

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

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SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1940.

A Day Of Prayer

At the request of His Majesty King George, tomorrow, Sunday, will be observed as a Day of Prayer. No more fitting occasion could be taken of seeking spiritual strength and guidance, individually and as a nation and Empire. If there is one issue greater than all others at stake in the struggle now being waged in France and Belgium, it is the issue between Paganism and Christianity, Nazi Germany, modern as it seems to be with its mechanized army and air forces, is a throw-back to barbarism. The spirit underlying its lust of power and contempt for higher standards is as old as civilization. The whole history of Christianity has been one of warfare against this creed which has manifested itself in diverse forms but always with the same ruthlessness and disregard for human rights and spiritual values.

His Majesty's broadcast yesterday afternoon was an inspiring appeal to courage and renewed effort based on the realization of this vital issue at stake behind the Nazi drive for world conquest. "At this fateful hour," he said, "we turn, as our fathers before us have turned at all times of trial, to God the Most High. Here in the Old Country I have asked that Sunday next should be observed as a day of special prayer. It may be possible for many of our brothers across the seas to join their prayers with us. Let us with one heart and soul, humbly, but confidently, commit our cause to God and ask His aid that we may valiantly defend the right as it is given to us to see it."

His Majesty's concluding words sounded a trumpet call to action. To the peoples of all parts of the Empire he appealed "to put into your task, whatever it may be, all the courage and purpose of which you are capable. Keep your hearts proud and your resolve unshaken, and let us go forward to this task as one man, a smile on our lips and our heads held high, and with God's help we shall not fail."

It is in this mood that the people of Canada will join with their fellow citizens throughout the Empire in tomorrow's solemn religious observance. As the United Churchman well says in commenting on the proposed Day of Prayer: "It is with the consciousness of the momentous issues hanging over the world that we shall enter our churches. We shall pray for victory, for we do not believe it is the will of God that the forces of brutality shall triumph. And we shall pray for peace, but a better peace than the last one, a peace worthy of Him from whom we ask it."

What Price Isolation?

Lewis W. Douglas, erstwhile Principal of McGill University, has returned to his own country where he recently told the United States Chamber of Commerce that his nation's interests are vitally bound to those of Great Britain and France in their fight against totalitarian rule. The isolationist Wall Street Journal takes issue with Mr. Douglas and argues that the very thing he fears, totalitarianism, will arise in the country if the nation enters the war.

"Does he imagine," asks the Journal, "that in war time we will have free speech, free press and that business will not stop to the mandate from Washington? And does Mr. Douglas think that once government has those powers they will be easily surrendered? It seems a strange argument that the way to avoid totalitarianism is to do the very thing that all know will bring totalitarianism."

Canadians believe the majority of the American people have a truer appreciation of the issues at stake in the conflict in Europe than this isolationist view of the Wall Street Journal. They have only to think back to the Great War in which the United States was a participant to realize that she emerged from it with democracy and freedom undimmed. Why should it not be so again when the whole world is freed from the threat of brute force?

But, as an exchange instances, if Germany can defeat the European democracies how long will it be before she challenges democracy on the American continent, requiring every nation from the Arctic to the Antarctic to resort to totalitarian restrictions to prepare for that challenge?

The Spirit Of Foch

One thing apparent during the past week, says an exchange, is that the spirit and genius of Foch again dominates the battle scene in France and Flanders. One of the great Marshal's famous sayings was: "Never be a slave to preconceived ideas." And to this may be attributed the speed and decisiveness with which Allied strategy and principles have been adjusted to the military situation. News of the appointment of General Maxime Weygand, Foch's pupil and former Chief of Staff, to the supreme command had hardly circulated before it was sensed that a revolution had occurred in the conduct of the war.

It was reflected in action as well as in words. Within a few hours of the German breakthrough at Sedan, Winston Churchill was in Paris, a complete overhaul of the High Command and political direction was under way, and all ideas of a war of encirclement and defense were abruptly discarded.

Gamelin had to go. Events had proved him outmoded and out of step with realities. He and Liddell Hart, the English military publicist, are of the same school of thought, now so graphically discredited. It has expounded as its basis the concentration of forces at the point of attack.

destroy himself against invulnerable fortifications; let guns and shells substitute for the lives of soldiers; let the war be won by methods of attrition.

Very human, very idealistic and very natural. But from the start its futility was obvious. Look at Poland, Norway, Holland and Belgium. Liddell Hart's theories worked like opium on the minds of the British and French peoples, and by remote control upon the mental attitude of Canadians as well. They bred complacency, laissez-faire, gave life to the dangerous legend that the Allies couldn't lose.

