

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

President: Lieut. Col. W. Chester S. McLure
Vice President: J. R. Burnett, F.J.I.
Secretary: Lieut. Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D.S.O.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By Mail in P.E.I. \$4.00 per year; \$2.50 for 6 months
City Delivery \$5.00 per year; \$3.00 for 6 months

The Charlottetown Guardian may be obtained at
Hotelling's News Agency, Times Square, New York; Old
South News Agency, Corner Mills and Washington.

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1941.

Cabinet Split Over Conscription?

According to the Ottawa correspondent of
the Globe and Mail, there is now a conflict of
opinion in the King Ministry over the question
of compulsory selective service outside Canada.

These Ministers include Colonel the Hon. J.
L. Ralston, Minister of National Defense; Hon.
Angus Macdonald, Minister of Naval Affairs;
Hon. J. L. Hilsley, Minister of Finance, and Hon.
Ian Mackenzie, Minister of Pensions and National
Health.

Doubtless they have been influenced by the
concern of the people on the Atlantic and Pacific
seaboards who are not convinced that "it
can't happen here."

According to one of the Ministers, the in-
formation the Cabinet has is that the Maritime
Provinces are in favor of compulsory selective
service; Quebec would accept it if the issue
were adequately explained to the people by re-
sponsible and trusted leaders; Ontario cities and
towns are overwhelmingly in favor of it, but
there is some doubt about the rural districts;
the Prairie Provinces are opposed to it (Hon.
James G. Gardiner is quoted as the authority
for this) while British Columbia, apprehensive
about the Japanese menace, would hold up both
hands for it.

In view of the fact that only two constitu-
ents west of the Great Lakes sent anti-con-
scription members to Parliament in the war-
time election of 1917, it is difficult to credit
Mr. Gardiner's contention that the West is un-
willing to accept compulsory service in the
present emergency.

What has stirred the King Government over
the conscription issue at this time? The Ottawa
correspondent above quoted gives two reasons.
One is the precarious position of the Canadian
troops in Hong Kong. One battalion of the
Canadian brigade at Hong Kong is made up of
French-Canadians. It is not likely there will be
opposition in Quebec to conscription for re-
inforcements of this volunteer contingent if they
are needed. Another cogent reason is the re-
turn of Senator Meighen to the leadership of
the Conservative Party. The main idea at
Ottawa now is to develop a programme "designed
to win popular approval, or at least to ap-
pease those elements which are clamoring for a
more effective war effort, and announce it to
the country before Senator Meighen can take
his seat in the House. In other words, the object
is to forestall Mr. Meighen, who, as one of his
first moves, may move in Parliament for selective
compulsory service over the whole field of war."

Bombardment Insurance

Discontinuance of insurance writing where
land risks arising from war operations are con-
cerned seems fairly certain to raise a question of
great practical importance in those parts of Can-
ada most exposed to bombardment, whether from
the air or from the sea, states the Montreal
Gazette. What is true of Canada in this respect
is true also of the United States where private
writing of this class of insurance is reported to
have ceased. In Britain, which has had actual
experience of destruction through bombardment,
and upon a tremendous scale, the insurance re-
sponsibility is carried by the Government, private
companies acting as agents for the Board of
Trade, and a similar system is being suggested
in the United States. There the General Brokers
Association has appointed a committee to advise
with the New York State Insurance Depart-
ment and the Federal Government to this end. As
long ago as June a plan under which the Govern-
ment would assume war and bombardment
risks was submitted to the Reconstruction Finance
Corporation but no action appears to have
been taken in regard to it. With these risks
brought so much nearer home the question is be-
ing raised again and there is more than a likeli-
hood that it will be raised in this country also. It
is possible that the Government has already con-
sidered the matter but if this has not been done
some official study seems desirable, so that if a
request does come there will be a decision ready.

Canada's Next War Loan

Canada's new War Loan, according to Finance
Minister J. L. Hilsley, is to be launched much
earlier than was anticipated. Promised some
months ago for next summer, the financial cam-
paign will be embarked upon in February, only
two months away, designed to raise the sum of
about \$500,000,000. It is the fourth such issue,
the three previous loans bringing into the Fed-
eral treasury more than \$1,400,000,000, while

the Government has derived \$103,000,000 from
the sale of War Savings certificates.

