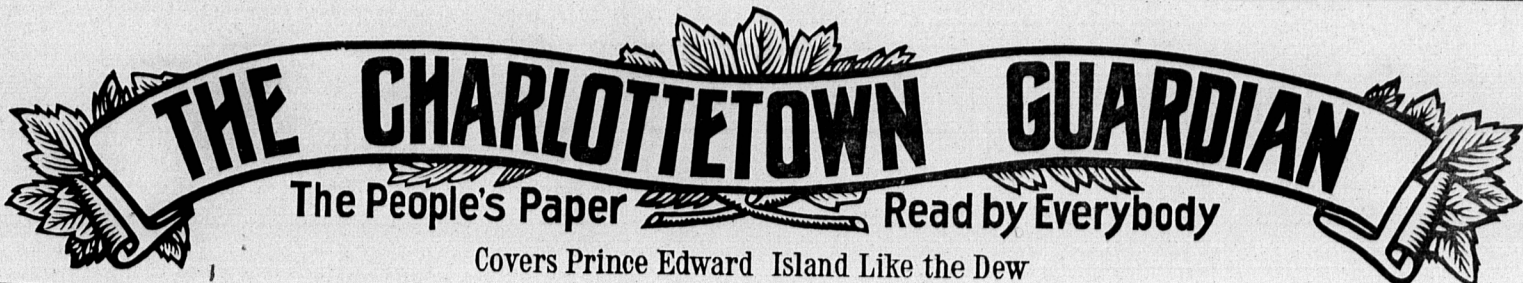


BRITAIN REFUSES TO RETURN RELEASED MEN

MAXIMS
OF A
MERE MAN

After crosses and losses, men grow humbler and wiser.



The People's Paper Read by Everybody

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

MAXIMS
OF A
MERE MAN

There are no ugly loves, nor handsome prisons.

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CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1940

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IMPORTANT FINNISH CITY IS BOMBARDED

CHAMBERLAIN TO EXPLAIN IN COMMONS

Norway May Seek League Of Nations Ruling On Altmak Question.

By J. F. Sanderson
Canadian Press Staff Writer

LONDON, Feb. 19.—(CP Cable)—The British Government has advised Norway that the seamen rescued from the German "hell-ship" Altmak by a naval boarding party will not be handed back.

Destroyer Lost

Joy in the United Kingdom that the prisoners were safe at home was tempered by announcement of a new naval loss.

OSLO, Feb. 19.—(AP)—Accus-

ing the British Government of acting in "open conflict with principles which it has itself so often proclaimed." Norway tonight indicated she might take the Altmak case before the League of Nations "or some other tribunal."

The indication of this neutral's course in the controversy arising from the rescue of 300 British merchant seamen from the German ship Altmak was given by Foreign Minister Halvdan Kohlt at a special session of the Storting (Parliament).

To Observe Neutral Rights

Again and again the government has declared its intention of observing all the rights of neutral powers and qualified sources tonight indicated that nothing in the Gjesingford incident changed that general policy in the slightest degree.

Britain's contention is that the Altmak was a neutral vessel armed with offensive weapons. Secondly, it was known all over the world that she had acted as an auxiliary and prize ship for the Nazi pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee which three British cruisers defeated in a running engagement off Uruguay last December.

The Norwegians, having decided to search the Altmak when she entered neutral waters while trying to run the British blockade and reach a German port, were guilty of negligence in the British view in not conducting a proper search which would have revealed the presence of the imprisoned seamen who should then have been taken off the ship.

