MAXIMS OF A MERE MAN

Work without wit or wisdom is of little market value or personal profit, but works of skill are costly.

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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MAXIMS OF A MERE MAN

No matter how often we have started and failed, let us start again with courage that will not accept failure as the final verdict.

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U. S. AND FRENCH RELATIONS IN CRITICAL STATE

R. A. F. Stage Long Daylight Offensive

Return Of Laval To Vichy Gov't Complicates Events

Sharp, angry answer given to U. S. note after some indecision; Rupture in relations possible but Washington cautious; Import of moves unknown

Warns gasoline Not to be used For joyriding

OTTAWA, April 14—(CP)—The Munitions and supply department, in a statement issued tonight on behalf of Oil Controller G. R. Cottrelle, quoted Mr. Cottrelle as saying "ration books were not made available for the owners of passenger cars so that they could waste gasoline in joyriding."

Mr. Cottrelle said the statement was issued in answer to complaints of motorboat owners that their ration is too small in comparison to that of a vehicle owner.

"It is time people woke up to the fact that most of the gasoline brought to this country comes here in the form of crude oil carried in tankers," said Mr. Cottrelle. "Courageous sailors are risking their lives every day in manning these tankers. Equally courageous navy men and airmen are in constant danger to guard them on their hazardous journeys.

"Is it good sportsmanship to ask these men to run the gauntlet of enemy submarines and surface raiders so that thoughtless people in Canada can joyride?"

Mr. Cottrelle said every automobile in Canada must be regarded as a war vehicle and conserved as such. "The only object in allowing gasoline for the so-called pleasure car is to relieve the already over-burdened public transportation systems from any extra pressure," he said.

Range more Than 9 hours Over France

Return At Night To Continue Attacks On Enemy.

LONDON, April 14—(CP)—British fighters and bombers ranged over Northern France with comparative freedom for 9 1-2 hours today in their longest daylight offensive of the year.

From the Boulogne-Calais coastal strip to Caen, in Normandy, R. A.F. airmen bombed and strafted German targets and on their way home engaged in brisk dogfights with Nazi interceptors 20,000 feet above the Channel.

Losses for the day were even—four British and four German fighters.

In Normandy, British bombers blasted a power station at Caen and nearby industrial plants.

The R.A.F. bucked a near gale over the Channel tonight to keep up the attacks. From flashes and explosions seen and heard from the English side it appeared that Calais and Cap Gris-Nez were getting a pounding.

War Situation Last Night

(By KIRKE L. SIMPSON, Associated Press War Analyst)

While the return to power of pro-Nazi Pierre Laval at Vichy constitutes a rebuff to the United Nations' cause, its scope may prove limited. It depends on just why Berlin forced the issue upon old Marshal Petain at this time.

Although some observers leap to the conclusion that Nazi hopes of obtaining France's still powerful fleet to implement Hitler's spring-summer offensive have been served, there are significant hints from European diplomatic listening posts that another German objective, of even greater immediate consequence, might be involved.

Nazi shortage of skilled craftsmen in war industries due to fresh army inroads on German manpower has been emphasized for weeks. Every account of Berlin-Vichy negotiations which led to Laval's restoration has touched upon the labor angle. Estimates of the skilled mechanics Hitler expects to recruit from occupied as well as unoccupied France to man his war factories run from 100,000 to 500,000.

* * * *

It may be primarily to direct that German war labor conscription drive in France that Hitler has forced Laval on Petain. The nature of Laval's duties when officially disclosed should be revealing.

Laval, whatever his title, necessarily becomes again Vichy contact-man with the Nazis to work out the new collaboration or co-operation formula, of which recruitment of French labor for German war factories in Germany, France or other Nazi-conquered countries may prove the main element. He would unquestionably require direct control of French police forces, as distinct from the army and navy.

