MAXIMS OF A MERE MAN

He is no clown who drives the plow, but he that doth clownish things.

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

The People's Paper Read by Everybody

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

MAXIMS OF A MERE MAN

Beware of the vengeful man whose courage is in his boots, he'll kick like an ass.

Charlottetown Guardian, Two Cents. Morning Guardian, Founded 1887

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JAPANESE STRONGHOLD IS CAPTURED

Immediate Repeal Of Prohibition Act Urged By S'Side Town Council

A resolution asking for immediate repeal of the Provincial Prohibition Act and the substitution of some form of government control was passed last night by the Town Council of Summerside at its regular monthly meeting.

Mayor W J. Lidstone was in the chair and Councillors J. L. Gorrill, R. L. Morrison, T. D. Morrison and William Smallman were present.

The resolution was moved by Coun. Mollison and seconded by Coun. Morrison. It passed with Coun. Gorrill alone dissenting. It reads as follows:

"Whereas the Premier of the Province, the Hon. T. A. Campbell, has asked the Town Police to give greater assistance to the R. C. M. P. in enforcing the Prohibition Act,

"And whereas it would appear to be impossible to enforce this Act, providing the large number of the R. C. M. P. have been sincere in their endeavours:

"Therefore resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Summerside at a regular monthly meeting hereby suggest to the Premier and his Government that in order to better conditions in Summerside and throughout the Province, and to promote respect for our laws, they immediately repeal the Prohibition Act and put in force some form of Government sale or control as now in force in other Provinces."

Coun. Gorrill in opposing the resolution maintained that while present conditions were not satisfactory, they could not be remedied by the Government bringing more liquor into the Province.

Coun. Morrison said the Prohibition Act had been in force for thirty years and had been found wanting. In every other place, he said, it had been discarded.

On the passing of the resolution Mayor Lidstone congratulated the Councillors "on their opinions and on their courage."

A.R.P. REPORT

D.O. Stewart, secretary of the ARP committee was present and gave a report on the practice blackout. A resolution was passed giving permission to the I.O.D.E. to hold tag days on Dec. 18 and 19.

A resolution was moved by Coun-

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Woman Dies Of Injuries

Mrs. Allan Gillis, 80, of Bear River in the St. Andrew's Parish died at the Charlottetown Hospital last night. She was fatally injured in an accident near her home Sunday.

With a son, Joseph Gillis, she was driving in a horse-drawn vehicle when a bolt broke in the running gear. The horse took fright and bolted throwing the driver and his mother out.

The son was injured also and had been undergoing treatment at his home although it was expected he would be removed to hospital today. His mother was taken to Charlottetown by ambulance shortly after the accident. She suffered head injuries and so far as was known did not regain consciousness.

Mrs. Gillis and her son were either enroute to church or returning from church when the accident occurred.

Mrs. Gillis is survived by a number of sons and daughters. Her husband predeceased her. He too, died as the result of an accident, it was recalled.

Practice Blackout

The practice blackout held last night was not quite so successful for the city as the most recent ones have been. Several wardens reported that lights had been left on in business premises.

Some householders were slow in extinguishing lights, one person required to turn them out when requested by the warden. These cases will be dealt with later. The yellow signal came over at 6.05 that evening and the sirens sounded at 6:30 The blackout lasted for one half hour.

The Civilian Committee took up their positions in the city tax office. Fire fighting equipment was taken from the city building and placed in readiness for emergency.

The Chief of Police reported that pedestrian and motor traffic conformed to the regulations and no cases of vandalism were reported. At Montague the blackout was 100 percent according to word received last night from local officials.

At Summerside firemen had practice with three incendiary bombs They are of the type issued by authorities for practice purposes.

A.R.P. officials at the western capital said they were well pleased with response to the blackout drill. In only one section of the town were lights slow in being extinguished and there citizens complained they could not hear the sirens.

At Souris reports indicated the citizens were prompt in obeying the blackout signal.

