THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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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; 60c for one Month.
By Mail to other Provinces and U. S. A. $5.00 per year
Saturday Weekly: $2.00 per year; $1.00 for 6 months, 50c for 3 months

The Charlottetown Guardian may be obtained at Motaling's News Agency, Times Square, New York; Old South News Agency, Corner Milk and Washington, Boston; Metropolitan News Agency, 1248 Peel St., Montreal; J. Fine, 351 Bay St., Toronto; News Stand, Chateau Laurier, Ottawa; Wolfe's News Stand, Sudbury, Ont; Hub Tobacco Shop, Moncton N. B.;

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1942.

Big "Yes" Vote Indicated

From incomplete returns at the time of writing, it would appear that the affirmative vote in the manpower plebiscite will carry by an overwhelming majority outside the Province of Quebec, and by a substantial majority over all. From the first polling results received in Prince Edward Island and the Maritimes generally, this trend was plainly evident. If it is borne out by the final results, nothing now prevents the King Government from putting Canada's war effort on an all-out basis.

Hon. R. B. Hanson touched the core of the question at issue yesterday when he said that the fate of the Government was not at stake, but that the "fate of Canada may be." This was the attitude taken by Government members themselves in asking to be relieved of their past commitments on the manpower question If they now have that mandate from the electors, they can thank the Opposition for the splendid cooperation and support which brought it about. In rising above every consideration of partisan politics and putting the country's interests first and foremost, the Conservative leaders, federal and provincial, set an example which, it is to be hoped, will not be entirely lost upon Prime Minister King and his colleagues.

Foolish War Talk

Australia's Army Minister Francis Forde comes out with the statement that "the war has turned in our favor" and that the "approaching Allied offensive" against the Axis will be "a staggering spectacle."

There must, comments the Ottawa Journal, be millions of people in Allied countries to wish that Mr. Francis Forde could be forced to do his job and hold his tongue. Because through more than two years of war, through a succession of defeats and retreats, there has been too much of his sort of talk; talk that has made us seem foolish and that generally has done us no good.

The war hasn't turned in our favor. On the contrary, the war is more critical today than it has been at any time since Dunkirk; so critical that the United Nations are in a desperate race against time. Allied war leaders who don't realize that truth, or who, realizing it, try to conceal it or minimize it, are not fit to be war leaders.

There has been too much talk on the Allied side in this war; too much of bold promise not backed by performance. The one notable exception to this is Stalin, who so far has made two speeches since Hitler attacked his country. Stalin, apparently has been content to let his deeds speak for him, and right well have they spoken.

Best Read Features

According to a survey conducted by the Advertising Research Foundation of New York, advertising is the most interesting service feature of the daily newspapers of Canada and America. The report was made following an extensive study based on over 18,000 nationally distributed interviews made in examining newspapers from coast to coast in North America.

The number of women reading one or more advertisements exceeds the number reading one or more comics, or Society News or pictures, and on the same basis, men's interest in newspaper advertising, according to the Foundation report, equals their interest in sport news or pictures. 52 per cent of the men and 58 per cent of the women readers, on the average stop to read one or more national advertisments in their daily newspapers, while 75 per cent of the men and 94 per cent of the women stop to read one or more local advertisements.

With few exceptions, readers in large and small cities demonstrate about the same interest in the various types of content of their daily newspaper. Readership of obituary notices, weather, society pictures, and classified advertising is noticeably higher in small cities, while banner, or headline stories attract more attention in larger centres.

Different income-occupation groups show definite preference for different portions of their daily newspapers. Clear-cut trends in reader interest from the lower economic group to the higher are apparent, comics and classified advertising being of more interest to the former and editorials and financial news to the latter. With most items, however, the overall difference is not great.

The daily newspaper is pretty thoroughly read, without regard to the position of the news, the report shows, and practically every reader stops to read something in each section, with departmental news such of sports and society attracting most readers regardless of their position in the paper. 70 per cent of the men read the sports page thoroughly, while 80 per cent of the women stop at the Society page. And, contrary to belief of some advertisers that the right hand page is a better position than the left hand, the study shows that there is no inherent advantage on left or right-hand pages.

