

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

SAURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1942

NAVY WEEK

In Canada's eighteenth Canada tomorrow,
special services will mark the opening of Navy
Week. It will be held in the men of the sea — the men of the Navy and of the Mercantile Navy.

Navy Week observed annually under the
sponsorship of the Navy League of Canada,
this year takes on a deeper significance. It is
at sea that the fate of the world is being
decided. It is in the ability of the United
Forces to maintain command of the sea that
victory in this present conflict depends.

Canada, who is now serving throughout
the Seven Seas, whose Navy is now in its
fourth year of active warfare, has learned full
well what Navy Week means.

Her ships today are fighting in the Battle
of the Atlantic in partnership with the ships of
Great Britain and the United States. More than
40 per cent of the tonnage of merchant ships
entering that battle is borne by Canada's ships
and Canada's men acting as a safeguard and a
security "for such as pass on the seas upon
their lawful occasions."

It is not only the fighting Navy, however,
that the Navy League has planned the forth-
coming week as tribute.

It is tribute, too, to the men of the second
Navy — the Merchant Navy.

Undaunted by the perils of wartime sailings,
the hazards of submarines, surface raiders, and
aircraft, the merchant seamen of the United
Nations have kept the supply lines open. Thanks
to them the munitions and the provisions of the
New World have been carried to the battle-
fields of the Old; to Britain and to Russia, to
the Middle East and the Far East. At times
the cost has been heavy but the merchant sea-
men, facing this cost, have unflinchingly paid
the price.

Ships have been lost and men with them . . .
but ships have got through and their men have
brought them back to get through again and
again so that the supply line should be main-
tained.

How well it has been maintained the Minister
of National Defence for Naval Services, the
Hon. Angus L. Macdonald, was able to report
last month when he said that more than 11,000
merchant ships have sailed in convoy carrying
a deadweight tonnage of 64,000,000. And,
thanks to Canada's Navy and her partner navies
of Great Britain and the United States, the
exported ships have got through with a loss of
less than one per cent.

Col. Ralston's Warning

A lot more good news will have to come from
the battle fronts before the end of the war is in
sight, Defence Minister Ralston warned cadets
at the Officers' Training Centre, Brockville, as
he spoke to the graduating class after present-
ing each with his certificate. The minister said
the Canadian attack at Dieppe last August
marked the first turn towards the offensive in
Europe, but some of the greatest battles of the
war are still to be fought and Canadians will
be in them. Comparing things as he saw them
at the centre now with the situation on his first
visit a year ago, he said Brockville was in high
gear with the accelerator well down. That was
as it should be. Nothing could be static—things
had to go forward or backward. Noting im-
provements in facilities and recalling those the
army had in the first Great War when he en-
listed, the minister jokingly said he pitied the
cadets for having to sleep on spring cots and
mattresses and having to walk the whole length
of a steam-heated hut to reach the washroom.
"I can't help comparing that with the luxury of
a straw palisade on a spruce board and the com-
fort of outdoor plumbing in zero temperature,"
he said.

A Parliamentary Army

The war has been the means of shattering
many longstanding traditions. An interesting
example is cited by a London correspondent in
the establishment in Great Britain for the first
time since the days of Cromwell, of a Parlia-
mentary Army. This is just a unit of the Home
Guard, but its existence marks an historical
epoch.

A Palace of Westminster company to defend
the Houses of Parliament was one of the first
Home Guard units to be formed in the early
summer of 1940. In the hectic days of that sum-
mer, when Britain stood alone and at bay, so
many unexpected things happened that the
revolutionary action of Parliament, in raising an
army of its own, escaped largely without com-
ment. The only protest came from some of the
women M.P.'s, who were not allowed to join.
One of them went to the Parliamentary rifle
range to demonstrate that sex need be no bar
to straight shooting. But even her success in
registering seven successive bull's-eyes did not
shake the adamant authorities.

Members of the House of Lords and House
of Commons, some of them generals with ex-

perience of three campaigns behind them, en-
listed in the ranks of the new company. They
fell in along with waiters from the dining and
smoke rooms, Cabinet ministers, journalists,
liftmen, legal clerks, cooks, attendants, messen-
gers, cleaners, post office officials, stokers from
the boiler rooms, librarians—a cross section of
the whole varied life of Parliament—made up
the unit. Rank went strictly by merit. It was
found that one of the best shots in the com-
pany was a bartender. Members of the Govern-
ment found themselves saluting a lobby
journalist; peers jumped smartly to attention
at a command from a messenger.

