The SUMMERSIDE GUARDIAN
AND PRINCE COUNTY CHRONICLE

THE WESTERN GUARDIAN

AGENT—Mrs. John Pond, 44 Water Street East—Phone 289
SUMMERSIDE and PRINCE COUNTY

News, Subscriptions, Advertising should be left with Mrs. Pond

The Guardian may be bought daily at any of the following stores in Summerside:—
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—This column is reserved for news of local interest but advertising of a newsy nature may be inserted at 2 cents a word strictly payable in advance.

—INMAN'S Drug Store, Summerside, will be open all day Wednesday, June 5th. L-169.

—SEED OATS and Buckwheat in stock at Brace's. L-158-6-5-2i.

—USE Brace's Insul-Bric Slate surfaced siding, Insul-Board, Insul Plaster Board, Rockwool, cut the fuel bill and eliminate draft. L-430-6-5-2i.

—VARIETY SHOW under direction of Sue Meadows in Kensington, Thursday, June 6th. Summerside talent and Rhythm Band. Special features. L-148-6-5-2i.

—ATTEND WEDDING.—Among those who attended the Brennan-Homer nuptials were Miss Mary Williams, Miss Helen DeBlois and Miss Phyllis Foster. S

—VISITORS TO SUMMERSIDE.—Dr. G. C. Warren, Professor of New Testament Philosophy at Acadia University, Wolfville, N.S., and Mrs. Warren, were recent visitors to Summerside, guests of Dr. and Mrs. J. T. Colvin. They also visited relatives in Charlottetown. Dr. Warren also attended a special meeting in Tryon of the Baptist Y.P.U. at which he was a guest speaker. S

—HIGH SCHOOL DANCE.— The annual dance of the Summerside High School was held on Friday evening, and was one of the jolliest events of the season. The guests which included a number of young people from Charlottetown, were received by Miss Georgie MacLean, principal of the Academy, Mrs. R. Mollison, and Mrs .Norman Macleod. Al Blanchards' orchestra furnished the music. The hall was tastefully decorated in the school colors with charming effect.

—BROUGHT HOME FOR BURIAL— The remains of Mrs. Annie Fyfe, widow of the late Wm. A. Fyfe, is being brought to her former home in Margate for burial. Mrs. Fyfe passed away on January 25th at the home of her son, Mr. Wm. A. Fyfe of Auburn, Maine besides her son, she is survived by three grandsons, and one granddaughter; two brothers, H. C. Murray, Fredericton, P. E. I., and Samuel Murray of Chatham, Maine as well as several nieces and nephews. A committal service will be conducted on June 8th at 2 p. m. at Margate Cemetery. —S.

PERSONALS

—Dr. and Mrs. H. T. Colvin were recent visitors to Moncton, N.B. S

—Miss Bertha Riley, of F. W. Hongs store, Summerside, is spending her vacation in New York. S

—Mr. John Roach, of Charlottetown, spent the week-end in Summerside. S

—Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ramsay, of Charlottetown, were week-end visitors to Summers.de. S

—Mr. and Mrs. Crease, of Halifax are visiting in Summerside, the guests of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. LeRoy Holman. S

—Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Miles, of Charlottetown, were week-end guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Lee, of Summerside. S

—Contable James Fraser, of the R.C.M.P. at Halifax, N.S., spent the week-end in Summerside, a guest at the Granville House.

—Miss Helen Keough, New Annan, spent the weekend at her home in Albany.

—Miss Helen Noonan, New Annan, spent the weekend at her home in Albany.

—Miss Mary Tierney, Albany was a weekend visitor to Summerside.

—Miss Blanche Noonan and Miss Jean Cameron, Albany were visitors to Summerside Saturday.

—Master Arthur Gay, of Borden, is the week-end in Summerside, the guest of his young friend, Ian MacKenzie. S

—Miss Peggy Maconald, of Borden, was in Summerside, attending the High School dance, and was the guest of Miss Myrtle Murray. S

—Mrs. John G. McCombe, Winnipeg, arrived yesterday with her two sons, John, Michael and Charlie on a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Ellis, Tyne Valley.

—FACTORY-TO-YOU SALE now on at Taylor Drug Co., Kensington.