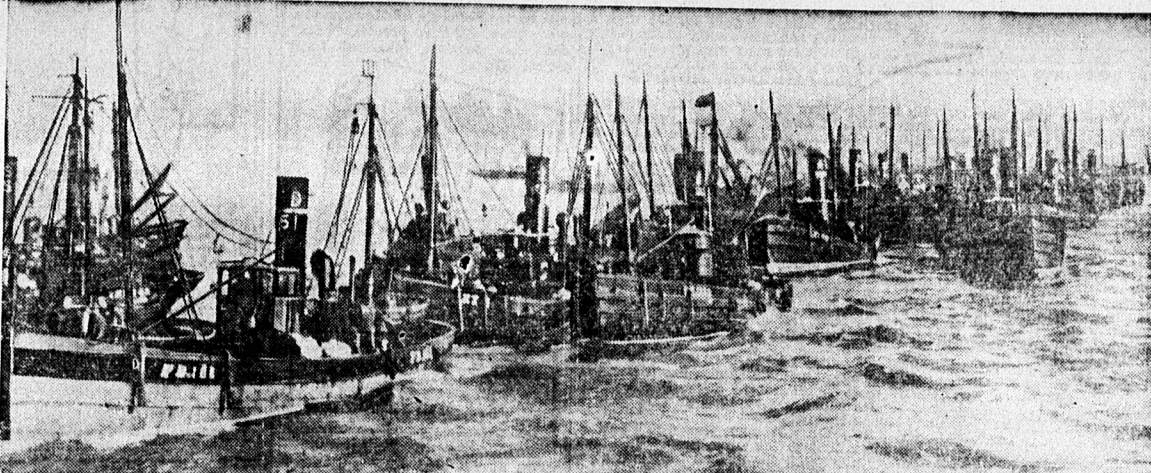
British authorities quoted the case of the German ship Apam in the First Great War. She took

(Continued on page 7, Col 3)

Coming Events

- Rate for notices in this column 3 cents per word.
- *Concert! See the old timers Murray River Hall, Friday, February 23rd. 1-454-2-20-21.
- *New Glasgow, tonight, Rangers vs. Maple Leafs, last of semi-finals. 1-467.
- *Loading hogs Murray Harbor February 23rd. W. E. Jenkins. 1-450-2-20-11.
- *Monthly meeting Ladies Aid P. E. Hospital Wednesday, 3:30 P. M. Cundall Home. 1-408-2-20-21.

Unsung Heroes Of Britain's Fleet



A vast fleet of tiny fishing trawlers like these is being assembled and 10,000 more of Britain's hardy fishermen are being sought by the Royal Navy in a large-scale offensive against the menace of German mines. The recruits will be in addition to the 10,000 fishermen who have entered the navy since the start of the war.

DUTCH BUILD HUGE DEFENCES

One Canadian Rescued From Prison Ship

LONDON, Feb. 19.—(CP)—One Canadian, William E. McMinn of Toronto and one Australian, Tom Tanner, were among a large group of men rescued from the German "hell-ship" Altmak who were taken to the great hall of the information ministry tonight and told of their experiences.

Accuses Liberals Of Planning To Pack Convention

HALIFAX, Feb. 19.—(CP)—R. E. Finn, K.C., Liberal member of the House of Commons for Halifax, said in a statement to the press tonight he would not permit his name to go before the Liberal nominating convention Wednesday because he was "convinced that a deliberate plot has been devised to pack the convention and prevent my nomination."

Air Inspector Opens Inquiry Into Crash

HALIFAX, Feb. 19.—(CP)—A wrecked Canadian Airways plane and the district surrounding Oak Hill Lake in western Halifax County were surveyed today by Inspector J. R. K. Main, of the Federal Transport Department, opening an investigation into last Thursday's crash of the Moncton-Halifax mail and passenger plane.

Later he interviewed James A. Noonan of Halifax who was the only passenger in the plane when it cracked up after flying into a snow storm. Noonan is in hospital with a broken leg and a broken arm.

International At A Glance

HELSINKI—Russian artillery drops shells regularly in Viipuri (Viipuri), informed source says; Finland claims destruction of 14th Red Army division, report Mannerheim line troops standing firm in new positions.

LONDON—Britain acknowledges torpedoing of destroyer Daring, 157 men lost; tells Norway British seized from Altmak will not be surrendered.

OSLO—Norway indicates she may try to put Britain on trial before League of Nations in Altmak case.

BERLIN—Diplomatic tension between Germany and Norway eases.

PARIS—French report repulse of raid on western front.

MOSCOW—Russian army says Karelian Isthmus offensive "developing successfully."

HALIFAX, Feb. 19.—(CP)—R. E. Finn, K.C., Liberal member of the House of Commons for Halifax, said in a statement to the press tonight he would not permit his name to go before the Liberal nominating convention Wednesday because he was "convinced that a deliberate plot has been devised to pack the convention and prevent my nomination."

