THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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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

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1942.

More C.N.R. Bureaucracy

It is learned from authoritative sources that it is the intention of the Canadian National Railways to centralize at regional headquarters all the disbursement accounting offices over the whole system. The change will be put into effect first in the Western Region, and will be effective over the entire system some time before the end of the year.

This will mean that the railway accounting office here, which employs six local officials, will be transferred to Moncton, with the likelihood of one or two of the staff being offered positions there, and the remainder finding themselves out of jobs altogether.

The accounting office has been here ever since the Prince Edward Island Railway was in operation, and its transfer to Moncton is something which will certainly be strongly resented. There is already far too much control over the transportation affairs of this Province vested in regional headquarters. The consequence has been that our rights and requirements as a Province, our very guarantee under Confederation, have been frequently ignored.

Our provincial and federal representatives, our boards of trade and other organizations should get busy before this move goes through. They should protest vigorously against any further centralization of railway departments at the expense of this Province.

It will be recalled that some years ago the railway workshops were taken away on a similar pretext, and many local employees found themselves under the necessity of selling their homes and going to Moncton, or being out of work altogether.

Liberal governments at Ottawa seem to have a penchant for this kind of false economy—always at our expense, of course. It is time that a stand was taken in this instance, which means still further dependence upon the bureaucrats at Ottawa and Montreal.

U. S. Draft Law Stiffer

From the point of view of Canadian publicity in the United States, writes a Washington correspondent, one of the most interestnig angles of last week's agreement between Washington and Ottawa on the drafting of Canadians resident in the United States is the provision that Canadians thus drafted will be inducted in the Canadian army at a recruiting point situated in the United States . . . .This is done because any Canadian drafted here under American laws who elects to serve in the Canadian army might cross the border as a civilian and then, as a Canadian on Canadian soil, refuse to serve except under Canadian regulations. At present, Canada exempts everyone from compulsory overseas service and anyone over 30 from any military service whatever . . . . The American law exempts no one from overseas service except those in poor health or with dependents. Under a bill now pending in Congress even men of 45 with dependents will be drafted for overseas service. . . . Thus the wide differences between Canadian and American draft practice are pointed up by official proclamation . . . A yes vote in the forthcoming plebiscite in Canada will do much to quiet much of the criticism arising from these differences. On the other hand, Canada comes in for some good publicity on the question of price and wage control . . . The story is current around Washington this week-end that a price and wage law based almost to the letter on the current Canadian law will be introduced into Congress and promptly passed . . . The operation is expected to be completed within three weeks, following which a visit by Canada's Donald Gordon to America's Leon Henderson will be in order.

Price Ceiling Problems

Canada and the United States are both endeavoring to fight wartime inflation by price fixing, but the methods employed are quite different. The Wartime Prices and Trade Board has given Canada an over-all, hard and fast price ceiling which it is determined to maintain. The U. S. administration has been followinng the plan of freezing prices on specific articles which show signs of rising too high and too fast. Generally speaking, however, prices have been left uncontrolled and as a consequence the whole U. S. price structure is still rising, with embarrassing results to this country with its strict policy of price control.

The emergence of a differential between livestock prices on Canadian and American markets has created a major problem for the Price Board at Ottawa. Canadian livestock prices are being depressed by the retail price ceiling, whereas in the U. S. not only has there been no ceiling on meats but the authorities have been encouraging higher livestock prices. The result has been that Canadian farmers have been disregarding the bids of buyers on the Toronto market and shipping their stock to the United States. As the quota on Canadian cattle entering the United States is 50,000 head quarterly the movement of stock across the line has a substantial bearing on the domestic beef supplies. As a result of this situation the Canadian Prices Board finds itself in a dilemma. Its policy is to maintain ample supplies of the necessities of life but its price ceiling policy is operating to drive beef cattle to the foreign market.

