

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By Mail in P. E. I. \$4.00 per year; \$2.50 for 6 months
By Mail in Canada and U.S.A. \$5.00 per year
Saturday Weekly: \$2.00 per year; \$1.00 for 6 months

The Charlottetown Guardian may be obtained at
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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the
Weakest Ink."

THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 1941.

Mr. Bennett's Peerage

Canada, in the person of the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, former Prime Minister, has been signally honoured in the King's birthday honours list. The Peerage bestowed upon him brings him again into public life, this time as a member of the House of Lords, where unquestionably his experience and ability will find ample scope.

It was Mr. Bennett, in 1932, who succeeded in calling the Empire Conference at Ottawa, at which the agreements that are the basis of our Empire trade relations today were successfully negotiated. As Prime Minister of Canada, he presided at that memorable conference, which forged a new and lasting link in the chain of Empire solidarity.

Campaign In Syria

The Allied campaign in Syria and Lebanon is, like many other episodes in this war, almost unprecedented. The French defenders are said to be offering only half hearted resistance, with no indication that any heavy fighting has developed.

These details are significant and reassuring. Britain has been seeking every means of avoiding war with France. Again and again Prime Minister Churchill has pleaded with the men of Vichy to stop short of help to Hitler, and only last week the United States warned Marshal Petain against the same evil.

The Bank Of Canada

Remember that Liberal pledge, back in 1935, to have the business of the Bank of Canada conducted "not as a private venture but as one controlled by the state"? It used to be Mr. MacKenzie King's most ardently declared policy.

The answer: Hon. Mr. Ilsley, Minister of Finance: "The Bank of Canada is not a government department; it is a separate organization, whose directors are nominated by the Government."

Mr. Hanson: "On the administration item under finance would there not be an opportunity to discuss any corporation or board controlled by the Government? Surely there must be that opportunity somewhere."

Mr. Ilsley: "I will go as far as I can on the matter of the Bank of Canada, but I do not

think I would agree to a discussion of the policies or internal administration of the Bank of Canada, because it is a separate organization."

Mr. Blackmore: "Do I understand the Minister to say that the Bank of Canada is not directly under the control of the Department of Finance?"

Mr. Ilsley: "Correct."
Mr. Blackmore: "That it is independent of the Finance Department, and therefore independent of this House?"

Mr. Ilsley: "Correct."
Mr. Blackmore: "Independent of the administration, too?"

Mr. Ilsley: "Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not know what stage we are at, but the Bank of Canada is a separate organization, just like the Canadian National Railways or the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. These separate corporations are owned by the Government; in the case of the Bank of Canada the stock is owned by the Government and the directors are nominated by the Government, but once the directors are appointed, I have no right, nor has the Government any right to dictate to the Bank of Canada as to what its policies shall be."

Mr. Hanson: "I distinctly dissent from that proposal, that in all these government-owned organizations Parliament has lost control. That is distinctly not true in connection with the Canadian National Railways; and it must never be the accepted principle in this House of Commons or in this Canada of ours that any of these boards set up by the Government as public agencies shall never be referred to in this House. I wish to register a protest against that statement of the Minister."

Mr. Speaker: "Order, please."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Are you ready for the census man?

You are not going to let our boys down? Then buy bonds.

The City Council is very much concerned over the lack of tools to handle "the dogs at war."

Feast of Corpus Christi, observance enjoined by the R. C. Church in 1264 in connection with the doctrine of transubstantiation.

"Gasless Sundays" are to be instituted in the Maritimes. They are told. That must apply to the pulpits, as there are no Sunday newspapers in the Maritimes.

An Island Soldier at Debert instructed his parents to buy bonds for him out of his savings, which they did and so advised him. His acknowledgement is characteristic: "Well, having purchased the bonds, the only thing left for us to do is to win the war—can't afford to lose!"

