

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1941.

U. S. Press Suggestions

With few exceptions, leading U. S. newspapers from coast to coast are strongly supporting the Roosevelt policy of increased aid to Britain. This trend has been particularly noticeable in the past few weeks, indicating a growing realism on the part of the American public.

turning the full powers of controlled experiment on the search for a way of preventing it or cutting it short; not that the public can claim to have given a fair trial to the measures whose efficacy has been proved. What the patient wants is a quick recovery with no complications, but his expert doctor and nearly every layman has his pet treatment there is still truth in the cynical saw that it takes a week to cure a cold but it cures itself in seven days.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Have you had a call from the man with the certificate yet?

Snow shovelling may not be popular but it should be extremely fashionable these days. And necessary as well.

Be prepared, is a good motto at all time, and never more appropriate now when men and means are in demand to keep the menace from our door.

Rev. A. S. Tuttle, D. D., Moderator of the United Church of Canada, announces he expects to visit the Maritimes sometime in May.

The new minister of the Unitarian Church of the Messiah in Montreal is a New Brunswicker, Rev. Angus de Mille Cameron, of Sussex, a graduate of N. B. University and Acadia University, and Meadville Theological College, Chicago.

The Nazis are realizing that the British do not take attacks lying down. Inspector General Milch of the Nazi Air Force in a broadcast warned Berliners and others that they must be prepared for even greater losses than they had already experienced.

Architects have now come to the conclusion there will be no more skyscrapers nor church steeples. Instead there will be deep underground basements, probably two or three stories, and a flat roof above ground to enable watchers to catch falling fire bombs and extinguish them before much damage is done.

Sir Henry Irving, English actor, born this date 1838. His fame dates from his association with the Lyceum Theatre, London, in 1871, lasting for upwards of 30 years. In his performance of Matias in "The Bells" he secured a strong hold on the theatre-going public; his appearances as Hamlet stamped him as a Shakespearean actor of rare distinction. His association with Ellen Terry did much to ensure his success at the Lyceum. Possessed of singular magnetic qualities and a wonderful poetic imagination he stood at the head of English actors when he was knighted in 1895.

Men and women of Canada are eligible to receive the George Cross, awarded to civilians for gallantry under fire and ranking next to the Victoria Cross, it is announced. A Royal warrant published in the London Gazette says "The cross may be given not only to civilians in Great Britain but to all ranks in the services and men and women in the Dominions or colonies or under British protection." The warrant relating to the George Medal says this may be awarded to foreigners, say Americans and French working alongside British.

Major Gen. J. H. Beith, better known as Ian Hay, novelist and playwright, has resigned as director of public relations of the British War Office. He will be succeeded by Colonel Walter E. Elliot, M. P. General Beith, who is 65 years old, was appointed by the then War Secretary, Leslie Hore-Belisha, in 1938 when he was a major of reserves. He won the Military Cross serving with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders during the World War, when he wrote the best seller, "The First Hundred Thousand." His resignation was accepted "with great regret and an expression of high appreciation of the great services rendered by the army." Colonel Elliot has represented a Glasgow district in the House of Commons since 1924. Beginning in 1932 he was successively Minister of Health, Minister of Agriculture and Secretary of State for Scotland.

For lack of vision, we are told on indisputable authority, the people perish. What lack of vision? Not the man-in-the-street who is a follower, but on the part of leaders. Where you find conditions such as we have here the future is dark indeed. No one in authority seems to care whether those who come after us have an occupation or not. Sufficient to them appears to be their own present comfort and immediate prospects. What outlet will there be after the war for the rising generation? We apparently will have practically no trades, agriculture and fishing will be on the retrograde as nothing is being done to provide outlets for them, and to make sure they will be able to continue when peace and order are restored. In place of altruistic leadership we have selfishness and self-seeking; while other provinces are making sure of plants and industries for the time when Canada will be the centre of the Empire. Prince Edward Island is not only lagging behind, but refusing to take advantage of the helping hand being held out at Ottawa to all having the initiative, enterprise and determination to grasp it. Where other provinces are seeking to take full advantage of the opportunities of the hour, our leaders are sitting idly by satisfied to let our people get the dole—if any dole be then obtainable—when the period of reconstruction and development comes.