Lack of uniformity in anti-inflation procedure in the two countries has raised another problem for the Board which can be costly to this country. The Trade Board has adopted a policy of paying subsidies on necessites of life to permit their continued sale under the price ceiling. This applies to imported goods and it can readily be seen that if the price of a U. S. article continues to rise, its importation into Canada at a higher price involves an increased subsidy payable by the Commodity Prices Stabilization Corporation to the importer. Though an overall freezing of prices in the U. S. would not put an end to the payment of subsidies on imported goods, it would give the Stabilization Corporation protection against higher prices in that country.

The foregoing are cited by the Monetary Times as evidence of the difficulties Canada is encountering as a result of the disparity in price control procedure in the two countries. Both Washington and Ottawa are awake to the problem and there are intimations that the policies will be brought into closer conformity. It is known that President Roosevelt is not satisfied with the progress being made in his country in the fight against inflation. He has intimated that new measures are contemplated and if they prove to be along the lines of greater price control in the U. S. they will simplify the problems of the Canadian Wartime Prices Board.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

Any one having a car in use will be doing a patriotic service by offering it to the Legion for conveying voters to the polls on Monday.

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Parliament has recessed to permit members to visit their constituencies with the view of getting out the "yes" men and women.

* * * *

Youth leadership is sadly lacking here at present. Who is going to step into the breach if the oldsters do not come up to the scratch?

* * * *

It has come again. Two factories have been started in England to manufacture flint stones to take the place of matches.

* * * *

Bear in mind, no employer can now employ male help between the ages of 17 and 45 unless he has been rejected as medically unfit for the armed forces.

* * *

Prime Minister Mackenzie King announced that President Roosevelt hopes to visit Ottawa during the present session, and may consent to address a joint session of the two Houses.

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That the new Minister of Justice (Mr. St. Laurent) has the courage of his convictions is evident from his broadcast on the plebiscite, when he told Quebecers to end their dream of a French state within the bounds of America.

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The new train time table for this province goes into effect May 24, not April 26 as stated in yesterday's official notice from Moncton. The former date applies to the arrangements in the other parts of the Maritimes.

* * * *

The Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada will meet at Sackville on June 4 with Rev. Dr. Hugh Miller, presiding. Matters to be discussed include settlement of ministers, home and foreign mission work, evangelism and social service, Christian education and war service activities.

* * * *

Here is an official reminder in the latest official summary of this country's part in air warfare: "The commandos who raided the German radiolocator station at Bruneval, France, and the submarine nest at St. Nazaire were covered by a protective umbrella of Canadian-manned planes. Canadian airmen nightly rain tons of bombs on industrial Germany. They have hit at Italy. By present-day standards the Air Force with which Canada entered the war was hopelessly inadequate. Now it is one of the world's prime fighting machines and is sending men to every theatre of war in 'staggering numbers.' It is building up a broad defensive system at home."

* * * *

Daniel Defoe, English author and pamphleteer, died this date 1731; a born controversalist, he wrote naturally and forcibly, his outstanding pamphlet being "The Shortest Way with Dissenters," for which he was convicted of seditious libel, fined, pilloried, and imprisoned; subsequently released he was sent to Scotland to promote the Union of Parliaments which was accomplished to a considerable extent by means of bribes and corruption; in 1719 he achieved popular success with "Robinson Crusoe," a story still popular, depicting the actual experiences of Alexander Selkirk. He has to his credit other works of high literary quality, includinng "Journal of the Plague Year," a masterpiece of realism:

"The art of war, which I take to be the highest perfection of human knowledge."

* * * *

The first objective of Selective Conscription is to get for this year 300,000 persons for the armed forces, for the war industries and for the farms, and to see that the right people go to the right jobs. But it will be done in an orderly manner. It must be achieved by preserving a balance between the supply of manpower, the supply of raw materials and the productive capacity of industry. Those are the salient points made by Mr. Elliott Little, director of the selective service scheme, in his illuminating talk to newspaper publishers in Toronto. There was a disarming candor in his words, a desire to show all his cards. He took press and public into his confidence. He cautioned against expecting speedy action. "Let us be sensible about such matters," was his advice. While compulsion will apply to men and boys it will not be felt by women. But "when women are needed I am sure," he declared, "they will be anxious to help. The desire of our women to serve and sacrifice is at least equal to that of our men."