Short Session Of Sask. House Is Anticipated

WINNIPEG, Feb. 19.—(CP)—Fourth session of the 20th Manitoba Legislature opens tomorrow with the traditional pomp and pageantry dispensed with due to the war. An early March adjournment is expected because of the Federal Election campaign.

Nazi Wrath At Norway Cools Slightly

BERLIN, Feb. 19.—(CP)—Diplomatic tension between Germany and Norway over the Altmak incident eased slightly tonight.

Norway's expressions of indignation over the British naval invasion of her neutral waters in obtaining release of more than 300 British from the Nazi prison ship was stressed by the foreign office.

The tenor of Oslo's demand for return of the British seamen and for full compensation was said to have impressed Berlin.

There was appreciation of the fact that the small Norwegian warship accompanying the Altmak was no match for the Casaca, 1,800-ton British destroyer, that sent a boarding party pouring onto the Altmak Friday night in Gjesingford.

There was no lessening of official Nazi wrath toward Britain, whose fleet remained braced throughout the Red Sea "piracy" murder and gangsterism. "If anything, the anger of Germans flamed even higher."

Apart from diplomatic developments, Field Marshal Hermann Goering announced that scores of thousands of farm hands were being pulled from German-occupied parts of Poland to work German farms.

Germany's economic dictator said 5,000 were arriving from Warsaw each day. Before long the Krakow area, it was said, is expected to supply 120,000 Polish farmhands to help Germany produce more food.

Quebec House To Open Today

QUEBEC, Feb. 19.—(CP)—Over-shadowed by war and the recent death of Lord Tweedsmuir, ceremonies will be simple tomorrow as the first session of Quebec Province's 21st Legislature opens.

New faces will dominate the scene. In the saddle is a new Liberal Government headed by a new Premier, while the Speech from the Throne will be read by Lieutenant-Governor Sir Eugene Fliset, who was sworn in only last Dec. 29.

A wide change in representation has occurred in the 86-seat Legislative Assembly whose control was won by the Liberals in the Oct. 25 Provincial General Election. At the polls Premier Maurice Duplessis' Union Nationale Administration went down to a devastating defeat as the Liberals under Adélard Godbout captured 69 seats.

FEELS SURE OF POWER TO STEM INVASION

(By Riley O'Sullivan)
AMSTERDAM, Feb. 19.—(AP)—With its manpower and gunpower around a basic system of water defences, Holland in six months has reached a point where the High Command speaks more confidently of the army's ability to stand off any invading force.

Progress in the intensive training of a citizen army and construction of fortifications since war began has been such that the general staff conducted a group of correspondents of the Netherlands and neutral countries on a three-day tour designed to demonstrate the effectiveness of the defences.

The picture gained on the trip along the Dutch-German frontier defences, main inundation zones through central Holland behind which to the west lie the richest and most populous centres, and the north sea coastal defences, is one of elaborate preparations, not fully realized even by the Dutch public.

Would Bog Down
Addressing the correspondents, Lieut-General Baron Von Voerst Tot Voerst, commanding the Fifth Army, said any attacks from the east were sure to bog down against the fortified water lines of central Holland—even against motorized assaults accompanied by heavy bombardment.

He expressed confidence that the

(Continued on page 3, Col. 8)

Prominent Nfld. Surgeon Passes

GRAND FALLS, Nfld., Feb. 19.—(CP Cable)—Dr. L. E. Keegan, 72, one of the best-known surgeons in Newfoundland, died here today. He had suffered a stroke Friday.

A native of Dublin, Ire., he came to Newfoundland in 1889 and gained a high reputation in the medical profession, notably as a surgeon. He was superintendent of the St. John's General Hospital from 1909-35 when he retired.

His wife and four children survive. Burial will be at Grand Falls tomorrow.

Red Artillery Dropping Shells Into Viipuri

Finns Announce Destruction Of Soviet Division—Take New Positions On Karelian Isthmus.

(Thomas F. Hawkins, Associated Press Staff Writer)

HELSINKI, Feb. 19.—(AP)—Russian artillery tonight dropped shells regularly into Viipuri (Viipuri) now a definite part of the front as a result of Soviet penetration into the Mannerheim fortified zone, a reliable informant said.

