stirring of the top soil prevents evaporation of moisture and it also keeps down those robbers of plant food and water — weeds. Especially during the early part of the season is cultivation necessary, and more particularly after each shower. With some of the many hand, horse or tractor-drawn garden cultivators on the market, this task is done quickly and without the old time back-ache.

FORGET-ME-NOTS

A few sweet herbs in a corner of the garden will be welcome kitchen material. They are inexpensive when grown from seed.

The brilliant orange coloring in carrots, called carotene, is the sign of high vitamin content scientists tell us.

The best way to assure an adequate supply of cut flowers is to plant a few rows in the vegetable garden.

See that your tools, mower and lawn roller are in condition for service. A little oil here and there will remove and prevent rust.

Plant at least a few of the outstanding novelties this year. Many of them are improvements over old varieties, and will be a welcome change.

Don't pass up a garden because you have but a small space of ground, or because you think the soil is too poor. Any small area will raise something, even if only a bit of lettuce and radishes, and by following one crop with another, you can have a whole season's supply.

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Seas May Become 150 Feet Deeper

Then Montreal Must Be Moved Inland, Declares Noted Geologist, Dr. A. P. Coleman; Lake Ontario's Bottom Tipping.

Toronto is to have a warmer climate; the temperature will be four or five degrees higher on the average, according to Dr. Arthur Philemon Coleman, professor emeritus of the University of Toronto, and one of the world's leading geologists.

Toronto he sees as an important inland port because the ocean will be 150 feet deeper. The bottom of Lake Ontario will continue to tip, forming marshes in the Humber and in other rivers flowing into it near Toronto.

All this will happen thousands of years from now, for Dr. Coleman speaks in thousands and tens of thousands of years.

About 16,000 years ago, ice lay over Toronto's Scarboro bluffs, he said to the Toronto Star. That is why Toronto remains for him the most interesting part of the world. In the rocks of Scarboro and the Don Valley he can read the history of past ages.

His studies of Toronto's prehistoric history have produced the theory at the bottom of the Lake Ontario is tipping. The evidence is that the lake has overflowed its southern shore and marshes have formed in the Humber. Credit and other rivers near Toronto.

"It will be warmer here," he predicted. "The climate will be like Pennsylvania or Ohio. As the ice melts the temperature gradually rises —about one degree a century. When the ice has all melted the oceans will rise 150 feet—Montreal will have to be moved inland — Toronto will be nearer the ocean.

"It is dangerous to prophesy," Dr. Coleman added, "but none of us will be here to see these things."

Horse's Owner Sued For Watch Swallowed

Mrs. Gertrude A. Canniff, a Peekskill (N.Y.) housewife, filed a damage suit for $1,950 this week against Mrs. Samuel Schiffer, of Elberon, N.J., charging that a prize stallion owned by Mrs. Schiffer bit her hand and swallowed her wristwatch as she passed a stall at the Peekskill Horse Show in November.

Mrs. Canniff asked $450 for the watch and $1,500 for personal damages. Her husband, Adrian Canniff, also filed suit, asking $5,000 for medical expenses and loss of his wife's services.

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A—C

HAVE YOU HEARD

God's best gift to a man is a loyal, faithful wife and His best gift to her is a husband who has the desire, the ability and the opportunity to work, care for her, and make her happy.

—o—

There was a loud knock at the door, and the doctor, who had just settled down for a nap, got up indignantly.

Doctor (to little boy standing outside)—"What is it?"

Boy—"I've been bitten by a dog!"

Doctor (crossly)—"Well, don't you know that my surgery hours are from 3 to 7?"

Boy (sadly) — "Yes, but the dog didn't."

—o—

Patsy—"You say you want to reduce? Why don't you try golf?"

Patsy—"I tried that once, but it's no good. When I put the ball where I can see it, I can't hit it, and when I put it where I can hit it I can't see it."

—o—

The Real Test

Thoughts, no matter how great they may be,
Of life form but a fraction;
Thoughts alone are worthless, you see,
Unless they are backed by action.

—o—

A homely young Englishman, whose view was obstructed by the headgear of the girl in front of him, ventured to protest:

Young Englishman (leaning over)—"See here, Miss, I want to look as well as you."

Young Miss (in a rich cockney accent)—"Oh, do you? Then you'd better run home and change your face."

