THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

President: Lieut. Col. W. Chester S. McLure
Vice-President: J. R. Burnett, F.J.I.
Secretary: Lieut. Col. D. A. MacKinnon. D.S.O.
Editor and Managing Director: J. R. Burnett, F.J.I.
Associate Editors: Frank Walker and Ian A. Burnett

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Mail in P. E. I., $4.00 per year; $2.50 for 6 months $1.25 for 3 months; 50c for one month
City Delivery: $5.00 per year; $3.00 for 6 months $1.75 for 3 months
By Mail in Canada and U.S.A. :$5.00 per year
Saturday Weekly: $2.00 per year; $1.00 for 6 months, 50c for 3 months.

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1941.

Farm Delegates Disillusioned

Farm organizations representative of all parts of Canada recently waited upon the Dominion Government, emphasizing the need for remedying the serious situation with regard to farm prices. The delegates were received courteously by the Prime Minister, who congratulated them on the eminently fair presentation of their case and added that "the representations of agriculture may have been longer delayed than is beneficial for all concerned." This appears to have been all the satisfaction they obtained; and now, says the Globe and Mail, "disillusionment is spreading among the farmers as they review in retrospect their interview with the Dominion Cabinet."

The farmers' spokesmen, says the Toronto paper, were so overwhelmed by the graciousness of Mr. King that they did not at the time feel the full effects of the cold douche administered by the Minister of Agriculture. It was only after they had left Parliament Hill that they began to realize they had made a grave tactical error in not telling Mr. King then and there that the hostility of Mr. Gardiner left them with a feeling of utter despair.

"The farmers," continues the Globe and Mail, "are more than ever convinced that the Minister of Agriculture, who should be their champion at Ottawa, has completely failed them, and so long as he remains as head of the department they must abandon all hope of receiving help from the Federal Government. It is to be doubted that Canadian consumers who depend for 95 per cent of their daily bread upon the produce of Canadian farms are indifferent to the effects of the disastrous policy which is annually driving more and more farmers from the land to seek a livelihood in the towns and cities."

Britain's War Savings Effort

In talking to Canadians from London recently, Sir Robert Kindersley gave this country startling information about the way Great Britain has carried out a War Savings Program since the start of the war fifteen months ago. The President of the National Savings Committee in England stated that in these fifteen months the small man has saved through saving certificates, defence bonds, savings banks and a few odds and ends, the sum of six hundred million pounds—almost three billion dollars in Canadian money.

Sir Robert made an interesting comparison when he revealed that subscription to large loans during that period of fifteen months was eight hundred and seventy-five million pounds. In other words, the wage earners of the Old Country are contributing a total mighty close to the total loaned by citizens of means, and corporations.

Even after discounting the vast difference between the population of Canada and the population of Great Britain, Canada's attempt to secure one hundred and twenty million in a year from War Certificate loans will be seen as a very modest objective in comparison with what our kinsfolk overseas are contributing.

Record Of The Struggle

The important developments in the last quarter of 1940 in the titanic struggle between the totalitarian powers and the Allies are accurately described by Professor Edgar McInnis of Toronto University (a native of Prince Edward Island) in the last issue of the Oxford Periodical History of the War. Mr. McInnis shows the significance of what happened in the various fields and helps us to interpret more recent events in the Balkans and other danger areas.

The Nazi air assault upon Britain in preparation for an invasion had already failed by mid-September, and British airmen had made their first raid on Berlin. The Nazi air force continued the attack of Britain, seeking a weak spot in her defences, but the British airmen retained their mastery in the daytime and the German night raids had only a limited military effectiveness. Meantime, the British pounded military objectives in Germany and the occupied countries all along the Atlantic coast.

In preventing the invasion throughout the fall and winter, Britain gained invaluable time for strengthening her defence, with increasing help from the United States.

The military alliance between Germany, Italy and Japan on Sept. 27 was a threat directed at the United States if it continued to aid the Allies. Anticipating this move, the United States cut off the supply of scrap-iron and steel for Japan, and gave China a credit of $25,000,000. Two months later, the United States gave China further credits of $100,000,000 and shut off the export of other important iron and steed products. But Japan showed very aggressive intentions toward French Indo-China and the Dutch East Indies, and the United States joined with the British in a defensive naval policy, in which Singapore plays an important part.

