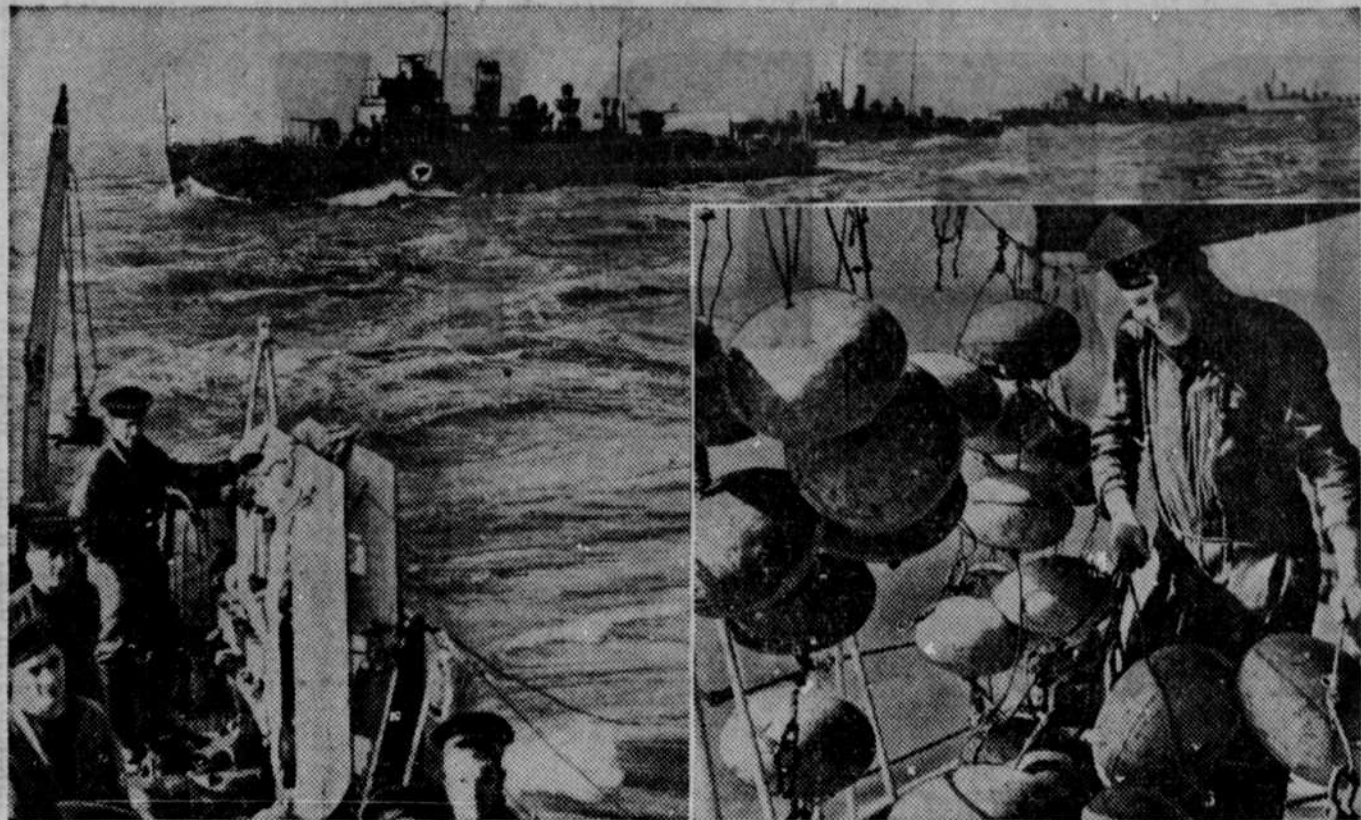


They Keep Trade Channels Open for Britain



Busiest craft in the European war are the British mine sweepers, whose duties it is to rid the seas of those deadly weapons. Here vessels take up positions in an area suspected of having mines hidden below the surface. The mine cables are cut, causing them to rise to the surface. Sharpshooters then explode them. Inset: A sailor prepares to throw marking buoys overboard to indicate to vessels that the area has been swept clean of mines and is safe for shipping.

Chamberlain Gets Closeup of Front Line Warfare



His umbrella discarded for the time being, Premier Neville Chamberlain of Great Britain is shown inspecting a camouflaged gun emplacement during his recent visit to the front lines in France. It was on this occasion that he replied to critics of the "boring" war with the sage remark that "it is better to be bored than bombed." The premier is equipped with boots and puttees, evidently prepared to rough it.

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Strange Facts

Plowing the Sea
 Real Bell Ringers!
 Benign Deafness

To eliminate the annual damage of \$500,000 to submarine cables by fishing trawlers off the coast of Ireland, the lines are now buried in the ocean bed by means of a new sea plow that automatically makes a deep furrow, inserts and covers the cable, even at a depth of 2,400 feet.

The record for bell ringing is held by the men who rang, from memory, 21,000 changes of eight bells each in a little more than 12 hours in All Saints' church in Loughborough, England, on Easter Sunday, 1909.

People get so used to seeing their faces reversed in a mirror, with the right side of it on the left and vice versa, that they almost invariably select, when given a choice, a reversed photograph of themselves in the belief it is "the better likeness."