The pay-as-we-go policy, sound as it is, cannot
meet the requirements of this war, and, as the
Minister of Finance now states, "the extension
of the war to the Pacific must necessarily in-
crease the difficulties of the situation confront-
ing this country." Not very long ago Mr.
Hilsley intimated that there are limits beyond
which taxation cannot go, and every economist
knows this to be so. When the limit is reached,
and it has been nearly reached in this country,
the only alternative is borrowing and the Govern-
ment must indulge in this method extensively as
its obligations increase.

The notice now being given to the public will
enable them to prepare for the new loan when
it comes, to budget for it, and a substantial over-
subscription ought to be in prospect. In the
meantime the Government is pursuing the wise
course of placing the sale of war bonds as well
as of war savings certificates under a single or-
ganization, the National War Finance Com-
mittee, under the chairmanship of George W.
Spinney, joint General Manager of the Bank of
Montreal. Mr. Spinney has already rendered
very valuable service to the Dominion in this
capacity and the Government's confidence in him
is shared in the fullest degree by the Canadian
people.

EDITORIAL NOTES

This is the shortest day of the year.

High Commissioner Vincent Massey in a tu-
cheon address in London said "there have been
more than 3,500 marriages between Canadian
soldiers and English and Scottish girls. We look
forward to the days when they can be welcomed
to Canada along with their returning husbands."
So say we all of us.

For the first time since the last war the Port
of Boston is closed to all private night shipping,
beginning tonight. The New England Fish Ex-
change announced that the restriction, imposed by
the United States Navy, would make it necessary
to change business hours.

Fifty property owners in Kingston have been
served with orders from the Ontario Fire Mar-
shal's office advising them to carry out the in-
structions of the fire inspector and erect fire es-
capes within 30 days, or else police court pro-
ceedings would be instituted. Lieut. C. Saunders,
of Kingston Fire Dept., when making an in-
spection some months ago, found over 100 prop-
erties where fire escapes were necessary. He
gave instructions that they be erected but only
about 30 owners have done so, to date.

The U. S. Army, despite its mechanization, is
still in the market for horses and mules,
Col. F. J. Riley, quartermaster supply officer
at Fort Mason, disclosed in announcing plans to
purchase 3,100 horses and 140 mules before the
end of the year. The animals will be purchased
through remount stations at Fort Douglas, Utah,
and San Mateo, Cal. The Army is offering a
maximum of \$100 each for light riding horses
\$165 for all other classes of horses; and \$175 for
mules. All animals must be "gentle, well broken
and in good physical condition." In addition,
each must be "a good mover at the walk, trot
and gallop." The animals will be used by
cavalry and field artillery forces, which unlike
Canadians, are not being abandoned.

George Eliot (pseudonym of Mary Ann
Evans) English novelist and poetess, died this
date in 1880; her place is amongst the greatest
writers of English fiction; she excelled as a
painter of middle class life and character, and
her work is marked by much pathos and humour;
her finest work is "Adam Bede," succeeding
which came "The Mill on the Floss," "Silas
Marner," and other novels; in poetry, "The
Legend of Jubal and other Poems"; in belles-
lettres, "Theophrastus Such."

"One of the most remarkable phenomena in
the history of the scattered people (the Jews),
made for ages "a scorn and a hissing" . . .
is that they have come out of it (in any estimate
which allows for numerical proportion) rivalling
the nations of all European countries in health-
iness and beauty of physique, in practicable abil-
ity in scientific and artistic aptitude and in some
forms of ethical value."

"Father" Aberhart still keeps going ahead,
one thing after another, notwithstanding Sup-
reme Court reverses. The Alberta Government
will enter the life insurance business. January 2,
Hon. E. C. Manning, Provincial Secretary, an-
nounces. Two years ago, the province entered
the fire insurance business on a competitive basis.
At the last session of the Legislature, it was re-
ported the province had written some \$12,000,
000 of fire insurance business. Alberta was given
power to enter the life insurance field in leg-
islation amending the Insurance Act passed at the
last session of the Legislature. Mr. Manning
says the Government will offer four types of
policy—the 20-pay life, ordinary life, term in-
surance for five years and insurance up to 65
years. Policies will include cash surrender value,
loan value, and automatic nonforfeiture clauses.
The rates are being calculated and will be at the
lowest cost consistent with safety.

