

MAXIMS  
OF A  
MERE MAN  
Even virtue looks more lovely  
when it dwells in a beautiful form.

# THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

The People's Paper Read by Everybody  
Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

MAXIMS  
OF A  
MERE MAN  
His being taken away we are able  
to discern the voice of God himself.

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## NAZI ARMIES SAID RETREATING IN DISORDER

### French Troops Battle Axis Near Tunisian Coast

### Bracken Warns Against Dangers Of Bureaucracy

### Urges Establishment of Under-Secretaries To Federal Ministers During Wartime.

### 1943 Draft Quota 300,000 Men?

OTTAWA, Dec. 21 (CP)—The Ottawa Journal said today in a news-page story, quoting a high official of the Labor Department's National Selective Service, that "the draft of men for compulsory military service was being based on the army's requirement of another 300,000 men."

The Journal story continued: "The draft was being assigned the mobilizing of the largest part of that 300,000 over all order."

"To meet it (the 1943 draft quota) this draft official declared it would be necessary to mobilize married men in the same age groups as single men have been called."

"It would take the age limit for married draftees to 40."

"Currently, married men between 19 and 25, and single men between 18 and 25, are drafted from the 'A' and 'B' medical categories."

### 900 Italian Prisoners Here

AN EAST COAST CANADIAN PORT, Dec. 21 (CP)—Italian prisoners of war, some 900 strong, are now settled in Canadian internment camps in the vicinity of the road for these soldiers of the Italian Desert at the end of the conflict.

Quietly they filed off the grey prison ship that brought them from Britain to Canada, and guards who watched these erstwhile desert warriors said they had been as "peaceful as lambs" on the entire trip.

Majority of the captives were men captured at various times in the fighting days over the Libyan Desert, and seemed quite content that their fighting days were over. Clear, in non-descript prisoners' anxiety, they were taken off transport on a cold, wet night guarded by a double row of soldiers with fixed bayonets. Blinking in the place of searchlights they went directly to trains waiting to take them to prison camps.

There were no demonstrations and they looked to be the model prisoners ship-guards said they had been for the entire trip.

### Roman Catholic Chaplain Dies

MONTREAL, Dec. 21 (CP)—Rev. F. Walker McManus, S.J., 57, Roman Catholic Chaplain of the Royal Victoria Hospital died today.

He had taught at Loyola College, Montreal, the Jesuit University, Quebec, Ont., and St. Paul's College, Winnipeg, and was well known in education circles.

Father McManus was born at Memramou, N.B., in 1885 and entered the Society of Jesus in 1905 after graduating from Loyola College. He studied philosophy and theology at the Immaculate Conception College here in 1921 and followed a course in sacred theology at Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

His career he held several appointments, including one in Vancouver.

Funeral services will be held here tomorrow with burial at Guelph, Ont.

### Coming Events

- Hunter River Christmas Concert tonight.
- Collecting hogs every Friday. Please list with Leslie McDowell, Fredericton. 8-19-20-21.
- Don't miss Harrington Christmas Concert in the Hall Tuesday, December 22nd. 12-22-11.
- Farmers wishing to ship hogs advise McGulgan and Boyle. 12-16 to 30.
- Christmas Concert in New Haven School Tuesday evening, Dec. 22nd. Dance after. 12-21-21.
- We are buying live and dressed chickens and fowl daily at top market value. We also receive Turkeys, Ducks and Geese. Phone or write for prices. Island Cold Storage, Ltd. 12-15-11.
- Notice—During Christmas and New Year's weeks we will be loading live hogs at Albany, Wednesday P. M. and Emerald Thursday A. M. until 11.30. G. O. Green and A. C. Green. 12-21-61.

### Seek To Block Rommel's Army In Big Retreat

### British 8th Army Within 280 Miles Of Tripoli.

By James F. King  
Associated Press Staff Writer  
LONDON, Dec. 21 (CP)—French troops have withstood a strong Axis counter-attack less than 80 miles from the eastern Tunisian coast in their continuing effort to drive eastward and block Marshal Rommel's retreating forces being pursued westward toward Tripoli in Libya, dispatches from North Africa said today.

