

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887) President: Lieut. Col. W. Chester S. McLure...

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

MONDAY, DEC. 27, 1943 Canada's Foreign Trade

Easing of censorship regulations has permitted the publication in recent months of some general information regarding Canada's foreign trade...

Only general information about our current foreign trade is as yet permitted by the censorship. The figures are not broken down into categories of merchandise...

Our importation of strategic materials from abroad was financed mainly through the curtailment of imports for civilian use...

Political Speculation

To be or not to be is apparently the question regarding the reorganization of the King Government likely to affect the political fortunes of present and prospective members...

Done By British Army

One significant feature of the war is that British troops which have been stationed in Allied and friendly countries in pursuance of war against the Axis will leave behind them permanent long-term economic benefits...

Thus, although in some areas war has caused inconvenience to local populations, — especially Persia, where enormous volume of supplies to Russia has dislocated economic life...

In the Levant the British Army has extended railway track from Haifa to Tripoli, 175 miles, thus establishing a complete through railway from Aleppo on the Turkish border to Alexandria, Egypt and beyond.

A permanent improvement to a coastal road in the British Army construction of Chekka by-pass, where the road constantly was blocked by landslides. This involved excavation of 50,000 cubic metres of rock...

In view of British achievement in the complete north-south (Turkey-Egypt) railway system, very significant is the British completion of a great motor highway across the Syrian desert linking Haifa to Bagdad...

miles, and it reduced the journey, coast to Bagdad, by one-half.

EDITORIAL NOTES

On the last lap of the 1943 handicap. A slave state, such as the CCF envisions, should it ever get into power, can always find plenty of work for more slaves.

All liquor stores in New Brunswick were closed on Thursday evening until this morning. A Saint John bootlegger has been sentenced to six months in jail and a fine of \$500 or an additional six months in jail by Magistrate Palmer for keeping intoxicating liquor for sale on his premises to a value exceeding \$10.

The political scene in Canada begins to show some clear trends, says the Letter Review. Liberal prospects in the election continue to decay — outside of Quebec. Outside of Quebec, Mr. Bracken continues to make rapid progress. The CCF is slipping everywhere — because it is impossible for a Socialist Government to get elected in Canada, after people begin to ask whether it is the Coldwell brand of Socialism, or the Winch brand.

Despite paper shortage, the annual edition of The Northern Miner runs this year to 136 pages. Emphasis is placed on the necessity to revive the Canadian mining industry as a post-war medium for providing employment. While the industry has given a good account of itself in the war period this result has been secured at the sacrifice of ore bodies which must be replaced by intensive prospecting and geological work. Other subjects dealt with are gold, post-war rehabilitation and various branches of war industry.

For flavors of sweat, the human body is a regular soda fountain — the sweat of the brow is strong in uric acid, the sweat of the hands is strong in chloride (salt), the sweat of the thigh is strong in lactic acid. These pungent facts are disclosed in a report by Drs. Olaf Mickelson and Aneel Keys of the University of Minnesota in the Journal of Biological Chemistry. The chief purpose of their research was to find out whether enough vitamins are lost in sweat to warrant feeding U. S. soldiers in the tropics extra vitamins. Doctors' conclusions: few vitamins are lost in sweat, despite its variety.

Charles Lamb, English essayist, died this date 1834; a Civil Servant in London, he devoted the greater part of his time to writing essays and verses; is recognized as one of the most lovable characters and writers in English literature: "The human species, according to the best theory I can form of it, is composed of two distinct races, the men who borrow and the men who lend... What a liberal confounding of those pedantic distinctions of meum and tuum! ... I mean your borrowers of books — those mutilators of collections, spoilers of the symmetry of shelves, and creators of odd volumes."

Two pant suits are again legal and procurable. The Government authorities at Ottawa claim that this is due to the fact that the clothing industry has gone "over the top" providing army uniforms. Production of uniforms has been tapering off for some months, and Prices Board officials say one result of the lessened military demands for clothing has been easing of the order forbidding two-pant men's suits. Another, and possibly more likely explanation, is that an election is in the offing.

In the first months of 1944 it will rest upon Congress and Parliament to show that while the decisive period of the struggle in Europe holds the attention of millions of combatants, causes a tremendous loss of life and destruction of material, the institutions looked upon as the foundation of the democratic way of life hold solidly on this remote front. Parliament has had in the past four years to listen to governmental announcements of war developments that have stirred it to its depths, tragic stories and then news that brings the legislators to their feet. In the first months of 1944 the people of this continent are hoping to expect nothing but good news. Only a galvanizing leadership from Parliament can enormously help to ensure that kind of announcement, to sustain the morale and maintain the solidarity of the home front intact. Will we have such leadership?

London Presbyterians will shortly be given an opportunity to interest themselves in the work of the Iona Community. Rev. George Macleod is going from Edinburgh to tell members of St. Columba's and other Church of Scotland congregations the story of the Community's growth and the motives which led to its foundation in 1938. Members of the Community seek new ways for the Church in a changing environment. It is not a monastic revival. Many of its members are married. But it seeks the methods of all past ages in the history of the Scottish Church to serve coming needs. In addition to Dr. Macleod's addresses on Iona a coloured film made on the island will be shown. An Iona memorial slab was installed in St. James Church here by Rev. Dr. R. Moorhead Legate in commemoration of a visit he paid the Cathedral on the last occasion he and the late Mrs. Legate went to the old land.