In the early part of that first summer equip-
ment for the Home Guard could not keep pace
with the enthusiasm which expanded the force
so fast. The Parliamentary army had to drill
in shirt sleeves, with sticks in place of rifles;
but this was only a passing phase. Soon vis-
itors to the House were startled by the sight of
figures in battle dress darting out from behind
the cover of sandbags, wielding rifles, tommy
guns, hand grenades and a wide variety of
modern weapons.

Even in wartime, the House of Commons
retains its ancient ceremony intact. Before
every sitting, the Speaker goes in procession to
the Chamber, preceded by the Mace and fol-
lowed by his train-bearing wearing court dress,
complete with sword. That provides symbolic
protection for the Speaker. More real is the
protection of that same train-bearer when seen
at other times, not in court dress, but in khaki
uniform, with the chevrons of a sergeant on
his sleeve and weapons more deadly than a
silver-hilted sword in his hand!

EDITORIAL NOTES

There is still time to write that letter and
send that parcel to the boy overseas.

In the mouths of the Campbell Government
the word Prohibition bears the same significance
as did the word Mesopotamia to the worthy old
Scotsman. "That blessed word Mesopotamia,"
she was fuming of exclaiming. "But, Mit-
cher," asked her rising hope one day, "what dis
Mesopotamia mean?" "I dinna ken, ladde,"
she answered, "but its soom' is unco satisfiein'."

The attitude adopted by the United Nations
with regard to Admiral Darlan and his friends,
is somewhat akin to what is suggested should
be adopted by the Conservatives at their forth-
coming convention at Winnipeg. "All is grist
that comes to their mill" so long as the "grist"
is "agin the Government." It might not exactly
be good ethics, but it provides a ready means
with which to beat the enemy—and that is their
immediate objective.

Production of Canadian cheddar cheese in
October recorded an increase of 32.8 per cent
over the corresponding output in 1941, the total
being 20,249,757 pounds as compared with 15,
243,111. The total for the ten months ended
October was 187,596, 162 pounds compared
with 135,146,096 in the like period of 1941, a
gain of 38.8 per cent. Creamery butter pro-
duction during October amounted to 25,098,306
pounds compared with 24,936,954 in October
last year, an increase of 0.6 per cent. During
the ten months ended October the production
aggregated 252,470,517 pounds compared with
259,037,322 in the same period of 1941, a de-
cline of 2.5 per cent.

Director of Selective Service Little had un-
expected support from Premier John Bracken
of Manitoba. In an address at Winnipeg, he
said that Canada in the fourth year of the war
finds itself with a "wholly inadequate and in-
effective manpower policy," and urged "an end
to unnecessary procrastination and indecision in
the organization behind the lines." Speaking at
the official opening of the Gen. Sir Sam Steele
memorial branch of the Canadian Legion Mr.
Bracken charged there has been no team-play in
working out a manpower policy. "The Cabinet
has not done it," he said. "And they have
given no one else the power to do it. . . . That
is exactly what Mr. Little emphasizes in his
letter of resignation. About all that has been done
is the appointment of innumerable highly paid
officials throughout the length and breadth
of Canada.

Port Arthur, Manchuria, captured by the
Japs this date, 1894 in the Japanese-Korean
War; France, Russia and Germany protested,
and accordingly Japan relinquished her claim;
in 1898, China leased Port Arthur to Russia
who made it the terminus of the Siberian Rail-
way; in 1902 Japan and Britain signed an eight-
teen years' offensive and defensive alliance;
in 1904, Japan made war on Russia without
preliminary notice, laid siege to Port Arthur
which after eleven months capitulated; by the
Treaty of Portsmouth, 1905, Russia agreed to
evacuate Manchuria, to recognize Japan's pre-
eminence in Korea; in 1920, when the British-
Japanese treaty was due for renewal, Canada,
on behalf of U.S.A. objected at the Imperial
Conference in London, and Britain acquiesced;
subsequently, her hands free, Japan annexed
both Manchuria and Korea, and continued, un-
interrupted by outside powers, until the present
war, to make inroads by force of arms on
China.