Other findings of the Foundation reveal that the female reader is as interested in death notices as she is in comics; men show a preference for national and international news over local news, while women's interest in national and local news in about equal; of all photographs, war men, while women like pictures of weddings and and defence pictures have the greatest appeal to engagements just as well as war pictures.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

The transfer of the accountancy branch of the Railway to Moncton would take $10,000 a year out of circulation in Charlottetown.

* * * *

Somebody blundered in not publishing the location of the City polling booths—our phones were kept busy by enquirers throughout the day.

* * * *

There were 466 marriages, 1567 births, and 833 deaths registered in the province for the first nine months of 1941. Of the deaths the largest number resulted from diseases of the heart 150.

* * * *

No, it was not a vote of confidence in the Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, but approval of the Hon. J. L. Ralston and his fellow members of the government who insisted on an "all-out" policy, irrespective of Mr. King's personal wishes and desires.

* * * *

Nellie Farren, English actress, died this date 1904; daughter of William Farren, famed for his "Sir Peter Teazle," and his wife, previously Mrs. Faucet, mother of Helena Saville Faucet who became Lady Martin; Nellie was practically born on and for the stage, and continued a life time on it; she featured burlesque, and was the best woman "boy" known in the English history of the stage; no Drury Lane Pantomime of her day and generation was complete unless Nellie appeared in the leading "boy" character.

* * * * *

Today, after the Plebiscite, the Prime Minister intends giving the House of Commons a statement on the policy to be pursued by Canada with reference to the Vichy Government. South Africa has severed relations and it has been already made plain by the Prime Minister that there is close and continuous consultation between London, Washington and Ottawa, and that whatever decisions are made will be in the light of the best interests of all the United Nations. Incidentally, the Prime Minister has stated it would be exceedingly unfortunate if there had to be a break in the associations between Canada and France, relations that extended over three centuries.

* * * *

In Honolulu prohibition means prohibition and not political patronage and temperance pussyfooting. Immediately after the Japanese raid on Pearl Harbour, all drinking places were closed. Mr. Lester Petrie, Mayor of Honolulu has an article in a recent Colliers magazine on various conditions there, in which he says: "Some of the lads whose memory is not too good thought they were ill when they arose morning after morning, without a dark brown taste, but even they, are becoming accustomed to the liquor drought. The Provost Court makes short shrift of those who trifle with the ban on liquor sales. One venturesome saloonkeeper is out of pocket $5,000 in cash, and $8,000 stock of bottled goods and is starting a five year tour of duty in prison, because he thought the Military Governor was fooling," when he said thou shall not touch, taste or handle intoxicating liquor for the duration of the war."

* * *

Looking well into the future, the Wartime Prices and Trade Board has ruled that Christmas gift tins of cigarettes, boxes of cigars and other packaged tobacco must hereafter be sold without the gay outer wrappings that usually adorn them. The order applies to all types of outer casings, wrappers, and other devices by which tobacco manufacturers have been wont to dress up their products for the pre-Christmas trade. It also prohibits the display or sale of any product dolled up to designate any special season, holiday or event, excepting such specially wrapped stocks as wholesalers and retailers may now have on hand. The ban is even more sweeping in regard to cigars, forbidding manufacturers from putting any kind of outer wrapping on individual boxes or packages of cigars.

* * * *

Eighty-six years ago Charles Sangster —one of Canada's earliest poets—published a poem entitled, "England and America." In this poem he forecast a day, (writes Edgar Andrew Collard in Montreal Gazette,) when the freedom of the world would be in peril, and when England and America would—

". . . . united stand and labor.
Side by side, and hand in hand,
Battling with the sword of Freedom,
For the peace of every land."

The time at which Sangster was writing offered little enough hope for Anglo-American unity. England and America were then divided by bitter misunderstandings. Indeed, in 1856 —the very year in which this poem was published—matters had become so serious that the American ambassador at London was wondering whether he was about to be handed his passport. Sangster was a newspaper man in Kingston at the time and published two volumes of poems. Critics of Canadian poetry have generally considered Sangster as being in advance of his time in the awareness of a Canadian national spirit and destiny which characterizes his work. But this poem, "England and America," which has been neglected by nearly all his critics, and which has never found its way into an anthology of Canadian verse, reveals that Sangster was far in advance of his time in another respect. He foresaw, with a most exceptional clarity, that events would ultimately bring forth the full fundamental unity of England and America, and that upon this unity the whole freedom of the world would rest.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Do we know there's a war on. Well, the tax collector and the A.R.P. warden and the oil controler and one or two other fellows are trying to persuade us. — Vancouver Province.

