

The sense of honor and the resolve to die rather than do certain things is the grip of the living God upon the soul.

# THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

The People's Paper Read by Everybody

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

There is a comfort in the strength of love; 'twill make a thing endurable, which else would upset the brain or break the heart.

Charlottetown Guardian Two Cents. Morning Guardian, Founded 1887.

CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1939

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# REDS RETREAT 50 MILES

## SKIRMISHING ON WESTERN FRONT CONTINUES

### SHARP ATTACK BEATEN OFF BY FRENCH

#### Futile Assault On Allied Position In Climax Of Patrol Activity

PARIS, Dec. 26 (CP—Havas)—French forces skirmished anew with German units on the western front tonight after crushing one of the sharpest attacks yet attempted by the Nazis east of the Moselle river in the early morning hours.

Indicating that the activity which broke out at the start of the last week of the year was not abating, the French high command announced in its evening communiqué that there was "actively by our command elements this morning."

The communiqué said that "two enemy raids to the east of the Moselle were repulsed by our troops."

In contrast with the tactics of the last Great War, the German command started Christmas Day with a series of minor but almost continuous patrol and reconnaissance operations. There was, however, no general fighting.

The German operations gained in scale steadily and reached their peak at 4 a. m. today with a comparatively strong attack on a small forest held by the French to the east of the Moselle, the northern part of the western front.

As usual, German artillery and machine guns laid down a preliminary barrage to pave the way for the infantry. The enemy was answered in kind and the thunder of heavy arms and lighter ordnance ceased at 5:30 a. m. when the Germans withdrew.

### Urges Truck Rate Control In Maritimes

MONCTON, N. B., Dec. 26 (CP)—Recommendation that the Maritime Provinces implement regulations regarding rates to make common and control motor vehicles subject to thorough and effective control is made in a memorandum issued here today by the Transportation Commission of the Maritime Board of Trade through Rand H. Matheson, the commission manager.

"The surveys conducted by the Transportation Commission on truck rates indicate beyond a doubt that the motor truck situation generally throughout the Maritimes results in unjust discrimination as between persons, industries and localities," states the memorandum, which is being issued to the governments of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

By request of Prince Edward Island members of the Commission the memorandum is being held in abeyance so far as that Province is concerned pending study of the recommendations, owing to different conditions on the Island.

Costs of motor truck operations in the Maritimes appeared relatively higher than in Ontario and many rates seemed to be unprofitable, says the memorandum, which is limited to commercial vehicles with suggestions and recommendations for regulating this form of transportation in the Maritimes.

"The Commission is of the opinion that the tax problem as it pertains to motor vehicles is one which the three Maritime Provinces through surveys or otherwise, must respectively determine in relation to the conditions peculiar to their own Provinces," states the memorandum, adding:

"Certificates of convenience and necessity for commercial motor operation should be made universal in the Maritimes. Three classes are sufficient, I. E. common carriers, contract carriers and private permit carriers, the latter class to include owner-operated vehicles carrying their own products, farmers, etc."

### International At A Glance

LONDON—Australian airmen arrive in wake of Canadians to further Empire support of Eritrea in war; S. Ambrose, 2,472-ton British freighter, torpedoed with 14 lost.

ADERSHOT—Brigadier G. R. Parker, V. C., Calgary, takes salute on behalf of C. A. S. F. Commandant march past of crack rifle bands of the army.

WASHINGTON—President Roosevelt names Joseph E. Davies, American Ambassador to Belgium, special assistant to Secretary of State to handle war emergency problems and trade questions; Churchill accepts invitation to co-operate with President in peace efforts.

HELSINGFORS—Finns report heavy Russian attack repulsed on Karelian Isthmus, with 700 Soviet soldiers killed on frozen surface of lake.

PARIS—French communiqué notes activity of contact units on western front.

CRISTOPAL—German freighter Duesseidorf, with British prize crew aboard, sails after 21-hour delay.

### Coming Events

Rate for Notices in this column 3 cents per word.

"We buy goose and duck feathers not mated. Henry MacFarlane & Co. L-204-12-14-15

"Enjoy a good holiday dance in St. Ann's Hall on Thursday, Dec. 28th. L-87-12-22-11.

"Hockey in Graham's Road tonight, Stanley Dairy Kings vs. Graham's Road Monarchs. L-95.

