

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN
 Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1940.

Allies Take The Initiative

Reassuring is the news in today's despatches that the Allies have taken the initiative in the air, and are fighting the German invaders "to a standstill" over the Meuse River in the Sedan area, where the heaviest fighting has raged for the past three days. The forward march of Hitler's legions has been met by what is described as the biggest mass bombing attack of the war. The fury of the enemy assault is not minimized in the official reports, but it is being met with equal determination and with increasing force and effect.

One factor which will now have to be taken into consideration by the enemy is the relative wastage of war planes in the terrific initial assaults with which the drive into the Low Countries was launched. About 700 Nazi planes are reported to have been destroyed, and these were bombers and fighters, first-class craft of the greatest value. A tremendous amount of precious fuel must also have been expended. Being the aggressor and therefore under the handicap of maintaining a furious offensive, Germany's losses on land and in the air are certain to be vastly greater than those of the defenders in the days and week that lie ahead. German propaganda to the contrary on this point may be freely discounted. The entrenchments and formidable defences against which the enemy attacks must now be directed will take an increasingly suicidal toll in lives and war material. In the meantime, the full force of the Allied armies is only beginning to come into play. This fact is of greater importance than the German successes in the undefended parts of the invaded countries, which can only be utilized to the enemy's advantage if air supremacy—now already challenged—is maintained.

While the foe is being held back on the western front, Britain is furiously speeding up airplane production under Lord Beaverbrook and strengthening land and sea defenses with all the resources of the nation. The hour of supreme trial that has arrived leaves no thought for anything but the determination to smash the Nazi juggernaut at all costs.

The Wheat Situation

A despatch from Sydney, Australia, announces that the Commonwealth Government has just issued an important series of figures, explaining the magnitude of the task it faces in solving the problem of marketing that Dominion's exportable surplus of wheat. These statistics show that Australia still has in reserve, awaiting sale and shipment, no less than 124,000,000 bushels from last year's harvest, and that it is estimated when the next crop is ready for reaping there will be a carry-over from this of at least 60,000,000 bushels. This enormous reserve, the Australian Government points out, is likely to overstrain all available storage facilities and to suffer in storage from mice, weevil, and other plagues to which it will be exposed.

Obviously if the proceeds of another normal crop are poured on top of such a surplus, the Australia wheat exporters will be hard put to it to market even a considerable portion of their holdings, and to avert a heavy financial loss.

In Australia, as in Canada, the Government helps to finance the harvesting, storing, transporting and marketing of the country's wheat crop. The financial obligations of the Commonwealth Government in acquiring the 1939-1940 harvest amount to the equivalent of about \$82,000,000, against which are to be credited sales returns amounting to barley \$25,000,000. The Government's wheat board's overdraft is now more than \$100,000,000. The average price to be realized on the whole of the last harvest is not expected to exceed 85 cents a bushel, from which freight charges must be deducted.

The paradox of want in the fact of abundance, which has its roots in an obsolete scheme of distribution, has never been illustrated more strikingly than by starving millions in Europe, and rotting food-materials in the world's great producing countries.

Scheme To Shorten Session?

The impression is given in a recent Ottawa despatch that the Dominion Government may be contemplating changing the law so members of Parliament would be paid \$4,000 a year regardless of the length of the session. Such a measure, it is suggested, "would speed the coming session by making it no longer necessary that Parliament sit sixty-five days in order the Commons and Senators may draw their full sessional indemnity."

With the indemnity on an annual basis there would, of course, be no temptation to prolong the session to make certain of receiving the full cheque. On this ground the proposal is meeting with strong criticism in the press. As viewed by the Toronto Globe and Mail, it looks like an attempt at bribing the members to return home as quickly and unceremoniously as possible.

During the last two decades the average length of a session has been twenty weeks. Considering the vast amount of departmental work assumed in that period, for which the Government is responsible to Parliament, the sessions should be extended instead of shortened, as the new plan implies. Otherwise bureaucracy, more and more, will come autocracy.

Just before the last Parliament was scuttled the Prime Minister stated he would give all

particulars about the war effort in the House of Commons, which he admitted, was the proper place for the discussion. While the people are still waiting for the information, it appears to be planned to curtail the opportunity as a regular thing.