And the Axis having threatened the United States, the latter immediately began to increase its aid to the Allies. It had already transferred to Britain fifty destroyers. It undertook to help to provide the much needed merchant ships in view of the heavy losses caused by Nazi submarines with their numerous bases now close to Britain. The United States also began vigorously to speed up defence production, a good part of which was to go to Great Britain.

The Nazi absorption of Rumania meant the securing of valuable oil resources and a strong base for a further thrust to the southeast against British interests.

The utter routing and humiliation of Italy by the Greek army and by British forces in North Africa featured the developments in those fields and prepared the way for a pending attempt to knock Italy right out of the war.

The British resistance to Nazi attacks, the smashing defeats for Italy, the promise of powerful aid from the United States for the Allied cause, led Marshal Petain, who was disappointed at Hitler's deportation of the French from Lorraine and the annexation of that province to Germany, in violation of the armistice terms, to take a stiffer attitude to the Nazi power. He began to realize that the French army in North Africa under General Weygand was a trump card which could be played as Italy's position became steadily worse. And by the end of the year some French naval units were slipping away from Toulon to safer ports in North Africa.

Much has happened in three months, and the unprecedented drama of world events goes on toward a climax which will decide the fate of humanity perhaps for generations.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

If that groundhog had not seen its shadow all day long on the second of this month, we would have been anticipating a welcome thaw by this time. Instead we have blocked roads, impeded city thoroughfares, and icy footpaths endangering the limbs and heads of unwary citizens.

* * * *

Parliament will have more work to do in Committee this session than time will permit. It is its first experience of being at war as a nation, and neither the members nor the Civil Service yet know the necessary procedure in handling such a major situation. Perhaps they will muddle through, but the taxpayers must needs pay the bill for their learning.

* * * *

Joseph Hume, British politician and doctor of medicine died this date 1855. Entered the Indian medical service, subsequently became a member of parliament as an advocate for the removal of Catholic disabilities and of practical economy in government expenditures; foresaw the outbreak of the Crimean War and warned the Government to be prepared to meet "the Bear" in both Europe and Asia, lest trouble develop later which would threaten the Balkans and India.

* * * *

Mr. William F. Hudson of Massachusetts uses an old Indian "magic formula" in making his annual long-range Winter forecast. He says of fifty-five yearly predictions, fifty-two have been accurate. Here is his system: Find out when the first quarter of the October moon occurs. Count the number of bright stars that appear to the naked eye to be located about thirty feet from all sides of the moon. Look for a dull star above six inches from a bright star. The brilliance of this extra star will determine whether there will be one storm more or less than the number of bright stars. Mr. Hudson says according to the stars this season there will be approximately twenty-six storms in which enough snow will fall to make up three ordinary winters.

* * * *

Premier Campbell evidently does not know where he is at regarding provincial finances. The Sirois report having got the ungentle push into limbo, he is hoping against hope that something else will turn up to ease our financial situation. As a statesman he is in the embryonic stage (though a finished politician) and does not yet realize that chickens hatched in the highways and hedges have a habit of coming home to roost. Borrowed money must be paid or taken care of, and the question this Province must face sooner or later is where we are to find the wherewithal to pay our just and lawful debts if the Federal Government do not do so?

* * * *

Under an agreement reached for disposal of the 1940-41 pack of canned peaches, apricots and pears, Australian canners and the Federal Government share financial responsibility for the exportable surplus, according to information received by the Department of Trade and Commerce. Estimated production of these canned fruits in the 1940-41 season is about 2,700,000 cases containing two dozen 30-ounce tons or the equivalent. Of this quantity about 1,300,000 cases will be available for export. Canners, it is understood, will accept responsibility for 500,000 cases of the surplus and the Government for the remaining 900,000. This agreement will enable the entire crop of canning fruit to be processed this season. Growers will thus be fully protected, and will be able to dispose of their fruit through normal channels. The canning industry will undertake the marketing of the pack to all available markets, and will be responsible for all export orders to the United Kingdom up to September 30, 1941.

