

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Battle Of Crete

British authorities no longer minimize the
fact that the battle of Crete is in its last stages,
with the Germans in possession of the island's
two important towns, its only good airport, and
the harbour facilities of Suda Bay.

The loss of Crete will be a serious blow to
our naval command of the Eastern Mediterranean.
But it is pointed out that Britain's problem
will be less difficult in Egypt and Palestine,

Of the greatest importance to both sides are
the lessons to be learned from this unprecedented
air invasion. Conditions, it is pointed out,

When all is said, the fact remains that the
decisive battles of this war will be fought on the
Atlantic. Prime Minister Churchill said so
months ago and President Roosevelt echoed his
words in his recent speech pledging fullest support

Masfield's New Book

John Masfield, the Poet Laureate, has written
a new book. It is entitled "The Nine Days
Wonder" and it is the story of the evacuation of
Dunkerque. The story is told, says a New York
Times reviewer, "with the utmost straightforwardness

Its great value, according to the Times
reviewer above quoted, is that "it brings us not
merely a tribute to almost unbelievable courage
and tenacity and competence, but a clear chronicle
of fact, figure, situation, incident. The volume
contains several poems of homage, several photographs

Russian Reactions

The Russians, despite their worries about the
war around them and the cares of their life at
home, still find time to tell jokes. These often
are sympathetic to England. There is, for example,
the one about Hitler, Mussolini and Churchill going
to ask a fortune-teller who would win the war.

Hitler immediately plunged into the full bowl,
splashing water around and grabbing for the fish,
but got nothing. Mussolini danced around the edge,
afraid to get his hands wet, but hoping in vain for
Hitler to throw the fish his way.

There is the very brief one about the "British
communiqué."

"Ten thousand Italians and two thousands
mules have been made prisoners in East Africa.
The mules offered fierce resistance."

Then there is the one about a telephone conversation
between Hitler and Mussolini:

Hitler: "Benito, you don't seem to be doing
very well."

Mussolini: "Where are you speaking from,
Adolf?"

Hitler: "From Berlin."

Mussolini: "Oh, I thought you were supposed
to be in London by now."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The annual "Sheep Storm" anticipated June
by a few days.

The blind want to tag us today, and, of course,
there is none so blind as they who do not want
to see the taggers.

Tomorrow the Governor and the Mayor
sponsor a ripping good musical programme at
the Prince Edward in aid of the R. A. F.
Benevolent Fund. Nothing less than a quarter
will be recognized as a silver collection.

Micmac Indians on the reservation at Restigouche,
Que., have voted \$2,000 to the Government
of Canada for war work. They asked the
Government to withdraw this amount from their
trust fund held by the Department of Indian Affairs.

Hon. Mr. Ralston told a questioner in the
House of Commons that it was not practical to
grant leave of absence to trainees between their
attendance at preliminary camps and their transfer
to advanced training camps.

It is good to have a knowledge of history
especially during a war. For instance we recall
that during a famine in Greece between the years
331 and 323 B.C., the city of Cirene, Libya, exported
some 29,000 tons of cereals for the relief
of starving Greek cities.

Dr. Thomas Chalmers, preacher and philanthropist,
died this date 1847; professor of moral philosophy
at St. Andrews, and of divinity at Edinburgh.
Chief promoter and first moderator of the Free
Church of Scotland; devoted much of his time to
philanthropic work. His writings, totalling 25
volumes appeared in uniform edition in 1836:
"The public! Why the public's nothing better than
a great baby."

This may not be true, but in view of the
Patriot's alarming exposure of the condition of
our streets, and roadsides with empty bottles,
there would appear to be good ground for it. A
farmer came to the city for a bag of oats and
surreptitiously acquired a bottle of whisky. As
a precaution he put it in the oats. When he
reached home the bottle was empty and the oats
smelt strongly of alcohol. The cattle refused to
eat the grain, and so it was decided to feed it
to the poultry. Result, before very long the cocks
and hens were fighting like blazes and staggering
all over the yard.

It appears 4,179 recruits reported to basic
training centres May 20 and 21, the third class
to be called for the four months' training program
under the National Resources Mobilization
Act. Of this number 412 were rejected on
medical grounds. An additional 16 reported May
23 at Grand Prairie, Alta. The first class of
recruits sent to basic training centres has completed
its initial training and has been moved on
to advanced centres. Every month from now on
a class will pass on to advanced centres to be
replaced at the basic centres by a new one. To
date 13,597 recruits have been accepted to undergo
the four months' training and a further class
will be called in June.