The revival of enthusiasm for bicycling that
hit New York about four years ago is still
pedaling in high and speeding along, notwith-
standing wintry weather. Defense priorities
have raised prices and caused scarcities in some
neighborhoods, but more and more British bikes
are getting through to take up the slack. This
inflow indicates something of the grimness of
the British hunt for exchange, since, due to the
gasoline scarcity at home, bicycles are at a pre-
mium there. Cycling in New York is done along
paved paths. But some intrepid souls pedal their
bikes right in and out of midtown traffic, yelling
"beaver" every time they clip a fender. Nobody
knows exactly why the bicycle craze was re-
vived. It seems to be part of the pattern of
people searching back in the past for memories
of the "good days," for up till now gasoline re-
strictions have scarcely affected them.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The barren desert and flinty
rock that once was Italy's empire
is now largely England's prize
of war. The proud Gaius, the
men-o-war, lie sunken "in the
green hells of the sea," and the
chains that confine Italy in the
Mediterranean are as silken
threads compared to the new-
forged links that bind her, a
beaten, captive ally, to the wheels
of the Nazi chariot of war. What
a scene that spell-binding confidence
man Benito! — St. Louis Post-
Dispatch.

"Wind and water," says The
Huron Expositor "are about the
only free things there are in
Ottawa." That may be true about
the wind, which is a parliament-
ary by-product, and consequently
so plentiful hereabout that it goes to
waste. But all the free water in
Ottawa you could catch in a rain-
barrel, and were trying to convince
a smaller one, as long as its
cut-rate. Revise your statement,
please, to "wind and scenery." —
Ottawa Citizen.

Britain is building up a powerful
army of paratroops who are being
trained at a high rate each week.
It was only eight months ago,
when British soldiers were drop-
ped by parachute in Southern
Italy, that it was first disclosed
that this country had air para-
troops, but now a large volunteer
force has been trained and equip-
ped and bomber-airplanes have
been adapted as troop-carriers. —
Cardiff Western Mail.

There must have been a lot of
sweets and when a professional
crystal-ball gazer met in a fortune
teller's convention in T. Kyoto. If
the whole lot of them, gazing stead-
fastly and in concert, were able to
see anything beyond the fog of the
policies that shattered the peace
of the world by the invasion of
Manchuria in 1931, they saw some-
thing that isn't in the crystal ball.
What Japan needs right now is
not people capable of gazing into
a crystal ball, but somebody
capable of seeing direct through
a fog and very opaque crystal-
ball. — Kitchener Record.

Experts at the Ministry of
Home Security are working out
how to prevent static water sup-
plies freezing. Dozens of steel
tanks are now in the London
streets, they are being supplied
with water tanks in the basements
of bombed buildings and by
miles of water pipes which line
the streets. But the problem of keep-
ing the water from freezing in the
winter worries experts in the Fire
Department of the Ministry. It is
probable that a chemical will be
put on the water to prevent it from
freezing, but this is not likely to be avail-
able. Water engineers have been
consulted by the Ministry and until
some time ago it was found that
the difficulty of the surface pipes that
line the streets will be kept empty
until needed. Last winter a large
number of steel water tanks were
then installed were frozen for
days on end. In many cases the
water froze solid and the tanks
bulged and sprung leaks. — London
Evening Standard.

