THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Mail in P.E.I., $4.00 per year; $2.50 for 6 months $1.25 for 3 months; 50c for one month
City Delivery $5.00 per year; $3.00 for 6 months $1.75 for 3 months
By Mail in Canada and U.S.A. $5.00 per year
Saturday Weekly: $2.00 per year; $1.00 for 6 months 50c for 3 months

The Charlottetown Guardian may be obtained at Hotaling's News Agency, Times Square, New York; Old South News Agency, Corner Milk and Washington, Boston; Metropolitan News Agency, 1248 Peel St., Montreal; J. Fine, 354 Bay St., Toronto; News Stand, Chateau Laurier, Ottawa; Wolfe's News Stand, Sudbury, Ont; Hub Tobacco Shop, Moncton N. B.

The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1941.

Senator Meighen's Selection

There will be general satisfaction with the selection of the Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, Conservative leader in the Senate, to the position of wartime leader of the National Conservative Party. This selection, made unanimously at a National Conservative Conference last week, was necessitated by the regrettable ill health of the present House of Commons leader, Hon. R. B. Hanson. Senator Meighen, with his long experience in Parliament, particularly during the last war and subsequently as Prime Minister, and with his outstanding ability as a speaker and debater, is unquestionably the right choice as Mr. Hanson's successor. He will be able to voice the opinion, not only of Conservatives, but of all Canadians who want to see our war effort speeded up, and in addition he will be a tower of strength as speaker at patriotic demonstrations throughout the country, which are so needed to influence recruiting and to stir up the patriotism that is lying dormant in the hearts and minds of our citizens.

In the last war, Senator Meighen as Minister of the Interior carried most of the burden of directing administrative duties of the Government during Sir Robert Borden's frequent absences in England. His voice has been the most eloquent heard in many years at Ottawa, and his knowledge of parliamentary detail is unsurpassed in any part of the Empire.

It was generally recognized that Senator Meighen's talents have had far too little scope in the Upper Chamber. The legislation coming before the Senate in wartime is infinitesimal His place undoubtedly is in the Commons, where as leader of the Opposition his keen intellect and moral courage, coupled with his other qualifications above mentioned, can be used to the best advantage.

The Fox Show

Last year the Silver Fox Exhibitors Association decided to "carry on" during wartime, and the success of the 1940 Show, in number and quality of exhibits, in attendance and enthusiasm, fully justified this decision. The same sound policy has been followed this year. The Fox Show which opens at the Exhibition grounds today bids fair to eclipse all previous records. The entry list is the largest in the history of the organization, with approximately seventy sections. New types of foxes developed in recent years will be well represented along with the regular classes of silvers for which this Province has long been famous.

Elsewhere in today's Guardian will be found special features devoted to the Fox Show and to the history and development of the industry. Future prospects are also dealt with, and it is highly encouraging to note the optimism with which these prospects are regarded.

More than ever now, the emphasis is being placed on quality production in the fox industry. It is in this connection that Fox Shows have proved of such great value and importance. All our citizens should endeavor to see this week's magnificent showing, representing the pick of Prince Edward Island ranches and some of the finest specimens to be found anywhere in the world.

A New Gibraltar

It is reassuring to learn from the correspondent of The Times of London that Gibraltar has been strengthened greatly. For fifteen months pneumatic drills have been boring new galleries in the heart of the Rock. The correspondent describes the scene underground as still presenting a Dantesque picture of toil, although the work is close to completion. A vast sub-surface city can now house the garrison in case of siege. There are available guns, ammunition, food and a water supply sufficient to enable defenders to rival the famous endurance of 1779-83, when the Rock stood siege for more than three years. There is also a well-protected fuel reserve for the airplanes participating in the defense.

Women, children and the aged have been banished from the population, which has come down from the normal 15,000 of peacetime to a fifth of that number, almost all men between the ages of 18 and 45 engaged in essential tasks. Some thousands more are admitted daily from Spanish territory for civilian duties and are eager to enter because food and even luxuries are cheaper and more plentiful there than in any town in Spain. This shifting population, however, must depart at nightfall and is admitted again only after the strictest scrutiny. There is no blackout except in the event of an air-raid warning, but naval posts and batteries are fully manned day and night.

