MAXIMS OF A MERE MAN

Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself.

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

The People's Paper — Read by Everybody

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

MAXIMS OF A MERE MAN

In a hard place quietly to do the next thing and keep steadily at work is to solve the most difficult problems.

Charlottetown Guardian, Two Cents. Morning Guardian, Founded 1887.

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CAPTURE OF 2ND ITALIAN DESERT BASE RUMORED

Mechanized Army Is Best Bet For British Drive

Would be folly to think Nazis could be defeated by orthodox means, Military writer says.

(By Ross Munro, Canadian Press War Correspondent)

ALDERSHOT, Eng., Dec. 12—(CP)—With the whole of western Europe under German domination it is folly to imagine that Britain, with her limited manpower, could reconquer it along orthodox lines, Capt. B. H. Liddell Hart, one of Britain's foremost military affairs writers, suggests in his latest work.

The book is called "Dynamic Defence" and in it Liddell Hart urges further army mechanization to increase mobility for both defence and offensive work.

"A powerful mechanized army operating under the wings of a supreme air force offers the best possibility of producing any military decision," wrote Liddell Hart. "If that possibility be baulked by our strategic circumstances or the development of counter-means, the creation of such forces would still be the best step we could take for shattering an invasion. And for attacking the weakest point of the Axis—Italy's African empire."

Quickest possible expansion of the armored force is necessary and fighting methods must be adjusted to the tempo of mechanized warfare, he suggested.

"Such warfare comes natural only to those who have grown up in the mechanized arms," he wrote. "We ought to be making the fullest possible use of these younger men and quicker minds, regardless of seniority. There also is urgent need for the appointment of a single directing head for the armored forces as a whole—to be responsible for their organization and training on a common doctrine and comprehensive plan, thoroughly thought out."

(Last Monday, it was announced in London that Maj.-Gen. Giffard Martel had been appointed as commander of the Royal Armored Corps, a new post.)

Liddell Hart indicted military conservatism which he said bogged down attempts to mechanize the British army adequately during the past 20 years. Modernity was frustrated, he claimed, by high military officials who failed to see the need for such a policy.

"Happily, this chain of short-sighted injustices belongs to the past," Liddell Hart wrote. "And its errors have been made manifest by events. With a new regime in power conditions are favorable for a new start."

Swift British Drive surprised Italian army

By EDWARD KENNEDY
Associated Press Staff Writer

WITH THE DESERT FORCES in Egypt, Dec. 10.—(Delayed)—(AP)—The advance British troops who opened the great Egyptian offensive against Marshal Graziani's forces, took the Italians entirely by surprise after skilfully executed preparatory moves had carried them undetected across 75 miles of desert.

The fighting started early Monday and has been going forward ever since. The British have been routing the Fascists at numerous points in the great sun-drenched arid stretches, inflicting heavy casualties, and taking prisoners by the thousands.

We left Cairo at dawn and by mid afternoon we were settled in a camp established for newspaper correspondents some 300 miles out in the desert, but still considerably behind the advancing British columns.

So far correspondents have seen no combat in this big drive, but we have heard accounts from those back from the combat area, and from airmen who have flown over it and here is what has happened:

On Monday morning the British army attacked outposts of the 70-mile long "beach" of desert which the Italians occupied just three months ago—Maktilla on the coast, 15 miles east of Sidi Barrani, and Nibeiwa, 15 miles south of Sidi Barrani, taking both in a few hours' fighting.

Four hundred prisoners were taken Monday morning and, as the British pressed forward, the number ran well over 1,000.

Through all that night the fighting went on, the British troops rounding up Italian units cut off from the main force.

On Tuesday the British shot forward again, principally in a big wheeling movement south of Sidi Barrani, then in a swift dash to the Mediterranean. This was highly successful.

General Pietro Melletti, of the Italian forces, was killed in the first hour of the drive.

Encircled in the Sidi Barrani area was a Fascist blackshirt division.

(Sidi Barrani was taken by the British forces Wednesday).

So great was the surprise of the British operations that ordinary movements of provisions were intercepted in some of the Italian camps, and the men were surrounded while they were eating breakfast.

