

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the
Weakest Ink.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10, 1941.

Mr. Hanson's Proposal

Hon. R. B. Hanson, Conservative House
leader, has taken the present occasion to urge
upon Prime Minister King the need of immedi-
ately calling Parliament for the enactment of
"total war" measures including provision for
compulsory military service outside Canada, and
the formation of a war government representa-
tive of all shades of political opinion. His policy
is substantially the same as that advocated by
the Canadian Legion and other non-partisan
organizations, and also by Senator Meighen,
who has been chosen to succeed Mr. Hanson as
Conservative leader.

Certainly it would seem that now, if ever, is
the time to mobilize on a selective basis of all
Canadian resources, including manpower, and—
equally important—to get rid of partisan poli-
tics in our war administration. There can be no
question of the gravity of the situation, or of
the fact that Canada's front line now extends
into the Pacific as well as across the Atlantic.

Historic Parallel

American press commentators see a striking
parallel between the far-flung Japanese effort
to panic the United States into withdrawing its
main battle fleet to home waters, thus leaving
far Pacific bases unprotected, with German sub-
marine activities off the Atlantic seaboard dur-
ing the first Great War. The purpose of the
latter raids was to force withdrawal of Ameri-
can naval units in European waters and those
assigned to convoys. The U-boats attacked
coastal shipping, cut cables, laid mines and
otherwise harassed naval coast defenses, but
they failed utterly to stop the flow of troops,
supplies and munitions to France and England.

In the light of this history," says an Associ-
ated Press correspondent, "some observers
draw the conclusion that though the Pacific
fleet has suffered heavy losses to its ships and
its bases there will be no basic modification of
its main mission, and the Japanese yet will feel
the full force of its striking power and the sting
of the bombers whose bases are protected by the
fleet's continued operations in the Far East."

This assurance was given still more emphati-
cally by President Roosevelt in his broadcast
last night, in which he clearly revealed the con-
nection between Japan's war aims and strategy
and those of Germany and Italy. There was
frank admission on the President's part of the
temporary advantage gained by Japan's treach-
ery in attacking without warning, but also firm
confidence expressed in the power of the
democratic nations to achieve final victory.

The War Brought Nearer

Now formally at war with Japan are Great
Britain and the Dominions, the United States,
China, the Netherlands East Indies and the
Netherlands Government in London, Haiti,
Costa Rica, El Salvador, the Dominican Re-
public, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Panama and
Honduras. Other Latin American countries are
lining up against the aggressor. Mexico and
Brazil have proclaimed their solidarity with the
United States and the Cuban Cabinet has asked
Congress for a declaration.

What of Russia? The Soviet armies have
succeeded in stalemating Germany on the Mos-
cow front. Hitler may be depending on
Japan to strike a blow from the east, but so far
Japan and Russia are observing the treaty signed
between them on April 13 last. By the terms of
this treaty, both countries undertook to maintain
"peaceful and friendly relations" and "mutual
respect" for each other's territorial integrity and
inviolability. Should one of the contracting parties
become the object of hostilities on the part
of one or several third powers, the other stood
pledged to observe neutrality throughout the
duration of the conflict. If the Japanese have
not seen fit to break this treaty yet, it is be-
cause their hands are full elsewhere.

Of the British Dominions, Australia is brought
most directly into the sphere of the war in the
Pacific. The Australian Commonwealth has
moved swiftly to an all-out war footing. Yester-
day's despatches recorded a rush to enlist in the
Australian overseas army, the figures being three
times over normal, while the Royal Australian
Air Force announced enlistments were four times
normal.

In Canada, our Pacific Coast forces and de-
fenses are now of supreme importance. The
forces are under three experienced officers,
Commodore William J. R. Beech, C. O. for
the Royal Canadian Navy on the Pacific, Major
General R. O. Alexander, officer commanding
the Pacific Command of the Active Army, and
Air Commodore A. E. Godfrey, head of the
Western Air Command of the Royal Canadian
Air Force. Their forces are reported to be in
readiness to withstand any invasion attempt, with
modern weapons and trained men to engage the
enemy "wherever he may be found." A chain of

air bases and landing fields in British Columbia
and other parts of the north-west bridges the gap
between the American border and Alaska and
stretches southward to the Panama Canal. The
vital importance of these defenses was indicated
by the reports, Tuesday night, of enemy planes
seeking to approach San Francisco.