What's in a name? In order to obtain first-hand evidence of the alleged illegal increase in the price of hair cuts in Winnipeg, the Prices Board announced that several of its men had their hair trimmed on expense accounts as they investigated the 43 per cent increase by the Master Barbers' Association of Winnipeg. The association, contending that barbers do not come under control of the Prices Board regulations, jumped haircuts from 35 cents to 50 cents. The board has jurisdiction over hair-dressing and beauty parlor services, but the term barber is not mentioned in the order-in-council under which it operates. A test case is expected to determine whether the term hair dresser means a barber.

This War's V. C.'s

(Continued) V. C. WON IN SYRIA

Lieut. A. R. Cutler played a leading part, with recurring deeds of heroism, in the bitter fighting that led to the capture of Merdjayoun in Syria, and in which he was seriously wounded. His leg was afterwards amputated. He is Australia's second V. C.

Next in line comes the brave and gallant Edward, V. C. D. S. O. D. F. C. His V. C. was won on July 4, 1941, for coolness and daring in a low-level attack on the heavily-armed city of Brenner. Since then Edwards' many acts of heroism have become a byword in the R. A. F.

Six days after Edwards' exploit, a former kangaroo shooter from Glen Glin, Western Australia, on his own initiative, crept forward over the Syrian battlefield, over an area swept by intense gunfire. He charged an enemy post; from the front, killed four gunners with his bayonet, and demoralised the enemy in his sector. He was Pte. (now Sergeant) Jim Gordon, who is still serving.

New Zealand's first airman V. C. was Sgt. Ward. He climbed through the narrow astro-hatch of a burning plane which had been hit by cannon shell and incendiary bullets, breaking his hand and footholds in the fabric. He put out the flames, saved the plane, and was later killed in action.

The story of Brigadier "Jock" Campbell's desert column will live in history. At Sidra, Iraq, on November 21, 1941, this heroic leader of the British tanks won the V. C. He later became a major-general, and was killed. The C. S. were won on that day — one to 2nd Lieut. Gunn of the Royal Artillery, who was killed. The other was the King's Royal Rifle Corps. Two days later, Captain "Chips" Gardner of the Royal Tank Regiment, was ordered to destroy the disabled armoured cars, outside Tobruk. He left his tank, under murderous fire, secured a tow rope to the tank, and, with both legs broken, he pulled the tow rope, re-acted the rope, and drove the line through the enemy. He was later killed. He also won the M. C.

At El Duda Camp, Jackman's bravery and devotion to duty won him the V. C.

The first V. C. for Malaya was won by Lieut. Col. O. Cunningham, of the Indian Army. With two bayonet wounds in his stomach, Cunningham drove, in a carrier, collecting the last British troops, over a heavy fire.

Malaya V. C. Lieut. Col. Anderson won Malaya's second V. C. He is English-born, and has a farm in Australia. He was the only man to be so magnificent example to his men, and continually exposed himself to fire, and with his small force he destroyed ten enemy tanks. He forced his way 15 miles into the enemy lines. Surrounded, he and his men dropped off to sleep. He was rescued by the Japanese, and they destroyed four guns. He protected his wounded, and refused to leave his men. Anderson then led his men back through eight miles of jungle. This proved impossible, and he was ordered to destroy his own equipment, and his way round the enemy's lines.

In the Straits of Dover, Lieut. Com. Esmond, D. S. O., won the V. C. for attacking the sea-going German battleships with his squadron of Swordfish aircraft. He was the first V. C. of the Fleet Air Arm, and he was killed in the action.

Squadron-Leader Nettleton is South Africa's first V. C. He was born at Nonong, Natal, and was attached to the R. A. F. Rhodesia Squadron, winning his decoration in action over Awebeh, Germany, in March 27, 1942. The second and third submarine officer to win the V. C. were Lieut. Peter Roberts and Petty-Officer Gould, of Thrasher.

A DARING DEED Then came the gallantry of the 26-year-old son of Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Rogers Keyes — Lieut. Col. Geoffrey Keyes. He led his men, the Royal Scots Greys, and raided the headquarters of Rommel in Africa, on November 17, 1941. He died in the arms of a mother officer, after one of the most daring deeds of this war, an episode which won Keyes the V. C. (The full story of this epic feat was told in The Legionary's September, 1942, issue.)

Commander A. C. Miers of H. M. Sub. Torbay, attacked his target in full daylight. He won the V. C. Lieut. Col. Turner got his decoration in Egypt. Turner and his men set 35 tanks ablaze, and then put another 20 out of action. His brother also won the V. C. at Loos in the war. The two brothers, Brig-General Bradford, aged 24, Durham Light Infantry, and Lieut. Com. Bradford, Royal Navy, both won the V. C. in the last war. They were both killed.