The Stanley Cup hockey contest in Detroit on Sunday night was anything but a credit to a splendid game. Spectators pay their money to see hockey well played; not fighting all over the rink. None would regret such an exhibition more than that well-behaved young citizen of Detroit, Mr. Joe Louis, the world's champion pugilist, who, however, does his fighting in the ring. — Toronto Globe and Mail.

A little newspaper story from Colorado, tells of the killing of antelope in the railway passes of the Rockies, victims of their maladjustment to the new railway timetables of daylight saving time. Game Warden Adkins of Greeley, Colorado, says that in his jurisdiction, on the first day of daylight saving, eight antelope were killed. They were crossing the tracks at their regular times, between trains according to the old timetables, but fatally coincident with the passing of the transcontinental on the new schedule. — Vancouver Province.

When we see the now fairly numerous ladies in uniform on Kingston streets we never fail to be astonished by the uniformly cheerful expressions on their faces. In civil life if one girl got an attractive looking dress and a lot of other girls immediately appear on the streets dressed exactly the same, there would be plenty of black looks. But, with uniforms in fashion, everybody is happy. — Kingston Whig-Standard.

"Grass-cutter" bombs being used by Japanese in Australia are not a new development. Instantaneous shells and bombs have been used against personnel ever since 1917. They are really effective only against troops in the open. The Australians must have forgotten that Air Commodore Raymond Collishaw introduced the use of the percussion bomb in attacks against enemy air fields in Libya two years ago. Bursting on impact, they scatter small splinters over a wide area, thus damaging many planes. The slower acting fused bombs, on the other hand, penetrate the ground for at least a short distance, and thus their blasting effect is smothered, splinters flying upward at a high angle. The Japanese appear merely to have copied British methods of bombing air fields. — Edmonton Journal.

Ottawa reports that the visible supply of wool will last for only six months, and the prices and trade board is circularizing tailors to find out what customers have bought more than two suits of clothes since the first of February. It is not pleasant therefore to read that the Japanese Minister at Ottawa, who is due to take his overdue departure, has celebrated his going in advance by ordering thirteen suits. This presumably is one of the prerogatives of an ambassador and nothing can be done about it. But there is one glint of satisfaction in the incident. It suggests that the Japanese cloth supply is running low. — Edmonton Bulletin.

There is small likelihood that gearing the Nation's pace to forty miles an hour or less will discomfort anyone. On the contrary, the national emergency will give motorists new opportunity to learn that little time is lost in travelling slowly and that there can be as much enjoyment in going places as in getting there. — Christian Science Monitor.

Herr von Papen is reported to be paying a flying visit to Switzerland. They had better count the Alps before the leaves. — Peterborough Examiner.

The Japs, they say, are a superstitious people who, as in some parts of Ireland, take the baying of dogs by night as a sign of disaster or death to come. And because of this quirk, we feel that Anderson County, Texas, need not worry about air raids. Indeed, the rest of us should take a tip from civilian defence officials of Pelestine, the country seat. The boys had a blackout there the other night and, because Anderson County is not rolling in wealth, high-priced sirens were out of the question. Instead, the farmers lined up all the hound-dogs and deployed them strategically over an area forty miles wide and thirty miles long. Promptly at 8.20, the country sheriff got himself a blacksmith's hammer and whanged the old plow blade that hangs in the court house square and serves as a firebell. The "alert" was picked up at once by the hound-dog No. 1, stationed a quarter-mile away. Other dogs 2,375 of them in fact, usually clumped together on farms or so far separated that their howls wouldn't carry, had been planted a quarter-mile apart, up and down the country and criscross, so that no hound, unless he was stone deaf, could miss the call. They say that by 9.30 with every hound going good, folks in Dallas, a hundred miles away, were running for cover. — Chicago Sun.