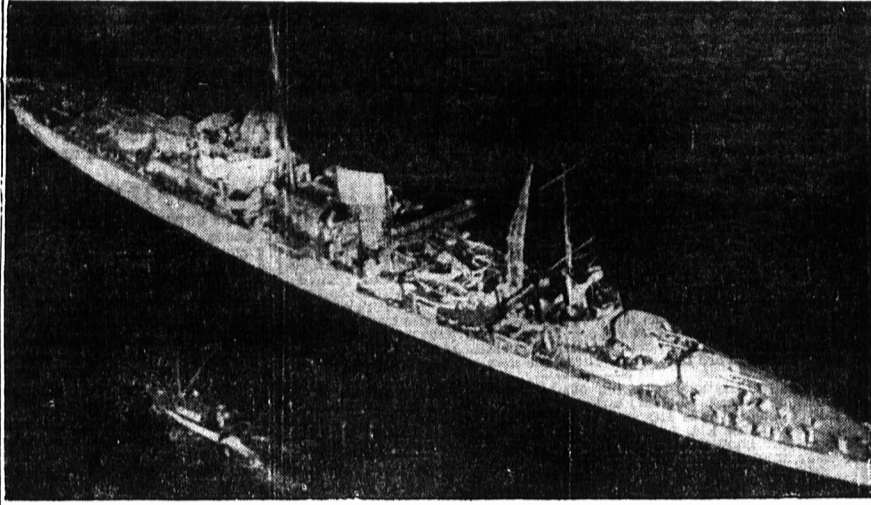
"Buying live hogs at Carleton Place Thursday 26th until 10:30 A. M. Albany all day 1st day, Emerald Friday until noon. G. C. Green.

"Poultry—Buying live and dressed poultry all kinds. Paying top market prices. Island Cold Storage Co. Ltd. L-341-12-15-16.

"Dance, Where? Fort Augustus School. When? December 29th. L-1594-12-20-27.

"Loading live hogs Kensington, Thursday, Dec. 28, till 3 p. m. Mervyn Bulman and Ray Baginall; Hunter River Friday till 10:30 a. m. (Signed) McEwen and Campbell. L-105-12-27-21.

"Now that turkeys, geese and ducks are finished up we need a large quantity of Chickens and Fowl, all grades including canners. Top price. P. E. I. Co-operative Egg and Poultry Association. L-90-12-27-20-30.



The British cruiser, Orion, pictured from the air, patrols off Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., where it chased the German freighter, Arauca.

### Advance Guard Of Australian Airmen Arrive In Britain

### Japanese Meet Defeat In Big Offensive

### ISLAND FISH CATCH DOWN IN NOVEMBER

### Total Volume Here Up Slightly In Contrast With Rest Of Maritimes

### NEW YEAR'S AT OTTAWA TO BE QUIET

### Governor - General's Levee To Be Held But Many Receptions Are Cancelled.

### Sir Hubert Wilkins Offers Services To Canada

### United States Increases Buying Of Russian Furs

### GRATEFUL HUSBAND

### CHARTLEY, England (CP)—

LONDON, Dec. 26 (CP Cable)—Australian airmen landed in Great Britain today, advance guard of the Australian Air Expeditionary Force, as the first Christmas holiday of the second Great War drew to a close amid a comparative lull in activities.

Arrival of the trained airmen, little more than a week after the first contingent of the Canadian Active Service Force departed at a United Kingdom port, was a new demonstration of the Empire unity of which the King spoke in his Christmas Day broadcast.

Under command of wing Commander L. V. Luchal, who preceded them here, the Australian contingent was made up of pilots, gunners, observers and a ground staff of mechanics, ready to take over their duties immediately with the Royal Air Force.

However, they will undergo brief active training in England before going into action.

While the week-end saw a lull in actual operations, listening posts and searchlights were manned throughout the holiday and the R. A. F. maintained its usual patrols. One North Sea air patrol encountered a German patrol vessel and resulted by dropping bombs, but no damage was reported.

As far as possible all men with the forces were served traditional turkey and plum pudding dinners and they toasted the King with whatever beverage was available.

One R. A. F. officer on patrol during lunch carried aloft turkey sandwiches and a flask of cold tea. He called the station commander and drank the toast at the appropriate time.

The day's gloomiest news was of the sinking of the Stanhome, a British freighter of 2,472 tons, reported torpedoed with the loss of 14 lives off the west coast of England.

Survivors said the ship was torpedoed without warning on Christmas day. The dead included the only woman aboard, Mrs. Mabel Jenny, wife of the chief engineer.

Survivors were struck three times by Nationalist airmen during the Spanish Civil War, once at Barcelona and twice at Valencia, Republican ports.

