

MAXIMS  
OF A  
MERE MAN

There is nothing in the world  
more unbecomingly than an aged busy-  
body.

# THE GUARDIAN OF THE GULF

The People's Paper Read by Everybody

MAXIMS  
OF A  
MERE MAN

A delegate cannot usurp; a  
representative has freedom of  
action.

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

Morning Guardian, Founded 1887.  
Charlottetown Guardian, Two Cents.

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## SECOND CABINET RE-ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCED

### 5 Military Districts To Be Abolished

#### Headquarters Of No. 6 At Halifax Among Those Eliminated.

OTTAWA, Dec. 12.—(CP)—Reorganizing Defence Minister Abbott announced early tonight that five of Canada's 11 military districts will be abolished and that the other six will be redesignated area headquarters under the five regional commands established early this year.

The functions of those eliminated will be absorbed by the commands. The functions of those remaining will fall completely under the authority of the commands for the first time.

The announcement was made shortly after Mr. Abbott left a cabinet session which gave the change approval and saw him relinquish his post in favor of Health Minister Brooke Claxton to devote himself to the finance ministry.

The district headquarters to be abolished are M.D. 6 at Halifax under Brig. Graham Gibson, M.D. 4 at Montreal under Brig. William Jones, M.D. 2 at Toronto under Brig. Alan Sparling, M.D. 10 at Winnipeg under Brig. R. O. G. Morton and M.D. 13 at Calgary under Col. Eric Snow.

Those that remain are M.D. 7 at Fredericton under Brig. Arnew; M.D. 5 at Quebec City under Brig. Paul Bernatchez; M.D. 3 at Kingston under Col. Pat. Bogart; M.D. 1 at London under Brig. Philip Earnshaw; M.D. 12 at Regina under Col. Geoffrey Morton, and M.D. 11 at Vancouver under Brig. (Continued on Page 9 Col. 2)

### Blum Heads French Gov't



LEON BLUM

PARIS, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Socialist Leon Blum, 74, and ailing, emerged today from the almost negligible role he had taken in politics since his liberation from a German prison camp and became head of the French government for at least the next month.

The only pre-war premier to return to power in post-war France, Blum plunged immediately into the task of forming a cabinet.

Blum, who had taken over once before in 1936 when France was shaken by labor unrest which saw red flags flying over workers-situated factories, said he had consented to come out of semi-retirement in order to help save France "in a difficult and perhaps serious situation."

Blum was chosen president-premier of the Interim Government by 575 votes of the national assembly, thus resolving a governmental crisis which had gripped the country for the last two weeks.

### Plan Children's Art Centre In City

A well-attended meeting, held last night in the Charlottetown Library, unanimously agreed to make arrangements for the establishment in Charlottetown of a children's art centre. Dr. P. A. Creelman presided.

Among those who expressed their views on the subject were Miss Jacqueline MacDonnell, who said that her experience as a school teacher had convinced her that some such supplementary addition as elementary training in art would add to the value of the present school curriculum. Miss MacDonnell said young children could have their interests easily diverted from less worthwhile activities to appreciation of art should such a centre for children be established.

Mrs. Willard McKay, president of the P.E. Island Art Society, said she considered the establishment of a children's art centre would prove a most desirable undertaking in which all citizens interested in the cultural development of the children should co-operate.

Mr. Branwell Chandler, supervisor of the P.E. Island Libraries, said he believed the project was one which should be formed in the city. Mr. Chandler recalled his own school days, stating that one of his major interests while a student was attending a manual training course which was then available. Following that course had given him, Mr. Chandler said, a great deal more interest in school life and he thought an art centre would be of valuable assistance in expanding and further developing the intellectual and cultural horizons of the children.

Mr. L. W. Shaw, director of education, said his department was greatly interested in the idea of a children's art centre and he considered such a centre would prove of great supplementary educational value to the school children.

Lieut.-Col. W. W. Reik, D.S.O., provincial director of physical fitness, thought there was an urgent need for the establishment of a high school in the city. He also suggested that quarters might be provided for workshops for the boys and domestic science classrooms for the girls. Small art centres could also be located in each school, Col. Reik said, which would obviate the necessity of children going long distances to attend the centre.