* * * *

The Bank of Nova Scotia's Index of Industrial Activity recorded its ninth consecutive gain in December though, as in the previous two months, the improvement was of modest proportions. The Index stood at 125.6% of the 1925—1929 average as compared with 124.9% in November and 108.3% in December, 1939. Two of the component indices—Industrial Carloadings and Employment—rose substantially, but their influence was largely offset by a decline in Industrial Production. The fall in the Index of Industrial Production, however, is largely a reflection of the artificial result obtained by applying "normal" seasonal adjustment factors at a time when industries are working near capacity. Thus, although production was at or near record levels, the corrected figures for iron and steel and automobile output fell sharply in December because allowance was made for the increase which usually occurs in this month under peacetime conditions. There were also sharp declines in the highly variable figures of petroleum and wool imports, but other trade figures included in the Index—notably imports of rubber and cotton—showed offsetting gains. Construction contract awards again rose, after adjustment, as the large-scale military and industrial building programme went forward. On the whole, the only significant evidence of industrial slackening during the month appeared to be the appreciable decline in newsprint output.

NOTES BY THE WAY

To the British, that "Dark Continent" seems to be one of the bright spots of the war. — Christian Science Monitor.

Some of baseball's free hitters are in line for an early call to arms. It is imagined the boys will be allowed three rifles apiece, to lumber up for drill. — Detroit News.

A family living in a suburb of Melbourne, finding the usual notices on the gate ineffective in discouraging hawkers and canvassers, replaced them with the following one: "Beware of the Agapanthus! If attacked, do not run but walk slowly backwards." Reported 100 per cent effective. — From the Sydney Bulletin.

A bombed office and a bed in the shelter entitle any man to be a trifle more sure to keep the cold out. When he spends his days scrambling over wreckage and rescuing papers and ledgers from what were his private rooms he is frowned upon if he comes to the City in ski-ing boots, as quite a number of men have done in the last week. But I have seen nobody else so reckless of public opinion as the City gentleman whom I observed yesterday bicycling along the Strand in a Balaclava, macintosh trousers rather too short and spats. —Manchester Guardian.

Complexes are those things you want to talk about when the other fellow holds the floor. And when you in turn finally get the floor, and it is the other fellow who nods absentmindedly and broods, it is a complex which gnaws at his gizzard. Thus conversation, taking it as a whole, is a compromise between complexes—only it isn't much of a compromise, because usually the other fellow's complex is so much more advanced and compelling than your own that he succeeds in holding the floor most of the time, the scoundrel. — Portland Oregonian.

I am thinking of starting a collection of what I may call Thoroughly Adequate Apologies. I shall begin with the remark of a Baltimore postman to a housewife as he handed in the mail Thursday morning, when, the world was sheathed in half an inch of steel-hard ice, which a drizzle of rain made more slippery. The mail was sodden and splashed with mud. "I'm sorry about the letters, madam," said the postman, bitterly. "They've been in the gutter. All I can say is, I was with them". — John O'Reen in the Baltimore Sun.

....And so it would appear that an aroused public opinion will demand action on the Sirois report. And if that demand continues to grow as it has been growing since the people have come to realize what the report is all about, some action on the document itself, or to deal with the problems to which the commission gave consideration, would appear to be definitely in prospect. — Montreal Financial Times.

Axis boasters, aware of the growing revulsion and uneasiness excited in this country by their depredations, have cheered themselves by saying over and over that the United States could not possibly interfere in time to affect the outcome. Their plan now is to dismember the last democracy in Europe, seize control of the seven seas and settle down to enjoyment of their plunder before we can get going. We are not supposed to arrive until after the house has burned down. —New York Post.

Sir.—It has been stated that before the attack on the Italian men-of-war at Taranto Herr Hitler was "planning to combine the available units of the French fleet with the Italian Navy under German command direction." This furnishes one more example of the failure of the German High Command to appreciate practical sea warfare. The rottenness of an allied fleet is well expressed in one of the late Lord Fisher's illuminating aphorisms: "The great objection to an allied fleet is that you cannot hang the allied Admiral." —R. H. Bacon, Admiral. — Letter in London Times.

The Italian soldier has shown on many a battlefield that he can resist to the last ditch. Indeed, his glory has been that in spite of his generals he has remained a rugged individual fighter. What change has come over him? An answer to that might forecast the fortunes of Italy in this war. — New York Times.