NOTES BY THE WAY

Speaking at an alumni dinner recently, President Bowman of the Johns Hopkins University said that a drop to fifty, or perhaps to thirty, percent of present enrolement may be expected if the war continues two years longer. This would involve, among other things, a heavy reduction in the income of the university. This problem confronts every college in the country, and it is no triffle, even to the richest among them. — Baltimore Sun.

"Long after I am under the sod or scattered to the four winds"—the words are the words of Mr. Pattullo, former premier of British Columbia, in a letter to The Sun. They indicate that "T. D." has not quite decided—which way he wants to be buried. We hope Duff will not have to contemplate the matter for many a long year. He is a grand old man, full of unappropriated efficiency and prospective usefulness. — The Vancouver Sun.

The Canadian copper may have to do without tin. So long as it is issued by the mint at Ottawa and says "one cent" on it somewhere, most Canadians will be supremely indifferent to its composition. And that goes for nickles, dimes, quarters, half-dollars and dollars, too. — Edmonton Journal.

Any kind of a warning about a possible shortage in something or other of common use, at once causes a public raid on stocks. This has been war experience to date, but it worked in reverse in regard to razor blades in the United States. The scare was soon over, because big stories in the U.S.A. by placards and otherwise, dared the passer-by to come in and buy more blades. The reaction to that was a sales resistance which stemmed the tide of hoarding... The razor blade scare should be a lesson in commonsense to everybody. For current needs everyone can get the necessary things and a good many luxuries. The hoarder is a public enemy, in the words of Donald Gordon of Ottawa. — St. Catharines Standard.

Once more a great crisis has revealed defects in the administrative machinery of the Empire. With not less spontaneity than in August, 1914, did the whole Empire leap to arms in September, 1939. Canada and Newfoundland—not yet directly threatened— have made splendid contributions in men, money, munitions and supplies to the common effort; South African forces have fought side by side with troops from the homeland and other parts of the Empire in Africa; while Australia and New Zealand, with no thought whatever of danger threatening their own shores, have made superb contributions to the forces of the Empire operating in Africa and in the Near and Middle East... As a people we mistrust machinery; we have relied hitherto with an astonishing measure of success upon improvisation. For the moment improvisation has manifestly failed. It is, then, imperative that we should at once reestablish an Imperial Executive. But the warning uttered in 1917 is, I submit, still pertinent. Ultimately an Imperial Executive can work only if it is responsible to an Imperial Legislature competent to impose taxation for Imperial defence. — Sir John Marriott in The Nineteenth Century (London).

Pity the poor, poor Japanese. They need living room so badly in their overcrowded country, where 485 persons live per square mile, that they are trying to move into Java, where there are only 821 persons a square mile.—Minneapolis Times.

As has been observed before in these columns, the art and science of advertising is concerned with more than the present moment; it looks to the future. This has been well illustrated in Great Britain, where war shortages and industrial transformations have made it virtually impossible for some business houses to continue their established lines of manufacture. But in many cases it is these very firms which are maintaining their publicity schedules, advertising goods they cannot supply. They are keeping their names before the public and constantly reminding customers that the day will come when the old familiar products will be available again. — Brantford Expositor.

