# THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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*"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 1944


## The Maple Leaf At Caen

The Guardian is indebted to the Minister of National Defense for a photo-engraved replica of Vol. 1, No. 1 (the initial issue in Normandy) of *The Maple Leaf*, France edition. It was published in Caen on July 27. *The Maple Leaf*, as most of our readers are aware, is a Canadian Army newspaper, published by Army personnel for the benefit of their comrades in active theatres of war. It was inaugurated in Italy on January last, and is published there daily. Both editions of *The Maple Leaf*—in France and Italy—are the work of Army personnel who do the writing, editing, type-setting, stereotyping and printing, with the aid of local labor. The copies are distributed to all units, even those in the front line. They are received usually on the day of issue, and naturally are eagerly awaited and avidly read. They do not, of course, take the place of the "home paper", being limited to matters of general army interest, but they do fill a real need. Their prototypes were the "trench papers" of the last war, which every old-time veteran remembers, and of which many copies have been religiously preserved by their first owners.

In the first France issue of *The Maple Leaf*, the original copy was blurred in some places, due to the makeshift arrangements for printing on presses which had suffered from the shells of both our own guns and those of the enemy during the battle of Caen. Would that every publisher could produce as good an alibi on occasion! The very defects of this historic issue will, of course, make it more valuable as time goes by and the war recedes into history. They will recall other things to the soldiers of today: memories of priceless comradeships enjoyed, and hardships borne and shared in a glorious common cause.

## Nazi Plot That Failed

With Germany encompassed on four major fronts and the Allies within a few miles of Paris and Warsaw, we can look back more complacently on what might have happened had not Britain stood firm in those days of imminent catastrophe. They should never be forgotten, either by us or our good neighbors to the south.

How near the Nazis came to achieving conquest of this continent after over-running Europe is disclosed in an article of unusual interest in *News*, a Toronto publication. The writer recalls that when the British troops fought back and forth across North Africa they were doing more than protecting the Suez Canal. They were preventing the Germans from fixing their grip on Dakar, the base of a "pincer" move against this hemisphere. And when America had made ready, in the time gained by the heroic efforts of Britain's fighting men, the U. S. Government promptly threw the cream of its fighters into North Africa and afterwards into Italy, before it even considered attempting in the Pacific and the Far East anything more than delaying actions against the Japs. The threat to North America was so imminent at that phase of the war that the United States, like Britain, recognized it was necessary to sacrifice possessions in the Far East, and to withhold assistance from Australia, until after the battle of Africa was won.

"If it wasn't because of the reality of the threat of Nazi invasion from the north-east via Labrador," says the *News* article, "why did the Canadian Government negotiate with the British and Newfoundland Governments the agreement under which Canada built on Newfoundland territory, the Goose Bay airport, today the largest airport in the world? The fact is, that it was so essential to the defence of Canada that Goose Bay airport be in operation before December 1941, that work on that project was given priority over almost every other. And the U-boats in the Gulf and the St. Lawrence the summer and autumn of 1941 were not hunting trans-Atlantic cargoes, but trying to cut off the cargoes and fuel and building supplies and delay the completion of Goose. Canadians who listened to German short-wave must recall hearing Lord Haw-Haw tell the world in 1941 that the Nazi leaders knew all about the Goose Bay project, and that the Nazis would take it over and use it as a base when they were ready to carry out their aerial war against eastern Canada."

Germany had weather-reporting stations and air bases actually built in north-eastern Greenland, as essentials preliminary to this invasion scheme. They were destroyed by U. S. bombers and the U. S. Coast Guard service in co-operation with the Royal Danes.

Had Germany succeeded in destroying the Red Armies in 1941 and ridding herself for good of the fear of Russia at her back, she would have launched her attack westward. For this purpose she kept her main naval force based always in northern Norway.