Many London houses of business are descending on Oxford and taking shops in streets away from the main stream of traffic. Art and antique dealers especially seem to think that University dons and their wives are likely to be good customers. Oxford, apart from the University, has always been a market town of considerable importance. Now it threatens to rival London's West End as a shopping centre. — London Daily Sketch.

One of our diocesan bishops, who must be nameless, has had his palace bombed and burnt to the ground. Naturally he has been the recipient of hundreds of messages of condolence, and to all who have written to him he has sent a printed card bearing these heartening words: "Thank you so much for writing to me. It's a bit of a knock, but we shall survive." — Manchester Guardian.

Some people have been confused by the fighting between Siamese and French, at the frontiers of Indo-China. In fact, it is merely a phase of the present world war. The Siamese are allied with Japan. If the Japanese and the Siamese together could gain possession of French Indo-China, or of its strategic bases, roads and frontiers, a land attack upon the great British base at Singapore would become possible, along the Malay Peninsula. The Japanese, using the Siamese as a cat's-paw, are manoeuvring for position. They will not strike yet against Britain itself. They can bide their time. — Chicago Daily News.

How do the British keep up their exports, when it is commonly believed the whole United Kingdom is an arsenal and so much is torn and shattered by bombs? That is something to think about. But here is one way they maintain high class salesmanship. A local business man on fine stationery just received this note from a representative of a London house: Dear Sir. In view of the difficulties prevailing it is impossible for me to fix the exact date for my 1941 Spring visit. However I am definitely making the trip by the first ship available and will advise you of the date on my arrival. I trust you will reserve any orders you may wish to give me and your kind recommendations to others. — Yours Obediently. — St. Catharines Standard.

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.

R.A.F. APPRECIATIVE

Sir:—When peace reigned in England, I used to spend my holidays touring the countryside of Britain, the lovely valleys of Wales, the pretty Lake district of England, and the beautiful hills of Scotland. During my tours, I came in contact, and talked with many people.

Then came war and I had to give up my wanderings to finish a more serious job, a war which threatened to cheat us out of that wonderful England. In doing my duty I was one of the many who came to Canada, and that brings me to the core of this letter.

What I have seen of Canada is very little, but one thing has touched me very much and that is the hospitality of the people of Charlottetown. It is a memory I shall be able to look back on with great joy, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of this City on behalf of all of the boys and myself, and would like to tell them through the medium of your paper, how much we appreciate the kindness of the people, and sincerely hope that in the coming months we shall continue to enjoy their company.

I am, Sir, etc.,

"TAFFY" R.A.F.

FARM PRICES

Sir,—An interesting letter appeared in your Public Forum under the caption "Farm Prices," Feb. 11.

Mr. Ramsay sturck the nail on the head when he said: "If the powers-that-be are going to peg prices of butter, cheese and bacon, why not go around the circle and peg prices of farm machinery, manufactured goods and wages? Peg some up and some down to establish a proper equilibrium between goods we buy and products we sell." The basis of economic justice in any country should be a standard of living wage for all. This could be maintained by an adequate profit over the cost of production. Industry by their intelligence and their consistent purpose to stand behind their organization have eliminated competition from the sale of their manufactured goods, and have maintained their values regardless of the laws of supply and demand. This lob-sided economic condition made it most difficult for agriculture forcing the cost of production beyond what the consumer is unwilling or unable to pay. Therefore the western farmers have asked for government legislation, and got it. This economic condition could be corrected if farmers would stand behind that co-operation.

After a number of years of unsuccessful attempts to get farmers to stick together, our most intelligent farmer and agricultural promoters are appealing to our governments for assistance. Many farmers finding it impossible to make ends meet are leaving their farms; consequently there are several hundred vacant farms in the province, while many others are below their productive possibilities. Mr. Ramsay states he does not see why potatoes our cash crop on P. E. Island should not be bonused by the Federal government to cover the cost of production. This would be most desirable to even conditions with our western farmers.