"The chief function of Parliament," says the Globe and Mail, "is to oblige Ministers to defend from day to day the acts of the executive Government, and, if necessary, to compel the resignation of Ministers, individually or collectively, if they have been derelict in their duty. It cannot be stated too often that, while the Government is responsible to Parliament, Parliament is responsible only to the people. If debate is curtailed unduly, it is an affront to the electorate. Parliament is the grand assize of the nation."

"The Mother of Parliaments sits virtually all the year round. Canada's Parliament should be in more or less continuous session in wartime. Admittedly the Ministers could not be in their seats to answer questions and attend to their heavy routine duties at the same time, but they could be relieved of part of their work, as in the United Kingdom.

"Dangling a bait of \$4,000 a year before the eyes of members, regardless of their time in Ottawa, showing them that they can save hundreds of dollars in hotel expenses by cutting the sessions short, is not putting first things first."

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is much better for all concerned for a citizen to be a "kicker" than a "knocker."

Mrs. Felicia Dorothea Hemans, novelist and poet, died this date, 1835. "Talk not of grief till thou hast seen the tears of warlike men!"

In the days of the Great War we could not get the news—good or bad—soon enough. Today the reverse seems to be the case—we would that we could have details in concrete retrospect; we get too much undigested generalities to form a reliable opinion on what is transpiring and the objective aimed at.

War marriages gave Scotland the highest quarterly rate for weddings ever recorded, a report by the Registrar-General for Scotland shows. The rate for the third quarter of 1939 was 12.4 per 1,000, which exceeds even the great post-war boom of 1919-20. There were 46,257 marriages during the year.

The likelihood of an English widower marrying is greater in each age group than that of a bachelor and of a widow greater than that of a spinster except between 25 and 35, it is revealed in the Registrar General's Statistical Review of England and Wales for 1937, recently made public. A higher proportion of girls marry now than before 1914. The marriage rate in the City of London is six times as high as the average for England and Wales, presumably because many people go to London to be married. The number of divorces in 1937 was 4,886—a new high record, and eight or nine times as large as in 1901-1910. The number of divorced persons who remarried—6,988—was also a record.

The steady stream of recruits to the British Army, navy and air force has been speeded up by a proclamation that the King signed under the Conscription Act, extending the age of enlistment from 20 to 19 into the country's youth and upward from 27 to 36. The new basis of recruitment is expected within six months to add another 2,500,000 to the 2,000,000 already registered or scheduled to register. This call-up is seen as another preparation for total war. The last group called up were the twenty-sixes, on April 20, and the twenty-sevens, the final age group covered by the King's third proclamation, on Jan. 1, who are due to register May 25. The proclamation involves all male British subjects born between May 10, 1903, and May 9, 1921, who are now in Britain or subsequently enter the country. Irishmen resident are counted as British subjects under the Conscription Act but can escape enlistment provided they leave the country.

A distinguished Parisian, Dr. Jean Besncon, who has attained the age of eighty has written a book on how to attain longevity. Don't drink water; take as little exercise as possible, and have an afternoon highball instead of tea, is his formula. It is painful, when so much depends on Allied like-mindedness, to see a Frenchman attacking a sacred British institution. But it has long been suspected that the French did not feel the same reverence for tea as did the British. Now at least the rift is out in the open, and it only remains to be seen whether a strongly anti-British sentiment on this delicate issue will develop among the neutrals. After 40 take no exercise. "Make no effort at all, otherwise you will strain your heart." Many an older who is comfortably adding to his life span in the leather depths of a chair will nod sagely at this injunction and follow it as scripture. But there will be as many more to snort indignantly and start for the golf course.