With low lattice windows peer-
ing from beneath overhanging
timbering, the Old Crown House
still stands squat and solid, on the
site where it was built, in High
Street, Birmingham, for more than
two years ago. Its massive beams
interlocked with infinite art, seem-
ingly for ever, by hands that have
been long since buried. The Old
Crown House remains much as it
must have appeared when first
put up in the 14th century. Said
to be the oldest existing in
Birmingham, it stands on the
1368 on its outer wall. In the
"Itinerary of England" which he
made in 1538 in the region of
Henry VIII, John Leland, the
building as "a fair Mansion House
of Timber." Standing in the pleas-
ant rural surroundings of these
faraway days, the Old Crown
House, it is said, has the same
from which the miles out of
Birmingham used to be reckoned
on the milestones. To this day the
building is partitioned into three
houses, as it was divided in
1693. Mr. George J. Hughes, who
has been the licensee for four
years took the uneven
flooring of what was once the
"gallery chamber" where, tradition
has it, Queen Elizabeth once
spent a night. — Birmingham
Mail.

Celery is here. The bunches are
quite respectable in size, and cost
less than ever. Each bunch is an
other newcomer, and fetches its
each. There is good news about
changes — an allocation is in the
course of distribution, and the
fruit should be on sale this week-
end. It is good South African
fruit, too. The controlled price is
now 7-2d per pound. There are
some fine English cantaloupes, mel-
ons about, but too costly for most
of us, being 12s 6d to 15s each.
Good dessert apples are 10d per
pound, excellent cooking apples
per pound — they are of the
"mushy" type, and splendid bak-
ers — egg plums (not very plen-
tiful as yet) are 5-1-2d per lb.
"Prince of Wales" figs, finitely
ed, are 6-1-2d per lb., dessert
plums being 10d per lb. Grapes
are slightly cheaper, black ones
costing 8s per lb. and Muscats
12s 6d per lb. Nectarines are 1s 6d
and 2s each, peaches 1s 3d to 3s
each, and bilberries 3s 6d per lb.
These other "fruits of the field" —
mushrooms are obtainable at
anything from 4s to 5s 6d per lb.,
and the forced variety are 5s to 3s
per lb. Cabbages have risen in
price by a couple of pence, green
peas are 7d and 8d per lb., kidney
beans are also 8d per lb., beet-
roots 2d and 3d each according to
whether you buy them in their
raw state or peeled, cauliflow-
ers are 10d and 11d each, cucumbers
1s and 1s 6d each, vegetable
marrows 10d to 1s each, new car-
rots 3d and 4d each, and green
turnips 3d per lb. — Liverpool Post.

A war problem which has not
yet been satisfactorily solved in
Australia is that of fully exploit-
ing the inventive genius of the na-
tion in the interests of fighting
efficiency. The supreme need for
inventions in order to make the Ger-
many's colossal weight of arma-
ments, must not obscure the im-
portance of quality. Revelations
of the neglect from which the
Owen sub-machine gun suffered
showed that there were serious
weaknesses in the system of assess-
ing the value of inventions. To
remedy this situation, the Federal
Government has decided to abolish
the Central Inventions Board, and
to make acceptance or rejection of
inventions the responsibility of the

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A Thought A Day
For A People At War
"Canada is engaged in the
greatest struggle of modern
civilization and if we wish to
emerge victorious we must
work for it and put everything
we have into it." — Major-
General LaFleche.

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.

GUARDIAN CHRISTMAS EDITION

Sir,—In your last week's issue
you said that the Christmas edition
would be out for some time. You
never went on to say why but
I presume you forgot to explain
why. I only hope you will continue
it. If on account of the war you
issued a smaller one, as long as its
Christmas edition we love the
short stories even the strip of a
visit to Santa Claus is so nice. It
is the only paper here that has
nice Christmas poems from time
to time during the holidays. So
let's hope you keep up the work of
always having a Christmas copy,
and the way your paper has al-
ways kept up the Christmas spirit
marks towards the enjoyment of
the greatest feast of all time.

—M. J. G.

(Further Christmas editions will
be sent upon the war and its ef-
fect on the cost of publication.—
Ed. G.)

Maritime Figures

(Moncton Transcript)
An increase of eleven per cent in
the total population of the Maritime
Provinces in the last ten years is
large, but it shows a greater
growth than in some periods when
the population of these provinces
was being drained away, first to the
New England, Nova Scotia and then to
the Canadian west. During the last
decade distant fields did not look so
green, and the migration dwindled.
Indeed, during the worst of the de-
pression the tide turned and for a
period more people were returning
to the Maritimes than leaving.
Figures furnished by the Dominion
Bureau of Statistics show a total
population for the three provinces of
1,240,486, as compared with 1,009,
000 in 1931. Nova Scotia has the
largest population, 573,190, an in-
crease of 36,044; New Brunswick has
453,377, a gain of 45,158; and Prince
Edward Island 93,919, an increase of
5,881.