There are two probable eventualities in the changing kaleidoscope of this war which would bring Gibraltar back into the picture. One would be an Axis occupation of the Spanish peninsula, bringing about an immediate state of siege. The other would be the cession by the Vichy Government of its bases in North Africa. In the latter case, with attacks coming from Oran and Casablanca less than 300 miles away Gibraltar would be in similar plight to the island fortress of Malta. As a contemporary remarks. it is good news that the British are making ready for either eventuality.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

Of course, if we judge summer by the sample we had this year, it may be quite possible that Indian Summer is now with us.

* * * *

It is no joke leading the opposition at Ottawa these days, because you are damned if you do criticize war policies and performances, and damned likewise if you fail to do so.

* * * *

In view of the federal taxation proposals it is possible the New Brunswick Legislature may open earlier than usual perhaps in the latter part of January or early February. This would provide an opportunity for the government to pass possible legislation following any agreements made at the federal-provincial conference.

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Parents and teachers are urged to impress upon chidren the necessity of keeping off the grass at the base of the soldiers' monument, following the Remembrance Day ceremony tomorrow. Stands are being placed to accommodate the wreaths, and these can be plainly inspected from the footpath. The grass plot should not be trampled upon by anyone.

* * * *

It is not only in Nazi occupied territory that the Victory "V" is making its appearance. A New Waterford, N. S. miner painted a broad "V" on the seat of a chair the other day and kept it wet. Every one who came along and sat in the chair found the "V" campaign was right with him.

* * * *

The Australian Government has decided not to make any further cuts in newsprint rations, despite the fact that previous governments threatened further reduction in December of 5 per cent to make consumption 60 per cent of prewar levels. The government simultaneously decided to investigate means of extending local newsprint production in order to conserve shipping and dollar exchange.

* * * *

In the event of Rt. Hon Arthur Meighen accepting the Conservative leadership, will Hon Cyrus MacMillan or Dr. Grant accept promotion to the Senate and allow him unopposed return? Prince did it for Rt. Hon Mackenzie King and Hon. Mr. Ralston, Queen's for Hon. Charles A. Dunning. It is naturally Kings turn to do the needful, though of course, Queens has two seats and could act accordingly.

* * * *

Sir William Willcox, medical adviser to the British Home Office since 1919, and an eminent authority on poisons, died the other day, leaving to his wife and son his confidential medical and scientific documents. These cover secrets of some of the most notorious poisoners of the last quarter of a century whom he was instrumental in sending to the gallows. Dr. Roche Lynch, senior analyst of the Home Office, is most anxious to have these, and the family have promised to turn them over to him.

* * * *

Oliver Goldsmith, poet, dramatist and man of letters, born this date, 1728. He was plain-looking, and marked with smallpox; generous to a fault, extremely foolish in most of his actions; lacking in the ability to make money systematically, or to take care of it when made, but he was beloved by everybody. His "Vicar of Wakefield" is one of the masterpieces of English fiction, and his brilliant comedy "She Stoops to Conquer" still maintains its popularity. His poem "The Deserted Village" will not readily be forgotten.

* * * *

In the message of "solidarity with the workers of Great Britain" which was cabled to Britain by Labor Prime Minister John Curtin, he said: "Australian workers are of the same blood, fighting for the same cause and the same free institutions. There is nothing we will not do. Australia is in this struggle, with all our resources. Since the outset of this war. Australian workmen have performed production miracles. We feel that Labor Government in Australia will mean that the national effort will be conducted more efficiently, speedily and victoriously." Premier Curtin has outlined three points of Australian Labor's foreign policy. 1. Maintenance of the Australian Imperial Force abroad at full strength with the full weight of production and material behind it. 2. Increasing contributions in production and material to be made by Australia to the common pool. 3. Vital concern in the Roosevelt-Konoye talks and moves to ensure peace in the Pacific side by side with efforts to maintain Australia's defensive security.

