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

MONDAY, MAY 11, 1942.

Words of Courage

It was a tonic to millions on both sides of the
Atlantic to hear Prime Minister Churchill's vigor-
ous speech yesterday. His review of his past
two years of wartime leadership, of the tremen-
dous obstacles overcome and the growing
strength of Britain and her allies, was a master-
piece. It was intended not only to give encour-
agement at home, but to show the German peo-
ple what was in store for them, from the mighty
British-American bombing offensive, which will be continued on an ever increasing
scale until victory is won.

Mr. Churchill also referred to the report that
Germans had used poison gas on the Crimean
front, and warned Hitler that Britain would
not hesitate to retaliate with the same weapon,
carrying poison gas warfare far and wide over
Germany. Let us hope that this blunt warning
proves effective. It is the only kind of talk
which is likely to make any impression on the
warmongers.

What Sir Wilfrid Said

Mr. Grant Dexter has dug up from Hansard
and reproduced in the Winnipeg Free Press
Sir Wilfrid Laurier's statement in 1917 that in
the event of the majority of the Canadian people
deciding for conscription there would be no
doubt about acceptance of their will. Thus:

"Again, I repeat that when the verdict of the
people has been given there can be no further
question, and everybody will have to submit to
the law. And again I repeat the pledge I gave a
moment ago on behalf of my own province that
every man, even though he is today opposed to
the law, shall do service as well as any man of
any other race."

"When the consultation with the people has
been had, when the verdict has been pronounced,
I pledge my word, my reputation, that to the ver-
dict, such as it is, every man will submit."

On Monday, April 27, the vast majority of
the people of Canada voted for conscription.
This undoubtedly would have been accepted by
Sir Wilfrid Laurier as an unmistakable "go
ahead" signal. Why should not Prime Minister
Mackenzie King, Sir Wilfrid's protégé, accept
it in the same spirit? The rumored split be-
tween Mr. King and his ablest colleagues, Col-
onel Kalston and Navy Minister Macdonald,
is allegedly due to Mr. King's refusal to
put into effect the mandate for which he asked,
and his insistence on having the whole issue re-
hashed in Parliament.

The Mail Gets Through

Mail losses by reason of enemy action in the
Battle of the Atlantic have been surprisingly
low, according to the figures just given out at
Ottawa. Indeed the figures would seem to lend
some color of assurance to the comment of the
deputy postmaster-general, Mr. P. T. Coolican,
that "a special providence seems to look after
the postoffice."

The official record is that only 14 losses of
mail by enemy action have occurred since the
beginning of the war. They comprised 26,230
bags of mail out of 750,000 sent across the
Atlantic.

Taken by itself, the loss of 26,230 bags of
mail is a considerable loss. Taken in proportion
it is a loss of very little more than 3 per cent.
of the Atlantic mail.

Probably, however, it is not justifiable on this
showing to assume that mail losses in Atlantic
sinkings are anywise representative of general
losses in ship and cargoes. We are not told whether
or what special protection is provided for
mail shipments (to assist the "special providence"),
but at least it is obvious from this official
statement that the mail runs the gamut of
the Battle of the Atlantic better than most
other cargoes.

A Stirring Appeal

Sir William Beveridge, the noted economist,
former head of the London School of Economics,
and now Master of University College, Oxford,
has written a notable plea in the Times for the
organization of "total war" by Britain. The con-
clusion of his letter, quoted below, might more
appropriately be applied to Canada:
"With our peace-time economic and political
structure, we have carried on into war our na-
tional habits of compromise and procrastination.
Compromise and procrastination, defended in
the name of national unity, having helped to
bring us within sight of defeat. While we haggle
for agreement, in the enslaved lands each day
hundreds of thousands of helpless men and
women and children die and millions suffer, waiting
for our rescue. If we cannot win a sense of urg-
ency from our own danger, we should do so
from the thought of the butcheries and barbar-
ities which cover Europe.
"On a sober review of the forces on each side
and of the immense industrial gains already made

by our enemies, can we hope to win the war
outright, unless we wage it by land and sea and
air, at home and abroad, in our factories and in
our fields with the fanaticism of a holy war,
unless we make of it a crusade to rescue the lib-
erties of mankind and millions of our fellows?
A crusade cannot be conducted on a cash basis;
it cannot be led to victory through timid coun-
cils or by men of divided loyalty. Let us now
wage total war not defensively for possessions
but offensively against evil, not just to preserve
our island home, but for the ideals of tolerance,
fair play, freedom of thought and speech, kind-
liness, and the value of the individual soul,
which from our home we have tried to
spread throughout the world. Let us wage a war
of all the people in the spirit of Cromwell's
Army, of men 'making not, money but that
which they took for the public felicity to be their
end."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Today, on the average, is the earliest date in
this province for getting on to the soil.