The people of the British Isles, their fighting spirit surging to a crest, have fallen in behind Churchill. And Canadians, by and large, are ready, indeed eager, to follow Churchill, too, if only Ottawa will let them, or else put up somebody good enough and aggressive enough to work with him.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Remember in the City and Summerside, the clock is advanced an hour.

Tomorrow city and Summerside churches on Daylight Saving Time; and likewise the schools on Monday.

Lord Beaverbrook born this date, 1879 — a successful Canadian abroad, now Minister of Supplies in the Churchill Government, has controlled many successful industries in cement, electric lighting, traction and newspaper publication. Served with Canadian expeditionary force in France; raised to the peerage 1916; Minister of Information 1918.

Shirley Temple, the child film star of 11, whose contract with Twentieth Century-Fox Studio has been terminated, will receive \$300,000 bonus from the film company, as one of the terms of the agreement under which her contract was ended. The bonus is in the nature of a trust fund and represents extra money she has earned with her pictures during the last five years. The little screen actress, whose smiles and dimples have delighted audiences since 1934, and who for years led all other Hollywood favorites in box office appeal, is reputed to have earned \$20,000,000 for her studio.

Of the 264,804 persons who paid \$46,937,205 in income tax in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1939, 119,346 were in the income class under \$2,000, the National Revenue Department disclosed. They contributed \$1,269,723 or 2.66 per cent of the total amount paid by individuals. The number with incomes from \$2,000 to \$3,000 was 63,572 and they paid \$1,324,663 which was 3.4 per cent of the total. Of other individual taxpayers, there were 457 earning more than \$50,000 a year. These represented 17 per cent of the total and contributed \$17,289,365, an average of \$37,832 each or 36.17 per cent of total payments.

The lot of the American farm laborer is harder, his burden of responsibility is heavier and his standard of living is the lowest of any occupational group in the United States. Mr. C. Horace Hamilton of the Agricultural Department's Division of Farm Population and Rural Welfare told the Civil Liberties Committee, Washington. "The problem of farm labor is not confined to a few commercial truck and fruit growing areas," said Mr. Hamilton. "It is nationwide in scope, its ramifications reach into every aspect of national economy and the worst of it is there is little the farm laborers, the most ambitious of them, can do about it," Mr. Hamilton said.

Television, like all visual entertainment media, requires an unwavering fixity of attention on the viewer's part. But completely fixed, prolonged attention is made possible only when there also exists a sense of group identification of the kind experienced in the public theatre. For that reason the home is no place for a theatre, just as it is no place for a church—in both cases the sense of human communion established depends on the actual physical presence of one's fellow-men. Consequently, while television offers almost unlimited possibilities for further expansion to the motion pictures and the theatre, it satisfies no deeply rooted human need in the home. This is the stone wall, writes Irving Fiske, against which television's promoters have unwittingly been battering themselves.

Australia has launched an intensive trade drive in the Far East. By pushing sales of dairy produce, canned foods, and manufactured articles, it is hoped to maintain the total value of Australian exports despite a falling in shipments of iron and machinery. Because of local defence needs Australian manufacturers cannot now meet increased demands for almost all types of machinery, but with the exchange in its favour the Commonwealth can recoup this loss by competing successfully against the United States in other classes of merchandise. Despite the Sino-Japanese war, Australian sales to China continue to maintain the recovery shown last year when exports rose by 100 per cent to \$12,000,000. In the Philippines, despite the United States tariff protection, there is a boom demand for Australian dairy produce and other goods.

Scientists working in the McMaster Laboratory, Sydney, are highly confident that they have evolved a process for reducing the shrinkage of woolen garments. Tests have shown that individual fibres when treated by the new process have a higher breaking strength, while the yarns made from treated wool are very much more extensible. In addition, the yarns show considerably increased resistance to an oscillating stress designed to simulate the effects of wearing as a garment—in other words, materials made from wool that has been subjected to the new process should last longer. The directors of the Murrumbidgee Woolen Mills, one of the largest concerns of the kind in Australia, expect that the treatment which adds only a few pence to the cost of the material used for garments and takes only a few minutes, will remove one of the principal objections to the use of wool for

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NOTES BY THE WAY

After a slight hold-up owing to labor troubles the new Waterloo Bridge, thousands of Londoners who daily cross Charing Cross railway bridge, are now able to see the carriage windows, see the giant structure of the new bridge gradually assuming shape. N.W. days or bridge-builders, who must rank high in the list of great public benefactors, achieve their miracles much more rapidly than was once the case. We can build a bridge now in almost as many months as formerly it took for the Romans to build a stone bridge. The new bridge, considered as a purely architectural one, is quite as impressive as the older bridge-builders of the pre-concrete era achieved is another matter. But for sheer utility the modern bridge can challenge comparison with anything in past centuries. New Waterloo Bridge, like its immediate predecessor, will have the distinction of being the longest cantilevered bridge across the London Thames. It will be an impressively clean-cut structure, and will have the advantage of tremendous traffic potentiality. A seasonal current may affect Strand traffic flow is an urgent problem. Another poignant problem is whether the bridge will be completed before London receives the expected baptism of Nazi bombs. — Ottawa