As supplies of feeding stuffs and imported
meat are likely to be shorter in the United Kingdom
in the months ahead owing to the demands on
shipping for the Middle East campaign, the
British Government has asked farmers to provide
more cattle for slaughter during the next few
months. To induce them to do so the fixed
prices for certain grades of cattle and cows sold
for slaughter were increased on April 21. Up to
date the cattle population of the United Kingdom
has been maintained, states a report from the
office of the Canadian Animal Products Trade
Commissioner in London to the Department of
Trade and Commerce setting forth the new
prices. The time has now come when it is
necessary to draw on reserves. Farmers are asked,
therefore, to bring forward more animals in the
early part of the summer, in order to relieve
the situation during the coming winter when
smaller supplies are likely to be available.

An esteemed correspondent sends the following
reply to the Scottish ditty, quoted by Princess
Alice:

"His dear old English friend, out of whom
the Scot was taking the rise, replied in the same
vein. He wrote:
There'll always be a Scotland
While English brains can guide
The brawn and muscle of the clans
And workers of the Clyde.
These Scots, such mighty warriors,
Poets and scholars too,
Are prone to think that England
Without them would be through.
Truth is that these two peoples
Now standing side by side,
If disunited could not hold
Against the Nazi tide.
So let's forget Culloden
And Bannockburn as well,
And pulling all together blast
All Hitler's Huns to Hell.
And when the Blitzkrieg's beaten
We'll sail across the sea,
And Scots and English side by side
We'll smash through Germany.
Then, when we've occupied Berlin
And Hitler is no more,
We'll pull each others' legs again
About who won the war."

NOTES BY THE WAY

"It's just one campaign after another," a citizen complained the
other day. "When are we going to
come to an end of these money-
raising campaigns?" Never, bro-
ther, until history is won. After
all, the Canadian public at a whole
hasn't got down to real financial
sacrifice yet on behalf of crushing
Hitler. If old Nasty should win,
nothing would be worth anything.
But he isn't going to win it Can-
ada's utmost thrown in the pile
going to stop him. And he will be
stopped. In the meantime the
folks at home should quit it a
privilege to give, give, give. — St.
Marys Journal-Argus

A resolution protesting against
the employment of children in
agriculture was adopted at the
conference of the National Union
of Women Teachers at York. The
resolution suggested that since the
full education of the children was
being withheld, the future of the
country, the Board of Education
should exert its influence to
secure that school life should be
continued as normally as possible,
and should not be interrupted or
shortened to meet the needs of agri-
culture. — Leeds Yorkshire Post.

Accomplishment must not lag
behind desire. There are not en-
ough skilled workers or even
enough factories. Bottlenecks in
engines and perhaps raw materials
may have to be mastered. Yet cer-
tainly we can be going now, to
Washington and everywhere, to
speed the day when the R. A. F.
shall, with more and more Ameri-
can planes and Canadian and other
Dominion flyers, have numerical
superiority over the Nazi Luft-
waffe. Knowledge of the cruel
punishment the British have suf-
fered during long months of in-
ability to make the German people
realize that modern war is like
should implement the effort. —
Providence Journal.

A good many people continue
to look for their favorite light
reading to Virginio Gayda. Even
when Mussolini's No. 1 editor is
threatening the United States
with the most dire consequences,
he has such an original way of
doing it. Every little while Signor
Gayda will remind the American
people of what the Japanese fleet
is going to do to us, when the
German tanks will do to America,
or to look out for a fatal stroke by
Soviet Russia, or for a coup d'etat
by Turkey. Signor Gayda reminds
us of the Chancellor "Hitler" and
his pretty wards in chancery. This
perfectly awful blow to Ameri-
ca is coming from him, and that
blow from him, and this from you,
and this from me, but never, never,
never a real hard smash from me,
Signor Gayda's Italy. — New York
Times.

State Representative Gladys
Stewart has suggested that Mis-
souri adopt a novel Connecticut
revenue-raising plan. In the Nutmeg
State, she reports, citizens of
certain towns are assessed an
extra fee to get auto license plates
with their names stamped on them.
The tag issued to Lily Pons the
opera star, for example, reads
"Miss Lily Pons." The tag issued
to Mrs. Stewart reads "Mrs. Gladys
Stewart." The tag issued to a
Missouriian would be glad to pay
anything up to \$20 for this in-
triguing brand of outdoor adver-
tising. Once motorists get in the habit
of feeding their vanity, the possi-
bilities are limitless. Next there
will be monogrammed tires, and
musical horns could be operated by
extra tax that reads "Bill" or
"Joe" at recalcitrant traffic. — St.
Louis Post-Dispatch.