A committee of those interested in the establishment of the centre will meet next Monday evening at 8 o'clock to make further plans for the establishment of such a centre.

### Strange Rabbit From W.A.C. Hat

OTTAWA, Dec. 12.—(CP)—Pulling one of the strangest rabbits yet out of its wartime hat, War Assets Corporation tonight announced a quantity of "war surplus stiffs" of 25 to 100 tons daily capacity, are being offered for sale by its ships components division. The Corporation's statement did not suggest a civilian use to which the equipment might be put. The stiffs, made in Britain, are located at Montreal and Vancouver, and were used by the navy—to evaporate fresh water from sea water.

### N. S. Lobstermen Have Gear Damaged

YARMOUTH, N.S., Dec. 12.—(CP)—Lobster fishermen along Nova Scotia's southwestern shore today suffered their second setback of the 12-day-old season when lobster traps were washed ashore and damaged by a gale.

There was no immediate estimate of total damage but it was believed confined to traps set in shallow water while those in deeper water were unharmed.

The first blow to lobstermen, a hoping for repetition of last year's \$1,000,000 season, came on the Dec. 1 opening day when another gale delayed setting out traps.

Today's gale also prevented the arrival here of an aircraft from High Island, Me., which was to carry lobstermen back to the United States.

Shipment by water continued however, although lobstermen estimated that about 1,250,000 pounds were being held in pounds for higher prices, which have fallen 27 cents a pound, three cents below the opening mark.

### Fox Fur Prices Up In London Since October

LONDON, Dec. 12.—(CP Cable)—The Hudson's Bay Company says in a report on a silver fox fur sale this week that sales of this season's skins showed a 7 1-2-per cent advance compared with October.

Last season's skins were in reduced demand. Better colors declined five per cent. Other grades were "neglected."

### Churchill Expects Civil War In India

LONDON, Dec. 12.—(CP)—Winston Churchill told the House of Commons today that he expected civil war in India which may be caused by a "awful abridgement" of the population, and accused the Labor Government of direct responsibility for thousands of lives already lost in communal violence.

"The first is to proceed with violence and the second is to proceed with ruthless logic to quell India regardless of what may happen there."

Two courses were open to Britain, he said.

"The first is to proceed with ruthless logic to quell India regardless of what may happen there."

"The second, 'falling a measure of agreement not now in sight, an imprudent administration appointed by parliament should be set up.'"

### Sees Vital Role For Atomic Energy In Transportation

MONTREAL, Dec. 12.—(CP)—Scientists predict that before long atomic energy will provide unsuspected possibilities in the realm of transportation, Transport Minister Desjardins told the Montreal Chamber of Commerce in a luncheon address prepared for delivery today.

Recounting some of the outstanding developments in transportation in modern times, the Minister said humanity had progressed further in 100 years since the advent of steam railway than in the preceding thousands of years. He referred to the "vital role of the St. Lawrence-Great Lakes canal system which united Western Canada and the industrial centres of Ontario and Quebec with the Atlantic and the markets of the world" and stated that merchant vessels were the principal means of communication between nations and in overcoming distances between continents.

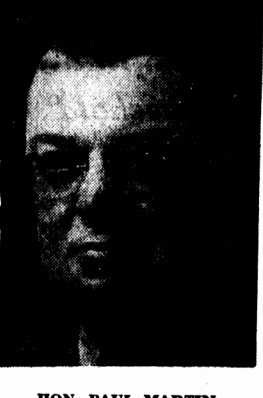
### Smelt Prospects Good In Bathurst District

BATHURST, N. B., Dec. 12.—(CP)—Prospects for the catch and price of smelt in this district were reported good tonight and anticipated colder weather is expected to result in the busiest season since pre-war years starting next month. Preparations are being made to extend the industry along the Caraquet coast.

### Involved In Second Cabinet Shuffle



HON. BROOKE CLAXTON who has been appointed Defence Minister.



HON. PAUL MARTIN who takes over the Health and Welfare Ministry.



HON. COLIN GIBSON who becomes Secretary of State, succeeding Hon. Paul Martin.

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### Corporation Tax Is Big Headache

Observers Wonder What Will Be Views Of New Finance Minister.

