A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

MAXIMS OF A MERE MAN

The grim Old Year is with the past,
O, be the new more kind!

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

The People's Paper — Read by Everybody

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

MAXIMS OF A MERE MAN

But a song and a cheer for a glad New Year,
While we watch the Old Year die!

Morning Guardian, Founded 1887, Charlottetown Guardian, Two Cents. | CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1943 | 16 PAGES | Subscription Delieverd, $5.00 Mail, $4.00; other Provinces & U.S.A. $5.00

300,000 GERMANS ROUTED IN RUSSIA

3,000 Planes Raid German Targets

Navy Seeks More German Surface Units

Enemy Claims Six British Destroyers Sunk.

LONDON, Dec. 30 — (A P)— The Royal Navy sought more units of Hitler's thinning surface fleet tonight after the Bay of Biscay battle in which the Admiralty and Air Ministry reported the sinking of three Nazi destroyers at minor cost and the Germans countered with the unsupported claim that six British destroyers were sent to the bottom and two cruisers damaged.

The Admiralty announced only minor damage to the two light cruisers Glasgow and Enterprise and the loss of two planes in the running action against the German flotilla of 11 destroyers. In its final stage the action was handled by the two British cruisers with aerial support. Capt. H. T. W. Grant of Halifax commanded H. M. S Enterprise.

The Admiralty was noncommittal on the Berlin claims, which some London quarters believed might have been exaggerated to console the German home front for a week of black naval losses beginning with the sinking off Northern Norway of the 26,000-ton Nazi battleship Scharnhorst.

INVENT "OIL COCKTAIL"

BATHHURST — (CP) — Food specialists in Gambia have invented an "oil cocktail." Made from ground-nut oil and red palm oil mixed in the ratio of five parts to one, the "cocktail is rich in vitamins A and D.

GET SNOW SOMETIMES

Nearly 74 inches of snow fell in one winter in California famed for its sunshine.

COMING EVENTS

**School concert repeated in Tracadie Hall. January 7 at 8 p. m. 12-31-2i

**Dance, Belfast Hall, January 4th. Aid of war work. 12-30-2i.

**Souris Hospital, General Meeting in St. Mary's Hall, January 4th at 12.30, following arrival of train. 12-27-7i.

**Wanted to buy live and dressed chickens and fowl. Paying top market prices. Island Cold Storag Co., Ltd. 8-26-tf

**Murray Harbor Shipping Club loading Hogs Monday, ten until four, January 3rd. D. Ray Brooks, Secretary. 12-31-1i.

**Dance, Maple Plains School, Monday night, January 3rd, sponsored by Women's Institute. Lunch served. 12-31-1i.

**Box social and dance in Emerald Hall Monday night, January 3rd. 12-29-3-2i.

**Opening Victoria rink New Year's night. Skating every Wednesday and Saturday nights 8.30 to 10.30. H. B. Wood. 12-31-1i.

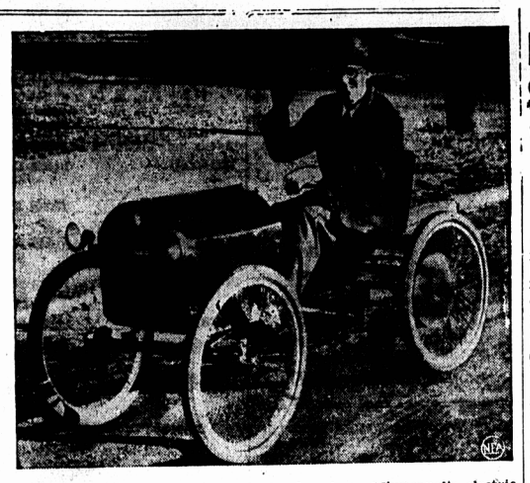
**Livestock Marketing Board loading hogs at Breadalbane Tuesday forenoon January 4th and each Tuesday thereafter until further notice, whether we advertise or not. Alex. MacDonald in charge. 12-30-2i.

**Our store will be closed every evening at 6 o'clock except Saturday during the winter months beginning January 3, 1944. Signed, Dawson & Johnston and Brent Wood. Crapaud. 1231-1i

**Commencing the New Year we will be loading hogs at all stations regularly. Loading during week of January 4th, and each succeeding week as usually carried on. Livestock Marketing Board. 12-30-2i.