—REPAIR or replace defective roofs. Buy slate-surfaced fire-safe shingles, steel roofing etc., at Brace's. L-158-6-5-2i.

—BRICK, Terra Cotta Drain Pipe, Lime and Cement sold right at Brace's. L-430-6-5-2i.

—FOR OTTAWA.—Senator Creelman MacArthur left on Monday for Ottawa, to attend the Senate session. S

—"SAYS MRS. CAREWE" three-act musical comedy, Prince Edward Island setting, at Malpeque Wednesday, June 5. L-145-6-4-2i.

—EXCHANGED PULPITS.—Rev. Mr. Miller, Charlottetown, exchanged pulpits with Rev. Mr. Davis, of Summerside United Church on Sunday. During the morning service, the young peoples' choir led in the service of song. S

—ATTENDED FUNERAL. — Mrs. Douglas Gordon, Mrs. H. C. Mills, Miss Eleanor Green, and Mr. Jones, of St. Eleanor's, motored to Tignish on Monday to attend the funeral of the late James Warburton Green, who passed away on Saturday in Charlottetown. S

—WEDDING BELLS.—On Saturday, June 1st, in St. James' United Church, Montreal, the marriage of Ethel Marion, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Holland, of Bedeque, P.E.I., to Lieut. Earle Alfred Farquhar, R.M.R., C.A.S.F., son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Farquhar, of Athelstan, Quebec, was quietly solemnized, the ceremony being performed by Dr. Bruce Hunter. The bride wore a two-piece ensemble of white French jacquard crepe with hat of white baker straw, and corsage of rosebuds and lily of the valley. After the ceremony, Lieut. and Mrs. Farquhar left for the Laurentians, the bride wearing a jeronica blue suit with many accessories. Among those present were the mother of the bride, and the bride's sister, Mrs. J. G. Coombes, Halifax.; the parents of the groom and Lieut. P. G. Cornell, of Brampton, Ont.

EXPECT SPEEDY PLANES

WASHINGTON, June 4.—(AP) — The United States army expects its latest type four-engined bombers to do 335 miles an hour. Brigadier-General George H. Brett of the Air Corps, told Congress that "with the latest flying fortresses, under guaranteed speeds, we expect to get 335 miles an hour."

IS CONFIDENT

(Continued from page 1)

mobilize large naval, air and land forces of the Allies in the Mediterranean area.

No Mention of Italy

The Prime Minister in his address made no mention of the situation in the Mediterranean where British authorities say the Allies are always ready for an amicable settlement with Italy.

Until the industries of this country can duplicate the guns, tanks, trucks and munitions, destroyed in Flanders and France — millions and millions of pounds sterling worth — France must stand alone or virtually alone against German onslaughts on land. There are some British troops south of the Somme as the war office announced tonight. Others will be sent to France as soon as possible, but the fact remains that the French army stands as civilization's guard tonight.

Two Bright Spots

But there are one or two factors which relieve this grim picture. The first is the efficiency and effectiveness of the Royal Air Force which have not been lost, but on the contrary have been accentuated, by the fighting in Flanders.

The second is the British fleet which has proved again its mastery of the seas and its ability to turn aside air attacks.

A Third Factor

The third is an intangible factor but vitally important, perhaps the most important of all —it is exemplified by smoking factory chimnies of Britain and France, stoked by people who have been aroused to their peril and are determined to supply their armies with all the planes, warships, guns and equipment needed to save their country from the invader.

British troops are in "active contact" with the Germans at their positions in France it was learned.

The British contingents, small in numbers compared with the French armies, are well supplied since their bases are outside the area covered by the German invasion of Northern France.

Sources who have seen this part of the British Expeditionary Force call its morale and equipment "excellent."

TEXT OF STATEMENT

The text of Prime Minister Churchill's statement today to the House of Commons on the war follows:

From the moment that French defences at Sedan and on the Meuse were broken at the end of the second week of May, only a rapid retreat to Amiens and the south could have saved the British and French armies who had entered Belgium at the appeal of the Belgian king.

But this strategical plan was not immediately realized. The French high command hoped they would be able to close the gap and the armies of the north were under their orders. Moreover a retirement of this kind would have involved almost certainly the destruction of the fine Belgian army of over 20 divisions and abandonment of the whole of Belgium.

