

# BRITAIN SPEEDS AIR RAID DEFENSE

## Steps Up Gas Mask Production to 100,000 Daily; Aim Is One for Every Citizen; Urges Gas-Proof Rooms in Homes.

By WILLIAM C. UTLEY

GREAT BRITAIN has suddenly become conscious that her "tight little isle" is a perfect "set-up" for enemy air raiders. The horrible possibilities of incendiary bombs falling from the skies upon London and other large cities, and the imaginary spectacle of thousands of citizens choking in yellow clouds of poisonous gases have narrowed the British defense program down to the point where it is intended that there will be a good gas mask for every inhabitant and a gas-proof chamber in every home.

Schools in air raid defense are being conducted to train instructors who will, in turn, train groups of citizens to protect themselves. Vast propaganda mills are turning out pamphlets by the thousands, dealing with various types of poisonous gases, their use in air raids, and the methods by which they may be met. Local Red Cross and other first aid societies are being marshaled as advance defense units. Newspapers carry almost daily stories about the anti-air raids program.

For there seems here a feeling of conviction that some murky night—who knows when?—radio waves will electrify every home with the dread warning, "Air raid!" Then as sirens, taking up the call, shriek admonition through the London fog, men, women, children and even babies in arms will be wearing the weird looking respirators that make noxious air safe to breathe. Some will scurry for the cover of their homes, where for some time in anticipation of this attack they have maintained sealed, airtight and gas-proof rooms. Grotesquely masked rescue crews will man the streets in search of unfortunate stragglers. Anti-aircraft batteries will probe the skies for the death-dealing invaders.

### No Air Raid Insurance.

Is this a fantastic dream? If it is, then the British government is wasting huge annual appropriations for air raid defense. The home office is needlessly instilling fear into the people with reams upon reams of propaganda. The insurance companies are overlooking millions of pounds in new business.

Right there is a pretty good indication of the reality of the menace. Insurance companies, with their vast facilities for research, are seldom far wrong in gauging the gravity of a risk. If you have a manufacturing plant in Great Britain, try to get insurance against air raids! You'll find it next to impossible. Many firms refuse outright to underwrite any such insurance. None of them will insure a plant for more than a fraction of its value.

It was only about a year ago the British public was shocked and indignant at reports that Italian air forces were dropping deadly gas bombs upon helpless women and children in Ethiopia. Great Britain, along with most of the other powers of western Europe had signed the Geneva Gas Protocol of 1925, outlawing the use of poison gas in warfare. But today she is not so certain that this is any real protection. She has suddenly realized that if, according to reports, one great



The fear of war in Europe is reflected even in the design of a baby's carriage! A nurse wearing a gas mask attends a gas-proof "pram" at a public health exposition in London. The apparatus atop the hood pumps oxygen into the carriage.

Gas School" in northern England.

Just as important in the ARP program is its propaganda mill. This turns out detailed handbooks, pamphlets and memoranda outlining the latest methods for combating the effects of poison gases. The official outlet for government publications is His Majesty's Stationery Office, and here, too, the citizen may obtain many works which will help him to learn personal protection from gas raids; first-aid treatment for the injured; how to decontaminate gas-soaked materials. Other booklets describe what precautions are to be taken in factories and offices, and describe the approved methods for organization of rescue parties, ambulance brigades and other groups to take care of the casualties.

A staff of highly-trained specialists has been assembled by the ARP to prepare this propaganda. Originally the department consisted of only four persons; now it has 60 carefully picked men and women. Under the direction of Wing Commander Eric John Hodson they toil in offices in Prince Street, in rooms heated by open fireplaces. Maps on the walls show where air defenses have been perfected.

### Prepare Universal Handbook.

The literature they prepare contains a great deal of technical information about the various types of gases, the ways in which their presence may be discovered and

local authorities throughout the British Isles. One of the most important things it has done, by far, is to arrange with manufacturers for the production of gas masks at the rate of 100,000 a day. It is hoped that by pursuing this program the government can, in time of war, provide every man, woman and child in Britain with a gas mask.

The government is already paying for the first distribution of these respirators, the early production going to police units, volunteer brigades and nursing services. These will be the first in the field should actual defense become necessary. For citizens not enrolled in these organizations, gas masks are being stored in supply depots, ready for emergency.

### Co-operation Is Voluntary.

The ARP is continually urging local authorities to organize anti-air and anti-bomb units. There is now an air raids precautions committee in virtually every borough and county council. These are making the advance preparations for bomb shelters and gas-proof first aid posts, and are training rescue squads.