Coming Events

—o—

"Play Mt Stewart, Thursday. 12-15-2i

"Riverdale Christmas Concert, Dec. 21st. 12-14-2i

"Big time Murray River, Friday. 12-15-2i

"Christmas School Concert in Kingston Hall Dec. 23rd. 12-14-2i

"Reserve December 16 for Bonshaw School Concert. 12-14-3i

"Collecting hogs every Friday. Please list with Leslie McDowell, Fredericton. 5-19-20-twtf

"Come to North River Hall at 2.15 P. M. Dec. 23 for East Wiltshire School Concert. 12-15-2i

"Unloading car bulk wheat Tuesday and Wednesday, December 15 and 16. Bring bags. 12-15-2i

"Borden Line Shipping Club loading hogs at Albany every Tuesday. Trucking if road still open. J. G McKay, Secy. 12-12-3i

"Hunter River Starch Factory closes for this season Tuesday, December 15th. 12-12-4i

"Annual meeting Kingston Farmers' Institute, Kingston Hall, December 19th 8 P. M. Important business. 12-17-1i

"We are buying live and dressed chickens and fowl daily, paying top market value. We also require Turkeys, Ducks and Geese. Phone or write for prices. Island Cold Storage, Ltd. 12-15-tf

Agreement Re Madagascar

LONDON, Dec. 14—(CP)—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and Gen. Charles De Gaulle signed an agreement today for re-establishing French sovereignty over Madagascar.

The agreement provided that the provisional military administration set up by Britain after the occupation of the Island off South-east Africa would end with the arrival there of Gen. Paul Le Gentilhomme, commander-in-chief of fighting French forces in Africa.

A high commissioner is to be appointed by the French National committee and he will reorganize the French military forces for defence or external operations "against the common enemy," it was announced.

Seeking to eliminate Madagascar as a potential base for Axis submarines and espionage, British troops first landed on the Island May 5. They completed the occupation Nov. 6.

N.Y. Papers Hit By Strike

NEW YORK, Dec. 14 — (AP) — The United States greatest concentration of newspaper readers — millions of patrons of most of New York's dailies — learned today what it is to be without daily news of the world.

Rommel was fleeing in Libya toward Tripoli and Allied planes were battering Tunisia bases, but except for the radio, two afternoon papers and a racing publication, the news wasn't getting around.

The break-through was the result of a strike by the newspaper and mail deliveries union, an independent group, against the publishers association of New York over wage increases and other demands. The stoppage started with today's morning editions and continued through the afternoon news cycle.

1,000—ACRE MEMORIAL

LONDON — (CP) — Dame Margaret Greville, famous society hostess who died last September, left her 1,000-acre estate at Polesden Lacey in Surrey, where the King and Queen spent the first days of their honeymoon, to the National Trust as a memorial to her father.

Soviets Pushed Back Slightly

MOSCOW, Dec. 15—(Tuesday)—(AP)—German troops smashing forward southwest of Stalingrad forced back Soviet defenders of the besieged city and renewed counter-assaults on the central front which were beaten back, the Russians reported early today.

The Soviets said the Germans lost 1,000 men in the lunge southwest of Stalingrad and 600 more in an attack near Voronezh, and reported gains by their own assault troops in the factory area of Stalingrad and in general on the other fronts.

Forty-two German aircraft, 33 of them transport planes, were downed Sunday, the Monday midnight communique added, as the Germans continued to bring up reinforcements by air to troops fighting in the bitter cold of Soviet winter.

At the cost of heavy losses, the Germans were acknowledged to have "succeeded in pressing back our detachments somewhat" in the counter-blows southwest of Stalingrad against one arm of the Soviet pinchers reaching out to entrap 300,000 Germans pounding at the Volga city.

U.S. Fighters Blast Rommel

CAIRO, Dec. 14 —(AP)— One hundred United States fighter planes laden with bombs hammered Marshal Rommel's retreating Axis forces yesterday in the El Agheila sector in the greatest fighter-bomber offensive yet in Africa, and presumably they were continuing these punishing blows tonight on the Germans and Italians.

An announcement from Headquarters of the 9th United States Air Force said these 100 pilots flying P-40 planes, had joined their British and Australian comrades in the big aerial offensive that cracked the Axis lines, pouring explosives at low level into enemy columns and starting fires amid supply dumps.

