THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

President, Lieut. Col. W. Chester S. McLure
Vice President, J. R. Burnett, F.J.I.
Secretary, Lieut. Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D.S.O.
Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett, F.J.I.
Associate Editors, Frank Walker and Ian A. Burnett.

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 Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1940.

Bracken Forces Sirois Report

What, primarily, was behind the King Government's unexpected announcement that it was backing the Sirois Commission report, and its calling of a Dominion-Provincial conference in mid-January to deal with the matter? The *Financial Post* devotes a good deal of space to this subject in its current issue. The conclusion reached by the *Post's* Ottawa correspondent is that behind Mr. King's letter announcing the conference lies a movement rapidly taking form under the leadership of Premier Bracken of Manitoba. This aims to compel the adoption of the Sirois report, if necessary by direct political assault on the King Government. It is recalled that last September the Prime Minister indicated that his Government planned no action on the report. "It is doubtful, if, at the beginning of October," says the *Post* correspondent, "half the Cabinet had as much as looked at the covers of the report." Then events began to move. Mr. Bracken manoeuvred for a non-party government in Manitoba, plainly closing the ranks for a mass attack on Ottawa. Sensing the danger, Mr. King began sounding out the provincial governments on the Sirois report.

The *Post* writer says this preliminary survey showed the governments of the three Maritime Provinces and the three Prairie Provinces "a solid bloc for the report." If that be so, Alberta has since recanted, for Premier Aberhart, in a statement made last Friday, voiced strong opposition to any further centralization of power at Ottawa, which would result from the Commission's recommendations. The Godbout government in Quebec is reported to have said that while not enthusiastic for it, no great difficulties would be created if Ottawa decided to go ahead. Premier Pattulla, of British Columbia showed even less enthusiasm, but was believed to be prepared to "go a long way" rather than cause domestic disunity. But the survey showed Premier Hepburn of Ontario was adamant in opposing the report. He had not budged from the position he took when the report was first made public, that it would be nonsense to divide the country on such an issue in time of war. However, Mr. Hepburn has agreed to attend the Ottawa conference, and to at least discuss the matter as a war emergency step.

Such are the cross-currents provincially, which are anything but indicative of an amicable agreement at the Dominion-Provincial conference. One recalls the many Dominion-Provincial conferences which Mr. King called shortly after his return to power in 1935; which were, among other things, to end unemployment, amend the British North America Act, and bring about harmony and unanimity all round. Those conferences proved such sorry failures that Mr. King discontinued them altogether, after commenting bitterly on the impossibility of reconciling so many diverse interests. Perhaps he will have better luck this time; but it is characteristic of the Prime Minister that while bestowing his Government's blessing on the report and recommending its adoption, he equipped himself with emergency exit clauses interpreted by the *Post* correspondent to mean that he hopes to sidestep the Bracken campaign. Mr. Bracken will not be able to pin down the King Government as opposing the report, but may have to deal with Mr. Hepburn or some others among the provincial premiers. In consequence, it is doubted at Ottawa if the matter has, actually, much advanced. If the report were "reopened" at the conference, it is doubted if it could ever be brought together again. It was hard enough for the five Commissioners to agree, not to mention the nine provinces and the Dominion.

War Savings

The War Savings Committee has issued a little booklet on The Case for War Savings, which states: "To the extent that those who receive additional income during the war spend it on bread and other things of which Canada has a surplus, the results will be good. But the economic resources of the country are not sufficient to produce all the things that are needed for the prosecution of the war and, at the same time, satisfy a greatly increased demand for consumable goods in general."

Another important factor emphasized in the booklet is that "only a moderate proportion of the new spending is likely to be directed toward purely Canadian products. A great deal of the spending would be on articles which are imported from outside the Empire or which contain a high percentage of foreign content; and it must be remembered that we need to husband our foreign exchange resources for the purchase of essential war materials and supplies which are unobtainable in Canada." Wage-earners are urged to realize that spending on non-essentials at a time when production of goods is limited by reason of the heavy exactions of war would mean an inevitable rise in prices, if not checked. It is not the democratic way to impose restrictions; but, as the Minister of Finance has said, "we must accomplish by voluntary action more than the enemy can do by compulsion." War saving becomes a self-denying ordinance while at the same time being a real boon to the saver. If a fair proportion of increased earnings are not accumulated for use after the war, they will be of little benefit to the worker. "The only way in which increased income can be translated into increased consumption on any substantial scale is to defer spending until the war load on our productive machine is lightened and increased production of consumable goods is possible," it is pointed out.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

Fox Show.