More than 200 cars were captured or destroyed. Britain is using heavy tanks, armored cars and artillery forces.

The land forces have had extensive support from sea and from the Royal Air Force.

War — 25 Years Ago Today

(By The Canadian Press)

Dec. 13, 1915 — Anglo-French forces fortified Salonika to continue Balkan war against Bulgarians. Detachment of 1,200 Arabs near Matruh, western Egypt, defeated by British force.

Coming Events

—o—

"Southport School Concert December 20th. L-1261-12-11-31.

"Sell your poultry Maritime Egg and Poultry Exchange, Murray River. L-299-12-12-21.

"Cake Sale at Rogers Hardware this Saturday by 8th Charlottetown Company. L-282-12-12-31.

"George Leightizer Co., Water Street, buying dressed poultry, all kinds, top prices. Try us. L-751-11-23to Dec. 31.

"Reserve December 19th for Christmas Concert at Rice Point School. L-336-12-13-11.

"Bonshaw School Concert, December 20th. L-198-12-9-31.

"Reserve December 20th for Christmas Concert in Millview Hall. L-999-11-29-12-13.

"Rummage Sale, Social Hall Trinity United Church, Saturday, 6.30. L-338-12-13-21.

"The Kelvin W. M. S., are holding a pantry sale and bazaar at Keir Clark's Store on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 14th. L-366.

Islanders club At McGill Holds banquet

MONTREAL, Dec. 12 —(CP) — The Islanders Club of McGill University, formed two months ago by students and faculty members from Prince Edward Island tonight held their first annual banquet.

Congratulatory messages were read from a number of prominent persons including Hon. Thane Campbell, Premier of Prince Edward Island, and Hon. George DeBlois, former Lieutenant-Governor of the Province.

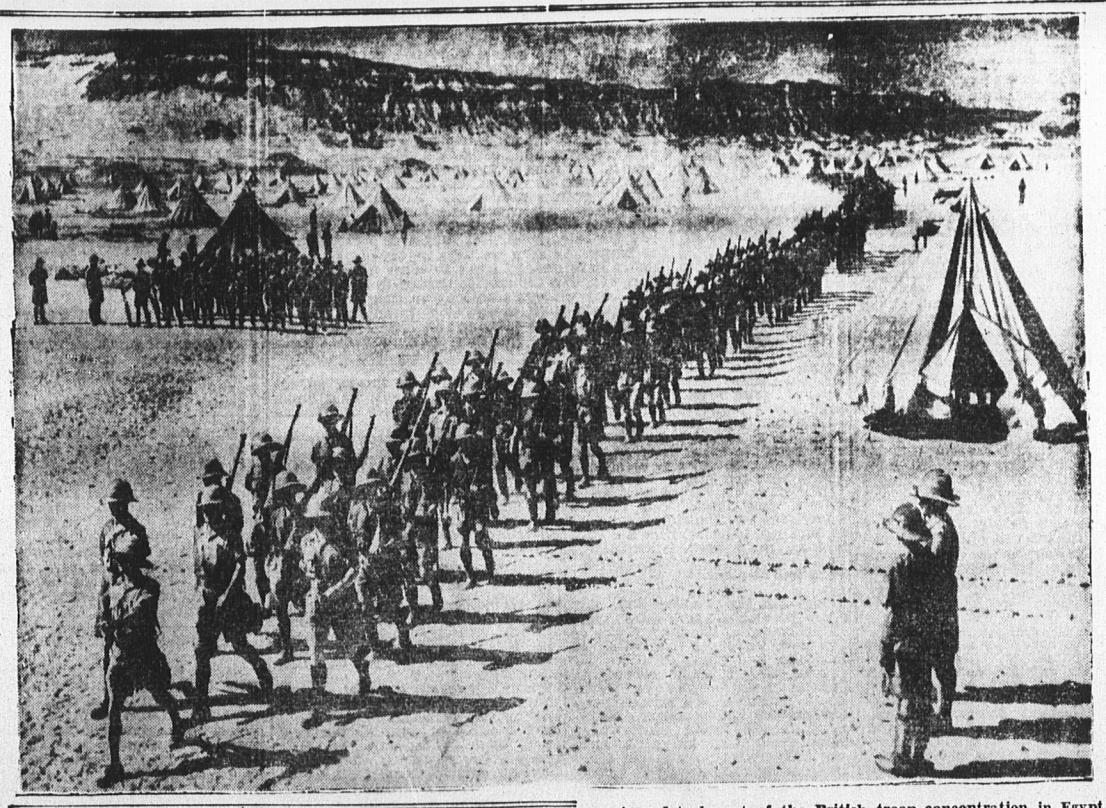
Prof. W. H. Hatcher of the Department of Chemistry, told members they had good cause to be proud of "The Island." The people of P.E.I., he declared, had a simplicity not found in many other places that gave them a philosophy of life in which right was right, and wrong was wrong, and there was no shading of the two.