The British Command earlier announced the breaking of the enemy's northern flank at El Brega "at little cost" and said "the enemy is retreating westwards, relentlessly pursued by the leading elements of our forces."

The cryptic battle reports gave no hint of the actual extent of the 8th Army advance or details of the fighting. The Berlin Radio said Rommel had "withdrawn his forces from the El Agheila position further westward" but official German and Italian communiques mentioned only patrol activity and lively artillery exchanges.

At midday the enemy was reported still in full retreat and no major engagement had been joined.

Reconnaissance showed the Axis retreat was orderly and that Rommel was getting out with everything possible.

Big Increase In This Year's Lobster Catch

OTTAWA, Dec. 13—(CP)—Canadians will be able to eat more lobster in 1943 than the could in 1942. This year's lobster catch is nearly 1,000,000 pounds greater than that of 1941.

In 1941, from January to October, Atlantic lobster fishermen caught 23,541,068 pounds of lobsters for which they received $1,497,1000. The pack of canned lobsters was 5,784 pounds.

During the same period in 1942, approximately 27,492,200 pounds of lobsters were caught, giving the fishermen a revenue of $3,767,206 The pack for this year will be around 67,550 pounds

Before the war most of this canned lobster would have gone to Great Britain. Now all of it is used in Canada and the United States with the latter getting the major share.

K. of C. Men Lose Lives

OTTAWA, Dec. 14 —(CP)—Two members of the Knights of Columbus staff lost their lives in the fire which destroyed a hostel operated by the Knights of Columbus at St. John's Newfoundland Saturday night, P N L. Phelan, National director of the Canadian Army huts said today.

Mr. Phelan said the men, both natives of Newfoundland, were Mr. St. John and Mr. Corbett.

Mr. Phelan said he had been informed that the government of Newfoundland was instituting a court of inquiry into the origin of the fire.

War Situation Last Night

(By William T. Peacock, Associated Press War Analyst)

A considerable improvement in the general Allied air situation in Africa may be an early dividend to the Allies' side accruing from Field Marshal Rommel's latest precipitate retreat.

Having pulled out of El Agheila, Rommel hardly can stop short of Misurata, some 300 miles away, for there is the first good water for his desert army and the first terrain lending itself to defence.

* * * * * *

That minimum 300-mile narrowing of the gap between the Anglo-American forces in Tunisia and the British 8th Army pressing on Rommel's heels looms importantly in the air warfare.

Working with the 8th Army is a formidable and numerous air force. It includes large numbers of bombers and its pilots, British and American, are a seasoned group who have won complete air mastery over Libya.

Already bombers have ranged far ahead of the 8th Army to bomb Sousse, in Tunisia, and Palermo, Sicily. Once their bases of operations can be advanced 300 miles, these airmen may be expected to increase their blows at Axis supply lines from Italy to Africa. The shortened bombing distance—600 miles for the round trip—will mean less gasoline and heavier bomb loads on their forays.

* * * * * *

From Rommel's standpoint, his withdrawal means he has moved closer to his supporting air bases in Sicily and Africa. But on the whole the advantages accruing to the Allies appear to be greater so far as the air war is concerned.

Whether Rommel will attempt to stop at Misurata seems open to doubt. A 75-mile expanse of sand dunes and marshes extends from that oasis town toward El Agheila and would help somewhat in making a defensive stand there. It is only about 15 miles wide, however, and could be easily by-passed.

Another possible stopping place is Homs, about 50 miles farther toward Tripoli. A range of hills rising there runs southwestward for several hundred mils. A strong defensive line possibly could be set up in these hills more easily than at Misurata.

To Cancel Four Local Dance Hall Licenses

Mayor Holman Announces Action At Meeting Of City Council; Fire Dangers Discussed.

The licenses of four city dance halls will be cancelled today "until such time as they put their premises in a condition that will satisfy the requirements of the Chief of the Fire Department," Mayor B. Roy Holman announced at last night's regular monthly meeting of the City Council. This action is being taken, he said, following an inspection yesterday by the Fire Chief of the eight public dance halls in Charlottetown.

The Mayor did not specify the halls which are to be closed, but said that three of them are on third storeys and the fourth is on a second storey. The proprietors had all been warned by the Fire Chief that they must not use inflammatory decorations at Christmas time, the Mayor stated.