Canada's 1st V. C. Lieut. Col. C. C. Merritt, of the South Saskatchewan Regt., won Canada's first V. C. of the war at Dieppe, where Capt. Anthony Porteous, of the Royal Horse Artillery, won his. The story of Col. Merritt's gallant deed was published in The Legionary's October 1942 issue.

For valor, in Egypt, Sgt. Quentin Smythe won South Africa's second award. The next five awards were to Australians: Bill Bennett and Pte. Percy Gratwick of the 2-48th Bn, A. I. F., won posthumous Crosses; El Alamein. The first New Guinea V. C. of the war, John French, of Toowoomba, and Pte. Bruce Kingsbury, were the second. Both were killed. Pte. Gurney, of W. A., won his V. C. in Egypt.

In Libya, a British Tommy, Pte. Wakenham, of the Buffs, Armoured Corps, won his V. C. Next came Sgt. Ron Middleton of the R. A. F., who, returning from a raid on Italy, ordered his men to bail out of his damaged plane. Severely wounded, almost blind, suffering great pain, Middleton then put out to sea, rather than order his aircraft and endanger his fellow-men.

A CONVOY V. C. Destroyer Capt. Robert St. Vincent Sherbrooke won the next V. C., beating off four attacks on his



HOW ONE WINTER CAME IN THE LAKE REGION

For weeks and weeks the autumn world stood still. Clothed in the shadow of a smoky haze: The fields were dead, the wind had lost its will. And all the lands were hushed by wood and hill. In those grey, withered days. Behind a mist the clear sun rose and set. At night the moon would nestle in a cloud; The fisherman, a ghost, would cast his net; The lake its shores forgot to chase the waves; And hushed its oarers loud. . . . From day to day still hushed the season's mood. The streams stayed in their runnels shrunk and dry; Sun's rose against the wave and shore and wood. And all the world, with ominous silence stood. In weird expectancy:

When one strange night the sun like blood went down, Flooding the heavens in a ruddy hue. Red was the lake, the sere fields parched and brown. Red grew the marshes where the hawbirds strayed. But never a wind-breath blew. That night I felt the winter in my O joyous tremor of the icy glow; And woke to hear the north's wild vibrant strale. While far and wide by withered woods and plains. Fast fell the driving snow. —Wilfred Campbell (1861-1919)

convoy taking supplies to Russia. He lost one eye. Major H. W. Le Patourel (afterwards P. O. W. in Italy), a bank clerk, won the first V. C. in Tunisia. At the Mareth Line, Lieut. Col. Derek Seagrims, of the Green Howards, won the decoration posthumously, and so did Captain Parkes, single in Burma. Commander Linton, D. S. O., D. S. C., R. N., submarine commander, got his V. C. for sinking 21 enemy U-boats. Captain Turner won his V. C. at Oran, as told in the June, 1943, issue of The Legionary. Both died.

The gallantry of Wing-Commander Gibson over the Mohne and Eder dams won for him the Victoria Cross. He also held the D. S. O. (with Bar) and D. F. C. (with Bar). Gibson, who is loaned temporarily to the U. S. Air Forces accompanied Lieut. Churhill to the Quebec Conference. A Gurkha officer, Subadar Lalbahadur Thapa, won the V. C. in a night attack on Rasz-ey-Zonal, Tunisia. He killed several enemy, four with his kukri (knife). 2nd Lieut. Moana Kiya Ngarimu, of the New Zealand forces, won the first Maori to win the V. C. He led his men with heroic determination at Tebaga Gap, and was killed, defeating the enemy, with a tommy gun at his hip.

Another Tunisian V. C. is Lieut. Col. Lorn Maclean Campbell, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who is a nephew of Q-Boat Admiral Campbell, who won the V. C. in the last war. Three Campbell's have won V. C.'s in this war. After a counter-attack six miles from Medjez, Lieut. W. A. S. Clarke, of the Loyall Regiment (member of Lord Roberts' family, and the fifth V. C. that family has won) captured single-handed three machine gun posts and was killed in action. He and Major J. Anderson, D. S. O., of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who led his battalion up Long Stop, well under heavy fire, and Major Chielu Ram, Rajputana Rifles, Indian Army (nemesse), and from the same Indian regiment as the 1914 winner of this war) were all Tunisian V. C. winners. Captain Lord Lyell, of the Scots Guards, who valiantly led a bayonet charge at a German machine gun post in Tunisia, and Lance Corporal James Maclean, of the Irish Guards, who showed amazing gallantry in the Tunisian fighting, are recent V. C. winners. Lord Lyell fell in action.

COMPLETE TO SEPT. 1 This record, which has been carefully compiled, does not include the Battles of Sicily or Italy. No doubt many deeds of valour in these and other theatres of operations will warrant the bestowal of the Victoria Cross before the Second Great War comes to an end.

This War—Four Years Ago

By The Canadian Press DEC. 27, 1939—Indian Moslem troops take up front line positions on Western front. Russia rushes reinforcements to Finnish front as Finns say fresh Soviet attacks in Karelia repulsed.

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