Prime Minister Mackenzie King summed up
the situation when he said that this continent has
now, through the combined actions of the Axis
powers, been drawn into the world conflict to
the extent of its entire resources. Such being
the case, Canada cannot longer delay any mea-
sure, however drastic, that will insure maximum
efficiency, both of manpower and production.
There should be no more pussyfooting at Ottawa
on the plea of maintaining "national unity."
"The direction of our war effort," says the
Prime Minister, "the whole underlying motive
and driving force of our national life, now will
have to be guided by the visible evidence of con-
flict, on and across, not one ocean, but two
oceans, waged with growing intensity among the
most powerful nations of the whole world."
Let that be the Government's motto from now
on.

EDITORIAL NOTES

City Councillors rightly resent imputations on
their probity in dealing with public affairs.

Chewing gum produced in the twenty-six
United States gum factories has an annual value
at the factory of more than \$60,000,000 an in-
crease of 7.1 per cent in two years, the United
States Census Bureau reports show.

It is natural for the City Council to seek to ex-
tend Charlottetown's boundaries to include out-
lying suburbs, but this cannot be done without
the consent of the suburbs concerned. Were
residents to petition to be included that would be
all right.

A filly foal from the noted Clydesdale stud
of T. & M. Templeton Kelso, Scotland, Kelso,
brought the highest price at the horse sales at
Lanark by making \$2,000 during the closing of-
fering on October 10. She was purchased by
Mr. John P. Meikle, Hoprig Mains, Macmerry,
East Lothian. Other filly foals were selling at
\$1,150 and \$1,000, and the average of \$260 was
more than \$110 better than that of a year ago.

The war in the Pacific means farther calls
upon the Navy, and the expectation is that Category
"A" men will be released from office and
shore service for active service at sea. All Naval
officers, down to those in Category E, had
been previously warned to hold themselves in
readiness, as all officers and men will be needed
before the total war is very much older.

Alfred Nobel, Swedish Chemist, died this
date, 1896; invented dynamite, blasting gelatine,
and smokless powders from which he made a
huge fortune; and then instituted a number of
annual awards in science, medicine and literature
—the most remarkable work by an idealist
tendency—and most outstanding of all, for the
greatest service in the cause of peace during the
year; the value of the award is about \$40,000
each.

The conscription plan now being studied at
Ottawa may not go to the extent of an avowed
conscription of labor, but it will go to the point
of providing a workable selection system that
aims at placing the men, say between 20 and 40
years, married and single, where they can be of
the best service. It might be in the army, in the
air or naval service, on the farm or in the
munitions plant.

The Vatican Palace, in which the Pope, lives
was not begun by Nicholas V, around 1450, as
has always been believed, but by Nicholas III,
who reigned from 1277 to 1280. This statement,
which alters the accepted history of one of
Christendom's most famous buildings, was made
by Professor Redig de Campos of the Vatican
Museum in a report to the Academy of Sacred
Archaeology. Proof of the new date was found
when alterations were recently being made in the
pavement of the third floor of the palace above
the Monumental Hall of the Chiostro. A wall
was discovered in the space between the
floor and the ceiling of the hall below, and the
decorations on the wall were of the thirteenth
century style. Nicholas III was the first Pope who
preferred to live in the then modest little Vatican
building instead of the sumptuous Lateran
Palace.