Assuming that a labor shortage as well as army expansion difficulties due to losses in Russia are plaguing Hitler to the extent reported, the Vichy deal is not all loss to the allies. It directly reflects growing Nazi manpower attrition both at the front and in war industries; that, too, at the time when the American war effort is only beginning to get into its stride.

* * * *

It can be set down as a clear indication of a German manpower strain within distant sight of the breaking point if it is French war factory labor even more than the French fleet that Hitler now most covets. Should that prove to be the case, Petain's new surrender to his Nazi overlord would not be without compensating values to London and Washington. Time, and not much of it, will tell.

London advices indicate that Nazi apprehensions of an Anglo-American invasion thrust somewhere against the German held continental coast were part of the background for the Vichy political coup. It is possible, but far from probable, particularly while Anglo-French tension over the future role of the French battle fleet is so heightened.

Is Elected

SIR JAMES GRIGG

CARDIFF, Wales, April 14 —(CP) —War Secretary Sir James Grigg, who rose to cabinet rank from the civil service, was elected a member of the House of Commons from East Cardiff today.

His election—by better than a three to one margin—will enable him to appear on the floor of the House to answer questions concerning his department.

Sir James polled 10,030 votes to 3,311 for A. Fenner Brockway, Independent Labor Party candidate.

Maximum Price Of Meal 5 Shillings

LONDON, April 14—(CP CABLE) — The maximum price of a meal under Britain's new restaurant and hotel rectrictions is expected to be fixed at five shillings ($1.10).

This would be a considerable reduction from the 15 shillings or more charged at present by the better restaurants and hotels.

The new regulations, announced yesterday, are regarded as the deathknell of "luxury feeding." The existing situation had aroused criticism on the grounds the wealthy could dine out as they chose, eating their fill while those of modest circumstances had to be content to eat at home on their ration book allowances.

Further restrictions are expected on the household front also. Breakfast foods recently were put on a flexible points system and it is predicted in some quarters that this will be extended gradually to cover practically all foods.

Germans rush Defences along French Coast

DOVER, April 14—(CP)—The Germans have put thousands of laborers to the task of building new gun emplacements and strengthening already formidable defences along the French coast as an added precaution against Allied invasion.

The laborers were seen plainly today through field glasses some 20 miles across the Channel.

Military informants said that Nazi guns massed along the Channel coast have a total firepower equal to that of a fleet of battleships and form a concentrated mass of artillery more powerful than in any sector of the German front facing the Russians.

They said installation of these defences had been ordered by Hitler as a result of British Commando raids on the coast and operation of light naval forces in adjacent waters.

VICHY, April 14—(AP)—The Vichy government tonight angrily rejected the United States' outline of its reasons for sending a consul-general to Free French Brazzaville in Equatorial Africa, finally issuing a previously withdrawn statement denouncing the American position.

This statement, which had been urgently recalled after it was first issued in the afternoon, referred to the United States note as "injurious"—this by official translation — but some thought that under all the circumstances the translation "insulting" would be more nearly accurate.

It was for the second time released for publication some hours after it had been cancelled by the authorities.

On a day which otherwise saw Marshal Petain making a place for the return to power of Pierre Laval, primary exponent of French-German collaboration, the following communique was read to the American press, subsequently called back and still later reinstated:—

"After having taken notice of the American note handed to the French ambassador at Washington April 13 by the department of state on the subject of opening an American consulate at Brazzaville, the French government immediately gave instructions to Gaston Henry-Haye (ambassador to Washington) to inform the secretary of state that the French government does not accept the note of the American government, couched in injurious terms which tend to discredit in the eyes of the world the conduct of French citizens, who do not have to take lessons in patriotism from abroad.

(Continued on page 7, Col 6)

BERNE, April 14 —(AP) — Pierre Laval will be "chief of government" in the Vichy regime with Marshal Petain remaining "head of the state," and Vice-Premier Admiral Darlan "successor-designate" to Petain, the German agency D.N.B. said tonight in a dispatch from Paris.