* * * *

We can always be prepared for a snow storm about the 30th—St. Andrew's Day.

* * * *

Even in Parliament today a man is not permitted to say what he thinks or to say why he thinks it.

* * * *

The new airport was to have been ready for occupancy last week, but the number of additions ordered after the contract was let has delayed matters.

* * * *

"Foxes for food" is now the slogan in Germany; which means after the war there will be a good market for both live silver foxes and their pelts.

* * * *

To how many today do the words of Longfellow poignantly apply:

A feeling of sadness and longing
That is not akin to pain,
And resembles sorrow only
As the mist resembles the rain.

* * * *

A fifteen year N. S. school boy sentenced to be hanged for murder and his fourteen year old chum held for burglary would indicate that there is a sad lack of character-building "somewhere in Canada". Evidently we are not laying the proper foundations on which character and conscience are built and developed.

* * * *

Sir David Wilkie, painter and etcher, the most distinguished of British historical genre painters, born this date, 1785; entered Royal Academy School, Edinburgh, at fourteen, elected A.R.A. while only 24 and R.A. at 26. Knighted at 51, died at 56 while en route home from Egypt, and buried at sea off Gibraltar. Outstanding genre works: "The Village Politicians", "The Blind Fiddler", "Rent Day," "The Chelsan Pensioners," "The Penny Wedding"; also "Sir Walter Scott and Family."

* * * *

British Labour Minister Ernest Bevin, in a speech urging factory workers to increase production, predicted that within another six months Britain would pass Germany in production and that the "ugly Nazi regime will crumble up in Hitler's hands." "Give us another six months of intensive production," he urged workers, "and we shall have passed Germany in production of aircraft, ships and guns, and I venture to prophesy that, immediately we have done that, the world will move back to peaceful times, reconstruction, the wiping away of privilege and the growth of knewledge. The Hitler and Mussolini rats will squeal and run directly their turn comes."

* * * *

Thanks to the British navy Canadians will be short of few of the world's delicacies this Christmas, states Canadian Grocer in its current issue. There will be confections, plum pudding, and sauce for the meat from Great Britain; bulk and packaged raisins from Australia; spices from India; walnuts from China; dried fruits from South Africa; figs from Turkey and dates from Iraq; coffee from British East Africa and South America; teas from India and Ceylon; olives from Spain; cocoa from West Africa; cocoanuts from the West Indies, and sardines from Portugal. All these foods—some of them every day ones and others seasonal—are coming on top of a generally bountiful harvest throughout Canada so we are surely living in a land of plenty.

* * * *

The death has recently been announced in the English papers of Admiral Sir Richard Phillimore, one of the first British naval officers to qualify as an airplane pilot and a veteran of the World War Battle of the Falklands. He was 65 years old. Admiral Phillimore was the eldest son of Admiral Sir Augustus Phillimore and entered the navy when he was 14 years old. In the 1914 Battle of the Falkland Islands, in which a British squadron sank four of five warships of a German squadron under Vice Admiral Graf von Spee, he commanded the battle cruiser Inflexible. Subsequently he commanded the same vessel in the bombardment of the Dardanelles in 1915 and served as principal beach master during landing operations in Gallipoli. In his spare time he learned aviation.