The Canadian production of milk during the
third quarter of 1941 is placed at slightly less
than seven billion pounds, and the estimated
total for the year is expected to approximate 17
billion pounds. These figures represent increases
of 4.9 and 4.3 per cent, respectively. While the
greater part of the increased milk supply went
into manufactured products it is of interest to
know that the sales of fluid milk based on re-
turns from Quebec, Three Rivers, Sherbrooke,
Ottawa, Toronto and Windsor, increased six
per cent in August 1941 over the same month of
1940, and five per cent during the eight months,
January to August. The creamery butter make
amounted to nearly 107 million pounds during
the third quarter of 1941, an increase of approxi-
mately seven million pounds or seven per cent.
The January-September production reached a
total of 233.6 million pounds or nine per cent
above the 1940 figure. The domestic disappear-
ance of creamery butter advanced 1.7 per cent.
The increase is attributed to greater employment
in industries, larger payrolls, and a general in-
crease is attributed to greater employment in in-
dustries, larger payrolls, and a general increase
in population. If the present trend in butter
production continues there should be a sizeable
surplus over and above domestic requirements
during the winter. Cheddar cheese production
fell to 69 million pounds during the third quar-
ter of this year, a decline of over one million
pounds. The output for the nine months reached
a total of 118.7 million pounds, an increase of
approximately one-quarter of a million pounds.
The total disappearance of cheese, including ex-
ports, declined 11.6 per cent.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Several councils in Ontario have
decided not to attempt snow
clearance on country roads this
winter. Some of the councils
will learn what "Jingle Bells"
really means. — Farmers' Advoca-
te.

From a travel article we learn
that there are four telephone ex-
changes in Borneo. Where there
are wild men, of course, there must
be wrong numbers. — Winnipeg
Tribune.

Britain's Ministry of Supply has
banned Christmas cards to con-
serve paper supplies which may
disappoint some but will please
those who usually start to worry
about now over their mailing
lists. It will also spare thous-
ands the anguish of discovering
they received 65 cards in return
for the 20 they sent out. — Corn-
wall Standard-Freeholder.

Two young men convicted in
Buffalo for the theft of a motor
car, were sentenced to a thorough
old-fashioned spanking instead of
the customary term in jail. If
sufficient emphasis is placed upon
the "thorough" perhaps there was
more spanking at home there would
be less need of it at the police
court. In the old days there was
probably too much of it. Now we
seem to have gone to the other ex-
treme. — Guelph Mercury.

Christmas trees for the American
homes are already being cut in the
woods of Quebec in about the same
quantity as in the years of peace.
The news, if it reaches Germany,
is calculated to bring heartache to
the people there. It was the Ger-
mans who first sacrificed the Christ-
mas trees, but that was in the
happy days of the brothers Grimm.
The Nazis have effected a sorry
change by suppressing this custom
in the name of the swastika. The
swastika reigns instead and Hitler is no
Santa Claus. — Montreal Gazette.

"In just a few weeks," a contem-
porary reminds you, "we will be writ-
ing 1941 by mistake and scratch-
ing it out to write 1942". — Brant-
ford Expositor.

The reports from "well in-
formed quarters" of Pétain's assent to
German occupation of all naval
and air bases in French North
Africa follows the line expected.
The poor old Pontius Pilate even
true to type in his hand-washing
act of stipulating that the enemy
occupy his country's colonial
strongholds without assistance from
the Vichy fleet. That is a measure
of how low the ancient marshal
has been brought by the Laval and
Darlan's who whisper Quisling
advice in his ear as he struggles
feebly in the web of which he ac-
quiesced in the weaving when he
betrayed into capture millions of
French troops and consented to
bow to the high priest of Nazism.
— Saint John Telegraph Jour-
nal.

Meighen's appointment will give
the Government force someone to
attack. There is no satisfaction in
attacking the press. You can't at-
tack your voters. The Opposition
was headless. But now! A good
Donnybrook. Someone to get your
teeth into someone who recedes
into the background. That's some-
thing. Meighen's appointment will
also give the King party press
someone to go after. You can't at-
tack the conscriptionists if they are
the Canadian Corps Association,
the Canadian Legion, Church
groups, citizens' bodies, ordinary
voters. But Meighen can be at-
tacked. It will make Joe Atkinson
and his Toronto Star the Quebec
members and Le Canada joyful.
Being continually on the defensive
doesn't do in politics or war. The
much-disked Meighen starts a
campaign by being a potential threat.
It's going to be interesting to
watch him in the House. — To-
ronto News.

The trial at Trieste is sure to
raise some of the same questions
the Moscow trials never answered.
No one will believe that the Ova,
Italian equivalent of the Gestapo
and Oppu, has just discovered a
new, more terroristic conspiracy
against the Fascist regime that goes
back as far as 1929. The attempt on
the life of Premier Mussolini of which
the Ova is accused took place in
1938. The latest acts of sabota-
ge occurred more than a year
ago. Apparently the rebellious
movement is an omnibus affair;
it includes "democratic" Con-
sultative reign agents' responsi-
ble officials — all plotting togeth-
er in extraordinary harmony. Even
if it could be supposed that the
Italian secret police knew nothing
of this widespread and long-stand-
ing conspiracy, the Gestapo is
ubiquitous enough in Italy to have
detected the signs long ago. —
New York Times.