—o—

Boogy—"I presume that when your son went to college he was inoculated with the love of learning."

Woogy—"Yes, but it didn't take."

Read it Or Not

Gorillas, like human beings, are right-handed normally.

—o—

Proprietor of Mountain Hotel (to newly arrived guest)—"This is your room, sir. If you want a fine view over the mountains, put a dime in the slot and the shutters open for five minutes."

—o—

Stick To It!

If the task is mighty tough — Stick to it.
If the way is long and rough—Stick to it.
Overcome it, mile by mile,
Meet its hardships with a smile,
Courage is the thing worth while — Stick to it.

—o—

Professor—"If I have talked too long, it's because I haven't my watch with me, and there's no clock in this hall."

Student—"There's a calendar behind you."

—o—

Most people don't mind doing a little charity work secretly, says an exchange, if they're sure they will be caught at it.

Edith—"What did you tell Clarence when he asked you for a date?"

Ruth—"Maybe yes, maybe no."

Edith—"Then where did he take you?"

—o—

Wife (at breakfast)—"Could I have a little money for shopping today, dear?"

Husband — "Certainly. Would you rather have an old five or a new one?"

Wife—"A new one of course."

Husband—"Well, here's the one — and that makes me just $4 to the good."

Pulpwood Needs Require Study

Lakehead Industrialist Asks For Commission to Investigate Northwest Ontario's Problems

Problems and opportunities facing Northwestern Ontario "in this cellulose age require the appointment of a commission of non-political and practical business men working in close co-operation with the Ontario government to develop its natural resources," Edward E. Johnson, Lakehead industrialist said, in an address at Forth William last week.

He said the government cannot be held responsible for whatever effect the recession in business has affected the pulpwood and newsprint expansion plans. At the same time, he believed that looking toward greater diversification of industry, local operators should be given the right to develop plants on areas in default to the crown and utilize those species of timber not required by pulp and paper mills.

Yields Million Cords

Mr. Johnson said Thunder Bay district has a sustained yield of 1,000,000 cords per annum of all species with a natural, tributary market free with purchases. All merchandise thoroughly cleaned and re-conditioned and sold under a definite money back guarantee of satisfaction.

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AT HOME 20 WEEKS WITH RHEUMATISM

Wife Feared Husband Would Never Work Again

When her husband had been at home 20 weeks with rheumatism in his back, this woman began to think he would never work again. At last, she said to him: "Let's try Kruschen", and the change that took place was, in her own words, "like a miracle." Here is her letter:

"My husband is subject to rheumatism and suffered terribly with his back. Some time ago, I had him in the house 20 weeks with it. I really didn't think he would ever work again. We tried all the different kinds of salts you could mention, but none of them did him any good. Then I said, 'Let's try Kruschen.' Since then, we have proved Kruschen Salts to be worth its weight in gold. My husband is back at his job, thanks to Kruschen. The change it made is like a miracle."—(Mrs.) B. Two of the salts in Kruschen are the most effectual solvents of uric acid crystals known to science. They swiftly dull the sharp edges of the painful crystals and convert them into a harmless solution, which is then expelled through the natural channels.

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THE WONDERLAND OF OZ

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In a short time General Blug, the commander of the Gnome King's armies, appeared. This gnome was known far and wide as a terrible fighter and a cruel, desperate commander. He had fifty thousand gnome soldiers, all well drilled, who feared nothing but their stern commander, and yet General Blug was a trifle uneasy when he arrived and saw how angry the Gnome King was.

"Ha! So you're here!" cried the King. "So I am," said the General. "March your army at once to the Land of Oz, capture and destroy the Emerald City, and bring back to me my magic belt!" roared the King. "You're crazy," remarked the General, calmly "What's that? What's that?" cried the Gnome King, dancing around on his pointed toes, he was so enraged.

"You dont know what you're talking about," continued the General, seating himself upon a large cut diamond. "I advise you to stand in a corner and count sixty before you speak again." The King looked around for something to throw at General Blug but as nothing was handy, he began to consider that perhaps the man was right. So he pulled at his whiskers and g... at King.

"In the first place," said the General, "we can't march across the desert to the Land of Oz, and if we could, the ruler of that country, Princess Ozma, has certain magic powers that would render my army helpless. And you not lost your magic belt you might have some chances of defeating her, but the belt is gone." "I want it," screamed the King. "I must have it! You're got to get it."