Preparations have not yet reached the point that the government is making the organization of local rescue and defense brigades mandatory. They are still being invited to join on a voluntary basis.

There is a certain standardization developed among these local groups which will make it easy for the government, at a moment's notice, to convert them all into one vast national organization. Up to date the local authorities have been bearing most of the expense of organization, but it is understood now that the government is in a position to give financial aid to communities where local funds are not available. The government is now purchasing large supplies of bleaching powder for decontamination purposes, respirators and first aid equipment, which it will be prepared to distribute nationally in an emergency.

Co-operation in the anti-air and anti-air raid campaign is being given the government by the British Red Cross society and the Order of St. John Ambulance brigade. Members of these societies are being urged also to join the local precautionary services, and to participate in air raid rehearsals and gas protection demonstrations. The Red Cross in London is conducting a series of lectures on the use and care of anti-gas respirators, the construction of gas-proof rooms in homes and the treatment of gas casualties.

### Fear Incendiary Bombs.

One of the most fearful possibilities of an air raid is a rain of incendiary bombs. These of late years have been developed to a very high degree of efficiency, and are capable of spreading disastrous fire rapidly with terrific toll. The Barnes Borough Council of London has recommended to the ARP a type of local organization which is regarded as having considerable merit in fighting the incendiary bomb as well as poison gas. The Barnes engineer suggests that his borough be divided into fire-fighting areas, with a volunteer sub-brigade, trained in the use of respirators, in each area. These brigades would be equipped to put out fires caused by incendiary bombs. Camouflaged trenches would be used for protection against gas attack.

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# Floyd Gibbons Adventurers' Club



"The Iron Mouth"

By FLOYD GIBBONS  
Famous Headline Hunter

Now here's a yarn that just goes to show what an age of progress we live in. You know, thousands of years ago, when the cave men roamed the primeval forests the boys who made the Adventure Club were the ones that came running back to the family campfire and told Ma Stonehatchet and the kids about how one of them just missed being gobbled by a dinosaur with a mouth big enough to take him all in one bite.

Well, the dinosaurs died off and you don't see them any more, except stuffed ones in museums, but you can still have the adventure of being gobbled by a mouth as big as a prehistoric monster's because nowadays we manufacture them—make them out of iron, and put rows of sharp teeth in them, attach them to great mechanical animals and send them out to bite people like David J. Hanlon of Belmar, N. J.

Dave had his run-in with one of those steam-powered man-eaters at three o'clock on a cold October morning in the year 1927. Dave was just out of high school then, and working at his first real full-time job. It was the job of laborer on the state highway bridge over Shark river between Belmar and Avon, and Dave was working on the night shift.

### Most Dangerous Job to the Youngest.

Dave says it was an adventure all in itself to be staying up all night, working with a crew of grown men. He was the youngest one in the crew and also the smallest. As a result, the foreman had given him the easiest job on the bridge. That foreman might have thought he was doing Dave a favor, but it so happened it was the most dangerous job on the bridge as well.

The crew had run a temporary trestle out over the water and out on that trestle they had rolled a big crane with which they were excavating holes for the big concrete piers which were to form the bridge's foundation. The crane was equipped with a clamshell scoop—two great jaws with sharp teeth set along the edges, hinged at the upper end. The crane dropped that scoop deep in the mud and silt of the excavation. The jaws closed on a mouthful of the muck, and the scoop was hauled up and dumped on the other side of the trestle.

There was a caisson of heavy planking built around the edge of the excavation to keep the sides from caving in, and down near the bottom of the hole carpenters had built a wooden ledge that a man could stand on. It was Dave's job to stand on that ledge, wait for the clamshell to come down, and push it to a spot where it could get a good big bite of the mud they were dredging.

### How the Huge Scoop Worked.

It took three men to work that job properly. Jerry, operator of the crane, would drop the big scoop down to within a few feet of the slimy mud, and then stop it. Then, to make sure it got a good mouthful, Dave would push it to the desired spot. When he got it there he'd yell, "Oke." That was a signal to Sam Smith, the boss, standing directly above him on the edge of the caisson. Sam would relay that signal to Jerry with a motion of his hand, and Jerry would let the big scoop fall and gobble its mouthful of mud.

"Time and again," says Dave, "Jerry would drop those half-ton jaws and they'd eat up more mud. We soon attained a certain rhythm at it, and all night long it was 'Oke—splash! Oke—splash!' so steady and monotonous that we could have done it in our sleep." And the whole trouble was that those three birds almost did it in their sleep, and a big iron monster is something a man ought not to fool with UNLESS HE'S WIDE AWAKE.