This Dominion in the first quarter of the present year exported goods to the value of \$245,000,000, against nearly \$200,000,000 in the same period last year, or an increase of about 23 per cent. Imports for the first three months this year were \$220,000,000, as against \$155,000,000 an increase of about 40 per cent. But the highly encouraging showing in sales to other countries is due for almost a reversal, if the apprehensions of those who are studying war trade trends are warranted. Britain is steadily placing more restrictions on the importation even of foodstuffs from Canada, while both Australia and New Zealand, two important customers of this Dominion are gradually shutting their doors to other members of the Commonwealth. New Zealand has already completely barred the purchase of automobiles shipped from this country while Australia last week announced a quota system for the importation of cars, which, according to official estimates here, will cut Canada's car sales to its sister Dominion from 30,000 units annually to 20,000. This Dominion is preparing for the worst in the British foodstuff market. Canned fruits and vegetables have been placed on an import licence basis.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Canadians who visit Seattle this summer and pay their bills there in Canadian currency will have to pay \$1.25 per dollar, according to a ruling of the Board of Trade of that city. The local movement is at all times heavy, threatening the Canadian money, visitors to other United States points may have to meet a correspondingly heavy discount. The same course is to be followed by United States citizens leaving Canada. — Edmonton Bulletin.

One of the sad stories of the war is the loss of German cars who hoped to buy the low-priced car, the Volkswagen, which Hitler promised to produce. More than 250,000 Germans began to save at the rate of 5-12 marks (\$2.20) a week. At the end of 4-1-2 years the cars should be theirs. Now production of the Volkswagens is postponed until after the war. Purchasers may continue their instalments in the hope that some day they will be manufactured, or stop and forfeit all their savings. — New York Post.

Alberta should have better government during Mr. Abernethy's second term of office. There is no longer any necessity of an absurd suspension of unconstitutional laws, involving the judicial committee at Ottawa, or nullification by the courts, such as formerly persuaded some people that the provincial government had a program leading toward the mystical monarchy of the 19th century. And there is a strong opposition which should tend to keep the government's attention focused on administration of the affairs of the province. — Financial Post.

It was in Sybil, for example, that the legend of one of the most famous of giant ships, the *Manning*, was said to have been invented. And here, again, Britain may be said to owe something to Sybil, in a legendary sense, at all events for it was this vessel that, attempting to pass through the straits of Dover, struck when she was only half way and she only managed to scrape through by the captain having souped her sides. The white cliffs of Albion remain to this day to prove that the story is true. — Edinburgh Scotland.

The Allied attitude toward Italy is rapidly assuming similarity to the attitude toward Germany, Russia, Britain and France will not tolerate Italy as a non-participating belligerent — claiming the status of a neutral, and at the same time cooperating to the limit of calculated safety on the side of Germany. If another "war-front" should be opened in Italy and the Mediterranean, it would be the most serious mistake yet made. It has yet been called upon to defend, the most tempting and accessible the Allies have yet had the opportunity of attacking. — Sydney Post-Record.

"Don't make pupils sit up like ramrods," was the advice of a psychology expert gave to a group of teachers at a conference. He thought a certain amount of wiggling helps children adjust themselves to their surroundings. The school teacher may feel that if the children are restless they aren't learning their lessons. The Sunday school teacher is often discouraged because the boys cut up a bit, and do not seem to be paying attention. Children were not made to sit up straight in the first place. They are a perpetual motion machine which would be out of order if not in motion. Fifteen minutes spent in an active rest is perhaps the best way to cut down wiggles. — Listowel Buzzer.

The Swastika, which Pope Pius XI denounced as "A Cross Hostile to the Cross of Christ" was everywhere to be seen in the Vatican when Herr Von Ribbentrop called on Monday to have audience of the Holy Father. Diplomatic courtesy demanded that the German minister from the Vatican to fetch the German foreign minister and his suite. The privilege of riding behind the Pope and national flags side by side on the benches of the choir was withheld. The fact has been generally noted. What has not been generally noted is that when Ribbentrop and his suite had the usual camera taken in the Vatican they were alone. No prelate stood with them. On every other similar occasion visitors have been accompanied by Mgr. Melini, the Pope's master of ceremonies and other prelates. Nor did Ribbentrop or his companions—including, it is believed, members of the Gestapo—wear Swastika armlets. Precisely in an unusual official statement, the Observator Romano had made it clear that not the Pope but Ribbentrop had sought the audience, applying through the German ambassador to the Holy See, Dr. von Bergen—The Universe, London.