The French troops withstood a "powerful counter-attack" of the Axis west of Kairouan, presumably at the town of Pichon which they captured yesterday in their advance toward Sousse, a French communiqué said. The R.A.F. lent strong support in this fight, it was added.

In Libya, dispatches from North Africa said early today, the French troops withstood a "powerful counter-attack" of the Axis west of Kairouan, presumably at the town of Pichon which they captured yesterday in their advance toward Sousse, a French communiqué said. The R.A.F. lent strong support in this fight, it was added.

The Moroccan said the Axis desert leader's forces already had reached Misrata, only 100 miles from Tripoli. A Berlin radio broadcast said Rommel was heading "for prepared positions," but gave no hint as to where these were likely to be.

The indications were, however, that Rommel was going into Tripoli, hence the Allied-supported French effort to head him off by striking through southern Tunisia toward the Sousse area.

Improving weather in Tunisia, the French said, caused a resumption of widespread Allied air activity "in all sectors," although the major British and American ground troops in northern Tunisia still limited their action to patrols.

The Axis was reported moving men from Tripoli last night toward the coast, and a British communiqué said that a convoy of 150 French ships was being escorted by Axis-occupied southern French ports for an attempt to swell the Tunisian forces.

Such a venture would be extremely risky because of British sea dominance in the Mediterranean, say observers pointed out.

(Continued on page 6, Col 3)

### War Situation Last Night

(By Kirk L. Simpson, Associated Press War Analyst)

Whatever new strategic pattern Hitler laid before his Italian and Vichy-French satellites at their week-end conference, the essential element in the situation is the increasing Allied pressure in North Africa.

There are various views as to what took place at the conference. Observers at Bern think Hitler, told Count Ciano, II Duce's mouthpiece, and Laval, French puppet, that Nazi help in the south must be limited by conditions in the Russian front. Other reports indicate that he ordered an all-out effort to hold the Tunisian bridgehead at all costs.

There is no question, however, that the Allied flank attack in Africa is galling the Axis and its master to some desperate action, and his Russian forces are making the most of their opportunity.

The Russian surge across the middle Don in the third or possibly the fourth major winter attack by Red Armies in quick succession on a front that extends from Lake Ilmen in the north to southwest of Stalingrad on the lower Don. Moscow claims it has been rolling westward at a rate of close to 20 miles a day.

A Nazi broadcast hinted at a possible explanation of the initial Russian successes. It said a movement to "shorten the lines" in the sector from Voronezh southwest along the Don was in progress. If that means surrender of a wide stretch of the Don front that Hitler poured out German blood to reach, it marks a grave deterioration in his eastern winter front positions. Only an urgent necessity of transferring heavy forces from Russia to the Mediterranean theatre could account for it.

### Jap's Calcutta Raid Described As Fiasco

By THEOBURN WYANT  
(Associated Press Staff Writer)  
NEW DELHI, INDIA, Dec. 21 (AP)—Japan's first raid on Calcutta last night, obviously in reprisal for the thrust of Gen. Sir Archibald Wavell's troops less than 80 miles from Akyab, Burma, was a fiasco, British authorities said today.

The British troops had not yet faced Japanese opposition in the 140-mile-long Alluvial Coastal Plains cut by dozens of rivers and liberally camouflaged with jungle and mangrove swamps. Lack of roads and quick communications facilities shrouded their progress.

Reports from Calcutta to the capital said the actual enemy put on "a very poor show."

"I would have thought the Japs would have made an attempt," one official said.

He reported that the raid failed to cause panic among the people and that casualties were light. Calcutta, chief Indian industrial city and arsenal, has thousands of miles of light and sea and only about one half hour.

A few bombs were dropped also at Chittagong on the east shore of the Bay of Bengal about midway between Calcutta and Akyab.

Bienheim bombers escorted by fighters attacked Magra, 120 miles east of Akyab and second only to Calcutta in importance as a West Burma air base. Many bombs burst on the airport runways and British authorities said the results were "good."