* * * *

Mr. F. Wilhelm Sollman, former German Secretary of the Interior, predicts that the first break in Adolf Hitler's proposed "new European order" would come between Germany and Italy over the Mediterrean situation. Mr. Sollman is now a member of the faculty of Pendle Hill, Quaker school at Wallingford, Pa. He declares that Hitler already has lost the war in Europe, that the German dictator's original aims "to crush France, to drive Russia out of Europe and to make friends with Great Britain" has been frustrated and that his present campaigns is proving unsuccessful. He describes as a sign of weakness the shift of operations to the Southern European countries. Italy, Mr. Sollman says, is not a "true friend" of Germany and no more desires Nazi control of the Mediterranean than control by England. Spain, he says, has not joined the Axis powers because it did not want Gibraltar in German hands. Moreover, he adds, Germany will have to reckon with Russia in the future. He emphasizes the need for a new order in Europe in the form of a United States of Europe, established by democratic States. "A new order is inevitable," he says, "but it cannot be the type that governs by force, such as Hitler would create. It must be a co-operative union. Such an order is in the minds of British statesmen now; but has not been publicized for psychological reasons."

NOTES BY THE WAY

If the Axis Powers dare to threaten us now, will they be less tough if they ever catch us alone? —Buffalo News.

Not so long ago we were told we could not make airplane engines, tanks or big guns in Canada, not to mention a great many other things, but we are making aero engines, tanks and big guns. The fact seems to be there is nothing we cannot make in Canada and it has taken the war to teach us that lesson.—Niagara Falls Review.

One of the oddest things to note in visiting the destruction in the East End is that the public-houses have in general stood up wonderfully to bombing, while the schools and churches have not. Street after street I noticed where the public-house still stood on the corner, though all the houses were more or less in ruins. — London New Statesman.

When the German occupied Rheims, writes our Geneva correspondent, they levied a heavy toll on the champagne cellars, and now Charles Heidsieck and Co. have written to their Swiss customers explaining that they cannot accept any orders for Switzerland at present as they have to deliver to the Germans 12,000,000 bottles of champagne by the end of the year. —London Times.

In these days of world convul-sion democracy must harden and create faculties of defence it has now known before. It can do that and still remain democracy. Democratic institutions can be reformed to meet bewildering changes in the modern world and still preserve every essential and noble aspect that has made the quest of liberty and pilgrimage of the human race since recorded time. Amid world revolution, it is this unsatisfied desire for justice that is the final hope for democracy. No man can be successfully "robotized" after he has once known liberty. Hitler may erase from the walls of France those words of fire—Liberty, Fraternity and Equality—but he can never erase them from French hearts. He may deal hard blows to England, level her ancient shrines of culture and beauty, but he will never succeed in conquering the free British spirit. Liberty is something of the heart and soul, the divine part of man, and neither bomb nor tank can destroy it. — Hamilton Spectator.

Apparently Dr. Joe Goebbels has not yet despaired of his "war of nerves;" the art and practice of "talking big" is once again in full swing in the German press over the terrifying consequences of the Brenner meeting. The Berlin "Borsen Qeitung" is particularly formidable — on paper. "The decisions taken at the Brenner meeting," we are told, "will take effect with clock-like punctuality and the irresistible force of an elemental phenomenon." Considering how exceedingly unpunctual Adolf the All-Terrible was in his various schedules for invading this country and taking up his residence at Buckingham Palace, there is much to be said for a little vagueness about his future triumphs. —From the Manchester Guardian.

There is something positively uncanny about a vessel which after finding itself completely "sunk" by a heavy bombardment of official despatches from Rome, gives itself a shake, takes after a squadron of eight Italian battleships, sinks three of them, runs the rest to cover, and then tries to tempt the remainder of Mussolini's fleet to come out and continue the debate. The Greek Ajax caught it in the neck when he defied the lightning; the British Ajax defies a whole navy and gets away with it. — Detroit, Free Press.

Beverley Baxter, M. P., refers to Mussolini, as "the Knight in Shining Blackmail who rode so bravely into the lists when France was unhorsed and helpless." —St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Plucky little Greece! Welcome to her in the band of nations that stand in arms against slavery and oppression. She is sure to suffer, but she will save her soul. We also have received wounds and expect more ere victory is achieved. That day, no matter what happens in the meanwhile, Greece will march with us in triumph. —Saint John Times-Globe).

The writer's position in the mod-ern world is a curious and difficult one. If he is not the statesman or national prophet in embryo, neither is he the mere slick entertainer, the educated clown.... He is best regarded as a kind of scout or explorer, who on behalf of the more thoughtful reader has pushed on into the jungle of desire and fear or is setting a tentative foot upon the higher slopes of our common human aspirations. — J. B. Priestly in Readers News, London.