* * * *

Lindsay Drummond, London publisher, meditated on certain words uttered by President Roosevelt on his return from his meeting with the British Prime Minister in the North Atlantic and then acted on them. The President had said: "The condition of the countries under the German yoke is something which should be driven home more and more into the minds of the people of the democratic lands." Subsequently Mr. Drummond announced a series of monographs dealing with the nations under Hitler's rule. The first has made its appearance entitled "I Saw Poland Suffer," by a Polish Doctor. Subsequent books in the series called "Europe Under the Nazis" although equally well authenticated, are also expected to be by anonymous authors, for, otherwise, their kin at home might be persecuted. Even the translator of this Polish book described as "a clinical report on the pathology of a nation" and as "a horrible document" is anoymous for a similar reason. Among the 82,000 murders recorded that of the heroic Mayor of Warsaw, Stafan Starzynski, receives occular evidence, as does the more recent killing of Professor Bartel. Among other documents presented are fascimiles of decrees, one showing that it is a criminal offence to speak or read Polish in that part of the country incorporated in the Reich.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A Canadian Resources bulletin assures us that wood is an economical way to reduce heating costs. But it neglects to suggest who is going to get up at 3 a. m. and throw another log on the fire.—Cornwall Standard-Freeholders:

German stretcher-bearers are ordered not to pick up men who have lost arms and legs, but only those who can be soldiers again. Guess they didn't hear of Bader soon enough.—(Brockville Recorded and Times)

—The arsenal of democracy is a little slow in getting going but it will be running at top speed in 1942. As they say in Brooklyn, "Wait till next year". —New Yorker.

Now that plowing matches are the chief attraction in the rural districts, it may be interesting to know that ten million head of farm work-stock (mules and horses) have been displaced by tractors in the United States. However, there is no better sight to a real farmer than to see a stout team of horses hitched to a plow that is turning over sod in a furrow as straight and even as the proverbial "bee line."—Chatham News.

—Nazis authorities in Norway have recently transferred 10,000 Norwegian workmen from their regular trades to work in mines, fisheries and light metal industries. In addition, 1,600 workers from various parts of the country have been sent to Trondheim to aid in harbor projects there. These transfers are compulsory, and are made without regard for the workman's skill or family situation. Wages, working hours, etc., are fixed arbitrarily by the Germans.—News of Norway.

Recently the Ministry of Agriculture, in sounding the slogan, "All hands to the harvest," issued an appeal to farm workers and others for Sunday labor in order to save the crops. Objections to working on the Sabbath, it has been found were responsible for a disappointing response. Now the churches have joined in the appeal. "Which of you," was it not asked, "shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a pit and will not straightway pull him out on the Sabbath day?" In the present pass it is the life, not of an ox or an ass, but of a whole nation, and of those other nations for whom it stands as champion, that is a hazard. Who would hold that the Sabbath was not sanctified rather than profaned by such devout exertion.—Daily Telegraph and Morning Post (London).

In an important western centre there was a meeting of a group of war workers and one gentleman declared vehemently that he wouldn't move a hand to help until there was conscription of man power and wealth. "We've got to get these foreigners," he exclaimed. "My two sons are in the air force and these other fellows aren't doing a thing." There was a silence for a moment and then a man well along in years arose and said something like this: "I am a German, born in Austria, and all my five sons are in the Canadian forces. I hate Hitler but I would prefer to have him beaten by voluntary effort than by conscription." —(Lethbridge Herald)

Grain growers of the three prairie provinces and that part of the Peace River district which is within British Columbia are to receive a supplementary bonus of 75 cents an acre. The bonus will be payable on half the cultivated acreage of each farm, with an upper limit of $150 to any one farmer, no matter how large his farm. Or to put it another way, the new bonus is to be a flat payment to every western farmer, amounting to 37 1-2 cents for each cultivated acre, including Summer fallow, up to a maximum of 400 acres. It is not "tied" in any way to acreage reduction or other adjustment measures. — Winnipeg Tribune

Some distrubing intimations have reached us from Ottawa. It is suggested that Parliament is again to be insulted by being summoned for a brief period, after which the members are to be packed off home, where they will be of no further inconvenience to the governing junta.. Once more, it seems, the Prime Minister is about to demonstrate in practice his utter contempt and disdain for those institutions for which he has expressed the deepest reverence throughout a lifetime of political oratory. . . Is it possible that Mr. King contemplates another mere ritualistic gesture of respect toward the myth of popular government which the people still cherish, when matters which may affect their whole destiny as a nation for uncounted years to come are being decided behind the closed doors of the Council chamber?—Toronto Globe and Mail