When R. B. Bennett came into power in 1930, the Montreal Star offered a prize of $500 for the best letter on how we could place agriculture on a par with other industries. The following letter appeared under the caption "Government Marketing Control":

"In order to place agriculture on a par with other industries the farmer is entitled to a profit over the cost of production. In Prince Edward Island our cash crop is potatoes. Our government would be asked to take over salable potato crop of 100 to 200 bushels per acre as the case may be. A commission would be appointed to ascertain the average cost of producing a bushel of potatoes. Say this cost was found to be 50 cents the government would pay the farmer 60 cents, and undertake to sell the crop. Markets may be good. The government would realize a good profit over what they paid. We would presume the profit would be held in reserve. Next year the commission would calculate the cost to be 40 cents, as cost of production varies from year to year. The government would pay the farmer 50 cents per bushel. The government, being up against lower market prices, and a surplus crop of potatoes, would have to sell for 40 or 45 cents, as the case may be. The reserve of the year before would cover the loss of the succeeding year. In this way, year in, year out, the government would break even. This system, coupled with the establishment of starch factories and a canning industry would help to place agriculture on a more favorable footing."

I am, sir, etc.,

W. D. ROSS.

Kinross, P.E.I.

Social Problems Unsolved By The War!

(Exchange)

The widespread social repercussions of the war are featured in the annual review of the Canadian Welfare Council the —problem of the 20,000 men already discharged from the forces from one cause or another, who with their dependents must be cared for; the absorption of all readily employable workers and the opportunity for training and placing others; the shifting of population toward certain centres causing serious housing difficulties, and the possible need for separation allowances for war workers who move to the industrial centres; increase in the number of family adjustment cases, in legal separations, in desertions and in illegitimacy. The profound effect of such a war upon our national life could not fail to include innumerable reactions upon social welfare.

"Within 60 to 90 days," say the Welfare Council, "we shall likely reach the zero point in usable labor, in receipt of aid. Meanwhile, demands of war production continue to call personnel from less to more vital activities, and to dictate discouragement of less essential lines of service.

"This shift of manpower can only involve another tremendous accession of women workers to an ever enlarging and varying range of occupations. There cannot but be some serious telescoping and disorganizing displacement when industrial activity begins to ease back and adjust itself into more normal production at war's close."

"Incredible results" are being obtained, we are told, among the older, long-idle workers on whom some time and effort have been expended in refitting and training for gainful occupation. But much greater activity in this line is said to be required.

"If the immediate crisis be met," the report states, "without determined action to break the residual core of all those still on aid, we might as well decide that from this time they are accepted as a permanent irreducible minimum to be carried as a dead weight load through the war and after.

Vancouver and Winnipeg, and several of the private agencies, report amazingly gratifying results in the self-supporting re-employment of numerous older workers, long on relief, through the intensive work made possible by lower case loads this year.

"What has been locally proven, cries out for serious attack on the whole national front —something better than an indifference that last year left unclaimed all but $83,000 of a Dominion vote of $680,000 for re-training of older workers on a 50-50 basis with the provinces. In no month were more than 3,200 workers under retraining.

"There is hope that the pressure for labor supply will force more vigorous and extensive programmes for training, which will include salvaging and refitting of the older idle worker as well as the apprenticeship for the youth."

The wartime dangers of the young in their desire for social life are seriously regarded. The community centres and recreation agencies are being jammed, especially in the military and manufacturing centres, and it is added:

"The protection of a large section of our youth, against the inroads of immortality and disease will depend in no small measure upon the community's support of those agencies which seek to offer at no cost wholesome recreation facilities against the glamorous competition of much meretricious commercialized amusement.

"Public welfare and voluntary services alike report mounting difficulties in the movement of labor to jobs elsewhere, in the gradual desintegration of home ties, the growth of non-maintenance, and finally, complete ignoring of responsibilities.

"As feared, illegitimacy is mounting and causing the gravest concern to the voluntary agencies, upon whom the greater burden of its adjustments, care and costs rest."

The Canadian people have been generous in their citizen effort, in time and in funds. "Outstanding has been the reasonably calm absorption of 7,000 overseas children into our ordinary home life through our ordinary child caring services. The War Charities have been given nearly eighteen million dollars in 16 months of war. Twenty-one community chests received four and one-half million dollars to carry on home services."

The recommendations of the Commission on Dominion and Provincial Relations are welcomed by the Welfare Council.