It's the Red Cross of Love and Sacrifice versus
the crooked cross of Hitler and brute force. Put
your money on Red Cross.

Nobody knows better than ourselves that Is-
landers do not like to boast; all the same we have
a sense of pride when a Nova Scotian Cabinet
Minister, whose mother was an Islander, an-
nounces in Parliament that we lead the whole
of the Dominion in enlistments in the Navy.
Any more records to win?

Every male inhabitant of the Norfolk town
of East Dereham of 5,000 population has been
allotted tasks in case of invasion and can be
mobilized for action within a few hours. The
roll call for a stand by is made once every other
day or night, similar to an air raid alarm. Their
motto, the Navy one—"Ready, aye ready!"

Free French Headquarters announce that
50,000 Frenchmen in Lyons ignored the Vichy
Government's ban on May Day demonstrations
and gathered on that day in the Place Carnot,
singing the Marseillaise. The crowd, according
to the announcement, shouted "Vive de Gaulle"
and "Laval to the gallows." Many were arrest-
ed.

According to a press dispatch
from London, fifty thousand men
have already been recruited for
the British army and put to indus-
trial work of some kind, for which
they are especially qualified, and
the transfer of forty thousand
more is said to be under way. There
has, in fact, been set up in the
Country an organization, known as
the Committee of Skilled Men in
the Service of the War, under the
direction of Sir William Beveridge,
the finding of the right man for
the job is to seek out men of
technical training and capacity, who
have been drafted into the fighting
forces, but whose special training
could be used to better advantage
elsewhere. The navy, according to
the findings of the committee, has
the fewest mistakes in the position
for which their knowledge and pre-
vious experience are best fitted.
Royal Air Force does not seem to
be so discriminating, being anxious
to get all the good flyers it can,
regardless of their special qualifi-
cations. The committee, it is said,
will be able to discover just exactly
what sort of men are needed in
the best accepted form. After a
plebiscite, especially if, as anti-
cipate, it gives Ottawa the "go"
this information in a way that will
give new meaning to the "selective
service" throughout the Dominion.
State officials, in these highly or-
ganized times, should be highly or-
ganized in the deciding factor in all cases.
The needs of the army, the navy,
the air force, the home front, and
domestic industries respectively, as
well as those of agriculture, the
question of replacing men workers,
the fighting services, and the
fraternal service, all these are vital
problems can be conveniently
effectively dealt with when the gov-
ernment has had its hands freed
to act for the good of the national
welfare. — Hamilton Spectator.

Hardly a day passes without some
pitiful but not pitiable group
brought ashore somewhere
the infinite coastline of the United
States—survivors of a torpedoed
ship, or a group of prisoners,
prisoners, women and children.
Only the other day a babe was
born in a ship's boat. In many in-
stances particularly in the case of
coastwise shipping, it is the
American coast, the number of
children in these parties has
become considerable. What will
the effects of these events be on
such young minds? What bearing
will they have on the world of 15 years
later? Possibly this is a mat-
ter for the psychologists and
psychiatrists a problem in psy-
choses and neuroses. Possibly,
but not necessarily so, for the young-
ster children are brought through
these ordeals better than their
parents. Where they have not been in-
jured, their immaturity has glossed
over such horrors and crushed in
a background of adventure to the
whole affair. Will they look back
over their group years to the day
when they were rescued at sea by
some Axis submarines? Will they
and women who were victims of
these 1942 pirates form some
fraternal group based on their
common experience? Will these
castaways carry in their subcon-
scious minds an instinctive anger at
the Hun, the Jap and the Italian,
an unremitting disgust and re-
pugnance? Admittedly this is in
the realm of speculation, but in-
teresting speculation. The im-
pression of the children sink
deep down into the inmost of their
emotions and are not to be erased
How by the passing of the years.
They will be a "torpedo" that will
rush to the boats that are run
at sea, the warmth and cheer of
a rescue ship, seem to these
war-torn world of 15, 10 years
from now? — London Free Press.

