

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 1941.

Car Ferry Disaster

The sinking of the S. S. Charlottetown while enroute to drydock emphasizes the precarious nature of our vitally important transportation service with the mainland.

What we have needed for a long time is a second ferry steamer of the capacity and power of the Charlottetown, to be available for just such an emergency as has now arisen.

Normally, the Charlottetown would by now have received her annual overhauling, and be ready for the tourist season.

It is intimated that the railway and government authorities have the whole matter under consideration. A factor which might well be considered is the provision of more extensive air service facilities, by doubling or tripling the present air service if necessary, until our normal ferry service is restored.

While the accident is a matter of major concern to all our people, there is general satisfaction over the news that Captain Read and his crew are safe and sound.

Stalin "On The Spot"

British authorities, it is reported, are inclined to believe that Hitler really means business in his dealings with Russia and that reports of tension between Berlin and Moscow are not merely an artifice to cover up plans for a Nazi stroke at another point.

Stalin is a realist, and he knows better than anyone else what happened to Russian army morale since he began, back in May, 1937, killing off his best army commanders.

According to General Barater of the French Intelligence, the Stalinist purge to March, 1939, killed off three of five Red Army marshals, while six of the Russian generals who passed sentence upon them were later executed in their turn.

Even in the Russian air force, long advertised as representing "the best there is in the U. S. S. R.," Stalin's "death or imprisonment" lists picked off two commissars for air, the chief of the air force general staff, three chiefs of the aerial combat forces and the commander of the important Moscow airdrome.

These purges undoubtedly accentuated the bungling and inefficiency of the Russian attack on Finland, commenced in November, 1939. It was Hitler who stopped large-scale assistance getting through to the hopelessly outnumbered Finns, exerted the necessary pressure upon Nor-

way and Sweden, and finally extricated Stalin from his icebound blitzkrieg. Hitler and his generals saw then they had little to fear from the savagely purged Soviet forces.

Stalin, through his own bloody acts, has thus put himself "on the spot" so far as effective resistance to Hitler's demands is concerned. It is mere wishful thinking to imagine that these two rapacious powers will clash on anything like even terms, or that there will be any respite for Britain and her allies until the real menace—Nazi Germany—is crushed for ever.

Women In War

As long ago as last March the Minister of Defence told the House of Commons that plans were being considered for creating auxiliary women's organizations and units in the war effort.

Women are playing an important role in auxiliary services in Great Britain. Some 1,500 Canadian girls have tried to join them, and some of them have received encouraging and official letters from the other side.

A good case, says the Winnipeg Free Press, can be made out for this order, for as long as there is no shortage either of men or of women to fill war roles, it is good sense not to burden shipping or to increase the food problems of Britain.

The Government may say the problem is not an important one and that other more pressing things have to be settled. But there remains the fact that the present situation is one that increases frustration at a time when frustration is very bad.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is our luck to have the Charlottetown car ferry gone the very time the tourists are due and coming.

Unintentional disrespect for the Court, even by the Attorney General and his deputy, calls for the amende honorable.

Don't forget the boys overseas, especially with sox and cigarettes; some are beginning to weary of well-doing.

The North Nova Scotia Highlanders are to route march back to Debert, a distance of 95 miles, by easy stages, and expect to arrive at their destination tomorrow or Sunday.

Queen Victoria succeeded to the throne on the death of William IV this date, 1837. Hers was the golden reign, superior even to that of Elizabeth (in which the foundations of the Empire were laid and English literature "pure and undefiled" held sway.)

"The Canadian Forestry Corps and Newfoundland lumber jacks are engaged in cutting timber in the north of Scotland and from all accounts their speed of operations is astonishing and their work of great importance in the national war efforts," states Mr. G. B. Johnson, Canadian Trade Commissioner at Glasgow.

Several editions of the Daily Herald on Monday carried a misprint that deserves to be remembered as a classic. On the second page a headline in the second paragraph read "Hitler back from the front".

A year ago, France collapsed to leave Britain fighting alone against the Axis. On that June 17, the French hero of the Great War, of Marshal Petain, took control of French destiny as chief of state and sued for peace.

Sheffield one of the first provincial cities to experience full-scale enemy air attack, is perfecting a communal feeding system that has been cited by government officials as an example for the country.

The porcupine has, too, a very human quality. One Summer camper tells of encountering one of these animals which had evidently been a target for a regular blitzkrieg from mosquitoes and blackflies and which obviously quite accustomed to the human species, held out a badly bitten paw with plaintive appeal for sympathy.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The dope habit has a strong hold in Germany even in high places. This is not surprising. Germany was the first to use dope for her athletes at Olympic Games.

The Canadian army is studying one of the most terrifying adaptations of the internal combustion engine to war conditions.

An order for curtailment in the consumption of gasoline is expected any day now from the office of G. R. Cottrill, oil controller in the Department of Munitions and Supply.

It is probable that Colonel Ralston in his secret soul is grateful to the public. He is abundantly aware that the South York Conservative Party is Canada's most servative of the practical and gallant soldier of the last war, and second in command of the Irish Regiment of Canada.

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WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR

"Give all you can, and when you think you have done that, dig down for more. Your dollars won't be any good if we love, so you might as well give your best to help Britain gain the victory."

Ralston's Hands Are Tied

(Montreal Gazette)

One conclusion, and one only, can be reached from any careful study of the discussion which took place in the House of Commons Thursday night between Major Alan Cockeram, D.S.O., and the Minister of National Defence, Colonel Ralston.

The Minister of National Defence found himself in the unfortunate position of being unable to meet much of Major Cockeram's criticisms.

Message To Tokyo (Halifax Chronicle) Tough, determined people in the Netherlands East Indies are standing up to the intimidations of Japan.

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The French Situation

(Ottawa Journal)

"From the standpoint of the French people," declares Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State "and others who have a love for freedom, and have freedom, the attitude of the present Government of Vichy is a matter of the deepest disappointment and sorrow."

It seems probable that what is left nominally free of France by the Germans is simply too bewildered and disheartened to be equal to any vigorous political action of any kind.

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You aid digestion chewing delicious Wrigley's Juicy Fruit Gum AFTER EVERY MEAL Join the millions who aid digestion by chewing delicious Wrigley's "Juicy Fruit" Gum after every meal.

Victory Torch Ends journey Across Canada THEY ARE SURE TO PLEASE YOU! We have now on display our large display of the new and up to date Bathing Caps.

WOOD ISLANDS-CARIBOU CAR FERRY SERVICE The "Prince Nova" will leave daily, including Sundays, from Wood Islands at 7 a.m., 11 a.m., and 3 p.m., and from Caribou at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Say to Your Grocer I Want BRAHMIN ORANGE PEKOE TEA You will enjoy its superior quality

A HIT! Our tobacco has scored lots of them all over the Island. It has a range reaching from Tignish to Souris. It never misses the mark and goes right to the spot. Hickey's Black Twist 10c Per Fig

We won't let Britain down! VICTORY LOAN 1941