(By R. K. Carnegie)

OTTAWA, Dec. 12.—(CP)—The views of Hon. D. C. Abbott, at 47 one of Canada's younger cabinet ministers, from now on will become increasingly important to the economic life of the Dominion and to the pocket book of business and working Canadians.

Mr. Abbott this week was appointed Finance Minister, and his advice in that portfolio will carry a great deal of weight when the financial policies of the Dominion Government are settled in council.

Mr. Abbott will bring down his first budget probably next March and by that time the situation should be clearer regarding Dominion-Provincial financial arrangements. The progress made in the negotiations of the Dominion with the Provinces is likely to affect the tax changes he will propose.

One of the big headaches of the Government is the corporation tax and men informed in tax matters are wondering whether the minister will have any new ideas for dealing with it in a way that will relieve the ministry of some troubles.

Beginning Jan. 1 the corporate taxes will be consolidated into one tax of 30 per cent of the profits of a company. For the current calendar year these taxes total 46 per cent. This is apart from the excess profits tax of 15 per cent.

The corporation tax, however open it may be to attack, will bring into the federal treasury for the fiscal year ending next March something between \$350,000,000 and \$400,000,000. It would be difficult to find such big money anywhere if the corporation tax were dropped.

The principal argument against the corporation tax is that it results in double taxation. The profits of a company are taxed 40 per cent and dividends distributed from what is left to the shareholders is again subject to personal income tax.

(Continued on Page 9 Col. 2)

### Foreign Ministers End Sessions In New York

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—(AP)—The four-power foreign ministers' council finished its peace-making sessions in New York tonight, with its members in agreement that the long experience they have had in writing the European satellite peace treaties would be of great help in making a German settlement.

The State Secretary Byrnes of the United States said that if they should get stuck on German issues at their meeting opening in Moscow March 10, he would invite them back to New York because this seemed to be the place where they could reach agreement.

### Protest Bringing Polish War Vets To Canada

AMHERST, N.S., Dec. 12.—The Amherst branch of the Canadian Legion today passed a resolution protesting against Federal Government action in bringing Polish war veterans to Canada and placing them on farms.

The resolution, copies of which were directed to the Canadian Legion in Montreal, and provincial Dominion and provincial commands and members of the Federal Government, said there was sufficient labor for farm work in Nova Scotia if farmers would pay a living wage but that the average worker could not support a family on \$45 a month, the amount said to be paid to the Poles.

### Trial Run For Big Refrigerator Ship

LONDON, Dec. 12.—(Reuters)—A ship with the refrigeration capacity to keep London's 2,000,000 inhabitants in meat, under various conditions, is on her "trial run" to South America.

The ship is the 10,800-ton Hornby Grange, with an insulated capacity of 585,820 cubic feet, sufficient for 7,300 tons of frozen meat.

### All Controls In U.S. Under One Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—President Truman today shook down into a temporary agency which wielded war and reconstruction powers in the United States. He said that only the strikes kept him from junking the emergency powers entirely.

The order kills off the dying Office of Price Administration and makes only a memory of this controversial agency which played a great part in the daily life of the American people.

A small new agency was set up headed by Maj. Gen. Philip B. Fleming, federal works administrator. Officially called the Office of Temporary Controls, it inevitably will become known as the O.T.C.

### May Seek Increase In Out-of-work Benefits

OTTAWA, Dec. 12.—(CP)—Boosting of unemployment insurance benefits will be sought at the next session of parliament, it is expected here, and some likelihood exists also that the scheme will be broadened to take in logging and lumber workers.

Though no moves in this direction are apparent as yet, it is considered probable the Unemployment Insurance Advisory Committee will recommend to the government larger payments to jobless from the rapidly-growing fund of about \$20,000,000, while the scope of the scheme as it affects lumbermen may be extended under existing legislation.

Benefit payments now range up to \$12.50 a week for single workers and \$14.40 for those with dependents. Last spring, the committee proposed that these figures be raised to \$14.25 and \$18.30, with the bulk of the increase going to men with dependents. This was turned down.

For the lumber workers, the plan is effective now only in British Columbia.

Owing to the seasonal nature of the industry in other areas, with many men unemployed in the off-season, the advisory committee estimated that coverage of the whole trade would cause a drain of about four per cent of the total yearly contributions to the fund.