The planking Dave was standing on was narrow, and time and again he almost lost his balance and fell in. And then, somehow, Dave did slip and fall. "I'm not sure how it happened," he says, "but all of a sudden I was falling, and the next minute I was on my back in the mud, right under the gaping, six-foot jaws of that half-ton clamshell scoop. It was probably only a couple of seconds that I lay there, trying to get my wits together, but I remember thinking of what would happen if that scoop should fall and the teeth close on me."

### Steel Jaws Closing on Him.

And then, suddenly it began to look as if Dave was going to find out. Up above he heard Sam give the signal. Oke! It was purely mechanical on Sam's part. He had been giving that signal at a certain interval for so long that now he was doing it without thinking. Then—SPLASH! Down came the scoop right across Dave's body!

The jaws landed on either side of him and sank deep into the mud. They hadn't hurt him because his body lay in the triangle up at the top where the two parts were hinged together. But in another second or so those two parts would begin to come together!

"There wasn't much use in trying to yell," says Dave, "for down there in the muck, under that great steel shell, my voice would be smothered and drowned by the clatter of the machinery and the noise of the pumps. Beside that, there wasn't time. I could see, to my horror, that they were going to close over my head and my feet which stuck out at either side!"

Those jaws were almost on Dave now. He gritted his teeth and shut his eyes. In another moment it would be all over. He drew in a deep breath—and thought to himself that it would probably be his last. And then—

And then, all of a sudden, the great jaws stopped closing. Up on the caisson, Sam Smith had looked for Dave and hadn't been able to see him. He knew something was wrong and gave a signal that stopped the closing of the scoop. "He did it calmly and easily," Dave says, "but I've often wondered what would have happened to me if Sam had been one of those excitable fellows. If he had lost his head then, I am pretty sure I would have lost mine, too."

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### "White Woman's Creek" Is Indian Name for a River

Mary Harris, a heroine of the Deerfield (Mass.) massacre in 1704, is responsible for the origin of the name of the Wallowing river which winds through a part of central Ohio before joining the Muskingum. When she was ten she was captured, carried into what is now Coshocot county, and later was married to a French Mohawk. She is believed to have been the first white woman to live in this section so the Delaware Indians termed the stream Wallowing, which in their language, according to a writer in the Cleveland Plain Dealer, meant "White Woman's Creek."

There are three popular theories concerning the derivation of the name Cuyahoga. Some claim the name can be traced back to the Indian Cuyahogan-uk meaning "Lake River." Others insist it was derived from Carrhoga, or "News Carrier." A third group contends the name was taken from Caya-haga, signifying crooked. The latter is probably correct as anyone can see by looking down at its winding course. Some authorities consider it the most crooked navigable waterway in the state.

### Poison in Berries and Leaves of Some Garden Plants

According to a Home Gardening expert, many common plants contain dangerous poisons, warns a writer in Pearson's London Weekly. There is deadly prussic acid in leaves and roots of arum lilies, in hawthorn berries, and in the leaves of the cherry laurel. Another acidic poison, oxalic acid, is contained in the berries of the barberry species. The poisonous cytisine is found in butcher's broom berries, and in laburnum seeds, while Christmas roses are dangerous on account of the hellebore in them. Every part of the common daisy, and the sticky juice of the dandelion stem, are also poisonous.

Digitalin, a deadly drug, is contained in foxglove leaves, while holly berries hold several poisons. People are also warned against the ivy berries, which are full of hederin. Lupin seeds contain lupinine, and the berries of Daphne, daphnane. The entire monkshood plant is impregnated with aconitine, and poppy heads are full of morphine, the chief narcotic agent in opium. Finally, the yew is dangerous on account of its taxine content. Taxine is a poison which causes suffocation.

## Household Questions

For Steamed or Boiled Puddings—Puddings will not stick to the basin if two strips of grease-proof paper are put crosswise in the basin before the mixture is poured in.

Frying Eggs—Eggs are less liable to break or stick to the pan if a little flour is added to the frying fat.

Shrink the Cord — When loose covers for chairs, etc., are being made, boil the piping cord before using. This little precaution prevents unsightly puckers after the cover is washed.

Boiling Old Potatoes—Old potatoes sometimes turn black during boiling. To prevent this add a squeeze of lemon juice to the water in which they are boiled.