D.N.B. said its information came from Fernand De Brinon, Vichy representative in Paris, who had just returned from Vichy.

By Thomas F. Hawkins
Associated Press Staff Writer

BERNE, Switzerland, April 14 — (AP) — German pressure, growing from fear of a United Nations' invasion of western Europe while the Nazis are busy in Russia, compelled Marshal Petain to reorganize the Vichy government today toward all-out collaboration with Germany under pro-Nazi, British-hating Pierre Laval.

Petain, ending a series of conferences with Laval and Vice-Premier Admiral Jean Darlan which had gone on since Saturday, approved the "constitution of a government established on new foundations." The members of the revised Vichy regime, to replace the present government in power since Aug. 11, 1941, will be announced Thursday.

Foreign diplomatic sources in Berne predicted Laval would reenter the cabinet with a new title, "Chief of the Government," with responsibility only to Petain who remains "Chief of the State."

Petain Only Symbolic

Petain's function in the reorganized administration will be more symbolic than ever, limited probably to presiding at meetings of the Council of Ministers while Laval, as active head of the government, directs the expected moves toward Vichy-German collaboration these sources forecast.

The position Darlan will assume has not been announced, although his present title of Vice-Premier is expected to be abolished. He may retain his post as Foreign Minister or he may continue to command all of France's armed forces.

Petain announced also that the Riom Trial of former French leaders, to which the Germans have objected because it was airing France's lack of preparedness for war and ignoring the "political mistakes" which led her to fight Germany, was suspended until its scope was broadened. The Germans apparently want a French "war guilt" admission out of the trial.

Possible Developments

Observers well-informed on Vichy affairs saw these implications in the official announcements.—

1. Breaking off of recently improved relations between Vichy and the United States which may lead to a diplomatic rupture.

2. Full collaboration with the Germans in industrial, Agricultural and Financial affairs, to the greatest possible degree.

3. Empire concessions, which might concern Madagascar and North Africa, for supply and transportation necessities which the Germans and their Axis partners may desire.

4. Possible military aid either by giving the Germans a guarantee that their rear will be protected once the expected Nazi drive against Russia is started, or by the use of the French battle fleet for at least convoy duty.

5. Possible abolition of the demarkation line which now divides the occupied and unoccupied zones, with the new government—but without Petain —establishing itself in Paris.

Petain had said and repeated that he will never go back to Paris so long "as one single German soldier remains there."

Attitude To Vichy Hardens In Britain

LONDON, April 14—(CP)—Britain's attitude toward her one-time ally, France hardened tonight with Vichy's apparent rejection of a United States diplomatic note. Informed diplomatic sources here indicated Britain might show her displeasure by tightening the blockade of France.

But whatever Britain does to crack down on Vichy, these sources held the view that the United States was able to bring more pressure than Britain, providing the Germans have not forced Vichy to steps which will break all relations with the United States.

"Withdrawal of American recognition would be a grave blow to the Petain Regime," an informed source said. "Relations with the United States always have been a cardinal point of Vichy policy."

Vichy's attempt to withdraw a statement sharply rejecting the United States note on establishment of a consulate in French Equatorial Africa was said probably to have been ordered by Petain, who "clings to the idea of American help" and who "probably was not informed by Pierre Laval of the contents until after the statement was given to the press"

International At A Glance

(Canadian Press)

FRANCE—Petain suspends Riom trial, reinstates Laval in high position, names Darlan his successor.

BRITAIN—Observers at Dover see frantic reinforcement of German continental defences; Nazis display nervousness at possible invasion by allies.

RUSSIA — Stockholm reports major Russian break-through north of Kharkov.

BURMA—Japs move forward at both ends of allied line defending oilfields.

INDIA—R. A. F. destroy 13 Jap flying boats in Andamans.

PHILIPPINES—Corregidor holds. American-Filipino forces fight on in Cebu, Mindanao.