"Had Germany once established an air base in Labrador, German bombers could have reached and destroyed every power plant from Niagara east to the Atlantic. They could have bombed all the industrial centres on the shores of the St. Lawrence. They could have destroyed the ports of Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, St. John, Boston and New York. They could have cut off all supplies to Britain at the source, and ensured the German triumph in Europe by starving to death, according to plan, more than half the population of the British Isles. Also, of course, they would have captured or put out commission at one blow the most important aluminum manufacturing plant in Canada, and thus have completely crippled American airplane-building.

It is significant, comments the *News* writer, that most of the Nazi sympathizers interned early in the war by the R. C. M. P. were living in areas where, according to plan, the north-east and north-west arms of the Nazi pincers were to take their grip on Canada. Also that more than $6,000,000 in German funds were placed at the disposal of German Fascists living in Canada, for the purpose of buying up tourist resorts and other properties surrounding northern lakes in Ontario and Quebec, strategically located to be bases for air-borne troops and useful as hideouts and rendezvous.

It was a narrow shave for Canada in those days! Had this fact been more strongly emphasized by our Government leaders, there might have been less confusion over the conscription issue in Quebec and other provinces, and far more evidence of national unity in Parliament itself.

## EDITORIAL NOTES —

Normalcy is now the order of the day locally.

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The coolest place anywhere tomorrow will be the churches, rain or shine.

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The first rail of Prince Edward Island Railway was laid this date 1872. It has been more or less neglected ever since.

* * * *

The police, both R.C.M.P. and City, were busy making raids on suspected places during the week, with what success remains to be seen.

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Mr. J. J. Kinley, M. P., pointed out in the House that fishermen and fishermen's cooperatives pay Income and Excess Profits Taxes, because they do not come within the Government's definition of cooperatives.

* * * *

Boys at the front variously report that they will be home by Christmas, by Summer, by next Old Home Week. May it be so, the sooner the better. Lloyds of London is accepting risks as at November 15th.

* * * *

The King's nephew is a prisoner in Germany. The Princess Royal, the King's sister, has received a letter from her son, Viscount Lascelles, a lieutenant in the Grenadier Guards, who was wounded in Italy and captured by the Germans, saying his health is satisfactory and his wounds are healing.

* * * *

That $750,000,000 war gratuities plan will not become operative until some time after October 1 this year but before the beginning of the new year, was due to an amendment by the Senate which was readily accepted in the House by Defence Minister J. L. Ralston. It was admitted by Col. Ralston that the Senate made the change after consultation with officials of his department and when it was realized that the plan could not be made efficiently operative by October 1. "It will be extremely difficult to have a smoothly running machine to pay gratuities and provide the necessary computations by October 1," Col. Ralston explained to the House. So the amendment to the clause relating to the time on which the measure is to become effective now provides that it be made effective on proclamation at some date between October 1 and January 1 next year.

* * * *

Although the U. S. abolished tea and coffee rationing months ago, Canada still has it. Everyone has plenty of both, but many hundreds of people are kept busy counting the used coupons, and the corner grocer has to stay up nights pasting them neatly on sheets of paper. Yes, the prospect for Government jobs after the war is excellent. But how many veterans will want Government jobs is a question. There are, of course, good Government jobs. The best of them is that of the Deputy Minister of Finance, who gets $12,000 per year. The vast majority are really poorly paid. For instance a man with 25 years' service recently stated that his salary was $2,100 per year and his taxes $496, leaving $134 per month for himself and wife. Most veterans would hope to do better after that time, but this man is not by any means the lowest paid in the civil service.

* * * *

In the House of Commons, Mr. V. Dupuis, (Liberal, Chambly-Rouville, P.Q.), referring to family allowances said: "The complete figures (on distribution of families in Ontario and Quebec) are as follows:

| Families with— | Ont. | Que. |
|---|---|---|
| 1 child | 228,760 | 123,030 |
| 2 children | 163,610 | 92,020 |
| 3 children | 89,910 | 64,630 |
| 4 children | 48,330 | 47,400 |
| 5 children | 26,130 | 33,340 |
| 6 children | 13,950 | 25,760 |
| 7 children | 8,040 | 19,840 |
| 8 children | 4,380 | 13,930 |
| 9 children | 2,380 | 9,400 |
| 10 or more children | 2,460 | 13,220 |

"As hon. members know, under this measure the allowance is $5 for the first child under six years of age, $6 for the child over six and under ten, $7 for the child over ten and under thirteen, and $8 for the child over thirteen and under sixteen, provided that for the fifth child the allowance is decreased by $1; for the sixth and seventh children it is decreased by $2 and for the eighth child by $3. So that small families with less than five children benefit more than the larger families.