There comes to The Journal from "World Peace Association," Carl J. Ryan, Secretary, 1000 St. James, Minneapolis, U. S. A. a request that we take a hand in its campaign to end war. Accompanying it is a picture of a Socialism's Brotherhood flag. Perhaps the word has not yet reached Jenkins, Minnesota, that practical steps for world peace are being taken by Britain and France. They are so keen about it, in fact, that they are fighting for what Mr. Ryan calls "a better world order." It will be time enough to talk of world peace when Germany is broken, her fumes, extracted, and her people are no longer very nice. Meanwhile Mr. Ryan is wasting paper and postage in sending his propaganda north of the border. — Ottawa Journal.

A London paper relates that a German officer explaining a remark that "the British were gentlemen but the French were not," said: "After 1919 I was in charge of a barracks. One day some of the Military Control Commission under a French officer and a British officer, came to my barracks. They had reason to believe that I had a store of rifles concealed behind a book wall, contrary to the terms of the Peace Treaty. I denied this. I said 'I give you my word of honor as a German officer that I have no rifles concealed in the barracks.' Well, he went on, 'your British officer was a gentleman. He accepted my word of honor and he went away. But the French officer was not a gentleman. He would not accept my word of honor. And he pulled

Keeping Canada British

(Globe and Mail)

Immigration statistics for the fiscal year ending March 31 last show that more than a thousand Germans came to Canada, as compared with seven hundred from all other European countries.

More Germans were admitted as immigrants than Scottish, Irish or Welsh folk. How many of these newcomers from the Fatherland, to which they still owe allegiance, are members of the "fifth column?"

The largest group from Europe coming to Canada last year was Ruthenians, numbering 1,509, while the second largest group is classified as Hebrews, totalling 1,321.

Of the 16,205 immigrants arriving in Canada during the fiscal year, 12,839 were non-British.

With the Motherland engaged in a life-and-death struggle for existence, heavy immigration from the British Isles is out of the question. But we are not going to build up a British nation in Canada with Germans, Bohemians, Croatians, Hebrews, Japanese, Magyars, Russians and Ruthenians predominating.

It is unnecessary to assume immigrants of non-British races will not make good citizens. Many of them, indeed, may prove to be among the finest. But if Canada is to remain British and continue the traditions established by British people after centuries of struggle, newcomers from the British Isles should at least balance in numbers those from other countries.

What Is A Doctor?

(Bantford Expositor)

A quibbler, not unknown in Canada, has recently been revived in the United States. It is that over the question as to who should and who should not be permitted to use the prefix "doctor." The regulars, of course, are the regular medical practitioners on one hand and other specialized healers, such as chiropractors, osteopaths, and so forth, on the other.

Actually physicians and surgeons have no exclusive claim on the designation "doctor." A lady or gentleman using that ancient and honorable title may be an M.D., meaning Doctor of Medicine. But he or she may also be a Ph.D. (Doctor of Philosophy), an LL.D. (Doctor of Laws), a Litt. D. (Doctor of Letters), a D.C.L. (Doctor of Civil Law), a D.D. (Doctor of Divinity), a Mus. Doc. (Doctor of Music), a D.D.S. (Doctor of Dental Surgery) or a D. Sc. (Doctor of Science).

There is, you perceive, more than one meaning for this word "doctor." In itself, as the Kingston Whig-Standard points out, it does not mean "healer" or "medical practitioner," despite the fact that many people regard the terms as synonymous.

It is certainly desirable that physicians and surgeons be recognized as such and not confused with doctors of another sort. It would be rather useless, and probably fatal, to take an appendicitis to a Doctor of Music, because while melody may be effective in soothing the savage beast, it is not up to much as a preventive for ailments. And while a Doctor of Divinity might be admirably trained to look after the cure of souls he would probably make a bad botch of diagnosing typhoid fever.

With so many doctors about, then it occurs to us that perhaps the onus is upon them to make proper distinctions and so relieve the confusion in the public mind. This is already done in other countries, where distinctive appendages are used. Indeed, in England, surgeons for instance, very often disdain the use of the title "Doctor" altogether, and stick to the plain "Mr."

At all events, this question ought to be clarified. Some proper title or distinction ought to be created for the medical (which is the good Italian name for them, by the way, and not slang).