We do not know how much substance there is behind the report in "The Daily Herald" of London that the British government is considering a plan to abloish the hereditary House of Lords and substitute for it a "brain trust' chamber chosen on a representative basis." But the idea is appealing—not because there is any great harm in an interesting and colorful survival, but because the notion of a British upper house composed of members selected for their intellects is so purely Gilbertian. Surely Strephon, the Arcadian shepherd of "Iolanthe," at the suggestion of the Fairy Queen, will introduce a bill providing that "a Duke's exalted station" Be attainable by Competitive Examination! And it may be confidently expected that Lord Mountararat will rise among the peers of the realm to remark: "I don't went to say a word against brains—I've a great respect for brains—I often wish I had some myself — but with a House of Peers composed exclusively of people of intellect what's to become of the House of Commons?" This would naturally be followed by the full house shouting defiantly, "Our lordly style you shall not quench," after which the session would be adjourned with the singing of "Bow, bow, ye lower middle classes," with plenty of gusto in the final "Tantantara! Tzing! Boom!" — New York Herald-Tribune.

Well, if we're going to do it, let's do it right. If we've got to stage a plebiscite now, let's do it with heads up and make it positive. No more doubts, no more hesitancy, no more politics. It's confidence we need. Mutual confidence! We've thought a lot about this plebiscite, and to some of us it still doesn't make sense — but if it's "Yes" that's needed for greater national achievement, then it's up to us. We'll be Canadians, not individuals. We'll forget our own views and criticisms. We'll start all over again. And perhaps the strength of people willing to forget private, partisan and racial differences of opinion, will be an impetus that carries leaders far along the road to greatness. Total war demands greatness in leaders. And in a people too. O. K., Mister — we'll make it "Yes!" — Saint John Telegraph Journal.

HITLER'S "NEW ORDER"

By Lieut-Col. R. R. Thompson, M.C., V. D., War Commentator For The Canadian Legion

(Continued from Wednesday)

Denmark, once so peaceful and prosperous, has been robbed of most of her horses and cattle, and of all her stocks of food. Besides taking food in bulk, Germany sends 30,000 troops at a time for "feeding-holidays" in Denmark. Over 40,000 Danish workers have been taken to Germany for forced labour, but of these at least 1,000 have been put in prison camps for sabotage. Danes are replying by contaminating food intended for German consumption and burning warehouses. In Copenhagen a Dane received 30 days' imprisonment for having "spat offensively" before a German military car. As in Dutch and Belgian canals, German soldiers have been "found drowned" in Danish harbours. For the greater part, however, the Danes remain sullenly quiet; but wait.

Holland

Holland, once happy and contented, is now a land of scarcity. In her first week under the "New Order" Germany stole nine-tenths of her butter-stock. Here, as elsewhere, Germany seized woollen and fur goods, leather, coal and gasoline. Dutch rolling stock, barges and even fire engines have been stolen. Over 100,000 Hollanders have been taken for forced labour. Professors, lawyers and journalists have been flung into prison camps where many have perished. Leyden and Delft Universities have been closed. Leyden is to become a Nazi "neo-folkish" university.

On one occasion 680 young Jews were rounded up in Amsterdam by the Nazis. The Dutch rose and fought the Nazis in the streets, many being killed. Riots and strikes spread to other cities. These were surpressed in the Germans' usual bloody fashion and enormous fines were imposed. The richer people of Amsterdam alone had to pay $9,000,000. The 680 young men were sent to work in mines. Within nine months over 400 were dead.

Netherlanders are executed for assisting British airmen to escape. A Netherlander can now get 15 years in prison and an unlimited fine for displaying the colours or insignia of the Royal House of Orange. The Dutch reply with sabotage. In the wreck of one German troop train 50 officers and men were casualties. The Germans have arrested hostages for the safety of their communications and many Dutch patriots have been shot. Dutch "Nazis" have been found hanged to trees in parks. True to her ancient character, Holland will never give in, but also waits.

Belgium

Belgium is the most densely populated country in Europe and has a German army to feed, yet Germany robs her of food. Rats are sold for 30 francs in the markets, and partly decayed meat is bought and eaten. Civilian hospitals are crowded with hunger-victims who mostly die. The output of iron has diminished 45 per cent, and of coal 36 per cent; but the German people will be the last to suffer from lack of fuel. Brussels University has been closed. Possession of arms is punishable by death. There are 51 Anti-Nazi papers published secretly in Belgium.