When the inhabitants of Rome recovered — rather slowly, I learn —from the results of the recent outburst of anti-aircraft fire over the city, they gave the visitation a new name. There was no British aircraft there, but the falling shells killed and wounded a fairly considerable number of people. The new name is "La guerra Italo-Italiana" —the Italo-Italian war. — London Daily Telegraph.

At a time when enemy hosts are gathering in the Channel ports and menace invasion the London Press Club is exhibiting a selection of posters dated 1803, when this country was preparing against a similar threat. One poster gives Sheridan's address to the English people. The repetitions of history were never better illustrated. "The enemy," the poster proclaims, in the true Sheridan accents, "by a strange frenzy driven, fight for power, for plunder, and extended rule—We, for our country, our altars and our homes. They follow an adventurer whom they fear, and obey a power which they hate—We serve a Monarch whom we love, a God whom we adore.... They offer us their protection — yes, such protection as vultures give to lambs, covering and devouring them. The answer is this. The Throne we honor is the people's choice. The laws we revere are our brave father's legacy. The faith we follow teaches us to live in bonds of charity with all mankind and to die with hope of bliss beyond the grave." —London Times.

In this time of the breaking of nations when the claws of the aggressor are outstretched over Europe and there is no shelter save behind the sword, both individuals and peoples have need of a vitalizing faith. While the armed forces of the Allies do their duty on a field of battle whose violence is beyond description, those who hold the home front and endure its daily strain and stresses must steel their wills and keep the fire of faith alight in their hearts. For without faith, without the proper incentive to persevere, endure, and attain, the ordeal that has come upon us would be without meaning. —Glasgow Herald.

An Opportunity

(Glasgow Evening News)

Conservative Leader Hanson made an outstanding suggestion in Parliament when he urged the Canadian Government to seek bases on the West Irish Coast.

The bases are needed badly by the British to war on Germany's submarines and surface raiders. They make possible the use of fast but light craft that require frequent servicing. Mr. Chamberlain gave them up as a gesture to Anglo-Irish good-will a couple of years back and now de Valera insists on playing dog-in-the-manger with them.

Prime Minister Churchill, in his frank way has openly asked for the bases. Equally frank, Mr. de Valera replied "No" and put what tiny defuses Eire has at the bases to keep the British out—not that they would be very effective if Churchill ordered them taken.

De Valera is still living in the past. Living in the days of Irish hate, despite the modern day when something more horrible than his worst feelings to the British faces civilization unless Britain wins.

It's a case of pride with him that he will not let the British Navy back in. But Canada, as another member of the Commonwealth, could easily make the request and station her navy, perhaps with Australia's and New Zealand's at Irish bases, and make things hot for Nazi U-boats.

We trust that Prime Minister King will take the suggestion and immediately press it upon de Valera, pointing out the sense of the situation and the fact that this concession allows him a way out of his dilemma without losing face.

Mr. King would undoubtedly be able to get support for such a move from Washington, which is perfectly aware of what is going on and the need for immediate action. And if he is wise, Mr. King will take the procedure of asking the Eire government for the concessions in such a way that it will have the unanimous backing of all Canada. That he could accomplish by a resolution in the House, moved by himself and seconded by the Opposition leaders.

The opportunity is his for an important move to aid Great Britain.

Electoral College Choses Presidents

J. V. McAree
In The Globe and Mail

We have been asked by an old friend to give some account of that mysterious institution known in the United States as the Electoral College. It is not, as some seem to suppose, a seat of learning. It is, in fact, as close to being a mere figment of the imagination as can well be imagined. It has no principal, president, students, fees or classrooms. It hasn't even a football team or a college yell. It never actually corporatively meets. Few of the 531 members know any of the other members. It pays no wages and has only what might be called a metaphysical existence. It is, in effect, an old-fashioned device to register the will of the American voters when expressed in a Presidential election. It pays no attention to Senators, members of the House of Representatives or Governors. It concerns itself only with Presidents, whom it may never see. Most of its members remain forever unknown to the President