Genghis Khan (1162-1227) was an Oriental marauder who believed that the only good enemy was a dead enemy. He slaughtered men, women and children by hundreds of thousands, razed whole cities to the ground At Nishapur in Khorasan he put the entire population to death, excepting only 400 artisan's At Herat, India, 1,600,000 civilians were massacred in a week. Two of Genghis Khan's aphorisms were: "An enemy conquered is not subdued, and will always hate his new master;" "Show no clemency to my enemies without an express order from me. Rigor alone keeps such spirits dutiful." He died in the midst of his wars. Genghis Khan was in the news the other day. Hitler told a howling audience in the Sportspalast how fortunate the world is that he was able to prevent a new Genghis Khan from breaking over Europe from the East. —(Detriot Free Press).

National advertisers regard their "slogans" as extremely valuable assets. They spend stupendous sums on making and keeping them popular. Not so long ago a large corporation spent a fortune on their slogan, "Silverware that wears." Imagine their chagrin when a competitor took the challenge and came out with the slogan. "Silverware that resists wear." Then there is the case of the large coffee house with the slogan, Good to the last drop" They carried it on for years. One day a young woman wrote them a letter, asking, "What's the matter with the last drop?" The company sent her a cheque for $200 and quit the slogan. Another story is told about "Shirts that laugh at the laundry." They had such a keen sense of humor that they came home with their sides split.—The March of Type, Cleveland.

THEY RUN TO GIRLS

Ninety per cent of the children of midgets are females.

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR

"There can be no relaxation. Far from it. The enemy's attacks at sea will be intensified. The situation demands of us still greater effort, still greater sacrifices than we have yet made." — Winston Churchill.

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.

BIBLE SOCIETY APPEAL

Sir,—I think the public who support the great work of the British and Foreign Bible Society should know something of the difficulties under which the Parent Society is bravely carrying on. I am therefore giving you some extracts from letters received recently from London Headquarters:

"We lost a new edition of 100,000 copies, and printer's premises were destroyed, and 30,000 of old edition lost."

"The publishing of 12c New Testament has been discontinued. Our binders lost all their materials, and though a certain number of new machines have been obtained, and a number of employees have now resumed work, materials are slow in coming along and it will be some time before our stocks are adequate. We shall be working from hand to mouth till the end of the war."

"You have heard of the severity of the bombing and its effect upon the City. Our bindery unfortunately did not escape, it was severely damaged and only a little of its machinery was left. Apart from loss of stock to the extent of £20,000, there is all the harassing delay in getting licenses to buy new machinery and then finding the machinery when you have procured the licenses."

It is true to say that the Mother Land is desperately pressed and they have up until now borne by far the major portion of the gigantic work of this great Society which is sending out the Scriptures in 747 languages, reaching last year, notwithstanding war, six new languages for the first time. These translations are for every branch of the Reformed Church. In addition Scriptures are presented to our brave defenders on sea, on land and in the air. The Society is therefore making a special plea for special help in this time of dire need. The Society needs only to lay these facts before your readers to meet with a hearty and generous response.

I am, Sir, etc.
J. M. MURCHISON,
District Secretary for N.B. & P.E.I.

The Poets' Corner

EARTH, DEAR EARTH

Earth, dear earth, whose borrowed dust I wear—
Not gracefully or for too long a time—
My way has reached through woodlands wondrous fair,
My heart has quickened to the singing rhyme
Of Spring and Summer, reoccurring through
The cycling years; years turned to Autumn now.

Fertile earth, forever old and new.
The fruit now ripened on the curving bough
Of time shall make my Winter nights less long,
For I shall munch this goodness by the fire
When corded birch logs crackle into song
And put forth leaves of golden flame. Desire
Shall find its peace; my heart shall feel, and know,
The quietude of grassroots under snow

—Harry Elmore Hurd, in the New York Times.

WHEN NOT AT WAR

Three-quarters of the population of Finland live in the rural districts.