Hoarding is buying things in advance of one's needs, in expectation of a serious shortage and with the intention of allowing other people, not the hoarder, to suffer from that shortage. People with limited means cannot afford to buy up much in advance. If people with more money do it, they take a selfish advantage of their position. Many people forget this, and they also forget that hoarding applies to everything. They would not think of hoarding flour or sugar, but does not seem to occur to them that there is the same objection to hoarding clothing, shoes or hardware, and the sharp increase in retail sales in recent months, over the same months last year, indicates that much hoarding of this kind is going on. People who would buy in advance from ordinary prudence, apparently do not think what it involves now. If it has any meaning at all, it is that the buyer is trying to protect himself at the certain disadvantage of someone else. — Winnipeg Free Press.

Army wives are going to follow their men around, as they have a perfect right to do. It is their individual right and nobody wants to take away the privilege. But, collectively, their moving about is creating an economic problem Perhaps the overcrowding of the cities adjacent to training centres will bring its own solution. The ladies will realize the benefits of living in the villages and rural towns and go back of their own accord. — Vancouver Sun.

SLEEP AND AWAKE REFRESHED

If you don't sleep well—if nights are interrupted by restlessness—look to your kidneys. If your kidneys are out of order and failing to cleanse the blood of poisons and waste matter—your rest is likely suffering, too. At the first sign of kidney trouble turn confidently to Dodd's Kidney Pills—for over half a century the favorite kidney remedy. Easy to take. 114

Dodd's Kidney Pills

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.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND AND CONFEDERATION

Sir:—On Saturday the Charlottetown Guardian put the following question to its readers: "Why should our Government stand idly by and let our Confederation agreement with the rest of Canada be treated as so much waste paper?" To this question, I believe, there is only one reply, namely, that the people of Prince Edward Island have never told the present government nor any previous Provincial government to do otherwise than is now being done.

Admittedly, there is much discontent throughout the Province regarding the treatment by Ottawa, ever since Confederation, of the Province's evident requirements. On the other hand, at no time have the people of the Province as a whole made a united demand for redress.

Under modern Democracy, governments do not initiate. They keep their ears close to the ground listening for rumblings, but, until the quake follows that threatens to wreck the foundation of the particular party political machine upon which the existing government depends for its return to power, they continue to mind their own business and attend to the daily routine, which as a rule is sufficient to keep them busy.

The above course has, I believe, been followed very closely by the several Liberal and Conservative governments, with the result that the battles of the Province have never been fought to a finish at Ottawa. Meantime, the Central and Western provinces, with their overwhelming representation in Parliament, have grabbed pretty nearly everything in sight and have outvoted in Parliament almost all of this Province's demands.

It is not reasonable to expect either a Liberal or Conservative government to put up a real fight for Prince Edward Island unless it is assured that the people of the Province as a whole are absolutely at its back, and what hope is there of any such solidity so long as the electors divide themselves into hereditary opposing factions?

Break up the two political spoil systems which engender a personal, selfish motive instead of a pro bono publico motive; forget the two political names, Liberal and Conservative, both of which have long since lost their real significance, and you will see this Province forge ahead into a position of great posperity, in which half a million or more people will live happy, healthful and contented lives.

If the Guardian and the Patriot will each of them declare itself to be completely independent of party politics, agreeing in all cases upon the support of certain candidates in elections and working jointly and solely in the interests of the Province, they will at once be given the strongest possible support of all the best people of Prince Edward Island.

I am, Sir, etc.,
H. K. S. HEMMING

(In Democracy there must be Party government, the "ins" and the "outs," His Majesty's Loyal Government, and His Majesty's Loyal Opposition. Ed. G.)

VEGETABLE GARDENS

Sir:—Now that spring is with us I think it would be wise for you to call the attention of all well-wishers of Canada to the fact that we must do everything we can to economize in foods and promote growth that will have a tendency to replace other foods that will be necessary to Britain in carrying on the war. It seems to me that a garden for every home is one of the essential things we must think of this time of year.

I am not advocating a flower garden, though it is a beautiful asset to a home, but the essential things are those which constitute food such as beets, carrots, parsnips, beans and peas. Vegetables which, if they cannot be utilized in season, can be canned for use of the family throughout the winter. This would lessen, to a great extent, the consumption of meat on the farm. The war must be won for the allies and anything we can do which has the effect of strengthening the hands of Britain, no matter how little it may be, will be worthwhile and will be commended by all thoughtful citizens.