War—25 Years Ago Today

(By The Canadian Press)

APRIL 15, 1917—Strong German attacks on the Bapaume-Cambrai Road repulsed; 1,500 Germans killed and 300 prisoners taken. British troopship Acadian torpedoed in the Mediterranean. Gen. Michael V. Alexieff appointed commander-in-chief of the Russian Army.

Lt.-Col. L. T. Lowther gets New position

Lt.-Col. L.T. Lowther, former principal of Prince Street School, arrived in the city last night for a short visit. Recently he has been posted as General Staff Officer 1 with the Canadian Military Headquarters in London

Shortly after the outbreak of war, Col. Lowther went overseas with the 1st Division. On this occasion he was attached to Divisional Headquarters and was associated with Lt.-Gen. A.G.L. McNaughton, commander-in-chief of the Canadian Army Overseas. After spending a year and a half in the Old Country, he was sent back to Canada to take charge of a Senior Officer's School at the Military College, Kingston, Ont.

His work there consisted of qualifying Commanding Officers of various units. Just recently, Col. Lowther, after nine months at Kingston, received the new appointment overseas.

British war Costs reach New highs

Drastically Heavier Taxation Announced By Sir Kingsley Wood.

LONDON, April 14—(CP Cable) —For all the financial aid Canada and the United States are giving her, either in cash or on a lease-lend basis, Great Britain plans an historic expenditure of £5,286,000,000 —the equivalent in Canadian funds of about $23,511,000,000—in the coming fiscal year.

In his budget speech today in the House of Commons, Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer, budgetted for that amount and then proposed drastically heavier taxation of what are known as luxuries—tobacco, beer, whisky, some electrical appliances, silk or brocaded fabrics, china articles, cosmetics, entertainment. In many cases these taxes will be doubled and trebled.

With the basic income tax already 50 per cent, Sir Kingsley said it would not be increased. Indeed, some relief was offered to workers in the lowest income tax brackets.

Notes Canadian, U. S. Help

The budget noted in detail the help Canada and the United States is providing Britain. It listed as an item of estimated revenue: "Canadian Government contribution, 225 million sterling."

This was a reference to the gift of $1,000,000,000 which Prime Minister Mackenzie King recently announced Canada would make to the British Government. One-fifth of the amount was acknowledged

(Continued on page 7, Col 2)

To eliminate Some bus lines

MONTREAL, April 14—(CP)—In an announcement from the office of transit controller G.S. Gray here today it was stated that it "will be necessary to eliminate bus services in Canada which duplicate rail lines, particularly those engaged in long hauls." The announcement did not say when the restriction would take effect but it was implied that adjustments would be made to bus schedules as soon as possible.

A spokesman for the transit controller's office did not enlarge on the announcement except to say that any surplus of buses existing after the restrictions had been enforced would be distributed to "local services" now badly in need of augmentation.

Gas situation Growing worse

OTTAWA, April 14—(CP)—Munitions Minister Howe said today that a suggestion advanced by Conservative House Leader Hanson that gasoline rationing restrictions be lifted April 27—plebiscite voting day—is "entitled to every consideration."

But if it is acted upon, Mr. Howe said the one-day relaxation should not be looked upon as an indication the gasoline situation is improving.

"The gas situation, rather than improving, is steadily growing worse," the Minister said.

King George is Honorary Colonel

LONDON, April 14—(CP CABLE) — The King has assumed the honorary Colonelcy of the Newfoundland regiment, Royal Artillery, it was announced tonight.

The Newfoundland artillerymen have been in Britain, sharing in the defence against possible invasion, since early in the war. Whereas in the first Great War the Colony sent overseas a regiment of infantry, the Royal Newfoundland regiment, this time no infantry were recruited there. Instead the war effort was concentrated on men for the Royal Navy, Royal Air Force and artillery.

Nazi Command Has The Jitters

Hitler's war of nerves weapon is turned on Germany; Enemy covers fears with bravado.