**Notice—Christmas week we will be loading live hogs for Davis & Fraser Wednesday, 22nd at Albany in afternoon, Emerald Thursday 23rd forenoon until 11 o'clock. New Year's week. Albany, Wednesday 29th in afternoon. Emerald 30th in forenoon until 11 o'clock. Signed G. C. Green and A. C. Green. 12-21-4i.

Tomorrow being New Year's Day there will be no issue of The Guardian. The next will be on Monday, January 3, 1944.



Gas rationing doesn't bother Joseph Jacobs, above, Minneapolis electric company superintendent. He drives to work in this electric car he built during his spare time. With four speeds forward and four reverse, it operates on three 12-volt storage batteries, makes 15 miles an hour and 100 miles to the battery charging.

New Records Set For Air War In Europe

By Robert N. Sturdevant

LONDON, Dec. 31 —(Friday) — (AP)—A record force of approximately 1,500 United States planes blasted targets in southwest Germany yesterday as its part in possibly the most sustained air assaults of the war which saw at least 3,000 British, American and Canadian war planes over Germany and occupied territory in the last 24 hours.

The American daylight attack yesterday, which also set a record for the deepest penetration by escorting fighter planes, some of which flew the entire 1,000 mile round trip, came a few hours after R. A. F. and R. C. A. F. night raiders dealt Berlin a shattering new 2,240 ton blow.

In the United States army announcement the armada of heavy bombers with their hundreds of supporting fighters was described as a "task force", apparently to underline the magnitude of the operation. Specific targets hit were not immediately announced.

Besides these latest might bombings of Berlin and southwest Germany, large formations of medium bombers and fighters ranged over the so called "rocket gun coast" of France.

R. A. F. bombers apparently had taken up the cross channel offensive after dark. Reports from the English southeast coast said planes were heard going toward France at nightfall and that a number of them returned within two hours. Several continental radio stations also left the air, usually an indication of night raids.

Smoke rose three miles from the ruins of cringing Berlin Wednesday night as a result of a thumping load of more than 2,000 tons of explosives dumped by the R. A. F. and R. C. A. F. Lancasters and Halifaxes.

Berlin, a red blob of fire on the horizon as the fliers departed, was believed to be through as the functioning centre of Germany. R. A. F. estimates said the city was one half to three quarters destroyed. The Canadian share in the Wednesday night raid was carried out by the greatest force of Lancasters and Halifaxes ever sent out by the R. C. A. F. bomber group.

Three Montreal Children Dead In Axe Killings

MONTREAL, Dec. 30—(CP)— Two children were instantly killed and a third fatally injured today in afternoon axe attacks in the basement of their west-end Hampton Avenue home.

Tonight, police were holding Mrs. Edna McLennan, 43-year-old mother of the three children, on the technical charge of material witness for the inquest into the two deaths.

According to police, Mrs. McLennan had called a doctor early in the afternoon and the doctor called police immediately after his arrival at the home in residential Notre Dame De Grace. They said the children were found in the basement, with a blood-stained axe nearby.

The dead were Donald McLennan, 12 and his sister Ellen, eight. Nine-year-old Miriam McLennan was taken to hospital with serious head wounds and she died on arrival.

The sudden slayings came two months after residential Westmount, which adjoins Notre Dame De Grace, was shocked by the early-morning baseball bat slaying of Mrs. George R. Webster, with three others sent to hospital with serious head wounds.

Fourteen-year-old George Webster, son of the woman killed, is awaiting trial on a murder charge in connection with her death. The charge was laid after a coroner's jury had held the high school student responsible for the clubbing of his mother.

The other victims of the baseball bat attack, a brother and sister of George and Miss Sylvia Cust, 25-year-old house guest, are still under treatment for the head injuries.

Last Civilian Honors List For Duration

OTTAWA, Dec. 31—(Friday)—(CP)—Prime Minister Mackenzie King announced early today that the New Year's Honors List being made public tonight is the last for which the government will recommend award of orders of chivalry for civilians for the duration of the war.

The government's decision, said Mr. King, does not apply to military awards the orders of chivalry, nor to awards for gallantry and meritorious service by members of the armed forces in operations.

British Navy Is Turning To Pacific

LONDON, Dec. 30—(AP)—The Royal Navy, which brought its most successful war year to a climax with [illegible] on the German battleship Scharnhorst and three Nazi destroyers, is being employed in increasing force in the Pacific because of the heartening turn in the battle of the Atlantic, the Admiralty said tonight in a review of 1943 operations.