Therefore when the force and scope of the German penetration was realized and when the new French generalissimo, General Weygand, assumed command in place of General Gamelin, an effort was made by the French and British armies in Belgium to keep on holding the right hand of the Belgians and give their own right hand to the newly created French army which was to have advanced across the Somme in great strength to clasp it.

Like Sharp Scythe

However, the German eruption swept like a sharp scythe south of Amiens right to rear of the armies in the north—eight or nine armored divisions each of about 400 armored vehicles of different kind.

This force cut off all communications between us and the main French army. It severed our communications for food and munitions which ran first to Amiens and afterwards to Abbeville, and turned its way up the coast from Boulogne and Calais almost to Dunkerque.

Behind this armored and mechanized onslaught came a number of German divisions in lorries and behind them again there plodded comparatively slowly the dull brute mass of the ordinary German army and the German people — always so ready to be led to the trampling down in other lands of liberties and comforts they have never known in their own.

I said this armored scythe stroke almost reached Dunkerque—almost, but not quite. Boulogne and Calais were the scenes of desperate fighting.

Defended Calais to Last

The guards defended Boulogne for a while and were then withdrawn by orders from this country. The rifle brigade, the 60th Rifles (the Queen Victoria Rifles) with a battalion of British tanks and 1,000 Frenchmen, in all about 4,000 strong defended Calais to the last.

The British brigadier was given an hour to surrender. He spurned the offer. Four days of intense street fighting passed before silence reigned over Calais and marked the end of a memorable resistance.

Only 30 unwounded survivors were brought off by the navy and we do not know the fate of their comrades.

Sacrifice Not In Vain

Their sacrifice was not however in vain. At least two armored divisions which otherwise would have been turned against the B. E. F. had to be sent for to overcome them. They have added another page to the glory of the light division and the time gained enabled the Gravelines waterline to be flooded and held by French troops and thus the port of Dunkerque was held open.

When it was found impossible for the armies of the north to reopen their communications through Amiens with the main French armies only one test remained. It seemed indeed forlorn.

The Belgian, French and British armies were almost surrounded. Their sole line of retreat was to a single port and its neighboring beaches. They were pressed on every side by attacks and far outnumbered in the air.

Expected Hard Tidings

When a week ago today I asked the House to fix this afternoon for the occasion of a statement I feared it would be my hard lot to announce from this box the greatest military disaster in our long history.

I thought, and some good judges agreed with me, that perhaps 20,000 or 30,000 men might be reembarked, but it certainly seemed that the whole of the French first army and the whole of the B. E. F. north of the Amiens- Abbeville gap would be broken up in the open field or else have to capitulate for lack of food and ammunition.

These were the "hard and heavy tidings" for which I called upon the House and the nation to prepare themselves a week ago.

The whole root, core and brain of the British army around which, we were building, and are to build the great British armies of later years seemed due to perish upon the field or to be led into ignominious and starving captivity.

That was the prospect a week ago.

An Added Blow

But another blow which might well have proved final was yet to fall upon us.

King Leopold called upon us to come to his aid.

Had not King Leopold and his government sought refuge in what has proved to be a fatal neutrality the French and British armies might well at the outset have saved Belgium.

Even at the last moment we came. He and his brave efficient army of nearly half a million strong guarded our eastern flank and this kept open our only line of retreat to the sea.

Suddenly, without prior consultation, with the least possible notice, without the advice of his ministers, and upon his own personal act he sent a plenipotentiary to the German command surrendering his army and exposing our flank and means of retreat.

I asked the House a week ago to suspend judgment because the facts were not clear. But I do not feel any reason now exists why we should not form our own opinion upon this pitiful episode.

Surrender of the Belgian army compelled the British at the shortest notice to cover a flank to the sea of more than 30 miles in length. Otherwise they would have been cut off and all would have shared the fate to which King Leopold had condemned the finest army his country had ever formed.

In doing this he closed his flank. Contact was lost inevitably between the British and two out of three corps forming the 1st French army who were still further from the coast than we were and it seemed impossible than any large number of Allied troops could reach the coast.