The dinner consisted of P. E. I. oysters, lobsters, chicken and vegetables, brought specially to Montreal for the occasion.

Ottawa to buy P.E.I. Securities

OTTAWA, Dec. 12 —(CP) —Ottawa board of control today authorized Finance Commissioner G. P. Gordon to purchase $60,000 worth of securities for the city's sinking fund investment account.

Securities to be purchased are Prince Edward Island, Quebec and British Columbia bonds



Here is a detachment of the British troop concentration in Egypt, who were reported to have taken 20,000 Italian prisoners. The British African command reported the British forces had made contact with the Italians "on a broad front" in the Western Egyptian desert south of Sidi Barrani. The above picture was taken when the troops newly arrived in Africa were leaving camp for a route march, part of the training program intended to accustom them to new surroundings.

Predicts blood Purge in Italy soon

NEW YORK, Dec. 12—Johannes Steel, German-born author and commentator, who predicted the Nazi "blood purge" of June 30, 1934, a few days before it occurred forecast tonight that Italy will have a purge of similar proportions in the immediate future.

Steel quoted leading articles in Italian newspapers including today's attack by Roberto Farinacci, Fascist leader, against the retired Chief of Staff, Marshal Badoglio, in proof of his reasoning.

"A headlong clash between the Fascist party and the Italian army may be expected," he said.

RETIRED EDITOR DIES

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., Dec. 12. —(AP)—Alvin Irwin Findley, 81, for 21 years editor-in-chief and a director of the Iron Age Publishing Co., died today. He had lived here since retirement in 1930.

YOUNG BOMB INVENTOR

Allan Ramsden of Nelson, B.C., 14-year-old junior high school student, has invented a new type of "electric eye" bomb. It is now under official consideration by the war inventions board at Ottawa. He is the son of Mrs. Rose Ramsden and the late W. H. Ramsden of Nelson. The cameraman caught Allan on a Saturday, in his "choring" clothes.

U. S. Gov't Looks Askance at Jap Moves in Far East

Articles were published this week summing up the Japanese view of the troubled relations between their nation and the United States. This is the first of two articles presenting views expressed in official Washington.

By Lloyd Lehrbas
Associated Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 —(AP) —Conquering hordes are "on the march with great armies, air fleets, and navies to take by force what they say they need or want" and the United States — despite its geographical position — is gravely threatened by the sweeping tide of their limitless invasions.

That picture of the world today —in the words of Cordell Hull, Secretary of State —sums up a widespread United States opinion on the direction, objectives and methods of the axis powers, and graphically explains why the United States looks askance at Japan's martial manoeuvres in the far east.

Yosuke Matusoka, Japan's foreign minister, declared in an interview on Monday that the German-Italian-Japanese axis was the "keystone" of Japanese foreign policy. The Japanese, he said, would not "quibble" in going to the defence of Germany and Italy should occasion arise.

The Minister's frank declaration reinforced the opinion long held by United States officials that Japanese policies and acts must be evaluated as part of the axis powers' "new world order" scheme, and not as relating only to isolated action in China or elsewhere in the far east.

The axis, and especially Hitler, most American officials believe, plays a dominating role in charting Japan's present policies. Much depends on when and how Hitler demands reinforcing action from his Japanese partners.

(Continued on page 10, Col 3)

Airmen Receive wings

CAMP BORDEN, Ont., Dec. 12.—Young airmen of the Royal Canadian Air Force from many parts of Canada and representative also of Great Britain, Newfoundland and the United States, received their wings at the British Commonwealth air training centre here tonight.