Defying prison and the gallows, workers have sabotaged several electric utility and metal plants so completely that the Germans have abandoned them. On one occasion 20 Belgians were shot for destroying a military supply train by fire. At Verviers civilians must guard the tracks, and the trains carry Belgian hostages to be shot at one when sabotage occurs. At least one munitions factory in Antwerp was destroyed by R. A. F. bombs because its workers lit it up at the right moment. Executions continue, but the resistance of the Belgian people remains unshaken.

France

France fed herself before the "New Order" came to her. Today France is short of food, fuel, medicine and clothing because Germany has robbed her. Of the supplies which the British Navy allows to be landed in French Mediterranean ports, three-quarters go to Germany and Italy. Germany has taken over $350,000,000 worth of rolling stock from French railways.

In Alsace-Lorraine all Roman Catholic seminaries and organizations have been broken up, and all children over 10 years of age must join the "Hitler Youth." In Hoenfelden, Alsace, because of demonstrations on France's national holiday, 160 young men were arrested at random and sent to prison camp. At least 350 patriots have been executed in France since the occupation. The Germans now have a pool of hostages in Paris formed by the arrest of Frenchmen found in its streets after curfew. At Lille 20 French railwaymen were shot following the unsolved disappearance of some high explosives from a German ammunition train. A Frenchman getting on a suburban train in Paris in a crush knocked a German officer quite accidentally. He was arrested and executed next morning. Yet, despite executions, fines and starvation, French passive resistance continues. Some trucks from French factories smash after very little usage. The Germans admit that in France during October and December, 1941, 1,800 trucks loaded with war material and 30 ammunition dumps were destroyed, and 184 trains derailed. In spite of Vichy's lies maligning Britain, over 90 per cent of the French people are longing for the landing of a British army.

(To be continued.)

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

"Let us, remembering the price that some have paid for our survival, make our own contribution worthy to lie beside theirs upon the altar of man's faith." Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States.

The Poets' Corner

TANKER

Up from Trinidad, up from the Gulf,
Wallowing north through the Stream.
Up through the lair of the under-sea wolf;
And it's "Sub on the starboard beam."
Man the four-incher, train her around,
Take aim at the flash of their fire.
But the tin-fish hits with a blare of sound
And your ship is a funeral pyre.

Listen! The siren. They've tied the cord.
It's the signal "Abandon Ship."
Now quick! Get the lifeboats overboard,
And it's death if you make a slip.

Give way on the oars. Make the water boil.
For all of you know too well
How a thousand tons of burning oil
Can give you a foretaste of Hell.

Comes dawn; then the sky is white-hot brass
And Death is our shipmate by noon—
But you find as the long-drawn hours pass
That the fortunate ones die soon.

Yes, it's the fortunate ones die first,
And you sit here and watch them go,
Till one by one you go mad with thirst
While the sharks lie in wait below . . .

And still there are fools who drive in haste,
Who have never understood
That every drop of the gas they waste
Is stained by a sailor's blood.
—John Laskier in Toronto Saturday Night.

"TIRED" ALL THE TIME

She felt miserable—draggy—low in vitality—lower in spirits. She hadn't thought of her kidneys, until a friend suggested Dodd's Kidney Pills. At once she took Dodd's. The "washed out" feeling was soon replaced by clear headed energy and restful sleep. Headache, backache, tassitude and other signs of faulty kidneys disappeared. 112

Dodd's Kidney Pills

Farms For Veterans

(Moncton Transcript)

With each war, Canadian governments learn something more concerning the problems of providing land for discharged soldiers. Once again a plan for post-war settlement of men of the fighting forces is being prepared and the details announced in Parliament yesterday show that the present government has profited by the experience of earlier administrations.

After the Boer War, land grants of 160 acres in western Canada were offered to all who served. Some took advantage of the offer and occupied their quarter sections. The majority sold the scripts which were issued to them for small sums, and land speculators were the chief beneficiaries.