According to the Fertilizer Administrator
the fertilizer supply situation in Canada is sat-
isfactory despite demand this spring for about
25% more chemical fertilizers than in the spring
of 1941. This increased use of fertilizers is due
partly to the federal Government's subvention
policy on fertilizers purchased by farmers to ad-
vance production of special crops required to
help the output of essential food products.

Sqdn-Ldr. Denton Massey, M.P. for Tor-
onto Greenwood, and previously in the running
for the Leadership of the Liberal-Conservative
Party, has been appointed commanding officer
of No. 3 Initial Training School, R. C. A. F.,
Victoriaville. Sqdn-Ldr. Massey, who was sec-
ond-in-command of the Cease Training School
(K. T. S.) Trenton, Ont., succeeds Wing
Cmdr. Douglas Findlay, who has been posted of-
ficer commanding No. 4 Bombing and Gunnery
School at Fingal, Ont.

Col. O. M. Biggar, has been appointed
Chief of the Censor Bureau at Ottawa, and when
Mr. Hanson asked in the House who would be
his deputy it took four ministers to reply as fol-
lows:—
"Mr. (L. S.) Yuill is Telegraph and Tele-
phone Censor," said Defence Minister Ralston.
"Mr. (F. E.) Jolliffe is Chief Postal Cen-
sor," said Postmaster General Mulock.
"Col. R. P. Landry is Radio Censor said
War Services Minister Thorson.
"The Press Censors are Mr. (Wilfred)
Eggleston and Mr. (Fulgence) Charpentier,"
said State Secretary McLure.
— Those are the Ministers under whom the vari-
ous censorship branches now operate. Under
the new set-up Mr. Thorson takes all four
branches under his wing.

Battle of Fontenoy fought this date 1745, the
first occasion the Prussians asserted themselves
as aggressors; the active contenders were Prus-
sians, Bavarians and French against the Aus-
trians, Dutch, Hanoverians and British; cause of
dispute, the Austrian succession, between
Charles, Elector of Bavaria and Maria Theresa,
daughter of Charles VI of Austria; France
joined Prussia in support of the Elector,
while Britain, Holland and Hanover stood by
Maria Theresa; at Fontenoy Marshal Saxe de-
feated the Austrian Allies under the Duke of
Cumberland, but the war ended with the Peace
of Aix-la-Chapelle recognizing Maria Theresa as
Queen of Austria though Prussia demanded as
its compensation the duchy of Silesia; the peace
was a patched-up affair, and Austria's sub-
sequent attempt to recover Silesia led to the
Seven Years' War, the then final struggle be-
tween Britain and France for Colonial and sea
power, and Prussia and Austria for possession
of Silesia; as a result Prussia retained Silesia
and established herself for the first time as a
European Power, while Britain's supremacy in
Canada and India was secured.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Britain used 1,500,000,000 fewer
pins last year than in 1940, and
there will be several million fewer
this year; already men's new shirts
have been reduced in folded pins
with which it was the quite un-
necessary ritual to fasten them up.
The steel and brass from which
the important job is doing a more
important job than that of the
pins goes into anything from a hand
grenade upwards; the brass be-
coming a Bofors gun or a gun
faster to a Bofors gun or a gun
one firm alone can still produce
60,000,000 pins a week, an output
of 50,000 pins a week. The pin
itself has its war uses. The aircraft
industry needs huge quantities for
fastening fabric together. Britain's
Stationery Office has been busy
as do the Dominion and Colonial
Governments, including the India
Office. — Industrial Bulletin.

