

# British Government Prepares War Insurance Scheme

## Civilians and Soldiers Covered on Equal Terms

### Compensation for Property Destroyed as Well as Death or Disablement of Breadwinners

LONDON, Feb. 2.—The British Columbia Government is preparing to embark on the biggest war risk insurance scheme ever devised, in which civilian and front line soldier are placed on equal terms.

It is designed to frustrate any attempt to bring this country to a compulsory premium in time of war.

Land Property War Risk Not Available in Canada

MONTREAL, Feb. 2.—A Canadian wishing to insure his property in this country against damage from war would be unable to do so, a prominent insurance broker here said, commenting on the British government's plan of national insurance to provide compensation by the state for war damage.

War risk insurance is not being sold on land property in any part of the world, and has not been sold since Jan. 1, 1938, when insurance underwriters decided on a policy of restriction, he said.

Water-borne property may be insured against war damage in Canada, but not land property.

INSULARITY ZONE

When war seemed to be only a matter of hours in September, many people discovered their dismay that they were unable to get their property against war risks.

That decision had been taken two years before by the big insurance companies, watching the lessons of the Spanish war.

The scheme once again brings home to the British people the fact that their island security has disappeared with the development of military aircraft. It also means a civilian will be unable to sit back in perfect comfort in the next war—as an insurance risk he is just as valuable as the front line soldier.

The government scheme is under two heads, life and property. As regards the first, civilians injured and their dependents will be compensated by the state on the same scale as a private soldier recruited for the army. Compensation also will be given in the event of the death or serious disablement of breadwinners.

The principle underlying this aspect of the scheme is that civilians will be exposed to a common danger which the state will be trying to counteract.

IN EMBRYO STAGE

As regards property, the scheme at present is more vague. It has been decided to pay compensation on the highest scale which the country can afford after the war is over, damage being asked at the time by a government board.

Essential property, however, would be rebuilt on compensation by the state. This also applies to stock and commodities which might be destroyed.

The scheme also will cover marine war risks on a reinsurance plan with commercial companies on a premium basis.

Premium features of the scheme are only in the embryonic stage, but it is understood civilians would pay none. Regarding commodity stocks, there will be a registration fee in peace time and

## PRIVATE LIVES

By Edwin Cox



CARE SOCIETY STYLE NOTE: GLADYS PARKER WHO COMBINES THE PROFESSIONS OF COMIC ARTIST AND FASHION DESIGNER, HAS BEEN APPEARING AT THE FAMED STORK CLUB IN WOODEN SHOES.



ALICE IN WONDERLAND! THE EYE-PLEASING TENNIS QUEEN ALICE MARBLE IS NOW NIGHT-CLUB SINGING AT THE WALDORF. UNDER HER EVENING DRESS IS A FULL COMPLIMENT OF 'WOOLIES'—WORN BECAUSE OF CALIFORNIA TRAINED FEARS "THOSE EASTERN WINTERS."

COLUMNIST HEYWOOD BROWN MAY BE CHIEFLY KNOWN AS A FRIEND OF THE PROLETARIAT, BUT HE'S ALSO AN EXPERT JUDGE OF HIS FAVORITE DISH—FRESH CAVIAR!

## The Day in Parliament

TODAY—In the House the address debate will continue, with Hughes (Cons., Lib., Halton) leading off. A vote is expected this afternoon or tonight. The Senate stands adjourned to Feb. 14.

YESTERDAY—The House heard A. J. Anderson (Con., Toronto-High Park) demand repudiation of the Breen machine-gun contract. Premier King said the contract will be probed by the public accounts committee. He made this disclosure after Grant MacNeil (C.C.F., Vancouver North) charged he had been threatened in an attempt to dissuade him from proceeding with his original motion for a public accounts committee inquiry. The Senate did not sit.

day, at 8 p.m. The meeting is under auspices of West Point Grey Improvement Association. Paul Volpe and Robert Smith will oppose. Frank Wiggs and Ray Anderson.

## Fewer Licenses for Japanese Fishermen

### Ottawa Cuts Total Down by 21 Per Cent; Pressure By B. C. Members Bringing Results

By BRUCE HUTCHINSON

OTTAWA, Feb. 2.—Less Japanese will be permitted to fish in British Columbia waters this year, as a result largely of the pressure of Thomas Reid, member for New Westminster and A. W. Neil, of Comox-Alberni.