While the base in the north-east section was at its height, a two-alarm outbreak took place practically all the remaining equipment, flocks to Canada, joined the R.C.A.F. went through their training plan and qualified as aircrew.

### 10 Per Cent Hog Increase Sought Here

OTTAWA, Dec. 21 (CP)—Saskatchewan starts its campaign tomorrow to get its share to increase this year is asked to increase its production of hogs to 1,000,000. New Brunswick to hold its own at 25,000; Ontario 20 per cent to 2,137,000; Quebec 25 per cent to 3,600,000. New Brunswick to hold its own at 25,000; Prince Edward Island to add 10 per cent to 55,250; Nova Scotia 20 per cent to 6,250; British Columbia 20 per cent to 37,500.

### Maj.-Gen. Fleischer Dies At Ottawa

OTTAWA, Dec. 21 (CP)—Maj. Gen. Carl Gustav Fleischer, 50, commander-in-chief of the 8th Canadian Air Division, died suddenly at his residence here Saturday. Funeral services will be held in Montreal Wednesday. It was announced at the Royal Norwegian Legation today.

A graduate of the Norwegian Military Academy, Gen. Fleischer had been a member of the general staff since 1908 and conducted the defence of North Norway in 1940. The resistance, particularly in the Narvik area, was attributed largely to his skill, determination and determined patriotism.

Gen. Fleischer came to Canada in August 1940 to take over his duties as commander-in-chief of the Norwegian forces in this country. He is survived by his wife, now residing in England.

### Less Non-Essential Travel Requested

OTTAWA, Dec. 21 (CP)—Elimination of civilian meetings and sporting events which call for railway travel is necessary to relieve railway congestion, his minister Minister Howe said in a statement today.

Indications are that more than 50 per cent of scheduled conventional travel has been cancelled but even wider compliance with a recent appeal for elimination of non-essential travel is necessary, he said.

### Bad Fire In Quebec City

### Flames Rage For Hours; Five Commercial Buildings Guttled.

QUEBEC, Dec. 21 (CP)—Firemen tonight were still fighting two fires that raged all day, one that broke out early this morning in downtown St. Roch ward and the other at old town Abraham Hill that began burning during the afternoon.

Eleven firemen were injured, one seriously, in the first blaze that broke out in a three-story building in downtown Jacques Cartier Parish around seven o'clock this morning.

The fire, now under control, gutted five commercial buildings, and two houses and damaged 30 residential flats. The buildings housed 500 paint factory, Cytel's Robert's furniture warehouse, the Frontenac shoe factory, Morrisset's dress and hat store, and the workshop of Bouet et Fils, wagon maker.

Some 20 families were forced out of their homes and left without lodging. Militia was called out to keep order around the burning block, formed by Gen. St. Anselme, Des Commissaires and Prince Edward streets.

Hampered by sub-zero temperatures and lack of water pressure, the whole fire brigade was still fighting the blaze this afternoon when another alarm was sounded in mid-town Abraham Hill.

Firemen and equipment were rushed to check the second fire that was still raging tonight. Flames originated in the Capitol Cleaners and quickly spread to the adjoining building housing the Compagnie de Marble et Tuiles and two flats, and menacing a garage and two four-storey dwellings.

### Three Missing In Montreal Tenement Fire

MONTREAL, Dec. 21 (CP)—Three persons were missing and believed dead tonight and three others were in hospital suffering from shock after fire broke out in a tenement building in the north-east section of Montreal.

Those missing were Mrs. Jacob Croteau, her daughter Madeleine, 22, and Walter Adams, emergency crew worker of the Montreal Light Heat and Power Corporation.

In hospital were Jacob Croteau, 42, and his wife, Mrs. Albert Dupuis and Maurice Levasseur. All were expected to recover from their burns and shock.

Croteau was rescued from the basement of the burning tenement block more than an hour after the explosion. Firemen used pneumatic drills to cut through debris to reach him and the rescue was made when he was standing in water up to his hips after it had poured down from streams of water playing on the fire over his head.