At the end of last year, the fund stood at \$315,000,000. By last Oct. 31, it was about \$344,000,000 and heading steadily for the \$400,000,000 mark.

Greater employment, with a consequent increase in employee-contributions, has been responsible for the growth of the fund, to which the government also contributes one-fifth the share of the other two parties.

A new study by the committee will be made early in the new year, and it is expected its report and recommendations will be laid before parliament by late spring.

### Claxton Heads Amalgamated Defence Depts.

OTTAWA, Dec. 12.—(CP)—A second cabinet reorganization in three days was announced tonight by Prime Minister Mackenzie King, who revealed the amalgamation of the Defence Departments and three portfolio changes.

The changes were—

Health Minister Brooke Claxton becomes Defence Minister, taking over the army and navy portfolios from Hon. Douglas Abbott and the air portfolio from Hon. Colin Gibson.

Col. Gibson becomes Secretary of State succeeding Hon. Paul Martin.

Mr. Martin takes over the health and welfare ministry.

Mr. Abbott continues solely as finance minister.

Tonight's changes follow those announced by Mr. King Tuesday night when Justice Minister St. Laurent became full-time external affairs minister, Finance Minister Isley became justice minister and Mr. Abbott succeeded Mr. Isley in the finance portfolio.

Mr. King said that the current reorganization of the cabinet was something that he wanted to put in "by stages—not all at once."

Indicating the possibility of further changes, he then said—

"While a minister may take a post today, a period of re-adjustment he may be asked to take another post later on."

The Prime Minister said he would (Continued on Page 9 Col. 3)

### Boy Scouts Membership Nears Pre-war Figure

OTTAWA, Dec. 12.—(CP)—Membership of the Boy Scouts Association is nearing its pre-war figure of 100,000 and may reach that total before the end of the year, R. C. Stevenson, chairman of the Dominion executive board, said here today.

### Dies Showing Baby To Friends

MONTREAL, Dec. 12.—(CP)—The coroner's verdict today was cold and formal—death from natural causes. It didn't tell the story of the proud, young mother, her eyes glistening with happiness, collapsing in the midst of friends.

Yesterday Mrs. Harold Murdoch, 22, of Verdun, took her baby, two months old today, to an insurance company office where she had been employed before her marriage a year ago. She wanted her former co-workers to see the baby.

Everyone gathered around, admiring and petting the child and talking to the happy mother about Christmas plans. Mrs. Murdoch passed the baby to a friend suddenly she collapsed. Friends telephoned St. Luke Hospital. When the ambulance arrived an interne said Mrs. Murdoch was dead.

### Coming Events

- "Movies at Borden to-night.
- "Hazelbrook School Concert, Friday, December 20th.
- "Canoes Cove School Concert, December 19th.
- "Hampshire Christmas concert, Friday, December 20, 8 p.m.
- "Come to Mount Tryon School Concert, December 17th, 8 P. M.
- "Note — Rice Point School Concert, December 18th.
- "Zion Rummage Sale, Park Market Building, Saturday, 14th, 3 P. M.
- "Our Christmas Candy is in. E. Arnst, Harrington.
- "Unloading bulk wheat at Mr. Herbert, J. R. Driscoll.
- "Fanny and Gift Sale by Southport Women's Institute Maritime Electric, Saturday at 9 o'clock.
- "Hartsville Christmas Concert, Hartsville Hall, Friday, December 20.
- "Dancing, Country Club, Travelers Rest, tonight (weather permitting.) Music by O. K. Presby.
- "Poultry — Buying daily live and dressed poultry. Paying top market price. Davis & Fraser Ltd.
- "Christmas Concerts, Central Royal School, Friday, December 20th.
- "Meadow Bank School Christmas Concert, Thursday, December 19th, in school house.
- "In stock, New Tires and Tubes in 600 Goodrich 4 ply. McGowan Limited, Kilmuir, P. E. I.
- "Sale of home-cooking and fancy sewing at Rogers Hardware, Saturday, December 14th at 2:15, in back store, bare and bare hands as they burrowed into the rubble in search of bodies.
- "Floodlights illuminated the tragic scene.
- "More than 50 persons were injured after the Upper Manhattan tenement, which housed 25 families, collapsed shortly after midnight.
- "The four top floors of the six-story building fell with a thunderous roar after a five-alarm fire in an adjoining abandoned ice house caused a supporting wall to shear off and fall on the fifth floor level.
- "Jacob Grumet, assistant district attorney, gave the following as the most generally-accepted theory of the ice plant wall's collapse—
- "The wall was weakened by water poured on it as a result of a fire in the building late Wednesday. At 11 p.m., a second blaze occurred in the plant, igniting cork insulation on the wall and causing the cork to expand. This expansion, with the heat of the fire, created a terrific vacuum draft, and the wall buckled.
- "Fire Commissioner Frank J. Quays said he believed the concrete roof of the ice plant collapsed first, and thus contributed to the crumbling of the wall.