They included: Leading Aircraftmen Ian March, St. John's, Nfld.; R. V. Hayward, St. John's, Nfld.; E. L. McCarthy, Moncton; G. M. Winter, St. John's, Nfld.; G. F. Johnson, Moncton, and A. W. Lockhart, Moncton.

Greeks Storm Heights Near Town of Tepeleni

Capture number of Italy's Alpine Troops—Drive

By Max Harrelson
Associated Press Staff Writer

ATHENS, Dec. 12—(AP)—The Greek southern army crushed "desperate" Italian resistance in the region of Tepeleni and has stormed the heights to the northeast of that town, capturing a considerable number of Italy's alpine troops, a government spokesman said tonight.

The drive toward both Tepeleni and the coastal town of Chimara went on without setback, he added.

There were unconfirmed reports that an Italian colonel of alpine troops was one of those who had fallen in the day's fighting.

"The news," said the spokesman "is very good from all sectors of the front and our army is continuing its advance.

"Everywhere the Italians attempted to counter-attack they have failed.

"Thrusts against the Italian army continue in the direction of Chimara. More to the right the Italians are in retreat in the direction of Tepeleni. In this region the resistance has been stiff and sometimes desperate but has been crushed.

"Farther to the right the Italians offered strong resistance. They employed alpine troops. Nevertheless our army was able to occupy one after another the heights which select units defended, and we captured a considerable number of them."

Two counter-attacks launched by the Italians on the northern front were thrown back and the Italians lost even their original positions. The capture of a large number of prisoners and much war material was claimed.

BONES OF NAPOLEON'S SON TAKEN TO PARIS

VIENNA, Dec. 12 —(AP) —The Sarcophagus containing the bones of Napoleon's only son, the Duke of Reichstadt who was known as Napoleon II, was removed from a crypt in the Capucine Church today and carried to Paris at Hitler's orders, it was learned tonight.

Elephant gets Whisky toddy

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 12—(AP) —A mountain zoo elephant drank a whisky toddy for a chill today as subzero cold and moisture-rich snow broke a brief spell of unseasonable weather in the Rocky Mountains and great plains states.

Shirley, 19-year-old elephant at the Cheyenne mountain zoo near Colorado Springs, caught cold in the quick weather turn that tumbled temperatures to 24 below zero in North Dakota.

Snow piled over Colorado, western Kansas and Nebraska, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming and the Dakotas.

Victory of First Order in Egypt

By TAYLOR HENRY
Associated Press Staff Writer

LONDON, Dec. 12.—(AP) — The British forces have driven the Italian invaders from virtually all of the Egyptian coastline, seized more than 20,000 prisoners—probably thousands more—and the Royal Navy and Air Force are pouring fire and steel upon the last exits from that area of Fascist disaster, it was officially declared today.

This outline of the first big British offensive of the war — called by Winston Churchill a victory "of the first order"— was drawn by the Prime Minister himself and the communiques sent here by the Egyptian command.

Mr. Churchill declared that in the rough noose now being drawn by British armored units "it would not be surprising if at least the best part of three Italian divisions, including numerous blackshirt formations, had been either destroyed or captured."

He made no effort to put this hapless force in terms of numbers of men, but an Italian division usually runs from 14,000 to 17,000—and the total number of Italians in Egypt had been estimated by British sources in the past at 80,000.

"The whole episode," the Prime Minister told the House of Commons, must be judged upon the background of the fact that it is only three or four months ago that our anxieties for the defence of Egypt were acute.

"These anxieties are now removed and the British guarantee and

(Continued on page 10, Col 3)

Lord Lothian Dies suddenly At Washington

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12—(AP)—The unexpected death of the Marquess of Lothian in the midst of heavy responsibilities as British Ambassador to Washington, created the possibility tonight that a United States warship might transport his body through the Atlantic war zone to his embattled homeland.

Both British and United States officials, however, awaited word from Lord Lothian's relatives in England before arranging funeral services for the 58-year-old bachelor diplomat, who died of uremic poisoning at 3 a.m. AST today.