Croteau, 45, was a former Montreal policeman, and his son was one of the firemen who battled the flames.

The explosion was believed to have come from the Croteau flat, with flames spreading from there to other flats in the block. The flames were brought under control more than three hours after the explosion.

While the blaze in the north-east section was at its height, a two-alarm outbreak took place practically all the remaining equipment, flocks to Canada, joined the R.C.A.F. went through their training plan and qualified as aircrew.

### Plane With 13 Aboard Missing

VANCOUVER, Dec. 21 (CP)—Keen-eyed pilots, hampered by the weather, criss-crossed a rugged coastal area 80 miles wide by 60 miles deep today searching for a Canadian Pacific Airlines transport missing with 13 persons aboard.

Eight planes took part in the hunt, their only clue the fact that the missing aircraft had made its last request for landing instructions as it soared over the peaks of the Cascades at an altitude of 14,000 feet Sunday night near the end of a three-hour flight from Interior Prince George, B.C.

Silence greeted the C.P.A. controller at Vancouver when it was called back to give instructions to Capt. Ernest Kubicek, veteran northland flier, and his co-pilot Capt. Bill Holland.

Elna Young of Edmonton, stewardess, and 10 passengers completed the list of those aboard the plane. C.P.A. identified the passengers as:

A. E. Smith, Strawberry Hill, B. C.; H. Stuart, Vancouver; R. A. Schroeder, Vancouver; W. James J. Coyle, Seattle; Capt. Ker, Seattle; Mrs. E. Herron, no address; Mr. and Mrs. B. Sturuse, Finch Lake, B.C.; W. M. Schmitz, Vancouver and Red Bally, Vancouver.

### Dr. Franz Boas Dead

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (AP)—Dr. Franz Boas, 84, international linguist and German-born anthropologist whose books were burned by the Nazis in 1933 because they were "un-German or Marxistic works," died today.

### Quake Reported In Turkish Area

BERLIN (From German Broadcasts), Dec. 22 (Tuesday)—(AP)—The Berlin radio broadcast today stating that 500 persons were killed in an earthquake centered along the Black Sea coast of Turkey.

The quake, described as the most severe registered lately in Turkey, was said to have rocked the tobacco-growing section of Anatolia, destroying large crops.

The number of wounded was said to have greatly exceeded the number killed.

### Roosevelt Praises Air Training Plan

OTTAWA, Dec. 21 (CP)—President Roosevelt described the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan as "one of the grand conceptions of this war, grand both in design and execution."

Mr. Roosevelt's letter to Prime Minister Mackenzie King on the occasion of the signing of the British Commonwealth Air Training Agreement.

Following is the text of Mr. Roosevelt's letter, dated Dec. 16 and made public today by the Prime Minister:

"I have been privileged to send a word of greeting on the third anniversary of the signing of the British Commonwealth Air Training Agreement."

"This I am glad to do, for this agreement embodied one of the grand conceptions of this war, grand both in design and execution. It is a privilege for me to pay tribute to Canada on such an occasion, for the plan has been to a great extent Canada's responsibility and Canada's achievement."

Before Pearl Harbor, hundreds of our American youth, eager to share in the fight against brutal aggression, flocked to Canada, joined the R.C.A.F. went through their training plan and qualified as aircrew.

Last December, Canada, with generosity and understanding, made the way easy for the return of these fine young men to fight under their own flag, if they so desired. But wherever they fight or whatever uniform they wear, they are all playing a noble part in the common struggle."

"May this great air training plan, which as I once said on another occasion has made Canada the air-drome of democracy, go from strength to strength."

"May it continue to send into the skies thousands of eager and courageous young fliers, until the enemy is swept from the air and lies crushed on earth beneath the ruins of his own temple of tyranny."

### Island Airmen Graduate

Pingal, Ont., Dec. 21 (CP)—A class of airmen at the No. 4 Bombing and Gunnery School, R.C.A.F., received their "wings" today at ceremonies when they graduated as wireless air gunners.