Sir: — A letter to the Times
has brought to my mind the way
in which the Times was shared in
Ruhleben (a German prison camp)
during the last war, even if the
sharing process was not a thing
in the nature of a business in
which enterprise earned its re-
ward. Our importer obtained his
copy by devious methods from the
same source as the picture and
sent it to me at a greatly en-
hanced price, and I believe, a
record one for a single copy of any
newspaper. If my memory
is not at fault, the price pro-
ceeded 22 per cent. Six of
our wealthier fellow-prisoners
who shared a loose box would
pay as much as for the first copy
to be off the press, and as long
as he can stand up to a lance. A
company working on war orders
could not secure enough skilled
mechanics, and this veteran
determined to try his hand again:
"of told them I would try and help
them as much as I was able." He
stands at the lathe ten hours a
day, and is "about all in" when
quitting time comes. "Too long,"
said his doctor, "who gave me
blazes for not doing as he told
me." But the spirit of such a
man cannot be curbed. It is
stronger than the flesh. The
veteran is "plugging away" some-
times working Saturday after-
noons and Sundays, "when I feel
fit." And why? Because "Now is
the time for every man to do his
bit to help win this war. I am going
to stick it out to the end and I
believe we are going to win."
With a touch of justifiable pride
this man says "I think I am the
oldest man working on a lathe
around these parts." And in his
seventy-eighth year he is setting
an example to all Canadians. This
is the spirit that will win the war. —
From the Toronto Globe and Mail.

The most baffling fact, however,
about all control is that nothing
yet done by Mr. Cotterville would
seem to have the slightest rela-
tion to the war effort. On the
contrary, the record indicates that
the war is being used as an excuse
or justification for a further curbing
of the industry in a manner contrary
to the public interest. Competition
is being throttled. The position of

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.

WOODCOCK

Sir: — In a recent issue of your
paper appeared a letter headed:
"Woodcock Conservation" and sign-
ed "Interested". In view of the en-
couraging report submitted by three
United States Biologists who toured
this province for a week during
the middle of May securing data on
Woodcock, the letter written by
"Interested" sounds unduly possi-
blistic, in fact one would be led to
believe that the writer knew very little
about the subject of Woodcock.
The Woodcock has always been a
bird of mystery and still is, even to
those who for years have made a
study of its habits, food, migration,
etc. The Woodcock feeds in the late
dusk and at night, resting during
the day in dense thickets of second
growth maple, and sometimes in a
mixture of alder, swamp birch, jun-
iper, etc. so it is no wonder that so
few people have seen the bird ex-
cept those who hunt the elusive
little fellow during the short open
season.

How little residents of this
province know about the Woodcock, its
habits, numbers, etc., even on their
own woodlots, is well illustrated by
the following incident related by a
visiting American after their re-
turn from a trip to the western por-
tion of the province. Coming to a
section where the type of cover
present was particularly favourable
to Woodcock they inquired of a na-
tive of the district: "Are there many
Woodcock in this section?" The na-
tive looked puzzled. "Woodcock?"
he queried. "Never heard tell of
them; we have none hereabouts."
Questioned whether he had not
heard a bird giving vent to its sing-
ing notes high in air in the late
evenings during April and May, his
face brightened. "Oh," he said,
"You mean 'Tom Murphy's' birds?
Yes we have lots of them. We listen
for them every spring and when we
hear them people say that 'Tom
Murphy's' birds' are back again."

"Interested" made reference to
"our fast disappearing Woodcock".
The writer heard the same lament
years ago. Four years ago it was
claimed that over a thousand (1,000)
Woodcock were legally killed in the
State of Maine alone, that same
year.

In spite of this apparent heavy
bax by summers the present fall in
numbers below normal, in many sec-
tions of the States, was not caused
by over shooting. Adverse weather
conditions on their southern winter-
ing grounds, particularly in Louisi-
ana, created havoc in their ranks.
In this particular State the worst
weather conditions over a period of
100 years experienced. Snow and
sleet, followed by hard frosts,
covered the greater portion of this
State for a week or 10 days. The
birds, both white and black, had
forsaken the dense inland swamps
where shelter of a sort was to be
had, for a comparatively narrow
strip of the coast. They were
scattered as if from nowhere in countless
thousands. One official observer
counted over eleven hundred Wood-
cock one afternoon in the course of
a two hour walk. The birds were so
weak they made no effort to fly
and apparently had lost all fear of
man. For a time poachers and vag-
abonds, both white and black, had a
series of field days and the emaciated
bodies were peddled and sold
at 25c a dozen. Federal Officers
stepped into the picture and, in the
State of Louisiana alone, over three
thousand arrests were made in a
single month. The limit in penalties
was imposed and this distressing
angle of the situation was effectively
squashed.