(By Robert Bunnelle, Associated Press Staff Writer)

LONDON, April 14—(AP)—Certainty of an allied invasion and uncertainty of when and where it will come have given the Germans a pronounced case of jitters, it was indicated today by reports from Berlin via neutral capitals.

While the Nazi big shots apparently are trying to cover up their fears with a display of bravado, expert opinion here held that there was no question but what Hitler's pet weapon—the war of nerves—had attacked his own high command in virulent form.

The current visit to Britain by Gen. George C. Marshall, United States chief of staff, and Harry Hopkins, close adviser to President Roosevelt, is the immediate cause of the German fears, according to the neutral dispatches.

The Germans themselves practically admitted this last night, when the Berlin radio asserted Marshall and Hopkins were under presidential orders to explore the prospects of establishing a western European front.

"We are expecting an invasion at any time—let them try it; we are ready," a high German spokesman was quoted today by the Berlin correspondent of the Stockholm Demokraten.

Fear Invasion

This, said informed sources in London, was a form of "whistling in the dark," for the Germans actually are afraid an invasion of the continent may come at some spot where they are not prepared for it. Adding to the German uneasiness was Gen. Marshall's series of conferences with Lord Louis Mountbatten, chief of the British Commandos and an expert on in-

(Continued on page 7, Col 1)

Ralston sees Bulk of N. S. Defence areas

KENTVILLE, N. S., April 14 — (CP) — After traversing most of the length of Nova Scotia in two plane flights, defence Minister Ralston and Lt.-Gen. Kenneth Stuart, chief of the general staff, inspected near-by Aldershot training Camp tonight as they continued their tour of eastern defence establishments.

They flew here late in the day from Sydney, N. S., after making a swift survey of Cape Breton coastal defences. They had travelled by plane to Cape Breton from Halifax, where they inspected defences yesterday.

The Minister and his staff tomorrow will watch troops here go through training exercises, from basic to advance stages. Later in the day, they will fly to centres along the Province's south shore.

Col. Ralston will go to Prince Edward Island Thursday. Lt.-Gen Stuart will visit Debert Camp the same day.

BEEF SHORTAGE

MONTREAL, April 14 —(CP) — An official of a packing house here said today there is a beef shortage in the Montreal district and that "we don't think there will be any beef next week, although there may be a little."

One supply house official said that Canada has "plenty of beef on the hoof" but that it is being exported to the United States where cattle command a higher price.

Scholarships For Island Men

MONTREAL, April 14 —(CP) — Annual convocation ceremonies took place at the Montreal Presbyterian College tonight with the regular awards of annual prizes, scholarships and diplomas.

Rev. Alex Ferguson of St. Andrews Church, Ottawa, delivered the convocation address.

Prize winners included:—

H.G. Munro scholarship, John O. Denny of Charlottetown; A. M. Naich Scholarship, Donald C. MacDonald, Sylvester, N. S.; C.J. MacLaren scholarship, Lorne MacKay of Stanley Bridge, P.E.I.; S. R. MacLaren scholarship, A Lloyd Henderson, Freeland, P.E.I.; W. Brown scholarship, Joseph MacDonald, Sylvester, N.S.; Mrs. David Morrice award, James G. McDonald, Mahone Bay, N. S.

Members of the graduating class included two Prince Edward Islanders, namely, John O. Denny, B. A., Charlottetown, and A. Lorne MacKay, B.A., of Emerald. Other graduates were Robert A. Jenkins, M.A., Toronto, John Herbison, Lethbridge, Alberta, and Donald C. MacDonald, B.A., of Sylvester, N.S. Last Sunday morning the members of the graduating class took over important city pulpits in Montreal, Mr. Denny preaching in the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, and Mr. MacKay in Knox Crescent Church.