"I have made some computations to illustrate what I understand the law to be. I have taken a family with eight children, with the youngest two years old and the others four, six, eight, ten, twelve, fourteen and fifteen. This family will receive $45 a month. This example will illustrate the fairness of the legislation as it is brought down, not only in relation to those in Ontario who criticize it, but also in relation to those in Quebec."

## Notes By The Way

**A Swedish runner is credited with** breaking the mile record, nobody having held a stop-watch on recent sprints across France by the master race.—Toronto Telegram.

**On New Guinea the smell of an** American Army bakery induced a Jap to surrender. For the tougher cases: The Yanks have a secret weapon—frying chicken. — Winnipeg Tribune.

**Hollywood is looking for a boy** of 12 to play "the worst brat ever put on the screen." That ought to be easy; so many will nominate the kid next door.—Ottawa Citizen.

**Hopping the ocean by plane in** six and one-half hours is good, we suppose. However, the old shipboard romance will have to be rewritten with faster dialogue.—Winnipeg Tribune.

**The request made to motorists in** 1942 for the voluntary saving of gasoline reduced consumption by only 36,000,000 gallons. Rationing was then adopted and consumption was lowered by 156,000,000 gallons. —Winnipeg Free Press.

**Desires of Private Ralph Dyer, a** New Zealand soldier now in the South Pacific, for ostrich feathers have been amply met, according to reports from Johannesburg, South Africa. Dyer wrote asking the plumes for use as costume material by the Kiwi Concert Party of which he is a member. Three ostrich feather fans and a two-pound box of feathers have been forwarded to the soldier.

**A Norwegian who has just arrived** in England from his homeland reports that humorous anecdotes about Germans and quislings are no longer as common in Norway as they once were. It is comparatively seldom now that one hears jokes or wisecracks about the Nazi personalities or conditions in general. This does not mean the people are losing heart, said the man. Rather it is an indication of a new seriousness that has gripped the popular mind as the day of complete victory draws nearer. — From News of Norway.

**It is comforting to know that this** province is one of the less dangerous places so far as lightning is concerned and perhaps that is a point which our tourist authorities might emphasize in their literature describing the attractions of New Brunswick. Even if the chances of getting killed by lightning are one in a million there are many people who are terrified by the flashes and explosions attending a storm of this kind. They could feel much more secure in this province by the sea than in their lightning-ridden places of abode in inland districts.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

**From time to time we have heard** of the "meanest" thief who would steal candy from a baby. The Fort Rouge district is being harassed by one whose thefts are even more vile and objectionable. He stoops lower than stealing the baby's candy; he is more vicious and contemptible, less moved by decency and human appeal; his soul is small and parched of any tendencies—in short, he steals the baby's pants. Police report that in his latest raid sixteen diapers were snatched from a clothsline in a backyard where they were being dried by the warm sun and fluffed up by the gentle breeze. —Winnipeg Tribune.

**On the eve of the Allied invasion** of the German strongholds in Europe, the Quislings of Slovakia started a new anti-American campaign. It aims to counteract the Allied radio propaganda beamed in the Slovakian language from the American radio stations. On May 15, a Fascist daily published a scurrilous attack against the presidents of the United States. All the presidents beginning with George Washington, and Thomas Jefferson were branded as Free Masons, whose principles are responsible for the alleged failings of America. — Czechoslovak Bulletin.

