

MAXIMS
OF A
MERE MAN

If your life is dark, then walk by
faith; and God is pledged to keep
you as safe as if you could under-
stand everything.

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

The People's Paper Read by Everybody

MAXIMS
OF A
MERE MAN

Let not the refinements of soci-
ety make us forget that it is not
the refined only who are received
into the Kingdom of God.

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1936

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MILITARISTS SEIZE CONTROL IN TOKYO

Assassination Of Several Political Leaders Reported

Strict Censorship Clamped Down.
Meagre Advices Report Martial
Law Proclaimed Throughout
Japan.

FLASH

Unconfirmed Chinese reports said Premier Okada, Home Minister Goto and Viscount Takahashi, Minister of Finance were among those killed.

(A. P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

Unofficial reports from China Tuesday said martial law was proclaimed in Tokyo after the assassination of several Japanese political leaders.

Reuters News Agency reported from Shanghai that a coup d'etat had placed the powerful militarist bloc in control of the government.

A Singapore dispatch by the agency said the residence of Premier Keisuke Okada, a retired admiral, and of several other cabinet ministers had been seized by army officers.

No direct word from Tokyo was received because of a strict censorship. This indicated a grave situation in the capital of the Empire and one without parallel in recent years.

TRADING SUSPENDED

Trading on both the Tokyo and Osaka Stock Exchanges was reported suspended.

Foreign sources in Peiping told Reuters that Viscount Keisuke Takahashi, Minister of Finance and one of the most distinguished men in Japanese public life, was among those assassinated.

Efforts of the New York bureau of the Associated Press to get in touch with its Tokyo bureau were unavailing.

An attempt to telephone Tokyo from San Francisco failed, the trans-Pacific service reported the Tokyo exchange was "out of order."

The Japanese Empire, in one of the most delicate external situations in years, had just emerged from a bitter national general election.

Okada Victorious

The government of Premier Keisuke Okada, threatened with overthrow, was victorious, however, and remained in control. Okada is an admiral.

There has long been friction with militarists, who have directed the Empire's expansion in Manchuria and current penetration into North China, and the "civil" or more pacifistic government element.

Surprise Gains

A feature of the election was the unexpected gains by the Shikai Taishuo, or Social Masses party, opposed to the militarists.

This group nearly gained a balance of power in the diet, although its seats were far below the number held by the two dominant parties. The Minseitō, or pro-government party, got 172 seats. Internal issues were paramount in the campaign.

In international affairs, the government is in a critical stage. Repeated incidents on the Manchoukuo-Mongolian border have created tension with Soviet Russia, which repeatedly accuses Japan of war-like designs.

Only recently Japan followed up her withdrawal from the League of Nations by walking out of the London naval conference, because her demands for parity with Great Britain and the United States were not granted.

Okada's government has been in power since 1934. He had retired from active military service in 1933.

The Japanese Embassy in Washington said at 11 p.m. A.S.T. Tuesday that it had received no information on reports of a military coup in Tokyo.

Militarists two months ago were credited with forcing the resignation from the cabinet of Count Nobuaki Makino, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, because they objected to his liberal views.

Members of the Okada cabinet are: Prime Minister—Admiral Keisuke Okada.

Foreign Minister—Koki Hirota. (He has been known at times to oppose the views of militarists.)

Home—Fumio Goto.

Finance—Viscount Keisuke Takahashi (reported slain).

War—General Yoshiyuki Kawashima.

Navy—Admiral Mineo Osami.

Communications—Takejiro Tokonami.

Commerce and Industry—Chuji Kaichida.

Education—Takuchi Kawasaki.

Agriculture—Tatsunosuke Yamasaki.

Railways—Sinya Uchida.

Overseas Affairs—Count Hideo Kodama.

Finance Minister Slain PEIPING, Feb. 25.—(Wednesday) (C.P. Reuters)—It was reliably learned here today that Viscount

(Continued on Page 10)

ANGLO-GERMAN-U.S. NAVAL PACT PROPOSED

Views With Alarm B.N.A. Act Change

Halifax Lawyer Is
Amazed At Action
By Federal and Pro-
vincial Govern-
ments.

(C.P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

HALIFAX, Feb. 25.—Any proposal to take the power of amending the British North America Act from the British Parliament and hand it over to the Canadian government, should be "strenuously opposed" by every Canadian who "had the welfare of the Dominion at heart and believed the British connection something more than an empty name," G.B. Smith, K.C., former president of the Nova Scotia Conservative Association told the Women's Conservative Club here tonight.

He said he had no authority to speak for the Conservative party or express the views of its leaders, "whatever they might be."