In the last war there was not
the present effort to make full use
of the particular aptitudes of a re-
cruit. The various branches of the
service and the wide range of
specialties within each branch,
offer a young recruit great oppor-
tunity to pursue types of work
which interest him. Not every man
in the branch of the service to
which he is best suited, but a
commendable effort is being made
to bring this about. Not only does
this increase his chance for ad-
vancement in the army, but it gives
him training which he may im-
mediately turn to use after the
war. — High River Times.

No provincial government should
hesitate in complying with Mr.
Lisley's Income tax proposal. He
makes it as a means of strengthen-
ing the Federal Government's posi-
tion from the war revenue stand-
point. Provincial co-operation in
these circumstances is a war duty,
a duty which ought to be discharg-
ed without argument. Furthermore,
the provinces are not required to
make any real financial sacrifice,
1940 income tax collections hav-
ing been relatively high. All that a
provincial treasury must forego is
the gain in revenue which would
have accrued from this year's busi-
ness expansion or from that of
future war years. Against this the
provinces save all collection costs,
but even if they save nothing they
are bound by war considerations to
assist the Dominion in every way
possible. — Montreal Gazette.

The Turkish consul in New York,
worried by anxiety and illness,
has committed suicide. Last April
Premier Teleki, of Hungary, shot
himself because of the terrible anx-
iety his country's condition impos-
ed on him. Events like that are a
reminder of the strain under
which all statesmen labor in times
of supreme national peril, and
should lead to a more sympathetic
understanding on the part of the
public which is not always aware

Mr. Meighen's Record
And Mr. Coldwell's

(Toronto Telegram)
Right Hon. Arthur Meighen's can-
didature in South York has been
seized by the leaders of the Cooper-
ative Commonwealth Federation as
an opportunity for attacking the
Conservative Leader and fanning
the flames of class hatred.

M. J. Coldwell, M.P., (the Acting
Leader of the Federal C.C.F., and
E.B. Jolliffe, vice-president of the
Provincial Council of the party,
have taken some of Mr. Meighen's
words concerning the fundamental
principles for which he believes we
are fighting and distorted them out
of their true meaning. The result
of these distortions has been to
make him appear as though he fa-
vored putting profits above every-
thing else. It is a most unfair per-
formance, but probably little else
could be expected from a group
which has thrived on setting class
against class.

Mr. Meighen's public and private
career needs no defence against the
efforts of these agitators. He has
nothing to retract, and there is
nothing in his record of which he
needs be ashamed.

But the matter need not rest
there. When a stranger to these
parts, as Mr. Coldwell is, comes to
the city and attempts to besmirch
the name of Mr. Meighen, it may be useful
to inquire of Mr. Coldwell's own views.
What advice has he given in the
past on public questions?

Some interesting information on
this point came out at a public
meeting on Feb. 14, 1937, and an
account of it appeared in The Globe
and Mail the following day. The
pertinent paragraphs bearing upon
Mr. Coldwell's views on the respon-
sibilities of citizens to defend the
country and the Empire are given
herewith from The Globe and Mail
report:

"Young Canadians should be
ready to go to jail before enlisting
in any future European war which
involved Canada. M. J. Coldwell, M.
P. for Rosetown-Baggar, Sask, told
a peace rally held yesterday in the
Uptown Theatre.

"Strong in his belief that Can-
ada could and must adopt a policy
of complete isolation in wartime,
the speaker received an ovation
when he told the gathering that his
own son had promised him that
he would go to jail rather than
fight any future war which was
not an actual attack on Canadian
territory. 'My son is 21 years old and
physically fit in every respect,' Mr.
Coldwell declared. 'I taught him
that war was wrong, and this
Christmas, when we were discussing
his future, he came to me volun-
tarily and said that I could rely
upon one thing, and that was his
determination to go to jail before
enlisting.'
"If other Canadian youths would
adopt a similar policy, he stated,
Canada would never be brought into
another war, no matter what Gov-
ernment might be in power in Ot-
tawa."