The fighting French movement, Mr. Andre
Philip, Commissioner of the Interior of the
De Gaulle forces, explains, has a national com-
mittee, not a government. "We don't ask to
be considered a government now," he said. "We
are organized to keep alive the interests of the
French who are really fighting and after the
war we will have the National Assembly and
set up a real government. De Gaulle may be
regarded as the head of the material and spiri-
tual interests of the French people. It is a
sort of trusteeship. Our first job though is to
organize the re-entry of the French into the
war. We are recognized in London as the re-
presentatives of the Fighting French, in and
out of France, so we feel secure." Hence they
don't worry about Darlan and deprecate the use
being made of his name for divisive purposes.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A small white hen made a long
trip on a precarious perch last
week-end, according to a report
given us by T. W. Aylett. Mr.
Aylett was a crew member of a
train leaving Minnedosa Sunday
morning. The car next the engine
contained poultry, and when the
train started the crew dis-
covered the hen perched on the
brake rod underneath the car. The
car was loaded at Oxbow, Friday
night, and its load to Brandon,
Portage and Minnedosa and was
destined for Bredenburg—a trip of
397 miles. When still 36 miles from
its destination the hen was still
perched on the rod, moving around
every time the brakes were applied
and released.—Minnedosa (Man.)
Tribune.

The Pope himself will be the chief
figure in a film depicting the
first time scenes in the Vatican and
the manifold activities of His Holiness,
which is now in preparation
in Italy in connection with the cele-
bration of his jubilee, writes our
special correspondent on the Italian
frontier. Another reason for the
making of the film is the desire of
his destination to create a perma-
nent record of life and custom in
the Vatican today. It will show,
in addition to scenes in St. Peter's
and the Papal treasury, the more
inaccessible to any but members of
the Papal Court.—London Times.

Coffee rationing will be on the
basis of a little more than a cup
a day per capita. In families where
there is more than one child, the
ration is that little more that will
start the domestic fracas.—New
York Sun.

Berlin sent out a despatch that
Gandhi was dead, and then chang-
ed it as the corpse was Gandhi's
wife. That's the war of nerves,
raise our hopes, and then cast us
down again.—Peterborough Ex-
aminer.

The people of Great Britain are
taking to chances with regard to
"every house and building" reports that
"every house and building" in the
nation has been equipped with an
alert fire-fighting squad. This
is a new work in progress. The
will probably throw everything they
have at the Island Citadel one of
these nights. And the more heroic
the more the more vicious will
be their fury. Brantford Ex-
positor.

Bewildered males have wondered
for years why women needed so
many hairpins. The simple answer
is disclosed by the new war-time
hair-dos is that they don't need
them. Many who used to use
hairpins by the hundred and carry
an extra lot in their purse, is now
nonchalantly doing up her hair
without a single pin. But if this
solves one feminine mystery, it
also creates a new one. The ques-
tion is how the women can make their
hair stay up without the pins. We
feel the month will always be a
step or two behind women's ways.—
Boston Post.

If you wake up to a strange think-
ing sound coming from the kitchen
with the next few months,
it may be Ma getting breakfast on
her new stove. Glass, terra
cotta and cement are being con-
sidered as substitutes for the iron,
steel, and non-ferrous metals which
have been used up to now to make
the stoves. It is expected that
country each year. Experimental
stoves have been made of these ma-
terials and are now being tested.—
Modern Industry.

Sir Stafford Cripps is credited
with the key to the whole crisis in India
is found in Gandhi's adherence to
a policy of non-violence. An Indian
has written that Sir Stafford Cripps
is a pacifist, and might even be
peace with the Axis, could not be
countenanced by British while she
is waging a life-and-death struggle.—
Hamilton Spectator.

An ex-broker, now happily married
to a government department of
checks and balances, reports to us
that the word "million" has at 1:12
turned up in routine finance. "I've
been watching for it for years," he
said. It finally appeared in a Dow-
Jones column that "What Appro-
priations Nearing Queen's Thea-
tre." A trillion, in a thing
case you have forgotten, is a thing
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bottle.

Prince Edward Island has increas-
ed its bounty on skunks from 50
cents to \$1, and thereby hangs a
tale. Skunks are not native to the
island. It appears, but some years
ago a few people began raising them
for fur. When low prices made the
venture unsuccessful, some of the
breeders simply turned their
skunks loose. Prince Edward Island
has since then been a skunk
recorder and times.—Brook-
field Recorder and Times.

Surrendering their sense of delicacy
to their search for truth, experts of
the United States Government have
recently made a poll to determine
the nocturnal clothing habits of
the nation. They discovered these
interesting facts: 38 per cent of the
male inhabitants of the United
States sleep in complete pyjamas
suits; 33 per cent sleep in pyjama
trousers without tops; 15 per cent
sleep without either; 2 per cent
with tops and no pants; and 1 per-
cent, in nightshirts.—Vancouver
Sun.