It was with amazement, he stated, he had witnessed the "carefree, easy and irresponsible manner in which representatives of the Federal and provincial governments, with the exception of New Brunswick, without mandate from their own legislatures, without even telling the public what they proposed to do, foregathered at Ottawa and there decided to strike a fell blow at our British connection by so amending the British North America Act that in the future amendments to our Canadian constitution would not be made in the past by the British Parliament, but by the Canadian Parliament."

Minor changes might be permitted, he said, but he feared that instead of a fixed and stable constitution interpreted by 70 years of judicial decisions, changing the power of amendments might lead to a constitution liable to change with every whim of the party in power.

Sat Silent As Nadeau Died

(C.P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

HULL, Que., Feb. 25.—Paul Lafleur, driver of the car in which Armand Nadeau was shot to death, sat silent as a gunman fired three bullets through the young bank accountant's head, according to a statement attributed to him today by detectives.

Detective Ernest Sabourin of Ottawa took the witness stand at the trial of Lafleur and five others charged with Nadeau's murder to say he had asked Lafleur if he had made any outcry when the gun man fired. Lafleur said he had not. He felt he was in danger and might receive the same treatment as his friend if he made any sound.

Earlier Detective Ovil Lussignan of the Hull police said Lafleur had told him he had warned Nadeau not to look at the gunman when he jumped in the bank car and commanded the two to drive to a lonely wooded spot on the Gatineau road.

"Lafleur told us he thought the bandit shot Nadeau because he looked at him 'cos' all the time and spoke to him," Detective Lussignan said.

May Close Italian Ports To Ships Of Sanctionist Nations

(A. P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

ROME, Feb. 25.—Preparations for closing Italian ports to sanctionist ships and the halting of international trade in transit if the fight over sanctions becomes more bitter, were seen by informed sources in an official decree tonight.

The decree authorized the Minister of Communications to requisition or control any or all Italian means of transportation and to hire more if emergency requires. A central agency, either under civil or military authorities, would direct the transportation.

Italy Again Protests Pact

(A.P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

ROME, Feb. 25.—Italy informed Great Britain today she refuses to drop her protest against the five power Mediterranean defensive pact created among sanctionist nations.

In a note given the Foreign Office in London by Dino Grandi, the Italian ambassador, Italy said she reserved the "right to bring up the question in the place and at the moment it believes most opportune."

(In a reply to Italy's protest over the defensive agreement, the British Foreign Office notified Rome Feb. 17 that the British government "does not feel any useful purpose would be served" by prolonging correspondence on the matter.)

Italy persisted in the attitude of securing agreements of aid from France, Greece, Turkey and Yugoslavia in event of any unprovoked Mediterranean attack, was a personal one, outside Geneva, and not in conformity with the League of Nations.

TRIPLETS TELL OF SLAYING

Mother Alleged To Have Shot Father.

YORK, Pa., Feb. 25.—Three 12-year-old triplets stumbled across know-father's body today to tell a grandfather in Lisburn, seven miles away, that their mother, "blue because of snow and blizzards," had shot their father to death. The family has been virtually imprisoned in its farm home for more than a month.

"Goodbye, children, this will be the last you see of me," freckled James Washington said his mother told him as she sent him forth from their back road farm home with his chubby brown-eyed sisters, June and Mary.

"She told me she wished she hadn't done it," he added.

Allison Hoffman, a son of Mrs. Washington by a former marriage and who lives with the grandfather in Lisburn, found his mother standing in the doorway in her night clothes, dazed, unable to recognize him. A rifle lay on the floor and there was a slight wound under her left arm.

He took her to Harrisburg Hospital, about 15 miles away, where she was held for observation but pronounced in no danger.

Coroner L. U. Zech pushed through the snow, mud and slush to find the body of Washington, the back of his head torn to pieces as if by a shotgun shell.

Youth Guilty Of Manslaughter

(A. P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

MONTREAL, Feb. 25.—Sentence was postponed today until the end of the term after Louis di Benna aged 15, was found guilty of manslaughter by a court of King's Bench jury that heard his step-mother charge the murder of his step-mother.

Crown Counsel Ernest Bertrand told the jury a verdict of murder would be too severe but the youth must not be acquitted of the crime. His step mother, Mrs. Felix di Benna, the former Adrienne Frenette, once a Balthus, N. B. school teacher, was killed in the family home last October.

Accused confessed the shooting and at no time during the trial did defence counsel seek to prove he had not done it. Chief Justice R. A. E. Greenhills in his charge to the jury approved the crown's suggestion a verdict of manslaughter be rendered.