If your garden is a fair size, have it planted in rows so that you can run a horse and scuffler between the rows thereby lessening the cost of cultivation and weeding. If you have a supply of strawy manure it would be well worthwhile to use it as much as possible between the rows to retain moisture.

In planting cucumbers and pumpkins get a number of boxes. If you cannot get boxes 10 or 12 inches square, take a board four, five or six inches wide, saw it square at the ends say twelve inches long, this will be the ends for your box; light material will do for the sides, in fact shingles twelve or fourteen inches long will be sufficient to nail on the sides. No wooden bottom is necessary in the box. Take an old sack put it over the bottom of the box, tack it to the sides and fill the box with good garden earth. In each box plant from four to six seeds, then set the boxes in a sheltered place in the sun where the wind will not strike them too hard. Cover them over with storm windows leaving a space between the glass and the box for the air to circulate. The glass draws the heat and warms the soil. When the seeds are sprouting through the ground, one to one and one-half inches, destroy all plants except three or four of the best, dig a hole in the garden where you wish your cucumber and pumpkin bed, 10 to 12 inches deep, throw a couple of forkfuls of manure in the bottom, take one of the boxes and set it down a sufficient depth that it will project above the ground one inch. The advantage here is when the grubs come out looking for cucumbers to cut off they run up against the side of the box, grumble and decide to look elsewhere. Next take a piece of a sack or canvas a little larger than the box, on one side tack on a piece of board or shingle two or three inches wide and on the opposite side of the canvas tack on the north side of your box.

On a night when you expect frost, you will take the covering and spread it over the box. The next morning you roll the canvas up on the piece of board or shingle and drop it down on the north side of the box. When the cucumbers are ripe, roll in your wheelbarrow and fill it up. You will have plenty for yourself and some for your neighbours as well. This is a very effective way in growing cucumbers and pumpkins.

There is perhaps nothing grown in a garden that is appreciated by the home so much as strawberries and when you come to think that a hundred foot row of strawberries well cared for will give forty (40) quarts of berries, it is a wonderful yield. Then in the evening when supper is spread what a treat it is to sit down to those large strawberries with a flavour unsurpassed by any with a little cream and sugar.

You cannot get berries in one year. The beds must be planted this year and properly cared for. There are many reasons why the farmers of this province should plant gardens. For example there is that strong, robust boy and that blued eyed, golden haired girl growing up who will be the men and women and fathers and mothers of the future and it is none too early for you to use every endeavour to give them an idea of their responsibility to themselves, their family and especially their country.

As they work in the soil, it will give them a love of the land, the means by which God decreed man should support himself.

I would, therefore, solicit every home to plant a garden, if at all possible, cultivate it and care for it so that it will be a pride as well as a great benefit.

I am, Sir, etc.,
W. H. DENNIS
Minister of Agriculture.

"STEM END BROWNING" AND "NET NECROSIS" IN POTATOES

Sir:—There is not the least doubt, that whatever the true significance is of these two well-known and widely prevalent troubles, their presence in potato tubers has caused serious consternation to the producer, shipper, purchaser and not least to the inspector both of table and seed stocks.

Whatever claims have been advanced that the more insignificant types of both these annoying troubles may be completely disregarded is analogous "to fiction rising pleasing to the eye." I believe all concerned will readily agree on one point viz., that of preference of potatoes, whether intended for the table or seed, which do not exhibit these blemishes.

From the technical point of view most plant pathologists realize that these popular terms cover a multitude of most perplexing pathological as well as physical causes, all of which, or many of which, are indistinguishable by mere visual examination. No person should assume the responsibility from such cursory examination of deciding which of the types is harmless and which is not—if there are such types. None of them has a place in certified seed and certainly all are resented by the consumer.

The situation is most annoying simply because we cannot yet effectively and immediately eliminate these troubles as we can others, that more readily respond to known methods of control. To the producer, shipper and purchaser the question of the technical causes of the disease phenomena is definitely less interesting than it is to the research worker. Research eventually will reveal most of the causes and thus lead to control or prevention—that is the sole aim of research—viz., to have facts and information available which will enable the grower to raise a crop of potatoes that will not be condemned by an inspector as unsuitable for seed or table purposes after he has taken all the trouble of producing it.