Last September, in the early days of the war, a British naval plane was forced down in the remote harbor of Raufarheofn, on the north coast of Iceland. The pilot, a young man, was taken to the local authorities and the commander of the base, who would submit himself and his crew of nine to internment. He understood otherwise and early next morning he fled for home. Word of the escape, which was kept secret, was communicated with London, and Count Reventlow, the Danish Minister to England, scrupulously reported the matter to the British Government. A special court promptly sat on the case, decided that the officer had erred, emphasized the British desire to respect the neutrality of all non-belligerent nations, and ordered the officer back to Iceland for the duration of the war. The question was raised on this page at that time whether or not a young man of this present generation, who would submit himself and his crew of nine to internment, would do so. The answer is not clear, but it is a question that should be asked. — New York Times

Sergeant Pilot James Emerson Miller did not die in vain when the British fighting plane in which he was a pilot was brought down in flames by Dutch airmen in the name of a nonsensical interpretation of neutrality which gives all the advantages to the Nazis and all the disadvantages upon British and Canadian boys defending freedom. Could the Netherlands air force have been at the Cenotaph in Jersey on Sunday afternoon if they had seen Canadian airmen dip in homage to a hero's memory while hundreds of villagers and farm folk from the Counties of Durham and North Yorkshire joined in tribute they would know he had not died in vain. Jim Miller was a God-fearing young Ontario farmer who discussed the world outlook with his spiritual adviser before he paid his own passage to England to join the Royal Air Force. The young pilot day after day after day after day which packed the Jarvis United Church. The strong bore testimony to the popularity of a self-sacrificing hero of the young airman, who had told his story to the press here may be war—an unprovoked attack upon Britain that I am going. — Toronto Globe and M. J.

—Sir:—We have a letter from our agent somewhere in South America. He writes: We have had a V.H. from a German gentleman who returns us that it is useless for us to send him any more of our films as all boats will be sunk in future, and although the goods are insured the British would not pay our commission as the goods would not be received. We intend you would like to know a bit, and we feel sure you will exercise as usual. Letter to Manchester Guardian.

Archbishop A. U. de Peniers' attenuated six-foot-three will be served from official places when he returns following thirty years' service here. He arrived to town of 80,000, he quits his high post in a city of a quarter of a million. His mellow speaking voice and the rounded periods of his oratory have been part of our cultural life and his sense of proportion has kept the liberals and conservatives of his flock in balance. For two achievements, his oratory will be especially remembered. First is his celebrated luncheon grace, shortest in Canadian Club history. "For what we are about to receive, thank God." Second is his sermon in Westminster Abbey on behalf of the diocese of Caledonia. At its close a woman unknown to him, gave a cheque for \$2,500. — Vancouver Province.

Loyalty to their province is said to be a marked characteristic of the people of New Brunswick. We wonder how it will stand the new tax on tobacco, which the provincial government, in its quest of additional revenue, is imposing. Mr. Doane, the provincial treasurer, estimates that it may bring in \$125,000, but he admits that he doesn't know and that this is only a guess. The Dominion Government has been taxing the smokers for a long time, of course—and increasing the taxation as its needs became greater. The Government figured, no doubt, that since smokers obtain such solace from the weed, they would quietly submit to the levy without kicking.

Blind girls as cooks. (Winnipeg Free Press) Scientists were confused at the opening of last week as they pieced together fragmentary reports from the United States of a new energy producer, U-235. One pound of this substance, which is a close chemical relative of uranium, is said to have the power of 5,000,000 pounds of coal or 3,000,000 pounds of gasoline.

The scientists left little doubt that they believed from the reports then available in Manitoba that the results were highly theoretical and might not be of much practical use. But their more worldly compatriots who daily scan the stock markets were taking no chances. They started a buying rush for the stock of Eldorado, Canada's sole producer of radium, and also a producer of radium chloride. Cause of all this excitement was a column one, page one report in the New York Times, running the full length of the column, and also an inside page, where the report with photographs takes up parts of another six columns. Internationally, the news prevented the newspaper from devoting further space to the subject because there was a story going around that the Nazi government was very much interested in the development and more detailed exposition of the discovery would not be in the interests of the United States.

All German scientists in the field concerned with the discovery have been ordered to drop their other researches and devote themselves to this work alone, reports have it. It is also learned that German scientists are carrying on their researches at the laboratories of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute at Berlin.

