

# The Vancouver Sun

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A newspaper devoted to progress and democracy,  
tolerance and freedom of human thought.

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## Our Fisheries Well Rid of The Japanese

Sockeye salmon were caught yesterday out of the sea, canned and crated for shipment to Britain, on a breath-taking scale unprecedented in fishing history on this coast—all without benefit of the Japanese.

Here is the lesson of this unique harvest of the finest food fish in the world.

From Steveston last evening thousands of lights twinkled in the west. Against the black background of the shores of Vancouver Island in the distance, it looked as if a new city had been born. For a stretch of ten miles the lights glowed in great numbers. Fishermen manning the fleet may have contained a smattering of people foreign-born, but not a single Japanese was among them. At least give the B.C. Security Commission credit for eliminating Nippon from the fishing industry of this coast. Only reminders of the former occupation were the darkened tenements of Steveston, their windows boarded up. By next season they may be reoccupied—but not by Japanese.

Packing plants worked far into the night. A few Chinese and a sprinkling of Filipinos joined with the whites in the cannery jobs, but here again the inside work formerly dominated by Japanese girls and women was proceeding very smoothly indeed without them and by our own people.

More than 40 years ago the Japanese stole the sockeye fisheries from the whites. Yesterday, the market was willing to pay \$1 each for these splendid fish. In 1900 the ruling price was 10 cents. When white fishermen sought to obtain an increase of 12 cents

the Japanese broke the strike, manned the boats, delivered their catch to the canneries—they seized the producing end of the industry and for all the intervening seasons until this year the Japanese kept on shouldering out whites and Indians. The industry itself had accepted the conclusion—now proved so erroneous—that the Fraser fishery could not do without the Japs. Today the business of fishing and packing, on a schedule so huge as to break all previous records, has gone on so successfully that everyone connected with the industry is heartily glad that the Japanese are out. And they earnestly hope the tricky yellow men are out for good. They certainly are not indispensable.

The Sun is not vindictive in this matter. But certain facts have come to light which show how these Japanese fishery people have played us for suckers, in our generous Canadian hospitality. During the last few years the good old Fraser sockeye has furnished important cash contributions to help Japan in her war against China. The last fishing season here was only five months before Pearl Harbor. It is a matter of official record that twice as many dollars, in millions, were transmitted from Steveston to Tokyo during the last half of 1941 than in any previous year. It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that some sinister intention was being pursued at our expense in this part of Canada.

We have got rid of the Japanese after a lengthy tolerance. We don't want them back, on any conditions, at any time.

### Badly Designed Investment

More than half a million dollars of taxpayers' money has gone into the futile drilling for oil at Commotion Creek. Nothing has come out of the hole and the venture is a dead loss.

There never was any justification for gambling government funds in this pet project of Mr. Pattullo's. Our former premier was more oil-minded than expertly judicial when he insisted on going into an experiment in wild-catting that previously had not been attempted by any other government on this continent or anywhere else, so far as we know.

An additionally bad feature is that for a year now the people on the ground, the men doing the actual drilling, have realized that the prospect for finding oil was so remote as to be worthless in all its practical possibilities and yet the work, becoming more expensive all the time, went on.

It was unthinkable, of course, to close down any public expenditure in the face of last October's provincial election; and when that was out of the way the new coalition government evidently did not wish to exhibit undue haste making an adverse decision which might reflect on the previous management. Now the facts have become so overwhelming against continuation of the project that the shutdown is ordered.

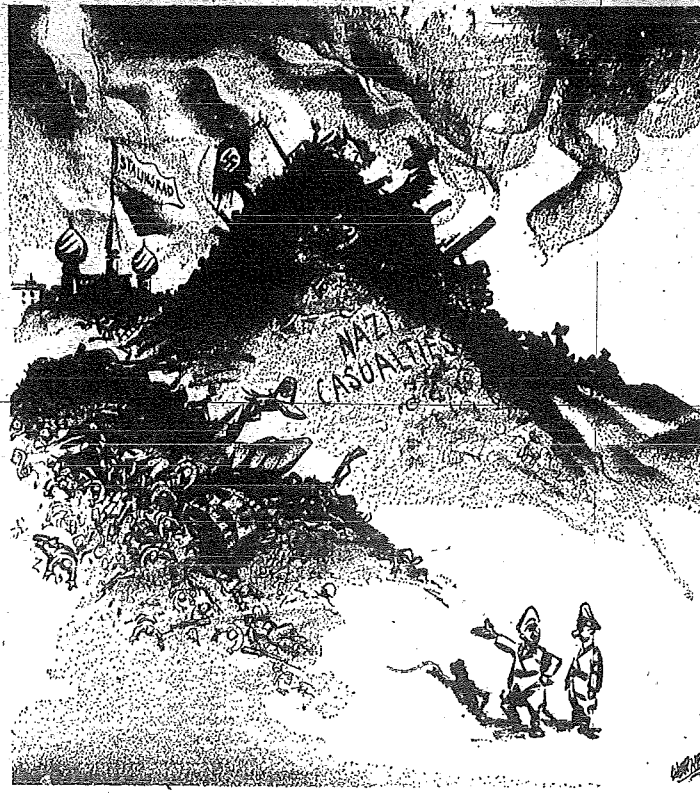
Only good that can come out of Commotion Creek is the advertisement that perhaps some other location in the neighborhood may have a better chance of success. If the federal government can reach an agreement with oil companies who have the equipment and the experience and the cash to engage in drilling for oil in new fields, then some action in the Peace River district