**One thing Hitler is accomplish**ing with the robot bomb is to make American isolationists seem more foolish than ever. Here is a weapon that is theoretically capable of being used against this nation from launching points 3,000 miles away in Europe. In its first tryout it killed many people. Of course, it is still a primitive weapon. But when it is refined, it could, without any trouble, cross the ocean and lay waste parts of New York and Detroit as easily as it demolishes parts of English cities. That is the absolute end of isolationism. A 20th century weapon catches up with an 18th century doctrine and smashes it to bits.—New York Post.

**The Germans are neither super**men nor, for the most part, fanatics. But the habit of obedience is strong upon them. If their officers desert them, or lead them to surrender, they give up with great cheerfulness and relief, but a command to fight on is obeyed. Neither in the last war nor as yet in this has German discipline been tested to the cracking point—to the point at which, in defiance of their officers and in the face of the enemy, the rank and file decide that for them the war is over. Perhaps that event may come in this war; perhaps, as before, the officers will determine the issue in Hitler's despite. If neither way out is taken, the Wehrmacht will simply be ground to pieces. The Allies have the strength and the skill to do it. — New York Herald Tribune.

**Among the little-sung heroines** of this and every other war since time began are the wives and widowed mothers of the soldiers, sailors and marines who stay at home and keep the family together while their men are away at battle. Although better provided for now than ever before, many of them still must undergo hardships that would not have been imposed with their menfolks at home. Theirs not to do and die but to stay home and wait, wait for the return, or for the notice from the Government which means there will be no home-coming ever again, only long years of loneliness and heartache and burdens. For every Molly Pitcher, who has the opportunity to man a gun, or a Mrs. Kelly who, for a day, wears her first orchid corsage to welcome home her hero son, there are hundreds of thousands whose names are never in the papers, who day after day are doing the unheroic jobs of dusting and sweeping, tending a garden and mowing the yard and writing cheerful letters to APO addresses, from France and Italy to the Pacific islands.—New York Times.

## Our Duty To The King's Forces

**By Hon. John Bracken**
**Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party**

**Text of an address delivered at Irricana, Alberta, on August 11th.**

IV

I propose to deal now with our policy regarding the men and women on service after they have been discharged or demobilized There are two main points to be considered. One is that of a job for every man and woman fit for work. The other is that of the care of those who have been disabled in service.

In the plainest words at my command I say to you that nothing short of full-time gainful employment for evcery man and woman who has worn the Canadian uniform will be acceptable.

Every man and woman must be given an opportunity to earn a good living.

If existing enterprise cannot do this, the State must and will. I repeat - no man or woman who has worn the king's uniform and who is able to work must be permitted to go without the opportunity of a job.

* * *

Our policy on demobilization is realistic and definite. As a matter of common justice the principles of "first in - first out," and "first overseas - first back" should be followed as closely as the military situation permits. When I speak of "first in" I mean to include also in that term those young men and women who immediately upon obtaining enlistment age have volunteered for general service. Our men overseas will realize that the new mechanics of returning them to Canada will be extremely difficult and complicated and that there will be delay. The enormous numbers who will have to be moved from one country to another all over the Allied world will create a mass transportation problem the like of which the world has never seen even in time of war. It is not a case of repatriating Canadian personnel only - the problem is one which will affect practically all of the United Nations. Endless patience and cooperation between the various countries will be necessary. The principle of give and take will have to be excercised to a tremendous degree. But none of these factors should be allowed to interfere with basic justice. — those longest in the service should not be denied the right to the earliest return home.

* * *

Our men and women overseas should be kept thoroughly posted on the situation. If they know what is being planned and the reasons for the plans, I am sure their cooperation and understanding will follow. But the Government must see to it that no excuse is provided for any repetition of the Rhyl and Witley riots of our men in England during the armistice days of the last war. We must, as a nation, see to it that transportation home is well planned and that equitable treatment is given to the men and women who have been away so long. There will be many factors involved in the task of bringing them home as quickly as possible to resume their war-interrupted lives. But neither unnecessary delays or unfairness will be countenanced on the part either of the Government or its responsible agents.