Public Forum

HOME DEFENCE NEEDED

Sir—Is it not time that we got busy here in P.E. Island doing something in way of Home Defence? Anything can happen! What looked fantastic in the extreme three months ago or less, is today, unfortunately cold reality. Where would Canada fit without the protection of the British Navy? God forbid that that day should ever come! Yet, it is more than a remote possibility. To those who think that lack of defence or of desire to fight for one's country is protection which Hitler is concerned let me point to Norway as a striking example of a nation of fools. Just think what Norway could have done with a loyal manhood trained to fight, and well armed, in a country that is particularly strong in natural defences. As for our looking to the United States for help they could rightly tell us to look out for ourselves.

My suggestion is, that every school district in the province organize a unit for defence purposes. Even ten men trained to use rifles and machine guns could work wonders in conjunction with regular forces and other arms of the service in giving a hot reception to any invaders. Larger towns, villages and towns could have anti-tank gun units as well.

It will be too late when ruthless invaders arrive. Now is the time to prepare, not one day should be lost. We in Canada have plenty of man power, material, and money. Let us put all to work the same as they do in Germany. Then should the day arrive when we would be called to defend a wonderful heritage and an unparalleled freedom—all too little appreciated by many, I fear—we would be found not only willing but also prepared to give a good account of ourselves. The sooner everyone outside of Germany realizes that Hitler is one of the vilest leaders as well as the most ruthless the world has ever known, the sooner will he and his armies be slowed down and eventually stopped in their avowed conquest of the world.

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 As through the aged depths of ocean,
 They glide with wavy and wavy motion.
 They have no pathway where they flow
 They flow like water to and from.
 They watch with never-winking eyes,
 They watch with staring, cold surprise.

The level people in the air,
 The people sewing, peering, there:
 Who wander also to and fro,
 And know not why or where they go.

Yet have a wonder in their eyes,
 Sometimes a pale and cold surprise.

—Max Eastman.

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NEWS

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Seedsman Charlottetown

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BARGAIN BASEMENT
WEEK-END SPECIALS

Ladies' House Dresses Each ----- 59c
 Ladies' Cotton Hose Pair ----- 17c
 Ladies' Silk Hose Pair ----- 29c and up
 Ladies' Pullover Sweaters Each ----- 59c
 Ladies' Silk Panties Pair ----- 19c
 Ladies' Celanese Slips Each ----- 59c
 Ladies' Celanese and Tiptin Dresses, asst'd styles. Each ----- 1.98
 Ladies' Full Fashioned Hose, knee length. Pair ----- 24c
 Ladies' Aprons, large asst'd styles. Each ----- 29c
 Ladies' Cotton Vests and Bloomers. Each ----- 24c
 Boys' Overalls. Pair ----- 49c
 Youths' Overalls. Pair ----- 79c
 Boys' Short Pants. Pair ----- 69c
 Boys' Short Pant Suits, fancy back, blue cheviot and check. Suit ----- 2.69
 Boys' Broadcloth Waists. Each ----- 39c
 Boys' Cotton Golf Hose. Pair ----- 19c
 Boys' Two-piece Balbriggan underwear garment ----- 15c
 Boys' Pullover Sweaters. Each ----- 39c
 Men's Athletic Shirts. Each ----- 29c
 Broadcloth Shorts. Pair ----- 24c
 Men's Work Shirts, all sizes. Each ----- 69c
 Men's Cottonade Pants. Pair ----- 1.19
 Men's Red Back Overall Pants. Pair ----- 98c
 Men's Fancy Pullover Sweaters. Each ----- 59c
 Men's Cotton Hose, fancy. Pair ----- 17c
 A Table of Men's Work Shirts, \$1.00 to \$1.25 value. Each ----- 79c
 Men's Two-piece Balbriggan Underwear. Garment ----- 29c

BARGAIN BASEMENT
S. A. McDONALD'S

went on for her father's children's sibly can. I don't care if it's comedy concerts, augmenting the instrumental chorus with the clack of a small rattle. This summer she expects to join a summer theatre company. Last year she played with the Cape She has no illusion about the a-Playhouse in Massachusetts, where she appeared with amateur groups in "Night Must Fall" and "The Dis-She is willing "to do anything I pos-taiff Side".

We will operate during the Summer of 1940 on ATLANTIC STANDARD TIME And NOT on Daylight Saving Time THE ROGERS HARDWARE COMPANY LIMITED

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