The enemy attacked on all sides in great strength and fierceness and their main power, the air force, was thrown into the battle. The enemy began to fire with cannon on the beaches by which alone shipping could approach or depart. They sowed magnetic mines in the channels and the seas and sent repeated waves of hostile aircraft, sometimes more than 100 strong, to cast their bombs on the single pier that remained and on the sand dunes.

Their U-boats, one of which was sunk, and motor launches took their toll of the vast traffic which now began. For four or five days an intense struggle raged. Great masses of German infantry and artillery hurled themselves upon an ever narrowing and contracting appendix in which were French and British armies.

Meanwhile the Royal Navy with a whole host of merchant shipping strove with every nerve to embark troops. Two hundred and twenty light warships and 620 other vessels were employed on the difficult coast and under increasing fire.

Carried on Without Rest

It was in conditions such as these that the army carried on with little or no rest for day or night on end.

Ships made trip after trip always bringing out the men. The numbers brought back are the measure of their courage.

Hospital ships brought off many thousands of wounded but were the special target of Nazi bombs. Nevertheless men and women on board never faltered in their duty.

Our Royal Air Force had been engaged in battle throughout and now it brought into use part of its main metropolitan strength and struck at the German fighters and bombers.

Now the scene is clear.

The crash and thunder has for the moment, and I say for the moment died away. The miracle of deliverance has been achieved by valor, perfect discipline, faultless service and the resource and skill of all.

The enemy was hurled back by the British and French troops.

He was so roughly handled that he dare not molest their departure seriously. The air force decisively defeated the main strength of the German air force and inflicted on them a loss of at least four to one.

The navy, using nearly 1,000 ships of all kinds, carried over 335,000 men, French and British, out of the jaws of death back to their native land and to the tasks which lie immediately before them.

Victory For Air Force

We must be careful not to assign to this deliverance the attributes of a victory. Wars are not won by evacuations. But there was a victory inside this deliverance which must be noted. It was gained by the air force.

Many of our soldiers coming back have not seen the air force at work. They only saw the bombers which escaped their protective attack. They underrated its achievements. I have heard much talk of it and that is why I go out of my way to tell you about it.

This was a great trial of strength between the British and German air force. Can you conceive of a greater objective for the power of Germany in the air than to make all evacuation from those beaches impossible and to sink all those ships? Could there have been an objective of greater military importance and significance to the whole purpose of the war than this?

They tried hard and were beaten back, frustrated in their task. We have got the armies away and they have paid fourfold for any losses sustained.

Very large formations of German airplanes —and we know that it is a very brave race— have turned on several occasions from a quarter of their number of the R. A. F. and dispersed in different directions.

Twelve German airplanes have been hunted by two. One German airplane was driven into the water and cast away by the mere charge of a British airplane which had no more ammunition.

All our fighters and all our pilots have been vindicated as superior to what they have at present to face.

There never had been in all the world and all the history of war such an opportunity for youth. Of these young men moving forward every morning to guard their native land and holding in their hand these instruments of colossal and shattering power it might be said that every moment brought forth a noble chance and every chance brought forth accomplishment. They deserved our gratitude and are ranked highest of all the brave men.

30,000 Killed

In that long series of very fierce battles now on this front and now on that —fighting on three fronts at once —battles fought by two or three British divisions against an equal or sometime larger number of the enemy, and fought very fiercely on the old ground so many of us knew so well, our losses in men exceed 30,000 in killed, wounded and missing.

I take this occasion of expressing the sympathy of this House with those who have suffered bereavement or are still anxious.

The President of the board of trade (Sir Andrew Rae Duncan) is not here today. His son has been killed, and many here have felt affliction in its sharpest form, but I would say about the missing — we have had a large number of wounded come home safely to this country —there may be very many reported missing who will come back home some day in one way or another. In the confusion of the departure it is inevitable that many shoud be cut off.

Against this loss of over 30,000 men we may set a far heavier loss certainly inflicted on the enemy but our losses in material are enormous. We have perhaps lost one-third of the men we lost on the opening days of the battle of the 21st of March, 1918, but we have lost nearly as many guns—nearly 1,000 guns—and all our transport and all the armored vehicles that were with the army in the north. These losses will impose a further delay on the expansion of our military strength. That expansion has not been proceeding as fast as we had hoped.