One of the survivors, Australian-born, was captured by the German patrol vessel and taken to Santo Tomas hospital, in the Republic of Panama, when he refused to undergo an emergency operation in the canal zone. The Panamanian doctors, however, found nothing seriously ailing with him and he was sent back to the canal zone.

The Duesseidorf was captured Dec. 16 off the Chilean Coast by a British cruiser two days after the freighter put out from Valparaiso.

She completed her passage from the Panama Canal late yesterday afternoon and was granted clearance for Jamaica at 8:30 p. m. AST. Her sailing subsequently was delayed, however, when Schmidt filed his protest with Major General David L. Stone, Panama Canal zone commander.

Schmidt claimed he had learned reliably from Captain J. Peterson, German master of the Duesseidorf, that the \$2.5 million freighter was within Chilean territorial waters when captured.

Asked how he had communicated with Capt. Peterson in view of regulations barring visitors from the Duesseidorf yesterday, Schmidt replied:

"Maybe I got it from Von Appen. Anyway, a Captain should know the position of his ship better than the Chilean authorities ashore."

CHUNGKING, Dec. 26 (CP—Havas)—The Japanese offensive toward the border of French Indo-China has ended in a "disastrous defeat" south of Lunghow in which the invaders suffered at least 1,000 killed and an estimated number of wounded Chinese dispatches claimed tonight.

Fighting raged for 24 hours near Lunghow, in extreme southwestern China about 18 miles from the Indo-China frontier, before the Chinese troops gained the upper hand, the reports said.

The invaders came from Nanning in an apparent effort to draw the Chinese away from that city, capture the important railway station of Chenankuan and further hamper Chinese communications with Indo-China, dispatches claimed.

Japanese dispatches to Hong Kong, however, reported that 13,000 Chinese had been killed in co-ordinated Japanese offensives in Kwangtung and Kwansi.

Japanese officials in Shanghai asserted that 15,000 Chinese also had been killed in bitter fighting both north and south of Hankow, Central China Metropolis.

HALIFAX, Dec. 26—Commercial fish catches in the eastern fisheries division decreased 4,783,100 pounds during November, compared with the same period of last year, while the landed value dropped \$4,021.

The monthly report for the division, which includes the Maritimes and the Magdalen Islands, shows the quantity of fish landed last month was 18,634,500 pounds, against 23,417,600 for November, 1938. Value of the catch dropped from \$84,247 to \$360,293.

Catches and values by districts with the 1938 month's figures bracketed:

Nova Scotia: 12,412,400 (17,067,100) pounds; \$218,024 (\$233,143).

New Brunswick: 4,562,300 (5,243,300) pounds; \$111,703 (\$126,531).

Prince Edward Island: 927,800 (1,054,800) pounds; \$23,548 (\$23,239).

Magdalen Islands: 732,200 (45,400) pounds; \$7,648 (\$1,344).

OTTAWA, Dec. 26 (CP)—The nation's capital is planning a quiet New Year's Day because of the war. The Governor-General's levee will be held but the Prime Minister has decided against his usual reception at Laurier House and the foreign legations will follow the Prime Minister's example.

The New Year's levee has come down as a custom from New France when the French governor stood before the official residence in Quebec and shook hands on New Year's morning with all who sought to extend him seasonal greetings. It has been decided that his happy custom, kept up since Confederation, should not be broken.

The levee is one of the most democratic of institutions. The Governor-General stands in the Hall of Fame of the Parliament Buildings and first members of the Defence Council and the Defence Forces and afterwards the civilians file past, shaking hands with him and receiving from the King's representative the best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Any man can attend, the only requirement being two visiting cards.

(Continued on page 7, Col. 2).

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (CP)—Sir Hubert Wilkins, Australian explorer of Polar Regions by air-plane and submarine, was back in New York today after a trip to Ottawa to offer his war services to the Canadian Government.

There he saw Defence Minister Norman Rogers and made a general application for anything for which his experience might fit him. Sir Hubert said he asked the Defence Department that lists of war jobs be made available to him as they developed so that he could make specific application.

The explorer served in the first Great War with the Australian headquarters staff.

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CHARTLEY, England (CP)—Because he first met his "late dear wife" at their home, William James Nuttall bequeathed £100 (\$445) to his cousins.

### Relief Coal Under Discussion By Council

### T. J. Kickham Nominated In Souris

### British Prize Crew Sail With Nazi Freighter

### Calm Prevails In Londonderry After Mutiny

### Sister Resides At Ch'town

A hot discussion over the method of supplying relief coal for the City took place at a special meeting of the City Council last night. Mayor Foster presided and all the Councillors were present with the exception of Councillor Hennessey, who was unable to be present due to illness. Mr. K. M. Martin, City Recorder was also in attendance.