Removing Stains on Hands—Vegetable stains can be removed from the hands by rubbing them with a slice of raw potato.

For Good Gravy—Did you know that gravy, to be served with roast meat, will taste much nicer and contain more nutriment if it is made with the water in which the vegetables have been boiled?

New Hot-Water Bottles—Have a little glycerine added to the water with which hot-water bottles are filled for the first time. This will make the rubber supple, and the bottle will last longer.  
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## Don't Break Your Back polishing floors

This amazing new O-Cedar wax gives your floors a beautiful finish in 20 minutes. Simply apply, let it dry—and your work is done! It polishes itself! Non-slippery, won't check! Greater water resistance gives longer wear. Insist on the genuine O-Cedar for full satisfaction.



Different Roads  
Our minds are as different as our faces; we are all traveling to one destination—happiness; but few are going by the same road.  
—Colton.

## for WOMEN only

CARDUI is a special medicine for the relief of some of the suffering which results from a woman's weakened condition. It has been found to make monthly periods less disagreeable, and, when its use has been kept up awhile, has helped many poorly nourished women to get more strength from their food. This medicine (pronounced "Card-u-i") has been used and recommended by women for many, many years. Find out whether it will help you by giving it a fair trial. Of course, if not benefited, consult a physician.

### Always a Loser

He who rests satisfied in merely defending himself against sarcasm and abuse is always a loser.  
—Goethe.

## Don't Irritate Gas Bloating

If you want to really GET RID OF GAS and terrible bloating, don't expect to do it by just doctoring your stomach with harsh, irritating alkalies and "gas tablets." Most GAS is lodged in the stomach and upper intestine and is due to old poisonous matter in the constipated bowels that are loaded with ill-causing bacteria.

If your constipation is of long standing, enormous quantities of dangerous bacteria accumulate. Then your digestion is upset. GAS often presses heart and lungs, making life miserable. You can't eat or sleep. Your head aches. Your back aches. Your complexion is sallow and pimply. Your breath is foul. You are a sick, groggy, wretched, unhappy person. YOUR SYSTEM IS POISONED.

Thousands of sufferers have found in Adierika the quick, scientific way to rid their systems of harmful bacteria. Adierika rids you of gas and cleans your bowels. Give your bowels a REAL cleansing with Adierika—Get rid of GAS. Adierika does not gripe—is not habit forming. At all Leading Druggists.

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## HELP KIDNEYS

To Get Rid of Acid and Poisonous Waste

Your kidneys help to keep you well by constantly filtering waste matter from the blood. If your kidneys get functionally disordered and fail to remove excess impurities, there may be poisoning of the whole system and body-wide distress. Burning, scanty or too frequent urination may be a warning of your kidney or bladder disturbance. You may suffer nagging headaches, persistent headaches, attacks of dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—feeling weak, nervous, all played out.

In such cases it is better to rely on a medicine that has won country-wide acclaim than on something less favorably known. Use Doan's Pills. A multitude of grateful people recommend Doan's. Ask your neighbor!

## DOANS PILLS



Football players don some weird equipment at times, but it takes the pigskin toters of the British navy to try it with gas masks. The theory is that it trains the men to carry out duties demanding exertion while wearing the masks.

power was using poison gas in warfare, the protocol might become another "scrap of paper" in the event of actual war.

### 500 Complete Training.

Last April the ARP opened the first of the schools for training instructors in air raid defense, with emphasis particularly upon combating poison gas. This is the "Civilian Anti-Gas School" at Eastwood Park, Fairfield, Gloucestershire. The school is equipped to train 80 instructors every month in the art of teaching others to avoid gas injuries.

Five hundred instructors have already been "graduated." They are now working with the many anti-gas organizations which have been rapidly formed throughout the United Kingdom of late. The plan has been found so successful in its early operations that it is now planned to construct a second "Civilian Anti-

effect of atmospheric conditions upon their persistence. Architectural drawings of carefully-planned sites for first aid posts are included. Householders are given simple plans for making certain rooms gas-proof havens in time of raid. For first aid units, the ARP has carefully worked out a table of the exact amount and kind of supplies needed.

The ARP press relations department is at present preparing a handbook called "Air Raid Precautions in the Home." This is a sort of standard citizens' manual on the subject, and will be distributed to all the homes of the United Kingdom "when the proper time comes."

The ARP has been awarded a budget of 1,300,000 pounds (about \$8,500,000) for the year. Working on this capital, it acts as a clearing house for defense precautions by