REPORTED MISSING

MONCTON, N. B., April 14 —(CP)—Parents of Sgt. Brian Forsyth Fillter, Royal Canadian Air Force, were informed today that he has been reported missing after air operations overseas on April 12. Before enlisting he worked in the Halifax branch of the Bank of Montreal.

Would be Friendly to Nazis and U. S.

NEW YORK, April 14 —(AP) — The BBC said Pierre Laval, newly returned to power in the Petain government, told interviewers at Vichy tonight he wanted to maintain friendly relations with both Germany and the United States.

The BBC broadcast, heard by CBS, said Laval also expressed hope of obtaining peace with the axis with a guarantee of French independence and integrity.

"The problems he was setting himself to solve," the broadcast said he related, "were first, the maintenance and integrity of the French empire; second, Vichy's attitude in the war between Germany and Britain; and third, disposition of Alsace and Lorraine."

Russians tear Gaping hole in German lines

LONDON, April 14 — (C P) — Russian armies of the Ukraine have torn a gaping hole in the German line 25 miles north of Kharkov and are plunging forward in what may be an enveloping manoeuvre against the great steel-producing centre, Stockholm advices reported tonight.

The break-throuh was reported achieved by Marshal Semeon Timoshenko's forces south of Belgorod, strategic rail junction 45 miles northwest of Kharkov.

The Germans themselves admitted Russian assaults were continuing in the south, chiefly in the Donets Basin, and that a tank-led force of some 90,000 Red troops had launched a new and violent attack on the central front west of Moscow.

A Berlin broadcast heard by exchange telegraph said this attack—by six Soviet divisions, including one of toughened Siberians—had disrupted Nazi lines at some points but that the drive had been blunted and part of the attacking force wiped out.

In the Kalinin sector of the northwestern front the Moscow radio said Red forces had killed 1,150 Germans and liberated four provincial villages

Motor Vessel Feared Lost

NORTH SYDNEY, N.S., April 14 —(CP)—Crew members of the motorvessel Bearcat, which left Port Aux Basques, Nfld., with the missing motorvessel Tatamagouche on March 3, have reported to agents here that they last sighted her late that night and then lost contact in a severe storm.

Badly battered, the Bearcat arrived at Fortune Bay, Nfld., several days later. Since then, no word has been received from the 93-ton Tatamagouche, believed to be carrying four or five men.

The Tatamagouche, owned by Lawrence Sweeney of Yarmouth, N.S., was enroute to North Sydney on the voyage. She is believed lost though sailors here hold out a slim possibility she might be caught in ice off the coast.

The trip normally should take only a day or so.

Join the Host of Home Bakers who — Use BLOSSOM OF CANADA FLOUR Exclusively

Coming Events

—o—

Rate for Notices in this column 3 cents per word

"Talkies—Montague Saturday.

4-14-3i.

"Entertainment Mt. Stewart Friday.

4-14-3i.

"Tea and white elephant sale Trinity Hall, Thursday afternoon. Tea and admission 25 cents.

4-14-3i.

"Loading Hogs at Colville until 1 P. M. Friday, April 17th. Leslie MacDowell.

4-15-2i.

"Notice—Car bulk Wheat ordered to "Carleton Siding". Book orders at once. Hermas Myers, Albany.

4-15-1i.

"Card Party, aid Altar Society, Holy Name Hall, Thursday evening.

4-15-2i.

"Loading hogs April 16, Summerside till 1 p.m.; Kensington till 3 p.m. Bulman and Bagnall, Hunter River Friday till noon. Signed Warren and Campbell.

4-15-1i.

High tide this morning at 10.48 and tonight at 11.19

Sun sets this evening at 6.45 and rises tomorrow morning at 5.15.

New moon April 15, 9.33 a.m. Summerside tide 18 minutes later than Charlottetown.

BORDEN — CAPE TORMENTINE SERVICE

Leave Borden 9.25 A.M. 1.00 P.M.
Leave Cape Tormentine 11.00 A.M 3.20 P.M.