Encouraging Report

The current business summary of the Bank of Montreal gives a heartening picture of the trend of general business across Canada since the beginning of the New Year. "So far," says the Bank's Summary, "transition from a peacetime to a wartime basis has been accomplished without any marked rise in prices and without labor difficulties or other disturbing factors. For this, credit in due measure must be given to the governmental controls and regulations which have been established as circumstances have called for them. The prospect for the new year now entered upon is more complicated. While Canadian production has already made an impressive contribution to the war effort of the British Empire, much of the activity has been of a preparatory nature and, both financially and from a technical point of view, comparatively simple. The great bulk of the war appropriations, however, has yet to be expended. As workshops become manned on a scale commensurate with the factory facilities that are being provided, the heavy demands for skilled and semi-skilled labor will exercise increasing pressure upon purely domestic enterprise. At the same time, expanding wage-rolls consequent on an "all-out" programme by munition industries will so enlarge the general spending power that increasing demand for consumer goods may naturally be expected. It is in these tendencies become more fully developed that the real test will come of governmental controls and regulations and of the spirit in which the Canadian people give their co-operation.

Curing A Cold

We're really most entering upon the post-war world of change when we find the medical profession prescribing free, gratis and for nothing how to cure a cold. "The Lancet" London, is recognized as the foremost exponent of medical opinion in the English language, and this is what it tells us about that troublesome affliction that costs the average citizen so much worry, inconvenience and expense: "The common cold is still easier to catch than to cure, and the public is right in reproaching the medical profession for not

NOTES BY THE WAY

According to the Vancouver News-Herald, the British Columbia coast which are idle. If that is so, somebody in Ottawa should get a severe rapping for the unproductive and unenterprising effort being made in the United States to get new yards in operation to help Great Britain. If there are any in Canada not working they certainly should be. — New Glasgow News.

To suggest that all is rosy for town dwellers and all is grim for the man on the farm may be politically expedient, but it is also untrue. The wage-earner and the salaried man have already been hard-hit by taxes and these are bound to be stiffer yet ere the Hitler curse has been lifted from the land. But controls have indeed been enforced but these do not provide housing accommodation where shortage exists. — Halifax Post.

The word corn was synonymous back in the sixteenth century and prior thereto with the word grain. That we call corn was not known in Britain until the middle of the eighteenth century when the word "corned" to indicate that their product had been spread out on a flat surface to dry. Shortly thereafter they applied the term "corned" to the sprinkling of grains of salt on beef and other meats for the purpose of effecting a cure or preservation. In the years since the sixteenth century the original use of the word "corned" has been the same but it still stands to indicate the use of grains of salt in the curing of meat. — Armour Magazine.

A cold statistic may sometimes speak with the greatest eloquence. The Dutch exports to Germany during the year 1939 were worth 20,000,000 guilders; during the same period the Dutch imports from Germany were worth 81,000,000 guilders. To see the full picture of Hitler's exploitation of his victim, one must add the costs to Holland of the Nazi occupation. This amounts to 125,000,000 guilders, or \$65,000,000. The increase in Dutch exports is under "forced draught." — New York Post.

Willkie Lends A Hand

Wendell Willkie is doing a good job for both Britain and the United States. When it was first announced that he was going to England to see for himself what was happening there, it was anticipated that the trip was intended to serve his own political purposes. But whatever his purpose, his actions in London prove his sincere interest in the United States and the cause of Britain.

Our experience of air raids shows that the damage caused by incendiary bombs is many times as serious as that caused by high explosive bombs. It is generally imagined that in the case of incendiary bombs the danger is to the buildings and their occupants are doomed. This is not supported by the evidence obtained from a study of recent air raid damage. There have been many cases of light 55-kilogram (about 22 pounds) bombs detonating on the top of buildings with little damage other than that of covering, and with very slight casualties. A similar case occurred in a factory building with little damage other than that of covering, and with very slight casualties. Surprisingly little damage to machinery and personnel. There is a very real danger of fire in structural damage from a near miss. Very heavy bombs, 500 kg (220 pounds), falling within 33 feet of a building, will cause the walls to do not more than strip the shelling from the steelwork. There is evidence that in the case of buildings with steel-reinforced concrete frames the damage caused by even a direct hit will be local. It will be confined in many cases to the floor and bay which is hit. — Star Weekly, London.

Since it is common knowledge that aircraft production in Canada has bogged down there is no excuse for pretending to be ignorant. The Government is responsible for setting up a system that doesn't work and it is his business to rectify matters without travelling circuitous routes to hide the facts. Suppressing Federal Aircraft on the industry manifestly was a blunder. Why this is so is clear from the fact that at this stage in the remedy, Mr. Ralph P. Bell dollar-a-year Director-General of Aircraft Production, a dynamic business man in whom the manufacturers have confidence, and we are certain that if there is an attempt to make him the boss it will be resisted. Should he be inclined to clear the way with a public statement, his reputation will stand behind it. We are disappointed to say "Watch out, Mr. Bell, that you are not made the goat, for it is a way Governments have of side-stepping." Some reports say Federal Aircraft and the Director-General individually have too many political bosses. Others attribute the trouble to changing designs and difficulty in getting parts. It will be recalled, however, that aircraft production in Britain was proceed-

War Opinion in U.S.