The Mayor explained that a misunderstanding of the previous minutes of the Council caused the Relief Committee, headed by Councillor Laphorn, some trouble in buying the supply of coal. Councillor Laphorn suggested rescinding the minutes of that meeting but the Mayor explained that this was not necessary and a resolution designed to overcome the difficulty was adopted by the Council.

It appears that the minutes of that particular meeting had specified that the coal to be used for this purpose was to be Sullivan screened and Springhill screened and was to be bought only from the dealers tendering for this particular coal, regardless of whether any other dealer in the City could supply either of these brands. This arrangement had bound the Relief Committee in their purchases, it was explained.

Councillor Douglas, a member of the Relief Committee, said that there had been some "kicking" about the way his Committee had been buying the coal, and had they done it the way it had been suggested "we would have been run out of town," as it meant buying 1000 tons of coal from one dealer. He suggested that they be given power to distribute the purchases among all the dealers. This was the wish of the Council and the resolution below was brought in covering the matter.

Mr. I. Y. Reddin of the Relief Office was called in to explain the method of delivering the coal and he said that the City truck was employed at the task and was doing a splendid job. This method of delivery was saving the City at the rate of \$3 a day besides paying the wages of the City employees used and in addition was paying for certain other work done by these men during the day.

Immediately following the adjournment of the special meeting the Mayor and Councillors met in a closed session to discuss an important matter which had arisen.

The following is the text of the resolution brought in:

RESOLVED, that relief coal for the season be purchased on the tender basis of \$8.25 per ton for Springhill screened coal delivered and \$8.00 undelivered, and \$7.75 per ton for Sullivan screened coal delivered and undelivered, orders to be allotted by the Relief Committee among all dealers assessed for coal stocks capable of supplying either of such coal at the price set above.

Moved by Councillor C. F. Douglas. Seconded by Councillor H. McIntyre.

T. J. Kickham of Souris west was nominated at a Liberal convention in Souris yesterday afternoon to contest the first district of King's in a bye election.

Three other names were before the convention. It was said they were: Harry Francis, Portune, Edwin Reid, Rollo Bay and W. A. Acorn, Souris, son of the late H. H. Acorn, whose death not long ago left the seat of assemblyman open.

Kickham won on the first ballot, receiving 33 votes from the 64 delegates present. He was followed by Francis, Acorn and Reid in that order.

Donald Lavie presided when the name of T. J. Kickham, poll count was placed before the convention.

Following the voting addresses were made by Mr. Kickham and the three others who had sought nomination. P. A. McIsaac, representative of the district for the Liberals as Councillor and by Lambert Cheverie.

Following the addresses of sympathy to the family of H. H. Acorn was passed by the convention.

COLON, Panama, Dec. 26 (AP)—When the Nazi freighter Duesseidorf headed out to sea tonight under a British prize crew, the German consul, Walter Schmidt, said the ship and its cargo were being taken on the grounds that Christosa was a neutral port.

Asserung he acted both as German consul and in the name of the North American German Lloyd line of which he is the agent, Schmidt explained.

He was under the impression that the ship was in neutral waters and that upon the international ruling which forbids conveying a prize of war through such waters.

Consul Schmidt chuckled at the present predicament of Hans Von Appen, German clerk who was a passenger aboard the freighter.

Von Appen was still in the canal zone quarantine station at Balboa where he was sent until his status is cleared up.

Taken on for medical examination yesterday when he complained of a serious illness, he was transferred to Santo Tomas hospital, in the Republic of Panama, when he refused to undergo an emergency operation in the canal zone. The Panamanian doctors, however, found nothing seriously ailing with him and he was sent back to the canal zone.

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"Maybe I got it from Von Appen. Anyway, a Captain should know the position of his ship better than the Chilean authorities ashore."

LONDONDERRY, Dec. 26 (CP)—Calm prevailed in Londonderry tonight as 46 prisoners, alleged members of the outlawed Irish Republican Army, were locked in separate cells after staging a general strike of the mutineers, who battled police, troops and firemen yesterday for five hours, were treated for slight injuries.

The prisoners, interned for the duration of the war, overpowered and locked up three wardens and three prisoners who refused to join the outbreak. The mutineers then barricaded themselves in cells.

Order was restored only after plumbiers burned through steel doors with acetylene torches and firemen turned high-pressure hoses on the rioters.