The best of all we had to give had gone to the B.E.F. and they were a finely-equipped army.

A Record Effort

Here is further delay. How long it will last depends on the exertions we make in this island. An effort the like of which has never been seen in our records is being made. Work is proceeding everywhere night and day, Sundays and week-days. Already the flow of munitions has leaped forward.

There is no reason why we should not in a few months overtake the sudden and serious loss that has come upon us without retarding the development of our general program. Nevertheless our thankfulness at the escape of our army with so many men and the thankfulness of their loved ones who have passed through an agonizing week must not blind us to the fact that what has happened in France and Belgium is a colossal military disaster.

The French army has been weakened. The Belgian army has been lost. And a large part of those fortified lines upon which so much faith was reposed, has gone, and many valuable mining districts and factories have passed into the enemy's possession. The whole of the channel ports are in his hands, with all the strategic consequences that follow from that, and we must expect another blow to be struck almost immediately at us or France.

Invasion Possibility

We are told Herr Hitler has a plan for invading the British Isles. This has often been thought of before. When Napoleon lay at Boulogne for a year with his flat-bottomed boats and grand army, they were told by someone "there are bitter weeds in England." There are certainly a good many more bitter weeds since the B.E.F. returned.

The whole question of defence against invasion is powerfully affected by the fact that we have for the time being in this island incomparably more military forces than ever before in this war or in the past.

This will not continue. We shall not be content with defensive war. We have our duty to our allies. We have to reconstitute and build up the B.E.F. once again under its gallant commander-in-chief, Lord Gort.

But in the meantime we must put the defences in this island in such a high state that the forces required to give effective security and our large potential of offensive effort may be realized. That is what we are now engaged upon.

It would be very convenient to enter upon this subject in a secret session (of the House of Commons). The government would not necessarily be able to reveal any great military secrets, but we should like to have a discussion without the restraint imposed by the fact that the discussion would be read next day by the enemy, and in addition the government will benefit by the views expressed in all parts of the House by members from all parts of the country.

We have found it necessary to take measures of increasing stringency not only against enemy aliens and suspicious characters of other nationalities, but against British subjects who may become a danger or a nuisance should the war transport itself to the United Kingdom.

I know there are a great many people affected by the order we have made who are passionate enemies of Nazi Germany. I am sorry for them, but we cannot draw all the distinctions we should like to do. If parachute landings were attempted and fighting followed these unfortunate people would be far better both for their own sake and ours in a place of safety.

There is, however, another class for which I feel not the slightest sympathy. Parliament has given us powers to put down fifth column activities with the strongest hand, and we shall use those powers subject to the supervision and correction of the House without hesitation until we are satisfied, and more than satisfied that this malignancy in our midst has been effectually stamped out.

Turning once again to the question of invasion there has never been a period in all those long centuries of which we boast when an absolute guarantee against invasion, still less against serious raids, could have been given to our people. In the days of Napoleon the same wind which might have carried his transports across the channel might have driven away the blockading fleet. There is always a chance, and it is that chance which has excited and befooled the imaginations of many tyrants.

We are assured that novel methods will be adopted and when we see the originality and malice and the ingenuity of aggression which our enemy displays, we may certainly prepare ourselves for every kind of novel stratagem and every kind of brutal and treachercus manoeuvre.

I think no idea is so outlandish that it should not be considered and viewed with a watchful but at the same time with a steady eye. We must never forget the solid assurances of seapower and those which belong to air power if it could be locally exercised.

Full Confidence

I have myself full confidence that if all do their duty and if nothing is neglected, and if the best arrangements are made, as they are being made, we shall prove ourselves once again able to defend our island home and ride out the storms of war and outlive the menace of tyranny, if necessary for years, if necessary alone. At any rate, that is what we are going to try to do. That is the resolve of His Majesty's Government, every man of them. That is the will of parliament and the nation.

The British Empire and the French republic, linked together in their cause and in their need, will defend to the death their native soil, aiding each other like good comrades to the utmost of their strength.

Even if large tracts of Europe have fallen or may fall into the grip of the Gestapo and all the odious apparatus of Nazi rule, we shall not flag nor fail.