A more careful scheme of land settlement was put into effect after the First German War, but those who took advantage of it were handicapped by the fact that they undertook to purchase farms at prices based on the highly inflated standards which prevailed at the end of the war. Although some adjustments were made, the weight of debt proved too much for many of the men, especially for those who lacked sufficient experience in farming.

Under the plan announced last night by the Minister of Pensions, the Government will assume part of the cost of the land, which will make the burden on the prospective farmer easier. This is a feature which must be carefully watched, however, in order to prevent others than the veterans benefiting largely by the scheme. Proper safeguards undoubtedly will be provided to prevent abuses.

THE WAY TO

Better Grain Yields

NEW IMPROVED CERESAN

Kills certain Smuts and other seed-borne diseases by both Contact and Vapor. Usually improves yields of wheat, Oats, Barley, Rye and Flax. 1 lb. tin — — — — — $1.10

NEW IMPROVED SEMESAN BEL

Dip disinfectant for Seed Potatoes. It is a quick, easy dip treatment that eliminates labour and loss of time. 1 lb. tin — — — — — $2.15

FORMALIN FOR SMUT ON GRAIN

A cheap but thoroughly effective remedy.

Grain growers would be wise to act promptly in order to have seed properly treated before sowing.

Full directions given with every order. Price 50c per pint.

THE TWO MACS

149 Great George Street

Mail Orders Given Prompt Attention.

To the Electorate of Charlottetown

I most earnestly request that all citizens of Charlottetown vote "YES" in the forthcoming PLEBISCITE, thereby releasing the Dominion Government from any pledges which might hamper it in the all-out prosecution of our WAR EFFORT.

B. R. HOLMAN,
Mayor.

APPENINES IN SKY

There's a celestial lunar formation as well as terrestial mountains called the Appennines.

CLOSE-UP OF SUN

Seen through a big telescope the sun presents a mottled appearance on a darkish background.

To the Electors of King's-

Kings County is a small constituency but it is the percentage of "Yes" votes that will count for or against us when the ballots are counted.

Every "Yes" vote is a nail in Hitler's coffin and no one can drive home your nail but yourself, by going to the poll on plebiscite day and marking your cross after the word "Yes" on the ballot.

Kings County must not fail. The polls close at 8 p. m.

DR. T. V. GRANT
Federal Representative

DR. A. A. McDONALD
Federal Candidate

NOTICE

Highways Closed To Motor Vehicles

Commencing March 30th, 1942, and until further notice all highways in this Province are closed for motor vehicle traffic, except in such cases where the total weight of vehicle and load does not exceed 5,000 pounds.

Anyone driving on provincial highways contrary to this order shall be dully prosecuted.

Dated the 27th day of March, A. D 1942.

By order,

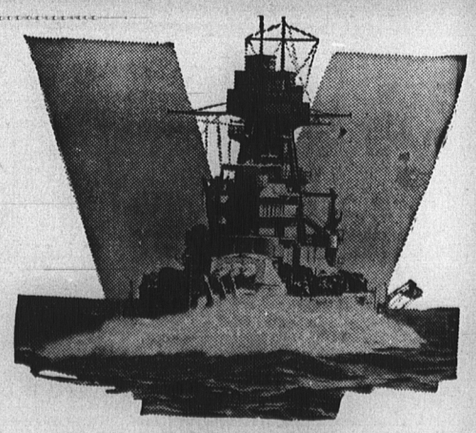
O. W. CAMPBELL,
Acting Clerk of the Executive Council

—ANNOUNCING—

NEW EXIDE MINUTE MAN
BATTERY CHARGER AND TESTER

Fast re-charging in the car while you wait
No Rentals No Return Trip
No Inconvenience

Mallett's Battery Service



Sea-Power Will Win

And in its modest field our tobacco has many wins to its credit. Every Island community has its quota of people who use

Hickey's Black Twist

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