Councillors MacKinnon and Sterns voiced the opinion that all doors on public places should be changed if necessary to open outwards in case of a jam should a fire occur.

Coun. MacKee drew the attention of the Council to the need of inspecting the fire escapes on the Empire Theatre.

Coun. Chandler stated Dr. Manion had announced that the Federal Government through the local Government would pay one half the salary of a full time supervisor for local A.R.P. work in any town with a population of 15,000 or over if the City Council would pay the remaining half of the salary. Coun. Chandler believed Charlottetown needed such a supervisor and asked the Councillors to consider the matter before the next meeting of the Council.

Coun. Chandler in submitting the report of the finance committee said that the report for this year was almost a duplicate of last year's report. The receipts this year to date were $287,500 while last years were $291,900, the dif-

(Continued on page 7, Col 3)

News Briefs

OTTAWA, Dec. 14—(CP)—Prime Minister Mackenzie King will speak over the National network of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation Wednesday night at 9 p. m., E.D.T. (10 p.m., A.D.T.,) on "temperance and a total war effort,' it was announced tonight.

OTTAWA, Dec. 14—(CP)—Transport Minister Michaud announced tonight the appointment of Capt. William James Balcom of Halifax, veteran master of the Canadian Government Steamer N. B. McLean, as assistant to the senior sea transport officer.

LONDON, Dec. 14—(CP)—Scandinavian sources said today that Russia's second winter comeback has given new momentum to peace talk in Finland, where the population is war weary and an acute manpower shortage prevails.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA., Dec. 14 — (AP) —the Anchorage times says the reason the Japanese still are at Kiska is because they cannot get off the Island. Reviewing events since the Japanese occupied the Aleutian Island, the newspaper asserts that all Japanese aircraft and more than 20 vessels have been destroyed.

International At A Glance

NEW GUINEA — Allies take Buna, last Jap stronghold on island.

NORTH AFRICA — Allied bombers smash naval docks at Bizerte and Tunis; British 8th Army rolls forward in pursuit of Rommel forces retreating west of El Agheila.

RUSSIA — Reds acknowledge German gain at heavy cost on Stalingrad front.

FRANCE — Eden and de Gaulle sign agreement to turn administration of Madagascar over to French commission.

CANADA — Canada, Britain, United States agree on joint use of steel to further war effort.

WESTERN FRONT — R. C. A. F. continues offensive sweeps against French transportation facilities

Production of Oysters up In Maritimes

OTTAWA, Dec. 14—(CP) — Canadian epicures who enjoy their oysters may have hungry palates in these months for oyster production in the Dominion in 1942 shows a decrease compared with 1941.

Oyster eaters in the east will fare better than those in the west. In the Maritime Provinces 18,588 barrels of oysters were harvested this year. In 1941 only 15,876 barrels were provided by oyster fishermen.

Oysters would have been a wartime casualty, however, in Eastern Canada, if it hadn't been for the foresight of the Dominion Department of Fisheries. Canada has never been able to produce enough oysters for her own consumption. But back in 1931 the Dominion Government started to promote oyster farming in Prince Edward Island and the Malpeque - Cascumpeque oyster farms were started.

The farms followed methods of culture developed by the Fisheries Department Research Board and in 1932 oysters were planted in 110 sea acres. The new type of farmers sowed both tiny seed oysters and spat, or infant oysters. This spat is collected by implements resembling egg crates and covered with concrete. The baby oysters attach themselves to this and are brought to the surface, taken to the farms and replanted.

Through experiment a particularly hardy type of oyster has been produced on Prince Edward Island.

By 1941 more than 2,000 acres were under cultivation—in which 3,400 barrels of oysters had been planted. But oyster fishermen have to be patient, for it will be five years before the 1941 crop can be harvested. In the pioneering days of oyster farming more money must be spent than comes back in profits—but the farmers will make their profits from the oyster eaters of the future.

Oyster farming has spread to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and along the Gulf of St. Lawrence, under Dominion Government guidance

Plane Here Chartered For Rescue

United States authorities have chartered a ski-equipped plane of the Maritime Central Airways here for a rescue flight into an inaccessable region for injured members of the crew of a Douglas bomber. The plane, a twin-engined Barkley Grow, is said to be the only available ski-equipped plane suitable for the flight.