We shall go on to the end. We shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air.

We shall defend our island whatever the cost may be. We shall fight on the beaches and the landing grounds, in the fields, in the streets and on the hills. We shall never surrender. And even if, which I do not for a moment believe, this island or a large part of it were subjugated and starving, then our Empire beyond the seas, armed and guarded by the British fleet, will carry on its struggle until in God's good time the new world with all its power and might sets forth to the liberation and rescue of the old.

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G. R. MacQUARRIE,
Summerside

Need For Strong War Effort Is Stressed By Judge

Grand Jury Joins With Mr. Justice Arsenault In Plea For Full Support In Defence Of Empire.

The June term of the Supreme Court of Prince County opened yesterday at Summerside with only one case on the docket. His Lordship, Mr. Justice Aubin E. Arsenault presided. Mr. L. G. Lewis, K.C. represented the Attorney General.

The Grand Jury were Silas MacFarlane, Freetown, Foreman, Percy MacMurdo, John Cotton, Kelvin; Stephen R. Burke, Alberton; James Sullivan, Summerside, R. R.; Reginald Ellis, Summerside; Henry Stetson, O'Leary; Kenneth Lecky, Lot 16; Wilfred R. Maynard, Northam, R. R.; Xavier O. Gallant, Richmond, R. R.; Charles J. Cook, Kensington; Murray Gordon, Howlan.

The only case on the docket was that of the King vs. Alfred Clinton charged with theft. Mr. L. G. Lewis, K. C., represented the Crown and Mr. C. D. MacCallum, acted for the accused.

HIS LORDSHIP'S ADDRESS

His Lordship, Mr. Justice Arsenault, in his address to the Grand Jury, spoke of the tragic events now taking place in Europe. We have seen a number of independent nations plunged from their national freedom to be crushed under the yoke of an invading foe. They had done nothing wrong and had only asked to live their own lives. For the most part they were weak and unable to help themselves. England and France are vitally affected by these events, as they had given their pledged word to defend the lesser nations. The invading armies are strong and powerful, but the Allies have the entire moral support of the whole world, as well as the prayers of all Christendom, that right will prevail. Canada can not hang back smug and self satisfied. Distance from the scene of action does not mean safety. Should the Allies be defeated, and "God forbid" there would be no assurance that we would not suffer a like fate.

If we value our liberties it behooves us to bend our energies to do out utmost to help the Allies. Every man and every woman must do their share to help to bring about an early victory. Work for the Red Cross is badly needed. Young men, who will be the citizens of the future, if you love your country you must be willing to defend it and the place to do that is in the fields of Flanders. Failure to win the war there spells disaster here. His Lorship referred to the long illness of Mr. Justice A. C. Saunders, who His Lordship said, he was pleased to say was rapidly improving, but on the advice of his physicians had been advised not to do any active work for some months.

His Lordship referred to the absence of serious crime in the County and also spoke with pride of the remarkable record of Kings County, which in the 19 years that he had held court there he had yet to try a criminal case.

The Sheriff's report showed that there had been ten persons in jail for breach of the Prohibition Act, 13 for breach of Excise Act; 30 drunk and disorderly, 7 vagrancy, 1 unmarried parents act, 2 for larceny, 5 highway traffic offenses, 1 for cruelty to animals and one for false pretenses.

The Grand Jury returned a true bill in the case of the King vs. Alfred Clinton and the case will come up this morning.

GRAND JURY REPORT

The Honourable Aubin E. Arsenault, presiding Judge of the June term of the Supreme Court, 1940.

May it please Your Lordship:

We your Grand Jurors wish to submit the following report:

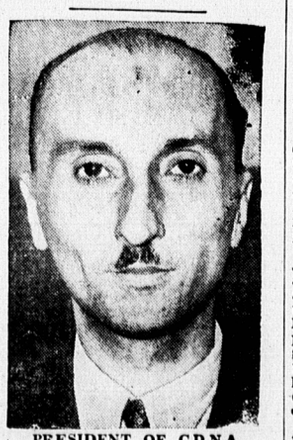
We listened with pleasure and interest to your address and we heartily agree in your remarks on the war situation and the duty of every Canadian citizen in this time of war. The world situation is so grave at the present time that each person in this country must be prepared wholeheartedly to do his or her part in defense of our Empire and in the cause of justice.