The survey being made of United States sentiment on the war by the American Institute of Public Opinion—the "Gaulop Poll"—has up to date produced some interesting results. As the poll stood last Friday, 79 per cent of the ballots favor the continuation of Britain's fight, till victory is won, 15 per cent ask for a negotiated peace, while 6 per cent fail to express any opinion. On the other hand 15 per cent of the replies are in favor of the immediate entrance of the United States into the war on Britain's side.

That is to say, that 15 per cent of this polled cross-section of American sentiment is isolationist, an exactly equal proportion wants war now, while 79 per cent is for assistance to Britain to the very limit possible short of America's involvement in the conflict. Analyzing still further the meaning of majority vote—representing as it does approximately four-fifths of all the replies received—it is a reasonable assumption that it in turn includes two viewpoints. One is that Britain is doing the war with American aid but without American belligerency. The other is that, quite regardless of Britain's chances for victory, it is the duty of the United States to render her all aid possible as long as the conflict lasts. It would be interesting to know the relative numbers holding these two views, but Dr. Gallup, the head of the Institute, who has announced the results, does not give this information. If it were available, the strength of the popular trend could be indicated. If the latter view is a declaration of war, such a course vital to an assured victory.

Largest Window

The great east window of Gloucester Cathedral, which the Dean and Chapters have decided to remove to a place of safety, is the largest in the world, though the east window of York Minster runs pretty close. Gloucester's wall of glass covers an area of 2,736 square feet, as compared with 2,574 square feet at York.

It is known as the "Cressy" window, for it is a memorial of the great English victory and bears the arms of King Edward III, the Black Prince, and many of the nobles who took part in that far-off campaign. Completed by 1350, the general design of the figure work, whose brilliant tinctures flash forth like jewels from the surrounding white glass, is the entrenchment of the Blessed Virgin.

The east window of Gloucester and York especially struck the eye of Aeneas Silvius, afterwards Pope Pius II, when he paid a visit to England in 1450, for such work exclusively distinguished the English architects of their time and is rarely, if ever, found on the continent.

The cost of moving Gloucester's beautiful fourteenth century glass will be £250, but it will cost twice as much to replace it, and an appeal is to be made to the nation to help to preserve so great a national memorial.

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Interpreting The War

By Kirke L. Simpson Associated Press Staff Writer

Reports that clouds of British fighter planes have been protecting Royal Air Force bombers in daylight raids on the German "invasion coast" mark a significant change in the tempo of the battle of Britain.

The Royal Air Force is undertaking an offensive air defence of the British Isles.

It is one thing to soften up Nazi air, submarine or army forces which may be assembled for a great spring drive.

The use of massed fighter planes to cover coast channel bomber fleets demonstrates the long stride made since last June toward matching Nazi air power. These advances have been made, too, in the face of incessant German bombing of British industrial centres.

This is the first time Britain's defence force has been tested against enemy fighters in daylight raids on the German "invasion coast" mark a significant change in the tempo of the battle of Britain.

At that time, British air fighters dominated the daylight air over Dunkerque for three days as they have since dominated the day skies over Britain. It is uncertain whether employment of fighter escorts for daylight bombing on the "invasion coast" signals a British attempt also to wrest daylight air control from Germany. There is something more than a gesture, however, and could have been risked only with greater fighter plane strength than prevailed in June.

The incident throws new light on the effectiveness of German bombing attack on British industries. There have been unofficial reports that at the year-end German success in this respect amounted to less than five per cent slow-down in war goods deliveries.

That seems a low figure. It is quite clear, however, that British production of fighter planes has not been impaired greatly through those months of aerial attack. It is beyond question that British shipyards, particularly those turning out important naval craft, have gone right ahead.

A number of British merchant and naval vessels which were on the ways or at fitting-out yards when the full-scale German attack was launched last June have since been in United States ports. The 35,000-ton battleship King George V which brought Halifax to his Washington diplomatic duties is a striking example.

The conclusion to be drawn is that the Nazi air assault has had little more damaging effect on British war industry than on public morale.

WAR ON SPARROWS

COPENHAGEN—(CP)—German-occupied Denmark is in another "war" against sparrows—and it is estimated there are 30,000,000 damaged Danish crops.

MUSIC WITH BOMBS

LONDON—(CP)—The American committee for Air Raid Relief presented Holborn's Station with the first loud-speaker car phone ever to be installed in a derelict station.

PAGE AND SHAW

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