Extra gasoline tanks have been fitted to the plane and Captain Jimmy Wade, a veteran Maritime pilot, has volunteered to undertake the hazardous flight. With the extra gasoline storage space, the plane's range is increased to 1,400 miles, without refuelling.

Officials gave no details of the crash of the United States craft, nor the number of men who survived the crack-up. The plane has been located, but only a ski-equipped aircraft can land near enough to the scene to effect the rescue.

Capt. Wade is a native of Sussex, N.B., and has 15 years flying experience. He served for a time with the ferry command and delivered three bombers to Great Britain. He is a regular pilot with the Maritime Central Airways now.

Manitoba Gov't Caucus On Dec. 22

WINNIPEG, Dec. 14—(CP)—A caucus of members of the Manitoba Coalition Government has been called for Dec 22, the Government announced today.

The caucus, it is understood, will consider future of the Coalition Government a sequence to the election of Premier John Bracken to the Dominion Leadership of the Progressive Conservative Convention here last week.

Laval-Hitler Talk Expected

BERNE, Dec. 14—(AP) —Berlin's hopes of drawing Vichy France into unqualified suport of the Axis rested once more tonight on Pierre Laval and his expected interview soon with Hitler.

Laval probably will go to Berlin this week, informed Vichy sources said, now that Marshal Petain's reserved attitude toward military cooperation with France's conquerors has become known.

Pays Tribute To Senator Parent

OTTAWA, Dec. 14—(CP)—Prime Minister Mackenzie King in a statement issued today paid tribute to the late Senator Georges Parent, Speaker of the Senate who died today in Montreal.

"In the years of my leadership of the Liberal Party in Canada Mr. Parent was at all times a loyal supporter and friend," Mr. King said. "He gave his support with like consistency and loyalty to the principles and policies of the party of which he had been a life-long member."

MONTREAL, Dec. 14—(CP)—Senator Georges Parent of Quebec, Speaker of the Senate, dropped dead in the Queen's Hotel here today. He would have been 63 tomorrow.

Senator Parent was in Montreal on business at the time of his sudden death.

He was the son of the late S. N. Parent, former Premier of Quebec Province and for 12 years Mayor of Quebec.

Born Dec. 15, 1879 at Quebec, Senator Parent was educated at Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere, Que., St. Dunstan's College and Laval University. He was a member of the Quebec legal firm of Parent, Taschereau and Cannon.

He is survived by his widow, the former Kathleen Grenier of Quebec, and two sons, Lieut. Simon Georges Parent, and Jacques Parent.

Hutchings To Hang Tomorrow

FREDERICTON, Dec. 14—(CP) —Tom Roland Hutchings, 21-year-old R.A.F. Sergeant, will go to the gallows at St Andrews some time early Wednesday morning for the murder of Miss Bernice Connors, Black's Harbor girl, it was learned tonight after word had been received by the Attorney-General's department from the Undersecretary of State, Ottawa, "that the law will take its course in the case of Hutchings."

RETIRES AS CAPTAIN

LONDON — (CP) — Cmdr. L. H. Bell, O.B.E., saved when the Prince of Wales and Repulse were sunk, has been retired with the rank of captain. He had served on the battleship Royal Sovereign and formerly was on the staff of the Home Fleet Commander-In-Chief.

Offers By-Election In Selkirk Soon

OTTAWA, Dec. 14—(CP)—Prime Minister Mackenzie King announced tonight that if Premier John Bracken so desires the government is prepared to have a writ for a by-election in Selkirk constituency issued immediately to afford Mr. Bracken "the earliest possible opportunity to seek election to the House of Commons."

Praise Servicemen At Hostel Fire

By C. E. A. Jeffery
Canadian Press Correspondent

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., Dec. 14—(CP Cable)—Eye-witnesses who stood helplessly by while flames roared through the K of C Hostel here Saturday night today told how gallant Canadian service men forfeited their chances to escape from the burning building in order to help their girl companions to safety.