MOTOR LEAGUE'S KITCHEN

LONDON — (CP) — Viscount Bennett, former Prime Minister of Canada, presented a mobile kitchen for the services to the Countess of Bessborough, president of the Canadian Women's Club in London, on behalf of the Ontario Motor League.

HOW TO COMBAT Rheumatic Pains

Rheumatic pains are often caused by uric acid in the blood. This blood impurity should be extracted by the kidneys. If kidneys fail, and excess uric acid remains, it irritates the muscles and joints causing excruciating pains. Treat rheumatic pains by keeping your kidneys in good condition. Take regularly Dodd's Kidney Pills—for half a century the favorite kidney remedy. 109

Dodd's Kidney Pills

How Are Your Eyes?

If you are having symptoms of strain — headaches, sore eyes or dizziness — consult a specialist.

At your service with years of experience and a thorough refracting service.

Call in and discuss your difficulties.

G. F. Hutcheson

F. G. HUTCHESON
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Not Good Enough

(Halifax Chronicle)

During the course of a discussion in Parliament regarding the dominion's bureau of public information, war Services Minister Thorson was asked regarding a complaint attributed to Herbert Lash, director of public information. Mr. Lash is supposed to have cimplained with some venemence, about the difficulty of carrying on efficiently amid the red tape in Ottawa.

Said Mr. Thorson:

This is simply the statement of a man who comes into public service, expressing some irritation over some of the necessary, essential controls.

With all respect to Mr. Thorson, his answer is not good enough. It is fairly common for a man entering public service to be irritated by the restrictions and difficulties that he finds, but that does not mean that all the restrictions are either necessary or essential. On the contrary, it is too often true that public service is hampered and obstructed by unwieldy routine, senseless precedent, and a sense of unreality that is deplorable.

Mr. Lash is concerned with news on the war effort. News, as Mr. Lash well knows, is a perishable commodity. It is something that must be handled and distributed as speedily as possible. Delays are more than irritating, they are frequently destructive.

Canadian newspapers have all seen some evidence of red tape in wartime treatment of the news. Some of the red tape is to be expected, but it would be absurd to accept it all without question.

Mr. Thorson would be better advised to determine what handrances to Mr. Lash might be removed, rather than to dismiss the whole thing as the petty irritation of a man faced with "essential controls."

Reuters

(Ottawa Journal)

Paul Julius Reuter was a bank clerk in Germany a century ago when experiments in telegraphy began to attract attention. In 1849 there was a gap between the new German telegraph line at Aix-la-Chapelle and the French and Belgian lines at Verviers. Reuters organized a news-collecting agency at each of these places and bridged the gap by carrier pigeons.

Reuter had the germ of an idea, and two years later he removed to England and began to work it out. The first submarine cable had been opened between Dover and Calais, and Reuter opened an office in London, became a naturalized British subject, offered news for sale. He collected it by rail and pigeon-post at the cable terminals, or despatched it from the terminals by these agencies, and gradually found a market in the English newspapers. In a few years he was extending his operations over all Europe, and to the other continents.

Reuter himself died in 1899. a German baron but a British subject The agency he had established continued to flourish, under private ownership, and became one of the world's great news-collecting organizations. Meanwhile, however, in the United States the collective ownership by newspapers of news facilities had been developed in the operation of the Associated Press, and The Canadian Press followed the example of the A. P., not that of Reuters. Now Reuters itself is being taken over by the British newspapers, to be operated by and for all of them.

EXAMINATION

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EDUCATION WEEK PROGRAM

The Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation in co-operation with the Canadian Teachers' Federation has arranged the following broadcast:—

MONDAY, Nov. 10, 7.15 p. m. over CFCY—Rev. Dr. Murphy, Rector St. Dunstan's University.

MONDAY, Nov. 10, 7.45 p. m. over CBA—Mr. E. C. Ricker, St. John, N. B.

TUESDAY, Nov. 11, 7.45 p. m. over CFCY—Mr. G. Edison MacDonald, Charlottetown, President P. E. I. Teachers' Federation.

THURSDAY, Nov. 13, 7.45 p. m. over C. F. C. Y.—Rev. Kenneth Sullivan, Summerside.

All speakers will deal with the importance of the School to the Community.

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