It is interesting to note that the
proportional gain was largest in
New Brunswick, which shows more
than eleven per cent increase; in
Nova Scotia it was a little more than
ten and in the island province ab-
solutely none. Nova Scotia's
represents the end of a period dur-
ing which the population actually
was declining.

The increase in New Brunswick is
well distributed, each of the ten fed-
eral ridings showing a gain. Inver-
ness-Richmond was the only consti-
tency in Nova Scotia to show a de-
crease but in some of the others the
gain was slight; about one-third of
the province's surplus is credited to
the city of Halifax.

The general effect of the war upon
the civilian population has not yet
been fully determined. Some men
have come from other places for
special work here, but there is an
impression that more men have left
the Maritimes to seek work in the
areas where the war industries are
most thickly concentrated.

After the war new conditions will
exist and a flow of population to-
wards Canada is to be ex-
pected. These provinces could sup-
port a much larger number of peo-
ple, and probably with a resulting
increase in general prosperity if the
influx is properly directed and ade-
quate opportunity given for the de-
velopment of the resources of the
Maritimes.

AHEAD OF CONTRACT

Canada has delivered more than
12,000 Bren guns and 14,000 extra
barrels to date, an output far in
excess of original contract require-
ments.

RIFLE PRODUCTION

Production of Lee-Enfield rifles
is being built up to a capacity
excess of 200,000 per year in a
Canadian government-owned factory.

The New Commander

(Exchange)
Vice-Admiral Geoffrey Layton,
successor to Sir Tom Phillips as ac-
tial commander-in-chief of the East-
ern Fleet, Royal Navy, has served
on many stations under actual war
conditions.

During the last war, Admiral Lay-
ton's courage was shown when he
commanded the new submarine,
E-13. Grounded off Denmark owing
to a compass failure, his helpless
craft was heavily shelled by a Ger-
man destroyer. Ordering his men to
swim for it, Admiral Layton told the
crew to "get away from these waves."
He escaped himself, but the Danes
intercepted him.

And then one night he placed a
dummy in his bed and managed to
reach England by devious routes in
the guise of a Danish seaman. After
his arrival on the British coast he
was tracked down by a Boy Scout
and arrested as a spy.

Admiral Layton was born in 1894,
the son of a Liverpool lawyer, and
training as a cadet on the Britannia
he was assigned as a midshipman to
the cruiser Niobe of the Channel
Squadron in 1907. Always attracted
to submarines he commanded one at
the age of 22 and remained in this
branch of the service for more than
twenty years except for two years
of general duties.

After the Danish adventure, he
received command of another new
submarine, the Swordfish, owing
to gallantry of action in
commanding the submarine K-6.
Promoted to captain in 1922 while in
charge of the Second Submarine
Flotilla, he was advanced to the
First Flotilla and became chief staff
officer to the rear admiral of sub-
marines in 1925.

He then moved into a quick suc-
cession of posts: deputy director of
operations for two years; student
commander in the Imperial Defence
College in 1930; chief of staff of the China sta-
tion as a second class commodore.
Returning to England from the
Far East, he commanded the Ren-
own and was appointed commo-
dore of the Portsmouth barracks in
1934, rear admiral in 1935, director
of personal service in 1936, rear ad-
miral commanding the Mediterranean
cruiser squadron in 1938, and
vice admiral commanding the first
battle squadron and second in
command of the Mediterranean fleet
in 1939.

At the outbreak of the present
war, Admiral Layton hoisted his flag
as second in command of the home
fleet, and in July, 1940, he became
commander-in-chief of the home
station, succeeding Admiral Sir
Percy Noble.

How Are Your Eyes?