We realize the criminal record of King's County must be a matter of pride to the inhabitants and hope in future the people of Prince will endeavour to equal their enviable record.

We sincerely regret the illness of Mr. Justice Saunders and wish to convey to him our congratulations on his improvement in health and hope to see him able to resume his official duties at an early date.

We inspected the Court House building and found offices, rooms and prisoners' quarters in excellent condition.

Respectfully submitted,
SILAS H. MacFARLANE,
For self and fellows.



PRESIDENT OF C.D.N.A.
Emile Jean, general manager of Le Nouvelliste, Three Rivers, was elected president of the Canadian Daily Newspapers' association at the closing session of its annual meeting held at Toronto.

MONTREAL, Que., June 4 —The gross revenues of the all inclusive Canadian National Railways for the ten day period ending May 31st, 1940 were $6,517,376 as compared with $5,529,143 for the corresponding period of 1929 an increase of $988,233 or 17.9 percent.

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

(Continued from page 4)

it increased the number of bootleggers to cope with the business.

When it was agreed to accept the $10.00 fine for being caught with booze for the first time, it did not take a very clever bootlegger to realize that all he had to do was engage a boy who had never been caught with booze before, to qualify for the $10.00 fine. But this was only half the story, because as soon as this boy was caught and qualified for the original $200.00 fine, the bootlegger was confronted with a problem. What could he do? Hire another innocent kid and let the first fellow go, but not before he had learned the trade. He knew who bought the stuff and he learned where his late boss cached his stuff. The fact that he did not have any money, meant nothing to this young man. He knew his late boss was breaking the law and could not report the loss of his booze to the police, so he helps himself and rather than run the risk of being caught the second time gets his kid brother or some other amateur and starts out on his own, and what have we?

For the one miserable fine of $10.00, the country is richer by a second bootlegger, a thief, and two carriers, learning the trade.

I simply mention this to show, it is not safe to permit the same people to again tinker with the Prohibition Act, which in its present form does not teach the young people to drink fast enough to keep the aforementioned bootleggers and carriers busy. At least that is the only logical conclusion I can come to.

The difference between the brute and the human, is our God given faculty to reason. So why not take advantage of it at the present time, if only to see what is going on?

A short time ago a Mr. Butler wrote a letter to The Guardian, in which he congratulated the Government on the attempt they made to put the Beer and Wine Bill over, together with a nice word for Mr. Mustard for the way he worded the amendment. We were told it was not a Government measure, but the fact that the Hon. Mr Wright has remained silent is a tactical admission, that the Government was behind the scheme, but rather than shoulder the onus of the change, Mr. Mustard put it up to the House.

This may have been good politics by those in the Government who favored the change, but what of the Hon. Mr. Wright?

Why has he not resigned from the Government, in accordance with the time honored custom in the Mother of Parliaments, or have the emoluments of office and the honor of being in the Government become more important to him than the principles which were once his, on the Prohibition question?

Mr. C. C. Baker and others evidently decided they did not want to take the responsibility of putting in Beer and Wine. It would be a good move to pass the buck to the people, by asking us to decide on a "heads I win, tails you loose" proposition.

By bringing on the plebiscite so quickly, it does not give the people a chance to submit a well thought-out liquor law, that will take care of conditions as they actually exist and at the same time build for the future, so as to eventually get rid of the stuff.

Unless the Government will consider deferring the plebiscite for six months and agree to put on some alternative plans, providing they have the support of say five hundred names of representative persons, I would respectfully suggest to the people that they vote to support the present Act in the hope that the Government or some other agency will at least try to enforce it.

The country is at war and I think this would be as good a time as any to give prohibition a real tryout for the duration. Then if it does not do the country more good than in the past I for one will do everything possible to have it taken off the statutes and put in a real liquor law, not a kindergarten one with beer and wine, for I honestly believe that Prohibition, which although heretofore, it was rottenly administered is miles ahead of Prohibition with legal beer and wine.

I am Sir, eac.,
JOHN L. READ

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