"If war does come and Canada
is dragged into it, the C. C. F. Par-
liamentarian warned, you will have
split this country asunder. You will
be fighting for the profits of the
pork-packers and for the tax-free
bondholders. Don't be fooled by all
this talk of defense. Just remem-
ber that if you put every Canadian
man, woman and child in uniform,
and lined them up along the border
to defend it, they would still be so
far apart that they could only spend
occasional week-ends together."
These are the words of Mr. Cold-
well two and a half years before
the outbreak of the war. He is the
same gentleman who now asks that
Mr. Meighen, the father of two sons
now serving in the army, be given
"the trouncing he deserves."
We have no doubt that when the
time comes the loyal people in
South York will give Mr. Coldwell
the answer he deserves.

The Poet's Corner

How shall they sleep, the soldiers
and the kings,
When the dust of a century-dust is
stirred and tossed
From the dark crypts, the hallowed,
churchly stones,
To spread on England's fields, in
air be lost?
The immortal foe assaults her
shores;
Wings dark with death are sha-
dowed on the air;
And shall they sleep in peace, these
ancient brave,
Who perished once as only Britons
dare?
Nay, with this dust a living seed is
borne
To roar where England's soil lies
scarified,
And raise for her defence, in Eng-
land's sons,
Heroes to stand where English kings
have died.
—Eloise Hamilton, in the New York
Times.

of the pressure under which public
men must work in time of war. —
Toronto Star.

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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.

PATROL TENDERS

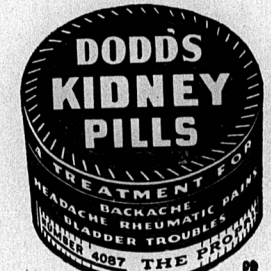
Sir,—Mr. McKie, chairman of
the Tender Committee of the City
Council and late of the Maritime
Electric Co., has stated in the
Council that only one tender was
worthy of consideration for the
police patrol recently purchased.
To my knowledge two at least
were submitted which complied
with the requirements.
I am, Sir, etc.
P. C. POPE.

Churchill And Gallup
Polls

(Toronto Saturday Night.)
The Gallup poll is a useful tool
for certain purposes, but it is not
a machine for governing the coun-
try. As a matter of fact, what pub-
lic men in Canada need at the
moment is not more machinery for
detecting the rumblings of the
ground, to which they keep their
ears glued much too closely, but
more and better machinery for de-
termining what is right to do in
the critical circumstances of the
time. It may be of some value to
Canada that there were 12 Cana-
dian editors and several Canadian
politicians present in the British
House of Commons on October 4,
when Mr. Churchill delivered him-
self as follows:
"I hope indeed that some of our
ardent critics out of doors—I have

WORDS OF
CHALLENGE

A Thought A Day
For A People At War
"We can have one great ob-
ject and one only—to re-in-
spire, to re-invigorate the war
effort of our country in every
sphere and phase, to light into
flaming life the war spirit of our
people, the resolve to do
or die."—Arthur Meighen.



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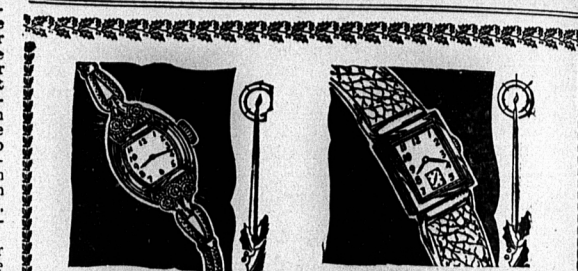
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nothing to complain of inside here
will reflect a little on their own
records in the past and by search-
ing their hearts and memories will
the fate which awaits nations and
individuals who take an easy and
popular course or who are guided
in defence matters by the winds
winds of well-meaning public opin-
ion. Nothing is more dangerous in
wartime than to live in the tem-
peramental atmosphere of Gallup
polls, or in feeling one's pulse and
taking one's temperature. I see that
a speaker at the week-end said this
was a time when leaders should
keep their ears to the ground. All
I can say is that the British nation
will find it very hard to look up to
leaders who were detected in that
somewhat ungainly posture.



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