In several British munitions plants, only deaf men are employed in the shot-blasting departments because the roaring, clanging noise would soon make physical wrecks of those with normal hearing.—Collier's.

Duty Called Constable To Go the Utter Limit

The special constable was being shown his first night beat. "See that red light in the distance?" said the sergeant. "That's the limit of your beat in that direction. Now go on with it." The new constable started off. When three o'clock rolled around, he did not come in to report, nor did he show up for duty the following night. Then, along about 4:30 that next morning, he turned up again, weary and limping. "Where in thunder have you been," demanded the sergeant. A feeble response: "That red light was a long-distance moving van. I came upon it 43 miles out when it stopped because of a flat tire."

High Court Appointment Causes Job Switches



Early political predictions were confirmed recently when President Roosevelt announced that Attorney General Frank Murphy, left, would succeed the late Pierce Butler as a member of the Supreme court bench. Solicitor General Robert H. Jackson, center, replaces Murphy as attorney general, and Judge Francis Biddle of Philadelphia leaves the circuit court of appeals to succeed Jackson as solicitor general. The high court seat has been vacant since Butler's death on November 16, 1939.

Civilian Planes Meet in All-America Air Maneuvers



The greatest aerial armada of privately owned planes ever seen in this or any other country concentrated in Miami, Fla., recently to hold its annual All-America air races. More than 1,500 civilian planes attended the meet. Winners included Homer C. Rankin of St. Louis, left, who was awarded the trophy donated by Bernarr MacFadden, center, and Bobby Lupton of Detroit, right, whose precision stunting won for her the Gimbel air acrobatics trophy.

Hoover Instructed in Auctioneering Art



Actress Gertrude Lawrence shows former President Herbert Hoover the technique she used when she auctioned off a group of 23 paintings in New York to aid the Finnish relief fund. The art was executed by Ben Silbert, an American, who painted them in Finland, working in temperatures which ranged to 20 below. Silbert donated the collection to the fund.

Water Famine

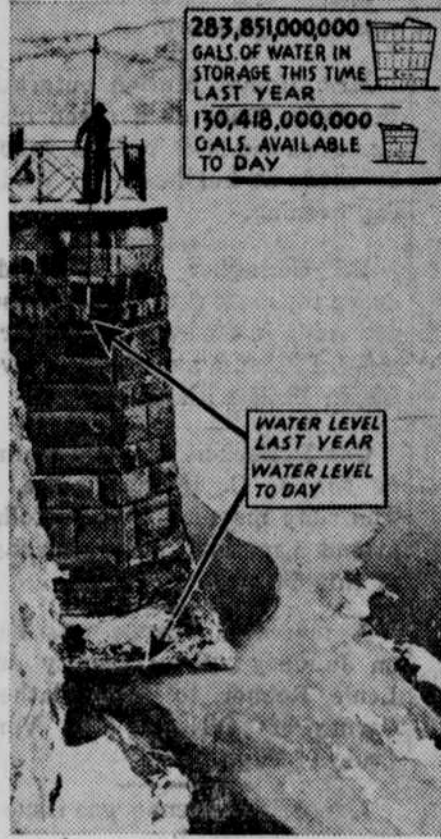


Photo-diagram shows the seriousness of New York city's water shortage, due to last year's drought. The reserve water is only 46 per cent of the 1939 total at Croton reservoir. Gatehouse Foreman John Tompkins indicates with a pole the point to which water usually reaches.

Business as Usual for Warren Billings



Warren K. Billings, who served 23 years of a life sentence in Folsom prison in connection with the San Francisco Preparedness day bombing in 1916, is now running his own watch-repairing shop in San Francisco. Billings learned the profession in prison, where he says he worked on 10,000 watches owned by fellow prisoners and prison officials. Billings is pictured at his work bench, surrounded by tools presented him by friends, many of whom worked diligently to secure his release from Folsom. Tom Mooney, convicted with Billings, was released from San Quentin after serving 22 years.

New War Minister



Conservative Stanley Oliver, above, was given a recent interim appointment as British war secretary supplanting youthful and daring Leslie Hore-Belisha in the first major governmental shakeup of the present conflict. Oliver's appointment aroused a storm of controversy. The appointment of Sir John Reith to replace Lord Harold MacMillan as minister of information was also announced.

Ratifying Berlin-Moscow Trade Pact



Ambassador Schwarzew, left, seated, of Soviet Russia and Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop, right, belatedly affix their signatures to the trade pact agreed on last fall. Premier Molotov of Russia is reported planning a visit to Berlin to seek German military aid against Finland.

First Soldier



President Kyosti Kallio of Finland cocks an investigating eye at an army range finder during his recent visit to the Karelian front on the Mannerheim line, which Red invaders have failed to penetrate.

Service De Luxe by War Zone Waiters



Steel-hatted German soldiers, serving as waiters, make their cautious way through the woods near the front line "somewhere in Germany" carrying rations for the garrison of an advanced outpost. The man in the rear is a guard, whose duty it is to protect the food. There is probably hot soup or stew in the tureens on the back of the "waiters."

'They're Lively Here'



"America is the only country where the lively arts are alive," according to Marta Ley, European dancer, niece of the late Otto Kahn, who gleefully displays her first citizenship papers in New York.

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