The class included: Nova Scotia: LAC. C. J. Butler, Halifax; Prince Edward Island: LAC. J. L. Macdonald, Little Pond; LAC. R. L. MacDonald, Tignish.

LESS ELECTRICITY IN ITALY

AT THE ITALIAN FRONTIER, Dec. 21 (AP)—Effective today the city of Milan cut the amount of electric current for industries by 15 per cent compared to a year ago, mirroring the effect of British air raids over Italy and the difficulty of bringing coal from Germany.

### Message From Defence Ministers

OTTAWA, Dec. 21 (CP)—In a jointly christened message, Defence Minister Bruce and Navy Minister Macdonald have expressed their appreciation to members of Canadian armed services at home and abroad and appealed for a resolute front toward even sterner tests, which may lie ahead during the New Year.

The message was made public today.

### EDMONTON, England (C) P.

Deputy Mayor and Councillor Mrs. Florence Bow, made history here, when she read one of the lessons in the parish church during the annual "Maver's Service." She was the first woman to do so.

### Soviet Drive On Central Don Rolls Ahead

### Russians Report Another 15-Mile Advance; Many Prisoners And Much Equipment Captured.

MOSCOW, Dec. 21 (AP)—The German armies of the central Don were reported early today by the Soviet command to be "retreating in disorder" before the great Soviet offensive now rolling toward distant Rostov, and in North Africa the flight of the Axis Libyan forces remained unchecked.

It was a good day for the Allies, so good as to suggest that Hitler now is being forced to grave decisions by the rising concert of Allied power.

Moscow's Monday midnight communique, reporting the recapture of several additional large communities, announced that the Russian columns had advanced an additional 15 miles—which would put them within 130 miles of Rostov.

This, of course, was still a long way off, but there was every indication not only that the Germans had been unable to halt the Russians anywhere in the major theatre of action, but that the offensive was steadily rising in power.

The fall of Rostov—the key to southern Russia—would cut off 1,000,000-odd Nazi troops now in the Caucasus and Stalingrad areas.

### Foreign Planes Over Swiss Area

BERLIN (From German Broadcasts), Dec. 21 (AP)—The Berlin radio reported that "foreign" planes flew over Switzerland tonight, saying that air raid alarms were sounded in Zurich and other Swiss cities.

(This would indicate Allied air force were in progress against Italy.)

### Duisburg Hard Hit

LONDON, Dec. 21 (AP)—R.A.F. bombers in strong force assaulted the inland German port of Duisburg overnight, setting the city alight with great fires in the 52nd attack upon it since the beginning of the war.

This raid, which followed a powerful thrust yesterday deep into France by United States flying fortresses and Liberators, cost the R.A.F. 11 bombers, of which one was shot down.

### 2 MORE SHOPPING DAYS

MY NOSE KNOWS

High tide this afternoon at 12:25 and tonight at 11:25. Sun sets this afternoon at 5:35 and rises tomorrow morning at 8:30. Full moon, Dec. 22, 10:03 a.m. Summer tide 18 minutes later than Charlottetown.

### CAR FERRY SERVICE DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY

From Borden—Leave 9:05 a.m., 11:40 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m.  
Leave Cape Tormentine—10:50 a.m., 1:15 p.m., 3:05 p.m., 5:45 p.m., 8:15 p.m.

SUNDAY SERVICE (May 3 to Dec. 27 inclusive)  
Leave Borden 9:00 a.m., 6:45 p.m.  
Leave Tormentine 10:15 a.m., 8:00 p.m.

DAILY AIR SERVICE (EXCEPT SUNDAY)  
Moncton  
Leave Charlottetown 8:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m.  
Arrive Charlottetown 1 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 7:35 p.m.

### AT THE ITALIAN FRONTIER

Dec. 21 (AP)—Effective today the city of Milan cut the amount of electric current for industries by 15 per cent compared to a year ago, mirroring the effect of British air raids over Italy and the difficulty of bringing coal from Germany.