If you are having symptoms
of strain — headaches, sore
eyes or dizziness — consult
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
G. F. HUTCHESON

Christmas Gift Suggestions

AT THE TWO MACS
Gift shoppers will find here
suggestions to suit every name
on their Gift List.
FOR HER
Cutex Gift Sets 50c to \$5.00
Vanily Cases 85c to \$5.50.
Toilet Waters 85c to \$3.75.
Perfume 25c to \$4.00.
Ashes of Roses Gift Sets
\$1.10 to \$5.00.
Yardley Gift Sets \$1.10 to
\$10.00.
Evening in Paris Gift Sets
\$2.00 to \$5.00.
Derrys "Three Secrets" Gift
Sets 60c to \$3.00.
Also Soaps, Atomizers, Bath
Salts, Powders, Lipsticks,
Rouges, Writing Paper Boxes,
etc.
FOR HIM
Yardley Gift Sets \$1.25 to
\$5.50.
Gillette Gift Sets 98c to \$2.50
Rolls Razors \$7.95.
Williams Gift Sets 60c to
\$1.15.
Woodbury's Gift Sets 30c to
\$1.15.
Yardley's Shaving Bowl \$1.25
Keystone Military Leather
Cases (Zipper) \$5.00 to \$15.00.
Pinaud Lila Vegetal Lotion
\$1.10.
Mennen's Gift Sets \$1.35.
Tobacco, Cigarettes, Pipes,
Cigars and a complete assort-
ment of Mocha Chocolates in
Fancy Wrapped Packages and
Cedar Chests.
Come in and see the actual
merchandise and many other
Gift Suggestions now on dis-
play.
THE TWO MACS

BUY WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES
AND STAMPS AS CHRISTMAS GIFTS
AT BANKS OR POST OFFICES AND GET
FREE GREETING CARDS

of this species have been made this
year from British Columbia.
In the eastern United States cit-
ies the Canada balsam is easily the
favorite Christmas tree, as it stands
shipment better than other species,
supports lights and decorations well,
is very fragrant and the waxy,
dark-green needles remain long on
the tree. In the western and mid-
west American markets the Douglas
fir is favoured, and large shipments

A Host of Gift Suggestions
At The Central Drugstore

WE KNOW YOU WILL BE PLEASED WITH OUR
SHOWING IN THE FOLLOWING GOODS
TOILET WATERS AND PERFUMES
SMOKERS' GOODS
LADIES TOILET SETS
CUTEX & REVELON SETS
LUCIEN LELOG COLOGNE
GENIS' TRAVELLING CASES
WATERMAN'S AND ECLIPSE FOUNTAIN PENS
SHAVING SETS
MISCELLANEOUS

Everything in Ashes of Roses.
Three Secrets, Yardleys, Cotys
etc., single and combined in
exquisite sets—see windows.
A nice line of Cigars Cigar-
ettes and Tobacco, all Christ-
mas boxed (10 to 50). All
leading brands.
Also Pipes, (cased or un-),
Tobacco Pouches, Humidors,
Cigars and Cigarette Cases
and Holders, Ash Trays, etc.
Our assortment of cases in
these lines in leather and
boxes is a revelation.
No trouble to choose from
these goods.
All the new odors in this
delightful toiletry—Opening
night, Mon Image, Care Free
Whisper, Robia, Head and
Gardenia. Price \$1.25 and
\$1.50. An appropriate gift.
Military Sets, also Combina-
tion Sets in leather and
prophylactic Sets nicely box-
ed.
These come singly and com-
bined—nicely boxed for Xmas
\$1.00 to \$5.00.
Hot Water Bottles, Electric
Heating Pads, Walking Sticks,
Boxed Soaps, Safety Razors,
Special Shaving Brushes,
Mirrors, manicure Sets, Ron-
son Lighters, Bill Folds, Wal-
lets, etc., etc.
COME EARLY AND SEE OUR GOODS—IT WILL
BE A PLEASURE TO SHOW THEM.
E. A. FOSTER Central Drugstore

Say to Your Grocer
I Want
BRAHMIN ORANGE PEKOE TEA
You will enjoy its superior
quality
Hickey's
Black
Twist
Chewing
MANUFACTURED BY
HICKEY AND NICHOLSON
TOBACCO CO. LTD. CHARLOTTETOWN