### Write Finis To 1946 Lake Navigation

PORT WILLIAM, Dec. 12.—Writing finis to the 1946 navigation season to and from the ports of Port William and Port Arthur at the head of Lake Superior, three giant vessels cleared late today for the east. At midnight navigation insurance rates will terminate for the season and all vessels were obliged to clear before that hour to get under the "gun."

The three vessels which loaded today are the Secon, Count Bennett and Superior.

### RHODES SCHOLAR FOR B. C.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 12.—(CP)—Allan W. Gillispe of Victoria, 24-year-old veteran of the Royal Canadian Navy, has been named Rhodes Scholar for British Columbia. It was announced today he is a student at McGill University and plans to go to Oxford next year.

### Heavy Death Toll When N. Y. Tenement Collapses

(By The Associated Press)

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—Fighting desperately against time, rescuers today dug into the wreckage of a collapsed tenement building in an effort to reach 30 persons believed dead under tons of debris.

Eight bodies were found during the day.

Many of those missing were feared to be children. Late today, the faint voice of a man could be heard somewhere in the debris and rescuers redoubled their efforts in the hope of finding some persons alive.

Hundreds of police, firemen and volunteers, hampered by a cold biting drizzle, used two search-back saws, bare and bare hands as they burrowed into the rubble in search of bodies.

Floodlights illuminated the tragic scene.

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### 10 MORE SHOPPING DAYS

MOST PEOPLE'S STAND ON AMATEUR THEATRICALS IS VERY SIMPLE. WE WON'T GO!

Toronto, Dec. 12 — Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Victoria	34	37
Edmonton	24b	12b
Regina	19b	15b
Winnipeg	9b	4b
Ottawa	24	38
Montreal	24	38
Quebec	15	36
Saint John	21	41
Moncton	12	35
Halifax	26	44
Charlottetown	20	29
Sydney	32	32
Yarmouth	29	41

HALIFAX, Dec. 12.—(CP)—Weather synopses and official inland forecasts issued by the Dominion Public Weather Office at Halifax at 11:15 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 12.

Synopsis at 11 p.m.—

Rain has already begun in New Brunswick due to a storm in southern Ontario. As this storm continues northeast, the rain will spread over the Maritimes reaching Cape Breton by noon Saturday. Gale force winds will bring milder air to the district with temperatures expected to reach the fifties in some sections of Nova Scotia Friday. However, temperatures are expected to drop on Saturday.

Forecasts valid until Friday midnight.

Prince Edward Island: Overcast, rain, beginning in the morning, becoming intermittent in the evening. Milder. South winds 10 m.p.h., increasing to south gales 30 m.p.h. in the afternoon and shifting in the evening to southwest 20 m.p.h. High Friday at Charlottetown 43.

High tide this afternoon at 2:54 and tonight at 2:15.

Sun sets this afternoon at 4:14 and rises tomorrow morning at 7:30.

Last quarter moon December 14 5:57 A. M.

Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

CAR FERRY "PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND" Leave Borden at 9:05 A.M. 1 P.M. and 4:30 P.M. Leave Tormentine 10:30 A.M. 1 P.M. 7:30 P.M. Extra trips are made between which automobiles are carried SUNDAY SERVICE From Borden, 1 P.M. 6:40 P.M. From Tormentine 2 P.M. 8 P.M.

The flour that blooms in the oven

## BLOSSOM FLOUR

ALL CANADA FLOUR