"This does not mean the city is in danger of capture, but that it now is definitely a part of the front," the informant said.

DESTROY RED DIVISION

Shortly before an official communique had told of the complete destruction of the 18th Red Army Division northeast of Lake Ladoga by Finland's ghost-like fighters who for weeks parried and thrust until 18,000 Russians were dead or captured.

The same communique which announced this major victory said Soviet attacks against the new Finnish Karelian Isthmus positions, to which the battered Mannerheim line army had been compelled to withdraw, had been repelled.

The infantry division that was isolated between Uomas and Syskyjaervi, 15 miles from the Russian frontier and 10 miles north of Lake Ladoga, and then cut to pieces, was from the city of Yaroslavl, northeast of Moscow.

The Finnish command said the unit was chopped up "piece by piece," and the final blow was struck yesterday when a "great victory" resulted in capture of the division's last stronghold. The division had received some reinforcement after it was trapped.

BOOTY CAPTURED

Latest official figures on booty captured included 100 tanks, 58 guns of various types, 12 anti-tank guns, 75 motor vehicles, 23 tractors, 44 field kitchens and more than 60 machine guns.

"Our losses were small," said a press bureau announcement concerning the battle.

A Finnish press spokesman said one divisional flag which was captured showed a hemisphere, the city of Haroslavl, the hammer and sickle, and a bayonet penetrating a map of the Baltic countries and Sweden, with the point resting in southern Norway.

The 18th was the third Red Army division the Finns have reported destroyed. The others—the 163rd and 41th—were said by the Finnish command to have been cut to pieces in savage fighting in middle Finland during the unsuccessful Russian campaign to cut the country in two at its narrow "waistline."

Censorship prevented a description of the new line of resistance to which the Finns have withdrawn on the Karelian Isthmus.

A high informant said that the line stretched from a point somewhere west of the village of Summa toward Lake Muolaa, but no further definition was possible.

(The Russians have reported occupying both Summa and Muolaa.)

One Dead In Free-for-all At Dance Hall

ZHODA, Man., Feb. 19.—(CP)—Police tonight investigated the death of one man and the serious injury of another in a free-for-all at a dance hall during the week-end. Zhoda is about 80 miles southeast of Winnipeg.

John Swiderski, 56-year-old farmer of the Zhoda district and father of four children, was fatally injured when struck over the head in the struggle which saw bottles and other missiles wielded.

S. Balla, farmer of this area, was taken to hospital suffering from serious head wounds. He is expected to recover.

Debate On U. S. Trade Treaty In Progress

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—(AP)—Debate on the United States trade treaty program began today in the House of Representatives, where Democrats praised the policy as a foundation for eventual peace and Republicans charged the administration with turning over American markets to "peeps and coolies."

The charge of "log-rolling" was bounced from Democrats to Republicans and back again and long statistical tables were cited by both sides. Canada is among the 22 nations which have trade agreements with the United States under the act.

The debate attracted few listeners. When Representative Robert Doughton, North Carolina Democrat, began the administration argument for extending the program for three years from next June 12, only 75 of the chamber's 425 members were in their seats and the galleries were only half-filled.

Attendance on the floor reached such a low ebb later on that Representative A. W. Robertson, Virginia Democrat, asked plaintively how there could be a good fight with only 30 fighters. A vote on the extension resolution will not be reached until Friday or Saturday.

MY IDEA OF A BUSY MAN IS THE ELECTRICIAN IN A MYSTERY PLAY



Thermometer Extremes

High Low



Yesterday's highest and lowest thermometer readings are indicated above.

TORONTO, Feb. 19.—(CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson 20-13, Regina 4-19, Winnipeg 19-23, Toronto 30-39, Ottawa 25-38, Montreal 22-33, Quebec 17-23, Saint John 25-40, Halifax 24-39, Charlottetown 17-34.

Maritime East: Strong northeast winds or gales with snow or part rain.

Synopsis: The weather has been cloudy with moderate temperature and scattered snowdrifts in the Western Provinces, and snow and rain have fallen in southern Ontario.

High tide this morning at 8:29 and tonight at 7:40. Sun sets this afternoon at 5:52, and rises tomorrow morning at 6:34.

Full moon, Feb. 23, 5:55 A. M. Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

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