"In the day of battle there is preparation for the tasks of peace. The Rowell-Sirois Report, whatever the controversies mounting about it, has struck the challenge for a minimum standard of social security for all the people of all the provinces of this land. In pursuit thereof it has suggested certain clear-cut areas of autonomy and responsibility for Dominion and provincial levels of government. Their exact realignment, as that of provincial and municipal powers, can be left to the subsequent discussions of the reasonable, intelligent good-willed Canadian people.

"The Report has enunciated certain social safeguards to national wellbeing, in contributory social services, protection against some of the cost of casualty through unemployment, premature old age, ill health, disease or death of the normally self-supporting worker."

The Poets' Corner

MYSTERY

What is this mystery that men call death?
My friend before me lies; in all save breath
He seems the same as yesterday. His face
So like to life, so calm, bears not a trace
Of that great change which all of us so dread,
I gaze on him and say: He is not dead,
But sleeps; and soon he will arise and take
Me by the hand. I know he will awake
And smile on me as he did yesterday;
And he will have some gentle word to say,
Some kindly deed to do; for loving thought
Was warp and woof of which his life was wrought.
He is not dead. Such souls forever live
In boundless measure of the love they give.

—Jerome B. Bell.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., Feb. 19 — (CP) — A recent influx of palm and tea-cup readers, crystal gazers and other types of fortune tellers is under police investigation, police chief E. M. Slader said today.

Possibility of spies posing as fortune tellers always is kept in mind during war time, he said.

Minard's kills pain.

Just off the Press EATON'S Spring and Summer Catalogue

T. EATON CO MONCTON CANADA

SEND FOR YOUR COPY TODAY

MAC'S SPECIAL RX. 315

Cod Liver Oil Extract with Cresote and Guiacol Compound.

A real tonic for coughs, colds and grippe. It is better than an ordinary cough medicine for it reaches the seat of the trouble relieves the cough and supplies continual treatment to build up the system, to withstand future attack.

A splendid blood and body building tonic for both young and old who take it regularly.

Price $1.00 Per Bottle.

SENSATIONAL 1c SALE

Woodbury's Facial Soap. Buy 3 cakes. Pay 1c for fourth cake. All four cakes for—23c

MAC'S PIG WORM POWDER

Expels worms. Saves losses. Tones Hogs. Increases Profits.

Helps make bigger, better, healthier hogs. Macs Pig Worm Powder and tonic. not only removes the worms but is an excellent tonic for the hogs. Large sums of money are lost by farmers through worms in pigs and these losses can be entirely avoided by using Macs Pig Worm Powder and Tonic.

THE TWO MACS
149 Great George Street
MAIL ORDERS GIVEN PROMPT ATTENTION

ABERDEEN, Feb. 19 —(CP) — German bombers attacked two northeastern towns in Scotland today, and residents said they machine-gunned a schoolyard and bus. Bombs wrecked several homes and killed three persons.

Professional Cards

McLEOD & BENTLEY
W. E. BENTLEY, K. C.
J. A. BENTLEY, K. C.
C. F. BENTLEY, LL.B.
Barristers and Attorneys-at-Law
MONEY TO LOAN
154 Prince Street

MORRELL & CO.
D. F. ARCHIBALD
Chartered Accountants
Eastern Trust Building
Charlottetown

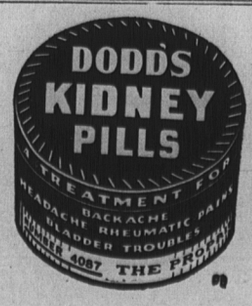
Amazing 1¢ Sale
WOODBURY FACIAL SOAP
This Cake 1¢ WHEN YOU BUY 3 CAKES AT REGULAR PRICE
ALL 4 CAKES 23c

BROMO-SELTZER SPECIAL
$1.20 SIZE FOR 69c

LISTERINE TOOTH PASTE
3 TUBES REG. 75c SPECIAL 49c

WILDERS STOMACH POWDER
50c and $1.00
REDDIN BROS.
PHONE 86
WE DELIVER

A Long Pull, A Hard Pull

Men in all walks of life find "Hickey's Twist a great standby when they have a long hard day ahead of them. For the long hard pull try

HICKEY'S BLACK TWIST
10c Per Fig
Manufactured By
HICKEY & NICHOLSON
Tobacco Co. Ltd. Charlottetown