An Italian decree authorizes the appropriation of 4,000,000,000 lire to the Ministry of Italian Africa "for financing war expenditures." The territories under the administrative jurisdiction of the Ministry are Ethiopia, Eritrea and Italian Somaliland, most of which have been occupied by British troops, so the decree is believed to refer to outlays already made. Libya, having been raised to the status of an Italian province, is an integral part of Italy and is not considered as part of Italian Africa.

All are equal before the law in England. Viscount Dunsin, a former Secretary for Scotland, a one-time Judge of the Court of Session, and Senior Lord of Appeal-in-Ordinary, who is in his 92nd year, was fined £10, and ordered to pay five guineas costs, at Old Street Police Court, London, for taking a photograph of a building structure damaged by enemy action without the written permission of the Secretary for War, contrary to the Control of Photographs Order, 1939.

Sir Henry Morton Stanley, explorer, born this date, 1840. Son of a Welsh miner, his real name was John Rowlands but as an orphan of seven he was sent to New York where he was adopted by an American merchant named Stanley who gave him his name. On the death of his foster parents he enlisted, and was captured by the South in the American Civil War. On return of peace he became a journalist and undertook many commissions for the New York Herald. He was subsequently engaged by the London Daily Telegraph and New York Herald to head an expedition to discover Dr. Livingstone lost in Central Africa. He succeeded in 1871; and returned three years later to trace the source of the Congo. In 1887 he undertook the Emin Pasha relief expedition to East Equatorial region, and recounted the terrible suffering prevailing there in his book "In Darkest Africa." Became a member of British parliament in 1895, and was knighted in 1899.

A campaign throughout Canada is being launched to promote the sale of the new R. C. A. F. Emblem in aid of the Air Force Benevolent Fund, according to Squadron-Leader J. H. Tudhope, president of the Air Force Veterans Association, which is sponsoring the undertaking. The R. C. A. F. emblem is designed on the same lines as the R. A. F. emblem which has been so successful in raising funds in the United States under the auspices of the British American Ambulance Corps in aid of the R. A. F. Benevolent Fund, the sister fund in Great Britain of the Air Force Benevolent Fund in Canada. The Canadian emblem is a replica of the R. A. F. emblem except that it has the initials R. C. A. F. embossed on the wings. The Air Force Benevolent Fund in Canada is an emergency measure designed to relieve distress among Canadian airmen who have served in the Empire flying forces. Its primary aim is to look after dependents of Canadian airmen who give their lives in the defence of Canada and the Empire during the present war. It is also intended to supplement pensions where necessary, or otherwise go to the aid of Canadian airmen who may be disabled while on war service.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A movement which has not received publicity in this country is disclosed in a news item from London: "Nearly 200 of the enemy aliens returned to Britain from internment camps in Canada volunteered for service in the British pioneer (labor) corps and most of them were accepted." — Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

As part of the great shipbuilding program recently begun in Australia, a huge floating dock has been launched at a Queensland shipyard. At the same yard, three 10,000-ton merchant ships and a number of naval vessels will be built within the next year. It is expected that at least 60 merchant ships will be completed in Australia in the present building program, as well as naval ships, destroyers, corvettes, minesweepers and smaller craft.

With the arrival of a defense psychology, quality has become important to every woman. Mrs. Sara Penoyer, fashion promotion director, Bonwit Teller & Co., New York, told the Fashion Group in New York city, this week, "Because quality clothes do more for a woman's looks and therefore her spirit, they are first-line in defense in time of stress," she said. "There is a perfectly logical reaction against too-rapid fashion change, and the best of the heretofore and here-to-day-and-gone-tomorrow variety." —Marketing.

Captain Black wants "conscientious objectors" among the Doukhobors, Mennonites and other anti-arms-bearing sects disfranchised, their property bought in at a fair price and deportation proceedings taken against them after the war. Whether or not they're allowed to retain their property and remain in the country when peace comes, these cohorts should certainly be deprived of the ballot and any further voice in the affairs of the country they deem unworthy of defending. — Harrison in Windsor Star.