In some provinces this stem end browning or net necrosis situation has become a really alarming problem. In others it has not yet become quite so evident, but may do so any time. To whom is the producer to look for assistance?—To the plant pathologists. The plant pathologists all over the world have studied these phenomena for some time and from all angles and yet are scarcely farther ahead than their medical colleagues who may not know the cause and cure of many human ills, but who know much about reasonable prophylactic (preventive) measures and general methods of sanitation that certainly have shown appreciable beneficial results. Just so.

There is a suspicion in my mind that the present situation is the result of having failed to recognize the true significance of stem end browning and net necrosis possibly many years ago when the amount was definitely negligible, and thus was passed by. Many of these troubles are definitely cumulative and, apparently, neglecting the earliest and most insignificant manifestations together with the apologetic attitude of leniency on the part of inspectors—clamoured for by the shippers—and so welcome to the unfortunate grower—have much to account for in the present situation.

Many a farmer has been advised to plant potatoes showing stem end discolourations. It was explained that where early frosts have killed the tops, the tubers may show stem end browning that does not in any way impair the vigour of the seed. True, they might have got away with it when using their own seed, but once the seed has changed hands, who is there to distinguish one type of discolouration from another? What is to be done about it? Unless something effective is done and that without delay, these two troubles will continue and have most undesirable effects on potato production especially of certified seed. So much so that a formerly thriving and fairly lucrative business will pass into the hands of those prepared to do everything even at a great sacrifice. The ideal solution of the situation may not be practical at this stage but here it is: If the former well established and well founded reputation of potato growers of any province is to be regained in the shortest possible space—my advice is not to plant under any circumstances a single potato that shows the least evidence of stem end browning or net necrosis. Where this is economically impossible at the present time, all responsible growers should at least plant a certain area with such scrupulously selected seed and continue to do so until he has eliminated all of these troubles. To wait until the research men have found a better solution is just postponing the issue. Research workers are at work on the problems and if a more speedy solution is offered so much the better. Meanwhile the speed and extent to which the suggested method is effected will shorten or lengthen the period it requires to eliminate these annoying troubles. There exists at present no safer and more effective means.

I am, Sir, etc.,
H. T. GUSSOW,
Dominion Botanist
Department of Agriculture,
Ottawa.

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

"Because we still are a democracy every citizen must accept a personal responsibility for the war and make his every conscious act and deed a direct contribution to a total war effort."
Donald Gordon, Chairman of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

AUTOMOBILE SMASH-UP

After the crash then comes the bill for costs—not only for damage to an automobile but possible heavy liability for injury or death involved in the accident.

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The Poets' Corner

MEMORY

When I was young my heart and
head were light,
And I was gay and feckless as a
colt
Out in the fields, with morning in
the may,
Wind on the grass, wings in the
orchard bloom.
O thrilling sweet, my joy, when
life was free,
And all the paths led on from
hawthorn-time
Across the carolling meadows into
June.
But now my heart is heavy-laden
I sit
Burning my dreams away beside
the fire;
For death has made me wise and
bitter and strong;
And I am rich in all that I have
lost.
O starshine on the fields of long
ago,
Bring me the darkness and the
nightingale;
Dim wealds of vanished summer
peace of home
And silence; and the faces of my
friends.

—Siegried Sassoon.

INDIA'S ARMY

There are a million men in the Indian Army, as compared with 150,000 18 months ago.

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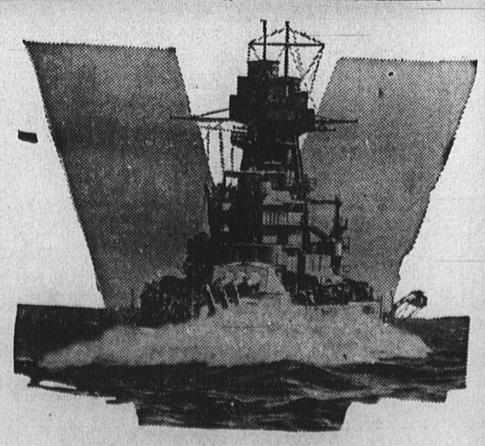

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