A wartime increase of a half-
penny upon certain classes of pos-
tals imposed by the Aus-
tralian Postmaster General has
necessitated the provision of
stamps in the denominations of
1-2d, 3-1-2d, and 5-1-2d respec-
tively. This was met by
surcharging existing stocks of
1-2d, 3d, and 5d stamps with the ad-
ditional value, but as supplies be-
came exhausted the new rates
required denunciations. Of these
the 2-1-2d present's a new three-
quarter face portrait of His Ma-
jesty the King, and the other
representation of Australian war
heroes, conventionally treated, and
shown in red. The 3-1-2d,
supported by figures on blue, and
the female on the left and the male
on the right, the color being blue
throughout. A characteristic figure
of an emu is the central figure in
the new 5-1-2d stamp, dark blue
in color and with a conventional
quarter face portrait of the Aus-
tralian sun in the background.
The same time in compliance with
the regulations of the Postal Union
temporary 1d and 3d stamps in
purple and red-brown respectively,
in view of the present period of
currency the provision of sur-
charged stamps are already in de-
mand by collectors. — London
Times.

German sources have admitted
that their dead, wounded and
missing in the campaign of March
totalled 1,500,000. They contrast this
with Russian losses of ten millions
including 3,800,000 prisoners. The
number of prisoners taken is con-
tradicted by other German state-
ments which describe the Russian
armies as often fighting to ex-
haustion instead of surrendering.

Another factor quoted by Werner
as contributing to the tremendous
casualties was the length of the
bitterness of the fighting. The
Russians had 3,000,000 rifles, 100-
000 machine guns, 20,000 to 30,000
Against these enemies of death
Hitler threw enough millions of
men to drive the Russian armies
back several hundred miles.
The nature of things except five mil-
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Corregidor

There need be no lamentation
over the fall of Corregidor; the
will of free men to breast in epic
courage the spears of barbaric
tyranny is nothing for lament.
There were those who said that
the young men of America had
grown soft, that luxury and free-
dom had sapped their fighting
spirit. To that, be a favorite tale
of the dictators, Bataan and Cor-
regidor shout back triumphantly. They
shout back to tell that freedom is
not the death but the life of coun-
try; and that today the sons of
democracy can die as readily to
preserve liberty as their fathers
died to win it.

Archibald MacLachlan once wrote
an unforgettable line about de-
mocracy being not the things which
demanded money and machines
built up in the eighteenth century
and called democracy, but
"Winter in the Massachusetts
Bay, and cold at Trenton, and the
guerre in Kentucky, and the hun-
gry crowd."

That was the spirit of democracy
at Corregidor. And that, we know
now, is the true heart of America.
For that spirit we here in Canada
and all the British lands, and all
the earth where men love cour-
age and stand for freedom, proud
of the Corregidor takes its place
beside Bataan, beside Malin and
Tobruk.

Defeat does not win wars. Yet
there are some defeats more glor-
ious than victories, with more of
promise, and in this stand at Cor-
regidor, where the sons of free
democratic homes held back for so
long the overwhelming manpower
and machines of a ruthless bar-
barism, there is the promise of
sure triumph.

General MacArthur's promise to
go back to the Philippines is cer-
tain of fulfilment.

Estimating The Dead

The winter campaign is over
in Russia. The spring campaign
has not yet begun. In the hiatus
between death struggles the con-
flicting armies are burying the
dead. Before this war is over the
death toll on the Russian front will
reach fantastic figures. Max Wer-
ner, writing in the New Republic,
estimates that during the first 10
months of the war the Russian
front Hitler's casualties averaged
between 400,000 and 600,000 men
per month. He believes that the
Russian losses were approximately
the same, perhaps even greater.

The size of the casualty list is
a vital military secret, for if one
army learns the strength of the
other lost the information may prove
decisive in winning the war. Thus
there is always a tendency of war-
ring nations to minimize their own
casualties while exaggerating that
of the enemy. The German army
in the first Great War broke down
after losing 7,000,000 men. Be-
cause of the intensity of the
struggle on the Russian front,
Werner believes that the casual-
ties inflicted upon the Nazis dur-
ing the first months of this war
were almost equal to those of the
first three years of the last. From
this he concludes that Hitler has
sufficient men for one more power-
ful year of the campaign. Whether
this offensive succeeds, or fails, will
depend on the co-ordination of
the strategy and a supreme Allied
effort.

German sources have admitted
that their dead, wounded and
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