A Rate of petroleum production from the oil shale fields of the Glen Davis district in New South Wales has reached 2,000,000 gallons annually and the objective has been fixed at 10,000,000 gallons. It was announced today. Gasoline which has been refined from the oil has given excellent results when tested in automobiles. It was said, and after the completion of a 30-mile pipeline to a refinery the gasoline will be distributed. Australia's normal consumption of gasoline amounts to 400,000,000 gallons annually. Officials say therefore the new plant would make practically no difference in the import requirements but the augmentation of the gasoline supply would provide a valuable supplement to the government's emergency stores.

The threatened shortage of oil later in the year, because of the diversion of tankers to the Gulf and East-Coast run, for use in the British war effort, was referred to at a meeting of stockholders last week in New York by H. P. Sinclair, chairman of the board of directors of the Consolidated Oil Corporation. Mr. Sinclair said the transfer of these ships would upset the transportation system of the domestic oil industry. "The situation you will not complain and that you will bear with us if some day it is necessary to go about our pleasures on a bicycle rather than in an automobile," he said. The oil burner industry apparently is also on the way to being affected and coal stoker manufacturers and gas companies are considering a stepping up of their promotional drives.

The first completely Australian-made motor tripod was produced recently in an industry headed by Australian General Electric P. Opty. Ltd. This means that Australia is now manufacturing for war purposes not only the Bren gun, but everything else that goes with it. The tripod to which it is attached and the magazines and the ammunition with which it is supplied. Bren guns have been in production at the Government-owned Small Arms Factory, Lithgow, since last month. The tripods are manufactured by private enterprise under contract to the Ministry of Munitions by workers, who a few months ago, were engaged exclusively in making commercial products. The ammunition is turned out in Government factories. The workers at the Small Arms Factory, Lithgow, said: "The speed with which the tripods have come into production is another example of the efficiency and rapidity with which Australian industry can be mobilized for war production in the face of exasperating wartime difficulties." — From the Australian Press Union.

According to a report from Norway, when three Royal Air Force pilots were recently buried on a lonely island near Bergen, more than 1,000 fishermen and small farmers came from other islands to pay final honors to the British flyers. (The R.A.F. men were shot down while attacking German-held military objectives in the neighborhood of Bergen.) It was said that never before had so many persons been on this island at one time. The Germans, the report continued, were both angry and disappointed over this spontaneous and effective demonstration of anti-Nazi feeling by the Norwegian fishermen and farmers. — News of Norway.

J. L. Hodson collected some new Aberdeen stories during a recent visit to the city. "The Bible and Bible study are intensely important to a lot of our people," he said. "A story is told of a workman riding home in the tram during these momentous days and being asked, as he read his newspaper, whether there was any special news that night. 'Oh,' said the workman, 'I see the Chair of Systematic Theology is vacant.' And there's the companion tale of the stranger getting out at the railway station and asking the taxi-driver if he knew where Professor Cairns lived. 'Would that be the Professor of Dogmatics?' inquired the taxi-man." — London Listener.

We are using the stamps with the same pictures of our King as when he came to the throne first. It is wartime and photographs of King George invariably show him in uniform now, but our stamps show him in civilian clothes, wearing a white collar. It's bad psychology. On Canadian stamps, he should be wearing the uniform of an air marshal. When the King and Queen visited Canada, three

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR

"I happen to be one of those who believe that the war now going on is our war. I believe it is just as I believe that the peace that preceded it was our peace and that the failure of that peace was in large measure due to our efforts at isolation." — Arthur Hays Sulzberger, publisher of the New York Times.