The review reiterated that "Britain's worldwide commitments extend to the Pacific" and said that "the strength of the Royal Navy is being brought increasingly to bear on this theatre as a result of the improving situation in European waters."

Despite the widening scope of its tasks, including participation in the record 3,226-ship armada which carried the invasion forces to Sicily, the Royal Navy completed its fourth year of war without the loss of a single capital ship or aircraft carrier.

The Admiralty said its losses consisted of one cruiser and an unspecified number of destroyers, corvettes, submarines, mine sweepers and trawlers.

Canada Collecting Evidence Of Atrocities

OTTAWA, Dec. 30—(CP) — Canada is collecting evidence of atrocities committed against Canadian nationals and members of the armed forces, it was revealed today in announcing the appointment of Arthur Slaght, K.C., of Toronto as honorary counsel to the Canadian government on war crimes questions.

Mr. Slaght, Liberal member of parliament for Parry Sound, will collect evidence available in Canada on atrocities and other war crimes for trial at the proper time.

He will be assisted by an interdepartmental committee comprising representatievs of the departments of External Affairs, Justice and National Defence.

BATH, England— (CP) — Because E. C. Holbeck of Bath stamped on the foot of a woman bus conductress he was fined $40.

Gas Coupon Charge

MONCTON, N.B., Dec. 30 — (CP)—Max Lampert, Moncton, was araigned today on six charges of possessing gasoline coupons or documents resembling coupons and unattached to a ration book, and selling the coupons or documents. He was released until Jan. 7 on $5,000 bail.

Allied Achievements In Air During 1943

LONDON, Dec. 30—(AP) — The Allies have achieved air superiority in every theatre of the war and sent planes on the offensive all around the world, the R.A.F. announced today.

In a review of the aerial war of 1943, Britain's air arm said the year's fighting produced these victories and accomplishments in various fields of operation:—

1. Nine of Germany's 21 major industrial cities with populations of more than 250,000 each have been "so seriously devastated that in all probability they have been forced for some time to consume more than they produce."

2. Many more U-boats have been destroyed by the coastal command in 1943 than in the three previous years together. The whole of the North Atlantic now is covered by shore-based aircraft.

3. Magnificently complete air support was given Allied ground forces in Africa, Sicily and southern Italy.

Carrying heavier bombloads and using the new pathfinder technique, the R.A.F. has been able to bomb Europe harder and oftener throughout the year with its percentage of losses consistently reduced.

BEDFORD, England—(CP)— The Earl of Rosebery has decided to sell about 4,500 acres of his 5,500-acre Mentmore estate in Bedfordshire with which his family has been associated for nearly a century.

Beurling Downs 31st Enemy Plane

LONDON, Dec. 30 —(CP Cable) — Canada's top - ranking fighter ace, Flt. Lt. George Beurling of Verdun, Que., shot down his 31st enemy plane today, one of four destroyed by R. C. A. F. fighters.

One of Beurling's squadron mates, FO. William Bliss of (Brook St.) Toronto, shot down another while the other two successful pilots were FO. Hart Finlay of Montreal and PO. Claude Weaver of Oklahoma City.

Smooth Sailing For All your Baking When you use BLOSSOM CANADA Flour

War Situation Last Night

By Kirke L. Simpson, Associated Press War Analyst

A Nazi military collapse of still incalculable proportions is developing in the critical central sector of the Russian front west of Kiev.

Almost overnight, a German counter-offensive too long sustained has been turned into a virtual Nazi rout. Breaking through on a front now nearly 200 miles wide, Russian forces are storming toward the Rumanian and Polish frontiers at a pace that hints at disintegration of German armies. Morale of the beaten Nazi troops seems cracking. A stupendous military disaster for Hitler is possible within days or even hours, and could utterly change the face of the war in Europe, incite revolt against him in Germany, and seal his fate.

Entrapment of the whole right flank of the German army in Russia against the Rumanian border, cutting 1,000,000 or more Nazi troops off from any contact with comrades in the north or from direct communication with Germany, looms. Russian advance elements blasting toward the key rail junction of Zhmerinka are less than 60 miles from that prime strategic objective. If they reach it, the only practicable supply and escape route for all Nazi forces south and east of the Kiev-Zhmerinka railroad will be closed.

