

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."
SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1943

"No Icebreaker Available"

Remember when our Public Works Minister, Mr. McIntyre, came back from Ottawa with the assurance that while no new steamer was available to replace the S.S. Charlottetown, there would be two icebreakers within twelve hours' call of the Prince Edward Island in the event of the latter steamer being stuck in the Straits?

What price such assistance now if we should require it? Transport Minister Michaud has just announced that his department was notified before Christmas of the ice-bound condition of the Magdalen Islanders, "but unfortunately had no icebreaker available to overcome it."

The department has been receiving appeals from the Red Cross nurse and clergymen in the Magdalen, but the only assistance it has been able to give is in co-operation with the Maritime Central Airways. Mr. Michaud is in hopes that the islanders still have two or three weeks' supplies on hand, and promises to send an icebreaker with four or five thousand tons of merchandise "when one is available."

Meanwhile the parliamentary representative for the Magdalen, Mr. Hormisdas Langlais, says the population faces "a near-famine."

There, we may reflect, but for the grace of Providence goes Prince Edward Island. Our reconquered old ferry is doing yeoman service, but what would happen if anything went wrong? Our Boards of Trade, City and Town Councils and other bodies should not relax their efforts in keeping this matter alive at Ottawa. It may mean the difference between maintaining our lone too satisfactory present service, and being stranded for weeks without any ferry connection with the mainland.

Retail Store Hours
The Wartime Prices and Trade Board, after months of study and consideration of the question, has decided not to attempt to regulate hours of service in retail stores.

It is emphasized that this announcement "is not to be taken as a direction to drop restrictions already effected either by trade agreement or through municipal by-laws."

Profitable Year For Fisheries
In the first ten months of 1942 Canada's sea fishermen received for their catches about \$7,250,000 more than in the corresponding months of 1941, and this notwithstanding that in many of the fisheries the landings showed decreases.

Salmon landings on the Pacific coast were substantially smaller during January-October than in January-October, 1941, though worth more money to the fishermen. Only in the case of the sockeye variety, a very important exception since the sockeye is the most valuable Pacific salmon, was the 1942 salmon run out of the ordinary, and in this case the run was the biggest since 1913.

In the Atlantic area most of the fisheries showed catch reductions for the ten months but, at the same time, most of them showed increases in landed value. The lobster fishery, a very valuable fishery, was the most important exception as regards catch reduction.

Only three style changes a year are permitted the manufacturer of ladies handbags, and these are designated by seasons. No matter what the weather, the spring style season begins Jan. 1 and ends March 31; summer, April 1 to July 14, and fall, July 16 to Dec. 31.

ed by close to 12,000,000 pounds but the landed value total strikingly emphasized the firmer prices. In spite of catch reduction the value of cod to the fishermen totalled slightly more than \$5,000,000, or \$1,470,000 or so more than the return in the first ten months of the year before.

Unprecedented demand for fisheries products in 1942 has been due to the need of the United Nations for food supplies from Canada. Directly, Great Britain was in need of the maximum possible quantity of canned salmon from British Columbia, where practically all of Canada's salmon canning is done, and the maximum possible quantity of Canadian herring canned in tomato sauce, as well as supplies of frozen cod fillets.

Present indications seem to warrant metals such as lithium and beryllium deposits of both these metals have been located in South-Western Alberta. Exploration and research might well be pushed at this time to determine their commercial possibilities.

Mr. Louis Lochner, the distinguished foreign correspondent who has been more of a chronicler of the doings of foreigners, has recently pointed out a fact which should jolt whatever complacency is still left in America.

Universities no longer are to be recognized as a skulking ground for conscript exaders. Eighty-nine students, who failed in Christmas examinations at Queen's University, Kingston, now must leave college to be subject to compulsory military training.

People are worrying about not having goods to sell when the war is over. They should worry! Read this from Brooklyn Eagle: "The latest thing in functional design for living in a pre-fabricated home is four rooms of knock-down furniture that fits into a packing case six feet square."

Napoleon III, whose surrender at Sedan to the Germans in the Franco-German War of 1870 led to all the subsequent trouble in Europe, died this date, 1873; his only son the Prince Imperial was killed by the Zulus in 1879; Napoleon's ideal was to make France the centre of a revived Roman Empire but he had more ambition than ability, was deposed and exiled to England; the outcome was the consolidation of the many German principalities in the Bismarckian German Empire and a demand for "a place in the sun (i.e. tropical possession) as well; this evanished in the First and Second World Wars."

There can be no doubt that the Japanese are making every possible effort to increase their production of aircraft, but in doing so they face serious and perhaps insuperable obstacles. Among these are shortages of raw materials of motor fuel and lubricants, and of machine tools.

A recent picture from the British Isles shows workmen erecting a sign post on the London to Folkestone. Whether the sign is to be "No Motor Cars" or "No Motor Cars After Dark" is not clear.

The career of Dr. George Washington Carer, now ended, is evidence that greatness can be lowly in spite of obstacles of opportunity and of the color barrier.

General Eisenhower's expedition is not the first American campaign in North Africa. The Marines remind us of the fact when their band strikes up the tune, "From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli." That reference dates back to 1805, when Admiral DeSoto, the man who said "My country, right or wrong" landed his men at Tripoli to settle accounts with the Barbary pirates.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Eiders are stamped when it comes to explaining to juniors what exactly is meant by "stuck together" in the case of a fish.

Briefly this seems to be the idea: To keep prices down there won't be an added cost-of-living bonus. The subsidies by which it is to be accomplished.

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion of any subject of general interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not accept responsibility for the opinions of correspondents.

GOVERNMENT FOND

Sir,—Glorious weather has prevailed for the last month or more for natural ice skating and sports on Government Pond. Some time ago our city fathers acted wisely and to the great pleasure of most of our citizens, proceeded to flood the pond. Recently this flooding has apparently been stopped!

I claim it is about time that our system of Civic Government should be changed. About a year from now another election will be held. How about considering the matter of a three man commission to run our city affairs, these men to be business men of proved ability and paid a salary. This is no reflection on our present Mayor or Councilors but just a suggestion.

THE PROBLEM OF INCREASED PRODUCTION

Sir,—During the latter part of the year, just preceding the holiday season, your paper published some interesting articles in regard to various activities in the Province during the past year. Among these were several articles that were devoted to livestock production, and not only did they review the past, but also endeavored to focus attention upon the tremendous production requirements of the year upon which we have entered.

It is my intention to deal with one subject at this time, and that is the problem of increased hog production, because it is one of prime importance, one of our most important, probably the most important, and one of the most adaptable to present circumstances of the average agriculturist or livestock producer.

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The Tail And The Dog
(Vancouver Province)
How Canada's manpower dog has been successfully wagged through three years by the manpower dog's tail is illustrated in striking fashion by the figures issued on Thursday by the department of defense.

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