Secretary of State Cordell Hull, calling at the sprawling red brick embassy to extend condolences, offered "all facilities at our disposal." The State Department officials declined to elaborate on the statement.

Customarily a warship is made available for taking a foreign envoy's body home. In view of war-

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BLOSSOM OF CANADA
The all-purpose FLOUR

Unable To Count Prisoners Taken; 20,000 At Least

Headlong British drive continues towards borders of Libya; trucks, tanks and arms taken from fleeing Fascists.

(By Larry Allen, Associated Press Staff Writer)

CAIRO, Egypt, Dec. 12—(AP)—Italian prisoners of war were said tonight by a British spokesman to be falling by thousands into British hands so rapidly that the problem of feeding and eventually moving them out of the desert is becoming troublesome.

The day's operations were two-fold:—

Around Sidi Barrani, the Italian base that fell Wednesday, the British forces were occupied with clearing up a battlefield which had extended over 200 square miles.

Those Fascists who escaped the British encirclement—and their number was said to be small—are being pursued westward toward Italian Libya, harassed by the Royal Air Force and the navy as well as the land forces.

A spokesman at British headquarters said the official estimate of at least 20,000 Italians captured was approximate, because of the difficulty of keeping in touch with the continuing successes of British troops.

Among the vast quantities of tanks, trucks and arms captured from the fleeing Italians, he said, the trucks would be especially helpful in the transport of British troops.

There was no confirmation of rumors that Salum, the Italian position just within Egypt beyond the Libyan frontier, had fallen to the British army.

It was understood that a number of Blackshirts (Fascist militiamen) were among the prisoners, as well as some Libyan natives. Hundreds of officers have been taken, including three generals.

In addition to attacking the retreating Italians, the Royal Air Force kept up a constant series of raids upon all Fascist advanced airdromes in Libya, preventing aircraft from taking off in many instances and destroying planes on the ground.

The Italians appeared to be using their fighter craft mainly in defence against the British pilots who were supporting the British advance. Total Fascist plane losses in three days of fighting were put by the British authorities at more than 40 "for certain." In the same period, the R.A.F. lost four planes.

Gen. Sir Archibald Wavell, the British middle eastern commander in chief, and Air Marshal Sir Arthur Longmore visited advanced headquarters in the desert today for a long conference with Lt.-Gen. Sir Maitland Wilson, and Air Commodore Raymond Collishaw.

The Italians have lost five Generals and an Air Marshal in North Africa. One, Gen. Lustracci, was captured in Libya a few days after Italy's declaration of war. Three others were taken prisoner in the region of Sidi Barrani Wednesday, and a fifth, Gen. Pietro Maletti, was killed on the first day of the present British attack. He was considered second only to Marshal Graziani as an expert in desert warfare.

Fire causes $65,000 loss

OTTAWA, Dec. 12—(CP)— An early-morning blaze which swept through a three-storey building occupied by four militia units caused damage estimated by Fire Chief J. J. O'Kelly at not less than $65,000.

Cause of the fire which destroyed thousands of dollars worth of military and naval equipment was not known immediately.

TORONTO, Dec. 12—(CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Dawson	5	9
Victoria	33	44
Edmonton	20B	7
Regina	31B	21E
Winnipeg	28B	12B
Toronto	30	34
Ottawa	15	27
Montreal	20	31
Quebec	10	27
Saint John	14	34
Halifax	20	31
Charlottetown	14	27

FORECAST

Maritime East: Winds increasing to strong or moderate gales at night with snow changing to rain.

Synopsis: Snow with part rain in southern districts has occurred in Ontario and it is becoming colder in northern sections. The weather has been fair over the Prairie Provinces, decidedly cold in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and moderating temperature in Alberta.

High tide this morning at 10.08 and tonight at 9.32.

Sun sets this afternoon at 4.18 and rises tomorrow morninf at 7.30.

Full moon Dec. 14, 3.38 p.m.

Summerside tide 18 minutes later than Charlottetown.

THE CAR FERRY SAILINGS

Leaves Borden 9.45 A.M. 1.00 P.M.
Leaves Tormentine 11.00 A. M. 3.15 P.M.