### Willkie Visits Ankara

Mr. Wendell Willkie, President Roosevelt's ambassador of goodwill at large, has called at Ankara after visiting the Egyptian front and discussing Egyptian affairs with King Farouk. The German foreign office made a great effort to prevent this visit to the Turk capital. Von Papen, the time-serving German ambassador, pulled every string in his very large locker to minimize the important part Mr. Wendell Willkie plays in American domestic affairs by endeavoring to convey to the Turkish people that Mr. Willkie was merely a private citizen and had no official status whatsoever: But to the Turkish people Mr. Willkie represents something more than even the personal representative of President Roosevelt. To them he is the leader of the political opposition to the government of the United States and as such he is the symbol of the kind of liberty for which the United States is fighting. To them he is the personification of the United Nations, because he, the political rival of the president, is at the same time his trusted messenger. That is of profound significance throughout the Middle East.

Turkey has stated that she will fight if invaded and, despite all von Papen could do, she has steadfastly refused to allow herself to be turned into a highway for the passage of the Nazi hordes to the Middle East. By this refusal, which obviously convinced the Nazis themselves, Turkey has rendered a significant service to the United Nations. It meant that to invade the Caucasus Hitler either had to fight his way through difficult country with poor communications and against notoriously hard fighters or to break through from North Africa or the Ukraine and Cossack Country. The Turkish army is not well equipped by

## Sweep Up, So I Can See What I've Won



## Common People of Canada Make Great Sacrifices for War

By GRANT DEXTER

Three years ago today, September tenth, Canada declared war.

No nation could have been less ready for war than we were in September, 1939. We had never made a gun or a tank. We were without experience in modern war with its infinite complexities. Our army wasn't worth mentioning. Our air force had been all but disbanded in the depression. Our navy comprised a dozen ships and a few hundred officers and ratings. There were not enough modern weapons in the country to equip a platoon. Aircraft that were not obsolete could be counted on the fingers of one hand.

Three years have passed; years which, no doubt, are more arbitrary division points in an epic struggle. This much, however, is true. No generation of Canadians ever faced so great a challenge or responded so magnificently. Nothing in our past approaches the achievements of these years.

No one in 1939, in 1940 or in 1941 could or did foresee the future. No one, as the record proves, believed we could do what we have done. Indeed, our war power today is so great and so complex that few realize its sweep.

Because they are cold and impersonal, facts cannot really tell the story. Nevertheless, here are a few of them.

In terms of dollars, we had previously been spending about \$14 millions per year on defense. In the first year of the war the outgo rose to \$299 millions; in the second to \$1,016 millions. In the third year, up to July 31, the outlay was \$1,609 millions on our war account. And there will be another \$200 millions for August—say \$1,800 millions in all.

### Big Aid to Britain

The months tell the same story, possibly more impressively. In that first September of war, the cost was \$3,864,000. The second war September cost \$66,676,000. In September, 1941, the cost was \$90,501,000. The fourth September? About \$225,000,000. The monthly outgo both in March and May of this year exceeded \$200 millions and costs are still rising swiftly.

And that is only our own war effort. We are, in addition, a supplier of war material to our allies—chiefly to Britain. In the first two years of war we were paid by Britain through the extinguishing of Canadian debt held there. But there was not enough of this debt to meet the torrent of our aid, so last spring we passed a law making a free gift of \$100 millions to Britain. In April

World War I, although the last war was largely an infantry war.

In 1914-18 we never had more than 275,000 in war industry. Already we have three times as many in war plants and the total continues to increase.

Take taxation. In the last war we inflated the cost of the war, making the crash of 1921 inevitable. Ten cents in the dollar was the limit of our taxation for war.

Tax revenues in 1938-39 were \$413 millions; in 1939-40, \$541 millions; in 1940-41, \$859 millions; in 1941-42, \$1,463 millions; in the current fiscal year the total will exceed \$2,000 millions. The average citizen, married but without dependents, earning \$2,000 per year, paid no income tax before the war. In 1940 he paid \$75; in 1941, \$175. In 1942 the government will take \$431 from him.

Inflation, so far, has been avoided. Taxation has helped but the common people have shown real capacity to sacrifice. When war came in August, 1914, the cost of living index was 102. Three years later it was 134.4 and it was rising from 1 to 2 points per month. The great bubble was swelling and would reach the explosion point at 1939 in post war years.

In September, 1939, the cost of living index was 100 and it had risen to 115 when the price ceiling was imposed in October, 1941. Today it is 117 and it declined a fraction of a point in July.

The buying power of our dollar is being maintained. The 1914 dollar was worth about 50 cents in 1920 in terms of what it would buy. The 1939 dollar has lost a little but it is holding steady—because all of us have accepted the discipline of taxation, wage and price ceilings and exchange control.

### People Know Best

All this is not a paean to the government. Long ago the people of Canada disproved the forecasts of Mr. King and his ministers, the economists and the statisticians. The record affirms that the people of this country could and have done far more to win victory than our leaders and experts believed possible.

Ottawa used to talk of man and woman power available for work and battle as just over two millions. Then the total was raised to three millions; still later to four millions. Mr. Howe now speaks of five millions. Speaking in the House of Commons on Nov. 20, 1940, Mr. Howe said: "The next eight months will witness a rapid expansion of employment. At the end of that