That a species of bird, which the
year before was alleged by a cer-
tain class of conservationists to be
on the verge of extinction could ab-
sorb a beating like that and make
a comeback, shows plianter than
words how it got out some of those
armies of our wild surmises.
The facts re Woodcock mortality in
Louisiana can easily be verified at
Washington, D. C. The investigators
from south of the border stated be-
fore they left for New Brunswick,
that in their opinion the Woodcock
population on the Island was normal,
albeit they were at a loss to
account for the favourable condi-
tions here in comparison with areas
checked in Pennsylvania and Maine
several years in this province, others
who are not so well meaning, but
it is the "arm chair" conservationist

The Big Four all companies is being
strengthened. The ground is being
cut from under the feet of the in-
dependents who, alone, stand be-
tween the consumers and a combine
whose predatory instincts have
been revealed time and again in
public investigation. — Winnipeg
Free Press.

WHY ON EARTH DO THEY DO IT?

... try to carry in their heads
the sum total of their possessions

If you've never gone through the
mental distress of trying to re-
member all the items lost in a fire
or by other disaster, you haven't
any idea how important a house-
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Moral: Don't procrastinate. We
have just the household inventory
book you need...
and it's free for the
asking.

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WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY
FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR

"If England and Canada
must face a new economic
order, the little countries
which Britain has protected
would then have no countries
to fall back on." — Wilfred
Storey, of Chatham, president
of the Kent Deamery League's
Association.

Nelson And Kosciuska

(London Free Press)
There are certain facts about the
rules of conduct of Adolf Hitler
that we must keep in mind, because
they are so utterly opposed to the
rules of conduct of civilized people
that we are constantly tempted to
say they cannot be true. Adolf Hil-
ler has said this: "My motto is,
'Destroy by every means! So-called
international laws will not check
me. One is either a German or a
Christian. You cannot be both.'"
In January 1934, Germany con-
cluded a treaty with Poland, by
which she pledged her honor that
"in no circumstances" would she
"proceed to the application of
force" against Poland. In Septem-
ber, 1938, Hitler for the fourth or
fifth time solemnly and deliber-
ately renounced all further terri-
torial ambitions or designs in Europe.
Oddly enough although on each oc-
casion when he had before him the
same thing, made the same pro-
mise, subsequent events had pro-
ved him to be a deliberate liar, many
people again believed him and urged
the merits of continuing the assur-
ances. In April, 1939, Hitler in a broad-
casted reply to Mr. Roosevelt's plea
for peace, said that he knew nothing
of any German "threat of aims to
other nations." All states border-
ing on Germany," he said, "have
received much more binding assur-
ances... than Mr. Roosevelt has
asked from me in his curious tele-
gram."

Exactly four months later Ger-
many's mechanized army swept over
the Polish border, where her Fifth
Column had already prepared the
way, and her airplanes were machi-
ne-gunning women and children in
Polish towns.

The British and Poles are both
peace-loving people. They do not
love fighting for its own sake, and
they do not extol it as an object
of national policy; but their long-suf-
fering has a definite limit. Push
them beyond a certain point and
they will not merely fight, but they
will go on fighting beyond all rea-
son, fighting with deadly persis-
tence, a concentrated fury, that
recognizes no impossible odds, that
may retreat for the moment, but
return again and again, until final
victory is won.

That is the thought behind Clem-
ence Dane's poem "It is Dangerous
to Wake our Dead."

"They" have waked Nelson a spirit.
He slept sound in his bed.
And no one had warned them.
They" did not know, none
saw.
How dangerous it is to wake our
dead.
And that, too, is the inspiration
of Alce Duer Miller's "The White
Cliffs."

I am American bred.
I have seen much of hate here.
much to forgive.
But in a world where England is
finished and dead.
I do not wish to live.

Nations that still believe in Nel-
son the Englishman and Kosciusko
the Pole, and still cherish the prin-
ciples that governed their lives, will
not be held in subjection by Adolf
Hitler.

with the facile pen who really
knows little or nothing about the
subject.
I am, Sir, etc.
OBSERVER

BACKACHE OFTEN WARNING

Backache may be the first sign of kidney
trouble. When your back aches, look to
your kidneys. Don't fail to heed this warn-
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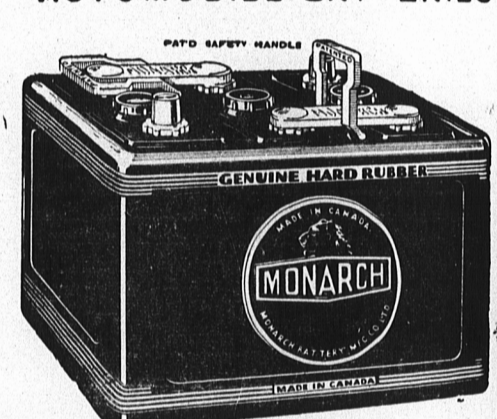
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