ITALY'S COLONY OF ERITREA INVADED

Ethiopian Govern-
ment Claims Victo-
ries On Northern
Front.

(By Guardian's Special Wire)

ADDIS ABABA, Feb. 25.—A strong Ethiopian force invaded Italy's colony of Eritrea on Feb. 19 and destroyed the Italian garrison at Om Ager, after blowing up four powder magazines and a munition dump and firing an important war supplies storehouse, the government asserted in an official communique here tonight.

This is the first time Ethiopia officially has claimed invasion of Italian territory by tribal troops. At the same time the enemy declared Ras Inru's guerrilla raiders last week had killed 728 Italians during the last week in the sector near Aksum and Aduwa, far north of Marshal Pietro Badoglio's front lines.

Counter-offensive

The two official statements convinced observers Ethiopia's northern generals had organized a concerted counter-offensive against the Italian rear guard in a determined attempt to drive the enemy from the path of its southward advance toward Mount Asaji and Dessaye.

The surprise attack on Om Ager, a settlement on the River Setit immediately across the Eritrean border, was launched from the Wokait region, the communique said. Employing flamethrowers and exploding Italian bombs and powder stores, the village was completely razed, it was stated.

Brings Down Plane

In the same sector, which lies near the junction of the Ethiopian, Eritrean and Anglo-Egyptian Sudanese borders, right-wing Commander Mengestu brought down his second Italian bombing plane in less than a month, authorities said. They dispatched a message warmly congratulating him.

47 Lives Lost In Snowslides

(A. P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 25.—Snowslides, sub-zero cold and blizzards have taken 47 lives in one of the most severe winters of recent years in the mountainous far western United States.

Glacier snowslides racing down Colorado mountains have caused the most spectacular of the tragedies, with a loss of nine lives in the last nine days—but bitter cold has been the most potent agent of destruction, records showed tonight.

Meanwhile colder weather relieved flood threats in some north central sections, but high water rolled over thousands of California acres and rose behind ice gorges in other sections, leaving hundreds homeless.

Dynamic blasts sounded through the middle west in efforts to clear ice jams.

Boston Fish Prices Jump

(C. P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

BOSTON, Feb. 25.—Pre-Lenten demand for fish lifted wholesale prices on two cents a pound today at Boston fish pier. The market absorbed receipts of 2,217,000 pounds Monday and almost 1,000,000 pounds today.

Salada Orange Pekoe Blend gives greatest satisfaction

"SALADA" TEA

Debate Opens On Reciprocity Treaty

Prime Minister Moves Formal
Approval Of Treaty In House
Of Commons

(C. P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

Ottawa, Feb. 25.—Premier Mackenzie King today moved in the House of Commons approval of the Canadian-United States reciprocity treaty. It prompted a full-dress debate with Conservative leader Bennett expected to oppose the treaty.

The treaty, negotiated in Washington last November, came into operation Jan. 1 in most aspects. The remainder need enabling legislation or parliamentary approval.

The Prime Minister was greeted with prolonged applause from his followers. He said the government sought approval from Parliament for the general terms of the treaty and then would refer it to the House in committee before introducing the necessary legislation. He said there would be the fullest discussion of tariff changes and their effect on Canada.

While certain schedules of the treaty were in force, they would continue to operate if Parliament turned down the treaty, Mr. King said. The government had power to reduce duties where a reciprocal concession was obtained from some other country and this was the authority for parts of the treaty being in operation.

Mr. King traced the history of reciprocity in Canada, going back to the treaty of 1854 which ended in 1866. Since Confederation there had been three treaties negotiated, the first in 1874 by the MacKenzie government which was turned down by the American Senate, the 1911 agreement by Sir Wilfrid Laurier which the Canadian people defeated and the present one.

"And no one was more opposed to that (1911) agreement than the present leader of the opposition," Mr. King said.

The present agreement, continued the Prime Minister, would not be defeated by the American Senate because it was negotiated under special power conferred on the president. In the last election a treaty with the United States was supported by all parties and the people endorsed it. The Conservative party and the Liberals were united on this one point.

It was worth noting, said Mr. King, that Conservative governments were never able to conclude an agreement because they were unwilling to admit manufactured goods from the United States and sought to confine any agreement to natural products. Liberal governments on the other hand were willing to admit United States manufactured products in to compete with Canadian industries.

A fortunate circumstance, he said, was the fact that in both the United States and Canada governments which believed in lower tariffs now were in office. Rarely had this happened in the past and the treaty as it stood was largely due to that fact.

The agreement was based on the negotiations started by the Bennett government, said Mr. King. On coming into office Mr. King had found much of the groundwork begun.