Chatham News suggests that possi-
bly Rudolf Hess skimped to En-
gland to get away from his wife. We
don't know the lady; but from what
we know of Rudolf we'd be better
able to understand it if she had
done the skipping.—Chatham
News.

Redio broadcasts may be "rationed"
to save wear and tear on equip-
ment. And wouldn't every man or
woman enjoy the job of doing the
"rationing"?—Ottawa Citizen Stand-
ard.

Brave New Worlds

(Canadian Press)
A London columnist uncovered
this variety of views on what the
post-war world should offer, as ex-
pressed during the last four months
in the speeches of prominent men:
Anthony Eden: "A land where
splendid hearts may . . .
Herbert Morrison: "Big, peaceful,
decisive social transformation."
Sir Stafford Cripps: "A cleaner,
better, happier world."
R. S. Hudson: "A new order for
village communities and pastoral
hobbies."
Lord Simon: "A new order for
international currency."
Ernest Bevin: "The nation must
be led into the path of permanent
recovery."

Hugh Dalton: "Open wide the
gates of opportunity."
Sir Walter Womersley: "No
match-selling for ex-servicemen."
Clement Attlee: "Social security
for all."
The Archbishop of Canterbury:
"A wholesome society for man."
Arthur Greenwood: "Peace is go-
ing to be a great adventure."
Lord Portal: "Permanent work
from week to week."
Sir William Jowitt: "Preserve
green belts, lake district and youth
hostels."
Capt. Harold Galfour: "Opportu-
nity, security, balance, sport, quick
movement, travel for all and
Christian tolerance."

Valuable Padre

(Windsor Star)
Some thought should be given, in
official circles, to making more use
of the Reverend Armand Sabourin, Chaplain of Les Fusiliers
Mont-Royal. This man has a valu-
able mission to perform in Canada,
and great though his efforts have
been since he returned to these
shores after the Dieppe raid, there
has been a failure to appreciate the
service of which he is capable.

No one has spoken more clearly
and forcefully of the situation re-
specting French Canada. Every pub-
lic utterance he has made has been
directed toward the creation of a
better understanding between the
two major races in Canada. Being
a French-Canadian, he is in a posi-
tion to speak frankly to his com-
patriots, and he has not hesitated
to do so. Neither has he held back
from telling wholesome truths to
those of non-French extraction.

They would give everything they
have looking at these facts, what
will you give? Who of the condi-
tions in other countries? They are
as bad, if not worse than in Bel-
gium.

Reports indicate that the recent
R. A. F. raid on Genoa, Italy, caus-
ed about \$100,000 damage through
panic as flour-tillers in the city
indicates the jittery state of Italian
morale and suggests that the people
who are to keep the march to Mus-
solini's time twenty years ago have
lost most of their enthusiasm.—Ex-
change.

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The Peet's Corner

I HAVE A RENDEZVOUS WITH
DEATH . . .
(1915)

I have a rendezvous with Death
At some disputed barricade,
When Spring comes back with rust-
ling shade
And apple-blossoms fill the air—
I have a rendezvous with Death
When Spring brings back blue days
and fair.

It may be I shall take my hand
And turn me into his dark land
And close my eyes and quench my
breath.
It may be I shall pass him still.
On some scarred slope of battered
hill.
When Spring comes round again
this year
And the first meadow-flowers ap-
pear.

God knows 'twere better to be deep
Followed in silk and scented down,
Where love throbs out in blissful
sleep,
Pulse nigh to pulse, and breath to
breath,
Where hurried awakenings are
dear
But I've a rendezvous with Death
At midnight in some flaming town,
When Spring trips north again this
year,
And I, and my pledged love am true,
I shall not fail that rendezvous.

(An American subject, who exhib-
ited in the Foreign Legion, Seeger
was mortally wounded on July 4,
1916.)

ness of vision and the ability of
self-expression to enable him to go
to the root of this major problem
and attack it boldly, fearlessly and
ably, this country should make use
of him.

Major Sabourin has a background
that is proof against criticism. He
has a record for unselfish gallantry
which has earned for him the honor
and respect of all races and creeds.
He is, in fact, one of our national
heroes, and he can command a respec-
tful and thoughtful hearing any-
where within the Dominion. His
mission deserves official recognition
and direction, and he should be
drafted to act in a much wider
field than has yet been opened to
him. He is a man whom all of
Canada needs.

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