There is evidence, also, that all available Nazi reserves were thrown into the desperate and futile counter-attack which bent back but never broke Russian lines in the Kiev bulge. The failure of that Nazi effort to stabilize the front or to keep the Zhmernka gateway open has brought the Nazi command within sight of a supreme disaster. It no longer has reserves sufficient to meet all of the emergencies confronting it in Russia.

The developments tend to bear out Russian reports of a new clash between Hitler and his army commanders. The reported basis is Hitler's insistance on the attempt to establish a winter defence line along the Dniepr against the advice of German regular army experts that an orderly retreat to the Riga-Odessa line or behind the two Bug Rivers in Poland and the southwestern Ukraine should not be delayed.

And the Russian successes west of Kiev, already staggering the whole Nazi front are only one point of threatened disaster. North of the present main theatre the red army has all but isolated the Vitebsk bastion. Its fall to unhinge the whole Nazi front to the Baltic is expected momentarily.

Farmers Make Big Contribution To War Effort

Encouraging Review Of 1943 Activities By Deputy Minister Shaw.

By W. R. SHAW
Deputy Minister of Agriculture

Considering the many difficulties under which farm production on Prince Edward Island was conducted in 1943, the results have been particularly impressive. Farmers contended throughout the whole year with a grave shortage of labour and unfavourable weather conditions. Nevertheless, recognizing the great need for increased food stuffs, the primary producer laid down plans for increased acreages of vital raw crops and increased quotas of live stock. By careful planning and the enlistment of the service of men, women and children on the farms and in many cases through cooperative efforts among neighbors, a production record has been achieved of an outstandingly meritorious nature. The services that have been rendered by the farmers of this province in the production of a vital war commodity, the highest commendation must be given.

The grain crop, which was late in seeding was generally good. Potato planting was also retarded until later than the normal date. The germination, however was good and growth was rapid. Unfortunately, an attack of blight struck the crop about two months after the planting date. Great difficulty was experienced in applying sprays and controls on account of wet weather and lack of labor and equipment, and the ultimate result was a drastic decrease in acreage yields Every effort was made, however, to harvest the crop in good shape and it is pleasing to know that the loss from rot has been remarkably small. The production per acre will range from 75 to 85 bushels less than the average secured in 1943. Acreage, however, was up approximately 15 per cent.

(Continued on page 7, Col. 4)

DAIRY PRODUCTS

	Pounds		Value
Creamery Butter Production	4,500,000	25% Increase	$ 1,800,000
Cheese Production	760,000	25% Decrease	190,000

FIELD CROPS

	Acres	Yield	Value
Oats	122,700	4,294,500	$ 2,147,250.00
Wheat	8,500	153,000	191,250.00
Barley	14,200	440,200	308,140.00
Mixed Grains	53,000	2,014,000	1,208,400.00
Buckwheat	2,100	48,300	36,640.00
Hay	229,700	345,550	3,455,500.00
Potatoes	40,500	5,670,000	4,536,000.00
Turnips	13,000	3,125,000	3,250,000.00

LIVESTOCK

Horses	27,360
Cattle	100,600
Sheep	46,500
Swine	100,000
Poultry	1,000,000
Day-old Chicks (Hatcheries)	500,000

Canadians Within 9 Miles Of Pescara

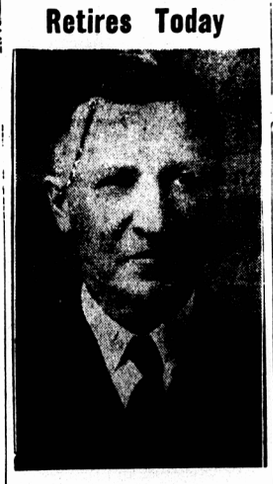
ALGIERS, Dec. 30 —(AP— Victorious Canadian 1st Division troops today pressed on beyond captured Ortona on the Adriatic coast to within nine miles of the important port of Pescara, gateway to Rome.

In the two days since Ortona's fall the Canadians had swept across a wide area west of the town and were reported approaching the valley of the little Tescre River. Infantry was pushing along the coastal road to Pescara, 11 miles northwest of Ortona and at the eastern terminus of a main highway to Rome, while tanks cut across country.

The Nazis rearguard made one brisk stand a mile outside Ortona and enemy long-range artillery shelled the Canadians throughout the cold day.