Dissolving French Empire

(Sydney Post-Record) Military experts and war commentators are agreed that the next big tug-of-war between the Axis and Great Britain is to take place in the French mandated territory of Syria. General Henri Dentz, Commander of the French forces in the Levant issued a statement yesterday in which he appealed to the French forces under his command to "defend the possessions of France," and "defend them with all their might." Notwithstanding these brave words, everyone realizes that France is helpless to repel a serious invasion by an enemy, and would simply not be allowed to fight an Axis army in Syria, or anywhere else in the world. For Hitler's control of the Vichy Government is complete and absolute, as is also his mastery of the whole of France. Inevitably, therefore, the demands from Vichy and Berlin, German infiltration of the French mandates in the Levant continues daily. Ankara reports the landing in Syria of German parachutists, planes, and materials of war. At the moment it is impossible to estimate the time between Britain and Germany so far as the French possessions in the Levant are concerned. Unless Britain acts quickly, resolutely and effectively, the Nazis will again beat her to it, at the start of the big campaign now shaping in the Middle East. The broadcast of the broadcast issued by General Dentz yesterday is obvious. Political developments at Vichy and especially the sinister activities of Admiral Darlan have convinced all Frenchmen overseas that the Petain Government has fallen a prey to the Nazi serpent, and there is no French army in Africa, or Syria, or elsewhere that can be marshalled to fight on behalf of the Nazi-controlled Vichy regime.

All through the Middle East, Frenchmen are choosing sides between Britain and Germany as the crisis approaches in the Levant. Jean Baelen, Counsellor of the French Embassy at Ankara, and Jean Marc Boegner, an Embassy attaché, are reported by the Turkish press to have resigned their diplomatic positions and severed connections with the Vichy Government. Both these French diplomats, according to an Ankara dispatch, visited the British ambassador there, Sir Hugh Knatchbull-Hugessen, on Tuesday of this week, and declared it was "impossible to continue serving a government which followed a policy completely contrary to common sense and honor." This is the statement they made with respect to the situation at Vichy.

"In taking up a position against the former ally of France, and making concessions to the Germans with no interpretation of the clauses of the armistice can justify, Admiral Darlan has broken the promises of Marshal Petain and has compromised the future of the French Empire. In announcing that France ought to incorporate herself in the new Nazi order, Admiral Darlan has forsaken all French traditions of liberty, contrary to the wishes of the people. Finally, the policy of Admiral Darlan is as absurd as it is dishonorable, since it is based entirely on the promises of Hitler, and since it gambles on the victory of a man who has declared: 'I've got to settle one and for all, accounts with France.'"

After making this statement the two French diplomats made arrangements to leave for Cairo to join the forces of General Charles de Gaulle in any capacity. They actually reached this decision over three weeks ago, when they realized France was moving treacherously toward what they described as "a dishonorable war with France's former comrades in arms, the British." This step comes as it does after a series of desertions from Syria to the Free French movement, is a most significant sign of the trend

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by plane today, to inspect eastern Canadian and Newfoundland military centres, defence headquarters announced. He expects to return to Ottawa June 19. Gen. Greer will be at Quebec and Valcartier June 12; Debert, N. S., June 13; Halifax, June 14 and in Newfoundland June 15-18 inclusive.

HALIFAX, June 11 — (CP)— Nova Scotia contributions to the Queen's Canadian Fund for Air Raid Victims has passed the \$75,000 mark. It was announced today. During the day, the Grand Masonic Lodge of Nova Scotia decided to donate an additional \$10,000 to the fund.

HOLD MAN FOR DESERTION. 'OSSIPPEE, N. H., June 11 — (AP) — A young man who said he was Leslie Charles Heckbert MacDonald, 26, (of 55 — Edwards Street) Halifax, was held in County jail tonight after deputy sheriff Harry M. Leavitt quoted him as saying he deserted from a British ship in New York two weeks ago. Leavitt said he was advised British consular agents would send officers to assume custody of MacDonald. Leavitt said MacDonald told him he had served on two torpedoed ships and one that was bombed, and that he learned in New York his mother was seriously ill and decided to go home.

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of sentiment among Frenchmen in the overseas dominions of the French Empire. When Hitler, through his henchman Darlan draws France finally and irrevocably within the brigand Axis umbrella, the whole French Empire will melt and dissolve into thin air, like the unsubstantial fabric of a dream.

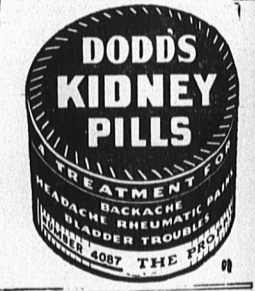
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