It would appear now that Canada will be expected to provide part of the armies of occupation which will be necessary after the war is over. Knowing that a number of those who are now serving have expressed a desire to continue in the post war armed forces, it is our view that they should be given the choice to volunteer for this occupational service.

In such event provision should be made for them to have leave in Canada as soon as possible. Our policy is that they should be given every opportunity for education and trailng during their period of service in the armies of occupation and that, special consideration should be given to see that proper jobs are available for them on the conclusion of their military service.

In connection with the "first in - first out" principle, special care must be taken to see that the "last outs" shall not be penalized by finding no jobs or professions available. The State must gaurentee to all its veterans the right to work and the right to a fair return for their work.

Canada has already prepared comprehensive plans for rehabilitation. These include land settlement, vocational training, university education for those who wish to take advantage of it, preference in the Civil Service, unemployment insurance, money grants while awaiting returns from businesses and other things which should be of great help to our returned men and women in establishing themselves.

These plans do not offer charity - they offer opportunity. They must be made to work. That is the acid test which must be applied to them. Will they work? It is my intention, if given the opportunity of leading the Government of Canada, to see that , with the help of my colleagues and of other Canadian citizens, that they do work.

As a preliminary step towards that end I would appoint a Minister of Veterans' Affairs whose exclusive responsibility would be to devote his whole time to the welfare of the veteran. If that Minister should be a veteran of the first Great War, I would appoint as his Parliamentary Assistant a veteran of the second Great War, and vice versa. In this way the interests of both groups of our war veterans would be assured of sympathetic and understanding treatment.

To Be Continued

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## PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

### DAIRY STUDENTS' EXPENSES

Sir,—The item appearing in the Patriot, Aug. 16, stating that the Provincial Department of Agriculture had sent six students to the Guelph Dairy School last year, for instructions in cheese and butter making, is both misleading and incorrect as they were sent and financed by the P.E.I. Dairymen's Association to the extent of $75.00 for each student to cover transportation expenses.

In addition the "War Emergency Training Plan" paid a subsistance allowance to each student of $9.00 per week for single men and $18.00 per week for married men during the three months course. The local Department of Agriculture did not contribute one dollar to the students' expenses; therefore credit should be placed where it belongs.

The P E I Dairymens Association make a levy, each year, on all manufacturers of dairy products in the Province. It was from their own funds that transportation charges for the students were furnished..

I am, Sir, etc.
DAIRYMAN.

## The Poet's Corner

### HYMN FOR THOSE IN THE AIR

Eternal Father, by whose Might
The firament was planned,
Who set the stars their paths of light,
Who made the sea and land,
Thou who art far, yet near.
In the bright Now and Here,
And where the Void is sleeping,
Take them who dare to fly
Inot Thy keeping.

Guide them who move through dark and cloud,
Parting the pathless sky,
Sustain them when the storm is loud
Till night and storm are by;
Driving through snow and sleet
When wild the head-winds beat,
Thy sovereign Will commanding,
Bring them who dare to fly
To a safe landing.

Lead them who, dauntless, mount the height
Of the embattled air,
Through piercing shell, through searching light,
Hold and be with them there.
Keep them in life or death
Mindful of One who saith,
Where the wild birds shall gather
Not the least sparrow falls
Without the Father.

Lift up the souls who yet aspire
To move within Thy Will,
Who rise above the World's desire,
Foiled but unconquered still;
Triumphant in Thy Might,
Gather them into Light,
The Vallant who have striven,
Winged with Immortal Joy
Into Thy Heaven.

—Duncan Campbell Scott.

### SLIGHTLY SUPERFLUOUS

A story that many servicemen have been chuckling over concerns a certain general who had some teeth extracted. Next day he learned that the lost molars were being sold as souvenirs. Determined to stop this, he sent out his aides with instructions to buy all these very personal mementoes they found and so keep them from the public. By evening they had all returned with their purchases. Total bag — 175 teeth!


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