(William Stewart, a Canadian Press War Correspondent, reported a battalion of western Canadian troops moved along the coastal road and maritime troops travelled across country with tanks French-speaking troops (of the Royal 22nd regiment of Quebec) were on the Maritimers' left flank.)

Retires Today



M. F. TOMPKINS

MONCTON, N. B., Dec. 30—(CP) —Retirement of M. F. Tompkins, 65, traffic manager of the Atlantic Region, Canadian National Railways, was announced today. It is effective immediately. He was born at Margaree, N.S., and began his 47-year career with the railway as a telegraph operator near Truro, N.S.

News Briefs

HALIFAX, Dec 30 — (CP) — Health authorities here said today an epidemic of mild influenza is on the increase in Halifax.

LONDON, Dec. 30 — (CP) —In all of 1943 while defending Britain, the R. A. F. lost only four planes while 315 German planes were shot down over the country, it was announced tonight.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 — (AP) — War economy of the United States passed a major milestone today when orders were issued for the manufacture of 2,000,000 electric irons and 50,000 bath tubs in 1944—the first important resumption of civilian manufacture since the country entered the war.

Air Vice-Marshal Leckie Promoted

OTTAWA, Dec. 30—(CP)—Air Vice-Marshal Rebert Leckie, recently-appointed chief of air staff has been promoted to rank of Air Marshal, it was announced tonight by Air Minister Power.

Air Marshal Leckie thus assumes rank equal to that of his predecessor, Air Marshal L. S. Breadner, who has been appointed Air Officer commanding-in-chief R. C. A. F. Overseas.

One Dead In Montreal Blast

MONTREAL, Dec. 30—(CP)—Miss Nancy McCunn, 26, native of Fredericton, N.B., was decapitated and three others suffered minor injuries when an explosion of undetermined origin wrecked the sixth floor of the Drummond Medical Building between Sherbrooke and St. Catherine Street late tonight.

The injured:—

Dr. Henry Dagg, dentist, injured by flying glass.

Robert Blaney, 50, janitor, bruised and burned.

Mrs. Julia Sagdauskas, 43, charwoman, bruised.

Miss McCunn, a technician in Dr. A. Gerald Racey's dental offices, was working alone in the laboratory when the explosion occurred.

185-Mile Hole Torn In Nazi Defence Line

By JAMES M. LONG

LONDON, Dec. 30 — (AP) — A routed German army of 22 divisions —perhaps 300,000 men — reeled back toward the Polish and Rumanian frontiers tonight, abandoning thousands of vehicles and more than 100 big guns, as the Russian 1st Ukraine army in the greatest Soviet offensive of the winter poured through a 185-mile breach in the heart of the German eastwall.

More than 300 communities were captured today by the Russians who now are 43 miles from the Polish border as they plunged forward in the Korosten-Berdichev area beyond Kiev, it was announced by Moscow.

One of the most important of the many towns taken was Kazatin, a rail junction 15 miles south of Berdichev.

Premier Marshal Joseph Stalin in a special order of the day summarizing the first six days of the most successful Soviet action since the Dnieper line was broken said the Germans were "routed." He announced that the Red Army had advanced from 30 to 60 miles to capture more than 1,000 towns and hamlets through Wednesday.

In the Korosten - Berdichev area the Russians were in the eighth day of swift advance through the greatest breach ever smashed in a German defence line. Official Russian bulletins and press dispatches from Moscow indicated the German command had fallen victim to a great strategic blunder—its recent unsuccessful counter offensive toward Kiev—and now is paying with a defeat rivalling that of Stalingrad and growing by the hour.

The Soviet midnight bulletin said the Germans "suffered tremendous losses in manpower and equipment including 70 tanks and self propelled guns destroyed today in this one sector.

DOGS USED IN ARMY

Dogs were used in the First Great War by both sides, the French alone reporting 3,500 killed and 1,500 missing.

High tide this afternoon at 3.35, and tomorrow morning at 3

Sun sets this afternoon at 5.27, and rises tomorrow morning at 8.39

First quarter moon Jan. 2, 5.04 p.m.

DAILY AIR SERVICE

Charlottetown — Summerside — Moncton

Leave Charlottetown 7.35 a. m 12.00 noon. 4.30 p. m.
Arrive Charlottetown 1.10 p. m 5.45 p. m. 7.05 p. m.

SUNDAY SERVICE

Leave Charlottetown 12 noon.
Arrive Charlottetown 5.45 p. m.

NDING