Distrusted Average Citizen

It came into existence at a time when democracy was comparatively young. The founders of the American Republic were rather suspicious of democracy. What they were concerned with was in making it impossible for an autocracy to rear its head. They had no romantic ideas about the average citizen. One idea they had of him was that he was by nature incompetent to pass upon such an important matter as choosing the President of the United States. Nevertheless the President had to reflect the popular choice. It was quite a problem how the ignorance and prejudices and perhaps superstitions of the ordinary citizen should be held in check or diverted long enough for him to help elect a President. But it was argued that if the average citizen in those early days could know little personally about a candidate for the Presidency, he would know those he could trust, and those who presumably knew more about the outside world than himself. These prominent citizens in turn would know a great deal more about the qualities of the Presidential candidates than the humbler voter. Therefore, why not let the humbler citizens choose superior citizens in whom they could place their trust and give them the power to assemble and choose the best man for the office? It seemed an admirable idea. The best men in the nation would meet and decide upon the best man in the United States. He would then become President.

Rise of the Parties

As a theory there doesn't seem much wrong with it, considering the time it was adopted. But what destroyed its effectiveness was the rise of the political parties. They were not satisfied that a small number of men of independent minds should choose the Presidents. That, they felt, and quite rightly, was the business of political parties. But of course the average man had to vote and the Constitution provided that he should vote for members of the Electoral College. What the parties did then was to take charge of the men standing for election to the college. The parties came to control the vote, and so it meant that an elector who did not have the support of a party could not be elected or, later on, even nominated. This meant that the members of the Electoral College had to become mmebers of a political party. This meant, then, that they surrendered all independent judgement. This meant, in turn, that they became nonentities. In recent years the barren honor of being elected to the college has been bestowed as an intangible reward to party members who have advanced the fortunes of the party, usually by contributions.

History In A Log

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Entries of a kind that had never before been jotted in the log of the supply ship Nascopie must have made strange reading when she tied up to her dock in Montreal last week, and perhaps they may come to show that she towed history in her wake as she safely completed the nineteenth annual eastern Arctic patrol.

The Nascopie sailed in July, carrying a full cargo of supplies, which she unloaded at points and settlements on the way to Churchill, leaving a two-year supply of grub and tackle at each place of call, instead of the year's supply she had always left on other trips. At Churchill, she re-fueled and re-loaded with enough supplies for two years to be left at the other posts on Baffin Island, along Hudson Strait, in Chesterfield Inlet, at Ellesmere Island and at Fort Ross.

Sending in two years' supplies instead of one year's is a precaution wisely taken under the threat of war, so that if war's ugly phantion weaves its way into the Canadian Arctic, the settlers down there will have, at least, enough to keep them going till, it may be hoped, war will have ceased, and the Nascopie can again sail freely through the Strait.

The log of the ship tells how she called at Greenland points, and landed supplies at them, as well as unloading housing and other provision for the Canadian consul who has taken up official residence in that Danish possession. The entries in the log telling of those days of call at Greenland points have been made matters of routine by the war. The Nascopie called at Greenland as one of the supply ships commissioned by the United States and Canada in fulfillment of their agreement with Denmark to tend and protect the people of Greenland. The Danes can no longer do so, being themselves under the domination of the Germans.

Greenland has been for centuries under Danish sovereignty, although figuratively within a stone's throw of the Canadian arctic mainland. Georgraphically, Greenland is a vast continental chip lopped off the area that is now Canada. Politically, it is not now beyond the probabilities accuring from war's uncertainties, that the time may come when this year's trip of the Nascopie may prove to have bridged the gap narrowly separating Greenland from Canada. The fate of that continental island depends on the fate of Denmark, which has meanwhile entrusted the protection of Iceland and Greenland to the people of Canada and the United States.

SITE OF CIRCUS WHERE CHRISTIANS DIED IN PAGAN ROME UNEARTHED

VATICAN CITY, Nov. 15—(AP)—Workmen digging in the cellars of St. Peter's Church have unearthed a piece of wall of Nero's Circus where early Christian martyrs were put to death.

The section of wall, about three feet long, was identified by one of its stones, which bears the seal of the Emperor who, legend has it, fiddled while Rome burned.