One unidentified spectator of the fire that took 99 lives and injured 104 said two sailors stood, silhouetted by flames, in the windows of the hostel and kept passing girls to safety until they could no longer stand the savage heat.

(The U.S. War Department in Washington said today a preliminary report indicated that only one American soldier lost his life in the fire, while some 14 had escaped safely.)

One of the heroic naval ratings was saved but the other, described as "deserving the Victoria Cross," was overcome and perished in the holocaust.

Buna Falls To Allies In New Guinea

Desperate 11th Hour Attempt By Enemy To Reinforce Troops Largely Defeated.

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Dec. 15—(Tuesday)—(CP)—Allied infantrymen swept over Japanese troops at Buna village on the eastern New Guinea coast yesterday to capture one of the major strongpoints of the enemy, and "largely parried" a heavy reinforcement attempt in the immediate area.

A communique telling of the wresting of this important Japanese foothold did not mention the fate of nearby Buna Mission which also has been held stubbornly by the enemy.

The communique said:—

"Buna village has been taken. It was occupied by our troops at 10 o'clock on the morning of Dec. 14. The attack was preceded by a heavy mortar barrage which was followed in by the infantry."

Then, telling of the new Japanese reinforcement threat, the bulletin said:—

"In another attempt by the enemy's naval forces to reinforce their ground troops in the Buna area, the enemy launched a convoy of two cruisers and three destroyers for a landing at Mambare and Kumski estuaries."

These two rivers empty into the sea about 20 and 40 miles respectively northeast of Buna, and obviously the enemy was attempting to outflank the entire Allied assault which had resulted in the capture of Gona and Buna.

ENEMY CONVOY BOMBED

"Our air force," it added, "intercepted this convoy. In heavy bombing and strafing attacks, the enemy's landing barges were sunk or disabled.

"Survivors attempted to reach land by swimming, suffering heavy casualties."

The Japanese made their first landings in the Buna-Gona area July 22, pushed inland on the 120-mile jungle trail toward Port Moresby on the southern coast, and by mid-September reached Ioribawa, only 32 air line miles from the big Allied base.

Then the Allies began their counter-offensive a short time later. The Australians struggled back across the Owen Stanley Mts. while American troops began one of the biggest air-borne movements in the United States military history. The Americans landed at improvised fields south of the Buna area and worked their way up to join the Australians for the final onslaught on the enemy bases.

New Regulations Re Electric Lights

OTTAWA, Dec. 14—(CP)—New regulations covering the sale of electric light fixtures were announced tonight by the Prices Board.

Persons buying metal fixtures for their home are required to sign a declaration that the fixture will not be used as a replacement, except for essential maintenance and repairs. Permission from the administrator is necessary before the sale of a fixture for general replacement purposes can be made. Forms on which application for this approval can be made are being distributed to dealers.

Sale of non-metallic fixtures such as units made of glass, porcelain or plastic may be made without a permit. The regulations do not affect table, desk, bed, floor or hang-up type lamps.

It is estimated the curtailment resulting from these restrictions will effect an annual saving of about 335 tons of such metals as brass, copper and steel.

High tide this afternoon at 6.04 and tomorrow morning at 6.10.

Sun sets this afternoon at 5.19 and rises tomorrow morning at 8.31.

Full moon Dec. 22, 11.03 a.m.

Summerside tide 18 minutes later than Charlottetown.

CAR FERRY SERVICE DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY

From Borden—Leave 9.05 a.m., 11.40 a.m. 2.00 p.m., 4.30 p.m. 7.00 p.m..

Leave Cape Tormentine — 10.30 a.m. 1.15 p.m. 3.05 p.m., 5.45 p.m. 8.15 p.m.

SUNDAY SERVICE

(May 3 to Dec. 27 inclusive)

Leave Borden 9.00 a.m., 6.45 p.m.

Leave Tormentine 10.15 a.m., 8.00 p.m.

DAILY AIR SERVICE (EXCEPT SUNDAY)

Charlottetown-Summerside-Moncton

Leave Charlottetown 8.30 a. m. 12.30 p. m., 4.30 p. m.

Arrive Charlottetown 1 p. m. 5.45 p. m., 7.05 p. m.