Several of the mutineers, who leaned from their cell windows singing Republican songs and shouting Republican slogans to the crowd passing through the street on their way to a football match.

MONTREAL, Dec. 26 (CP)—David Cochrane Drisdale, 75, president of the Canadian Branch of the Sicily Asphaltum Company, died at his home here today after a lengthy illness.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. G. T. Hardie of Charlottetown, P. E. I.

### Soviet Offensive Believed Near In Northern Finland

### Observers Predict Stalin Moving Crack Troops In Attempt To Halt Defeats In Invasion.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 27 (Wednesday)—(AP)—The Russians have been forced to retreat more than 50 miles in some places in northern Finland, and are estimated to have lost 4,000 men in fighting in the extreme north during the last three days, dispatches from Finnish army headquarters said today.

The Russians were reported preparing to counter-attack in the north, however, with some of their best troops, among them veterans of the Polish campaign.

General Wallenius, commander of the Finnish northern forces, was quoted as saying he expected the Red Army driving to come in the vicinity of Salla, near Finland's

(By Lynn Heinzerling, Associated Press Staff Writer) HELSINGFORS, Dec. 26 (AP)—Heavy Russian forces, supported by tanks, airplanes and artillery, were reported tonight to have left 700 dead on the ice of Lake Suvanto after being repulsed in a series of fierce assaults against Finnish positions on the Karelian Isthmus.

The main attack, a Finnish communiqué said, occurred on the eastern side of the Isthmus, where Russian columns struck simultaneously at Haitermaa, Sakkola, Kreija and Volossua.

Finnish fire took a heavy toll of the attackers as they attempted to cross the frozen surface of Lake Suvanto in bitter cold.

Altogether, the Finns said, 23 Russian planes were shot down in a day of fighting.

"waistline," and said his information indicated the Russians had massed 300,000 men on the eastern front from Lake Ladoga in the south to the Arctic Ocean.

(Oslo dispatches said Norwegian observers near the frontier of the Finnish Lapland had noticed large quantities of Russian war materials arriving, and that a new Russian offensive was expected from Hoyenjaervi, 60 miles south of the Arctic, despite widespread blizzards and sub-zero temperatures.)

The Finns have made ceaseless attacks on the retreating Russians in this far northern sector, it was reported, and subjected them to many surprise attacks.

Finnish headquarters believed that the Russian withdrawal in the zone was about over, however, and that a counter-assault could be expected with fresh men and materials hurried northward to cope with the unexpected Finnish resistance despite severe weather in the bleak country.

The Finns said the Russian reinforcements were "elite" troops and that among the officers were some of Joseph Stalin's personal friends.

Stalin was described as being provoked with the reverses experienced in the Arctic fighting, and as being determined upon a vigorous initiative on that front.

The Finns said they had identified 16 Russian divisions confronting them on the east and north—each division consisting of about 18,000 men.

General Wallenius was quoted as

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (AP)—Finland's small army will be able to hold off Russian forces at least until the late spring or early summer of 1940, says spokesmen for the 20,000-odd Finns living in the New York metropolitan area.

What summer and dry terrain will mean, no Finn will hazard a guess.

Finnish fighting bears remarkable similarities to that in the Indian war of early American history.

For 20 years 23,000 Finns have been inducted into the army annually for training. Every five years they had returned for a month's "refresher course." They have been taught marksmanship, the use of skis and, most important, methods of orientation to prevent their becoming lost in the forests.

saying the general situation was that each Finnish battalion (about 600 men) faced a Russian division. But while out-numbered, the Finns found the difficulties of weather and transport in their

SAURATONS ONLY

Leaves Borden 9:45 A.M. 1:00 P.M. Leaves Tormentine 11:00 A.M. 3:05 P.M.

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(Continued on page 7, Col. 5)



TORONTO, Dec. 26 (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Dawson	13 41
Vancouver	32 40
Edmonton	85 4
Regina	— 6
Winnipeg	2 13
Toronto	16 24
Ottawa	5 9
Montreal	4 12
Quebec	1 12
Saint John	10 15
Halifax	14 16
Charlottetown	13 17

MARITIME EAST: Strong north-west winds; fair and cold.

SYNOPSIS: Light snow has fallen in some parts of Saskatchewan and Southern Manitoba, though in most districts from Ontario to Alberta the weather has been fair and cold.

High tide this morning at 1:40 and tonight at 11:05. 32 40. Sun sets this afternoon at 4:24, and rises tomorrow morning at 7:38.

Last quarter moon, Jan. 1, 12:56 a. m. Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

THE CAZ FERRY SCHEDULES

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