For eight months workmen have been excavating under the great Basilica, searching in the debris of centuries for archeological relics. They have found:

1. The sculptured side of a pagan sarcophagus, broken in a hundred pieces.
2. Fragments of the mosaic floor of the first church built on the site and consecrated in the year 326.
3. The floor and entrance to the Sacristy of this former church.
4. Pillars of the old Basilica.
5. Two cellars in which, during the time of Michelangelo, lime was slaked for construction work on the new Basilica, together with unslaked lime of the 16th century.
6. Charcoal inscriptions and designs made by workmen nearly 400 years ago.
7. The skeleton of a worker of that period who was buried where he died in an accident.

WITH THE C.A.S.F., SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND, Nov. 16—(CP)—The Canadian troops are going to keep hockey alive in England this winter. A large artificial ice rink has been obtained by the Y.M.C.A. for use of the Canucks and a boom hockey season is expected. Plans are being completed to enable teams from the two Canadian divisions and corps troops to play regular schedules.

J. C. SAINT, General Agent, 144 Richmond St., Charlottetown,
Maritime Branch Office: MacBeath Bldg., Moncton,
R. C. Macdonald, LL.B., C. L. U., Superintendent.

Macs Hair Restorer

A delicately perfumed preparation which restores, strengthens and beautifies the hair.

IT WILL RESTORE GRAY HAIR TO ITS ORIGINAL COLOR.

Promotes a new and superior growth where the hair is falling and is remarkably useful in preventing dandruff and destroying parasitic hair killers. Just follow the directions carefully and you will be amazed at the results.

GET YOUR BOTTLE TODAY PRICE 60c per Bottle

GASSY STOMACHS RELIEVED

Every person who is troubled with gas in the stomach and bowels should get a bottle of Dr. Evan's Stomach Mixture and see how quickly it will relieve all distressing symptoms

Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture, taken at meal times, not only prevents all bad effects from gas but it promotes the functional activity of the stomach, assist digestion and improves the appetite.

DON'T DELAY ORDER YOUR BOTTLE TODAY PRICE 85c

LADIES

Why not call and see our stock of Max Factor Society Beauty Aids and take advantage of the tremendous drop in the price of these products. Never before has the price been so low in Canada.

Now is your chance to Buy. DON'T DELAY.

THE TWO MACS

SCOTT'S EMULSION
CONTAINS VITAMINS A and D
The Best Way to take COD LIVER OIL
59¢ AND 98¢

Sold by
E. A. FOSTER
Central Drugstore

Say to Your Grocer
I Want
BRAHMIN ORANGE PEKOE TEA
You will enjoy its superior quality

RUBINSTEINS
ORIGINAL
APPLE
BLOSSOM
PERFECT
ENSEMBLE

COLOGNE,
TALCUM,
FACE POWDER,
TOILET SOAP,
BODY POWDER,
DUSTING POWDER

CHRISTMAS
GIFT ARRAY
DISPLAYED SOON

For Sale in
Charlottetown
at
JAMIESON'S

GIFTS

FOR SOLDIERS IN ENGLAND MUST BE MAILED EARLY TO REACH THE BOYS BY CHRISTMAS.

SEND YOURS NOW

HICKEY'S TWIST

Goes Duty Free if ordered direct from the Factory. Send your order in today to the Manufacturer

HICKEY & NICHOLSON
TOBACCO CO., LTD., CHARLOTTETOWN

The Poets' Corner

TO THE MEN OF KENT, OCTOBER, 1803

Vanguard of Liberty, ye men of Kent,
Ye children of a soil that doth advance
Her haughty brow against the coast of France,
Now is the time to prove your hardiment!
To France be words of invitation sent!
They from their fields can see the countenance
Of your fierce war, may ken the glittering lance,
And hear you shouting forth your brave intent.
Left singe, in bold parley, ye, of yore,
Did from the Norman win a gallant wreath;
Confirmed the charters that were yours before;—
No parleying now. In Britain is one breath;
We all are with you now from shore to shore;—
Ye men of Kent, 'tis victory or death!

—William Wordsworth.