Owing to the restricted treaty-making powers of the President of the United States the term of the treaty was only three years. In 1911 the Conservative party had objected to the reciprocity treaty because it was not effective for a long period. That objection could not be raised now as Mr. Bennett

NEW ACTION AT LONDON NAVAL PARLEY

France Offers Counter
Proposals For
Agreement Follow-
ing Developments.

(A. P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

LONDON, Feb. 25.—France, concerned regarding a reported British proposal for an Anglo-German-American naval treaty, has made counter-proposals for an agreement, it was learned authoritatively tonight.

The French suggested that members of the present four-power conference, Great Britain, the United States, France and Italy, sign a treaty and that afterward Britain make a separate naval agreement with Germany, along the same lines but outside the conference.

This development came after Britain, anticipating a breakdown of the four-power talks, proposed a three-cornered treaty with Germany and the United States. France had refused to yield to British demands that Germany be invited to the conference, demanding a defensive air-pact with Britain as a price for relenting.

Italy Blocks Pact

Italy has notified Britain that she would sign no agreement until League sanctions against her have been lifted.

Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, while luncheon with Dino Grandi, the Italian Ambassador, took up political aspects of the naval treaty, including questions concerning the Italo-Ethiopian war, it was reported.

Later, before the House of Commons, Eden parried a cross-fire of questions from members on progress of the naval conference. He declared it was impossible to forecast the duration of the parley and asked that he not be pressed as to details on the conference's exact positions.

Discusses Agreement

Capt. Von Wassmer, German naval attaché, discussed the proposed agreement with Robert L.

(Continued on Page 3)

FURORE OVER HITLER ARTICLE

(C. P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

PARIS, Feb. 25.—(C. P. Havas)—The furore over a sensational article published in the Sunday magazine section of the newspaper Le Journal, purporting to deal with the "love life" of Chancellor Hitler of Germany, grew tonight.

Indicating the seriousness with which the incident was regarded, were three major developments:

1. The German government pushed its action against the newspaper's responsible editors and, provisionally, against the author of the article, depending on whether his identity can be established.

2. Three members of the Chamber of Deputies, an Independent, a member of the Right Centre and a Communist, filed notices of interpellation with the President of the Chamber. They planned to ask the government to explain by what right it had ordered confiscation of all copies of the newspaper containing the offending article.

3. Le Journal itself charged police had raided its office and seized its 13 file copies of the banned Sunday supplement.

Flandin Urges Ratification Of Franco-Soviet Pact

(C.P. Havas, By Guardian's Special Wire)

PARIS, Feb. 25.—France stands ready to go before the world court with Germany to decide whether the Franco-Soviet mutual assistance pact violates the Locarno treaties, Foreign Minister Pierre-Etienne Flandin told the Chamber of Deputies today.

M. Flandin made the offer in the course of his first important Chamber speech, urging ratification of the pact with the Soviet Union as a necessary step in the creation of collective security.

He denied the pact would be interpreted as a military alliance, adding, however, that governments naturally discuss military conditions under which they would exchange assistance.

"We would be unjust to forget that Russian arms contributed to the victory on the Marne," he told the deputies.

(The invasion of East Prussia by the Russian Army in 1914 compelled Germany to withdraw two army corps from the Western Front immediately before the first battle of the Marne began, thereby making them numerically weaker than the Allies for the first time.)

Minister Flandin scored criticism that France might be drawn into a conflict in which it was not directly interested.

"The debate is between those who accept the obligations of collective security and those who advance the egotistical thesis of isolation," he declared.

Money Made The Mare Go; But It's Credit That Runs A Lot Of Motor Cars!

Fresh winds; cloudy and mild; occasional snow or sleet turning to rain.

(C. P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

TORONTO, Feb. 25.—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Dawson	36B	24B
Aklavik	34B	4B
Edmonton	26B	8B
Regina	30B	10B
Winnipeg	8B	2
Toronto	40	47
Ottawa	24	40
Montreal	28	40
Quebec	22	34
Saint John	16	28
Halifax	8	24
Charlottetown	0	22

Maritime West: Moderate to fresh shifting winds; cloudy and mild with some light rain.

High tide this afternoon at 1.10 and tomorrow morning at 1.52. Sun sets this afternoon at 5.43 and rises tomorrow morning at 6.43.

First quarter moon Saturday, Feb. 29, 5.28 a.m.

Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

THE CAR FERRY

Leave Borden 9.45 A. M. (Extra) 1 P. M.

Leave Tormentine (Extra) 11 A. M. 2.55 P. M. Daily except Sunday.