The number of Japanese boat pullers licenses will be cut from 317 last year to 250 this year, a reduction of 21 per cent. The licenses to Japanese fishermen will remain at last year's level, 2031 out of a total of 13,050 licenses.

White fishermen do not use boat pullers, since one man can operate a modern fishing boat, but Japanese use boat pullers who operate the boats while man with fishing license sleeps in the boat.

For instance, the result of the Halifax pact can be published in Halifax and Nova Scotia but not in the other provinces until their polls have closed.

RADIO BAN

Anyone sending these results into an area where the polls are still open is liable to a penalty. This includes broadcasting from a local station in Eastern Canada before their polls closed and this had an influence on western voters, it is claimed.

In the coming election no returns may be published except locally until all polls from Coast to Coast are closed.

For instance, the result of the Halifax pact can be published in Halifax and Nova Scotia but not in the other provinces until their polls have closed.

Half a million young Canadians have reached voting age since the last election and the total of those eligible to vote runs now to about 6,500,000.

Walter Gray Freed

NEW WESTMINSTER—Walter H. Gray, marine gas station attendant, was arrested in county court, Wednesday, on a charge of being in possession of narcotics allegedly stolen from the city market, Dec. 22. The court heard there was a conflict of evidence.

## Probe Motors Around From Tank to Tank

### Gasoline Storage Inquiry 'Takes to Field'

Wednesday afternoon was field day for amateur fire protectionists as Vancouver's gasoline and oil storage probe, left the solemn precincts of the Assize Court and took to the open.

Without the hindrance of parliamentary procedure the oil men and Mayor Talbot argued the relative degree of fire hazard created by city oil storage tanks.

Col. Eric Popler, Deputy Attorney-General, who is acting as commissioner, to inquire into the alleged vulnerability of methods of gasoline and oil storage, adjourned the inquiry, to see first-hand the actual conditions of storage.

MAYOR TAKES PICTURES

He took no part in the afternoon free-for-all debate, but stalked solemnly through a thorough inspection of tanks at the Union Oil Co. plant at the foot of Bute Street; the tanks near the C.N. dock and the Union Oil Co. plant at Venables Street.

Passers-by joined the procession in several instances and freely offered their advice.

A photographer followed Mayor Talbot and recorded the trip. Captain H. Bowring, city fire warden, reiterated statements made earlier in the inquiry that all oil and gasoline storage plants in the city should be provided with foam fire fighting equipment.

At present, in his opinion, only the Standard Oil Co. plant at the foot of Dunley Street, is adequately protected.

BONFIRE NEAR TANKS

An objection lesson in public carelessness was pointed out when a man was discovered tending a small bonfire near the oil tanks at the shore end of the C.N. dock.

Fire Chief Archie McDermid and Capt. Bowring stamped the fire out when the man admitted he had no permit.

Henry Betat, plant superintendent for the Imperial Oil Com-

again tomorrow!

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September 26, 1938.

The Manager, Coke Sales Dept.

Dear Sir:

I am burning your new Briquets in my Hot Water Heater, and have been so pleased with results obtained that I thought I ought to tell you about it.

With your Briquets I have to attend the fires only three or four times a day. This gives me more leisure for other work, an item which is much appreciated.

My fires hold overnight, and with a little attention in the morning they are soon going for the day.

Being a caretaker of an apartment the disposal of garbage is an important item, I find the garbage burns away very easily on top of a Briquet fire.

I get no more ash than I used to get from coal.

I do not live in the building, and when I am away I can depend on the Briquets to keep the fires going, and giving the tenants all the hot water they want.

These advantages, coupled with the considerable saving in hard cash, are very gratifying to my employer.

Yours sincerely,

Gorden Ramsay.

Caretaker, Oaklyn Apts.

## Can't Tell 'How East is Going'

By THOMAS WAIVING

Vancouver's Staff Correspondent

OTTAWA, Feb. 2.—The influence of eastern election returns on western voters will be eliminated in the next general election by amendments made to the Elections Act.

In former elections, Alberta and British Columbia voters heard the returns from Eastern Canada before their polls closed and this had an influence on western voters, it is claimed.

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For instance, the result of the Halifax pact can be published in Halifax and Nova Scotia but not in the other provinces until their polls have closed.

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