The discovery was first announced in the current issue of the Physical Review, official publication of the American Physical Association, one of the leading scientific journals in the world. It is a method of isolating the energy in a substance to be the only remaining step involved in the introduction of the power. However, it is not a method which is a simple matter to be reported to be quite a simple matter to release this hitherto untapped energy. All that is needed to put it to work running engines powered by steam is to place it in a tank of water and to keep it supplied with a constant flow of cold water. Left by itself, the substance would be inactive. As soon as it touches water, it automatically starts to liberate its energy. Then the water would be heated to boiling point and converted into steam. Constant supply goes until the substance would be used up. If, however, the substance is reported, one pound of U-235 has the potential equivalent of 5,000,000 pounds of coal. A pound of it would go a long way. The substance was first cast on the possible nature of the atom as a great energy source by Professor Niels Bohr, Nobel prize-winning physicist of the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, who carried on his researches at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, and by Dr. John A. Wheeler of Princeton University. Professor Bohr heard of German experiments with uranium mixed with three of its isotopes, and he immediately set to work to determine whether the mixture was bombarded with neutrons (atomic constituents). What was left after this atomic siege was the element barium and some "atomic debris." Then there followed experiments in well-equipped United States universities to check the reported phenomenon. Physicists who were carrying on these experiments soon found an interest in the barium and the atomic debris and centered their attention on the amazing release of energy that accompanied the experiment. Professors Bohr and Wheeler presented the theory that it was the atomic fission of U-235 on the mixture that was responsible for release of the vast amount of energy.

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.

UN-CANADIAN ACTIVITIES

Sir:—Thanks to the admirable work of a few public-spirited and clear-thinking citizens, the high-sounding Civil Liberties Union and kindred associations, at their recent national conference held in Montreal, stood revealed in their true colors. They have been dragged from out the mits of abstract vapourings to face the hard facts of the hour. The question of the moment—"Are we in favour of winning the war?" was squarely put, and as reported in the Montreal Star was met by "...silence for a moment and then a few hesitant calls of 'No' came from the audience."

In the face of this failure to pass what must surely be the test of any good Canadian, is it not time that the high-minded, idealistic thinkers cease to allow the prestige of their names and, more impressive, that of the education or religious institutions with which they are associated to be used as a cloak for un-Canadian activities? For these are the activities of people who, at the worst, may be Fifth Columnists and agents of the enemy and, at the best, are a drag on the Canadian war effort and unworthy the sacrifices of our fighting men.

PROVINCIAL ABATTOIR

Sir:—An abattoir having patrons organized as I have outlined is peculiarly well adapted to promote a collective advertising program for Island meat products. The Department of Rural Reconstruction of Newfoundland is awake to the possibilities of this type of advertising and I would plan a program for this establishment on very similar lines. In Newfoundland farm products meeting certain set standards are permitted to be marketed under the name "Caribou." The government has this name and trade mark registered and further assists shippers by supplying them with bags and wrapping materials incorporating this name and the trade name is now a hall-mark as it has earned a prestige that gives its subscribers a premium over competing products. A consumer buys "Caribou" confident of receiving quality commensurate with cost.

I think their idea could be employed with advantage to our producers, even if grading standards were not imposed. Having all products shipped under one widely disseminated trade name would be decidedly better than the indifference this medium of increasing goodwill now receives. The plan is in harmony with the trend of modern marketing. Marketing gives bigger returns with a dominant element of co-operation and orderliness—no less so in advertising. An organization that centralizes the interests of its patrons is more effectively equipped to promote them.

I am, Sir, etc. J. M. ROOP.

The Poet's Corner

BY THE SEA The holy time is quiet as a nun Breathless with adoration; the sun is sinking down in its tranquility; The gentleness of heaven broods o'er the sea. Listen! the mighty being is awake, And doth with his eternal motion make A sound like thunder—everlastingly. —Wordsworth.

TIRED FEET FIND INSTANT EASE WHEN YOU RUB IN MINARD'S GREAT CANADIAN RUBBING LINIMENT

SEMESAN BEL THE NEW IMPROVED QUICK DIP SEED TREATMENT FOR SEED POTATOES One pound will treat from 6 to 80 bushels. One pound tin (300 lbs. bushels) — \$1.25 Five pound tin (3000 lbs. bushels) — \$8.75

Disinfect Your Potato Seed With "SEMESAN BEL" NEW IMPROVED You will have a better yield and better profits. A fresh supply of Formaldehyde just received. This is also an excellent Dip—40c pint. We also carry "New Improved Ceresan" for wheat, oats and barley — lbs. \$1.00, 5 lbs. \$2.95

ISLAND FARMERS KNOW HICKEY'S BLACK TWIST 10c PER FIG STRAIGHT Everywhere in Prince Edward Island