

AGENTS: Mrs. John Pond, 31 Church Street - Phone 239  
SUMMERSIDE AND PRINCE COUNTY

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—ISLAND BOY INJURED IN ACCIDENT — Mrs. Elliott Wright of Kinkora has received the sad news that her son Thompson, who is a gunner in the 2nd Medicinal Battery was injured in an accident in England. The message came in a letter from his brother Arthur who is also in England. The accident happened on November 10th when a machine gun accidentally discharged and struck him and broke both his legs above the knees. Gunner Wright went overseas last January with his battery and is stationed in England. He is well known both in Summerside and Charlottetown. He attended the Summerside High School Academy in 1937-38 and was a student at the University of Wales College from 1938 to 39. His many friends will learn with regret of the accident and trust that Mr. Wright will soon be up and about again. —S.

—RETURNED TO HOMES — Mrs. Arsenault who arrived in Summerside to attend the funeral of her mother, Mrs. J. F. Arsenault, Central St., left for her home in St. John's, N.B., on Saturday morning to resume her duties with the Works and Buildings Branch, R.C.A.F. No. 1, St. John's, N.B., who also arrived for her mother's funeral earlier in the week. —S.

—DEATH OF MR. HARVEY LARGE — In the death of Mr. Harvey Large Central Lot 16 has lost one of its oldest and best known residents. Mr. Large passed away on Wednesday night after a long illness. He was eighty two years of age and had resided in Lot 16 for many years. He was a successful farmer and was most highly respected in the community. He leaves to mourn his wife and one son Roy and one daughter, Mrs. Gertrude both residing at home, also a sister Mrs. Alexander of Summerside and two brothers, one in Boston and Charles Winnipeg to all of whom much sympathy is extended. The funeral took place on Friday afternoon from the home of the deceased at 100 St. Mary's Street. Rev. Mr. Gristle conducted the service assisted by Rev. C. Cook of Summerside. The pallbearers were Messrs. Percy Miller, James White, Fred Campbell, Henry Roy, William Miller, Seymour Thompson. —S.

—FINE WEATHER — Air forces of both sides were active. Extensive Italian raids over the battle zone were acknowledged. Reports from the front said that the British avoided engaging the Italian army.

—A British Royal Air Force commando told of two raids Saturday in the Albanian chief port. In a fierce attack it said, bombs fell among military stores and a motor transport park. A column of black smoke was seen to rise from the motor transport concentration and although clouds prevented full observation on the beach of the bombing, army barracks were seen to be hit. It said, "In a second attack an airplane bombed, all bombs falling in the target area and enemy aircraft were taken off speed around on the wings and stopped. From operations our aircraft returned with Italian resistance on the north coast. It said, "The British were active in giving way gradually in the face of a hurried Greek flank operation."

—Greek forces are "constantly" moving toward Valona, one report said, and are converging into a single line in order to mop up and capture territory. "Farther north," it said, "Greek attacks are aimed at strategically important heights still held by the enemy."

—Another dispatch from the coast said that a large battle area had been "blaze for several days" and "artillery, mortar and machine-gun fire and the ground has been shaking from the salvoes of Greek and enemy heavy artillery."

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### Sudden passing Of J. C. MacPherson Comes as shock

Friends were shocked last evening to learn of the sudden passing of John Crawford MacPherson of Summerside. Mr. MacPherson was only 32 years of age and had not been feeling well since Thursday. He became rapidly worse and passed away Saturday afternoon. He was not in very robust health and suffered from a heart ailment. Mr. MacPherson was the son of Mrs. MacPherson of Summerside and the late George MacPherson, for many years caretaker of the Summerside post office. "Crawford," as he was generally called, was of a genial disposition. Much sympathy is extended to his family in their sad bereavement. He leaves to mourn his wife, formerly Rita Ford of Norham and one little son, John, his mother and the following sisters—Miss Dorothy in the Civil Service at Ottawa, Margaret, Mrs. Denison Craig, in the United States, Jean, Mrs. Charles MacNeill, in Erie, Ontario and Mildred, Mrs. John Currie in Ontario. The funeral will take place on Tuesday at 2 p.m. from the residence of his mother on Russell Street. —S.

### Italian Officer

vanquard of the Italian push, were to make a dash for the Nile and Suez. Surprise Was Great — But so great was the surprise element when the British troops struck at dawn last Monday that the tanks which formed an important part of the Maletti unit never even got into action. The British troops opened with a barrage of 60-pound shells from the east, where the Italians had their strongest fortifications, tanks, field artillery and truckloads of infantry. The Italians turned swiftly in from the west. The Italians turned their guns in that direction and tried vainly to break the onward sweep of the attackers. Gen. Maletti, my informant told me, called his men for a counter-attack at the British right flank, but fell with a bullet through his chest and died within a few minutes after British troops reached him.

### British liner Is torpedoed; How on board

NEW YORK, Dec. 15 (AP)—The British liner Western Prince, loaded with a heavy cargo, including airplanes, and carrying British officials home for the Christmas holidays, was torpedoed Saturday about 500 miles northwest of London. The ship was carrying 60 passengers and a crew of 100. The ship was carrying a heavy cargo, including airplanes, and carrying British officials home for the Christmas holidays, was torpedoed Saturday about 500 miles northwest of London. The ship was carrying 60 passengers and a crew of 100. The ship was carrying a heavy cargo, including airplanes, and carrying British officials home for the Christmas holidays, was torpedoed Saturday about 500 miles northwest of London. The ship was carrying 60 passengers and a crew of 100.

### Trade Minister Still ill in Balboa Hospital

BALBOA, Canal Zone, Dec. 15.—(CP)—The Canadian trade mission, headed by Finance Minister J. Mackenzie King, is still in Balboa Hospital here. Mr. Mackenzie King was taken ill during the mission's flight from Colombia. On arriving in the Canal Zone he entered the hospital for what he described as a "check-up."

### "Flu" outbreak General, report

By The Canadian Press — Medical health officers, reporting on a current outbreak of influenza across Canada, have agreed today that although the number of cases in some centres is usually high, the disease is of a mild type, and the situation does not cause alarm. One death has been reported. In most places doctors found the prevalence of bronchial troubles about usual for the time of the year. The outbreak generally has meant absence from school or business for only a few days. In most military camps the number of cases is not great, considering the large groups of men at the camps. The Canadian Car and Foundry plant in Montreal was closed Sunday in an effort to check the spread of colds among the 2,000 employees. Officials said it was the first Sunday stoppage in a long time.

### Soviets and Chinese sign Agreement

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—(AP)—The British Broadcasting Corporation reported Saturday that China and the Soviet Union have signed an agreement under which China is to sell \$100,000,000 worth of tea to the U.S.S.R.

## Italy Draws on Reserves to Stem British Drive

Observers see unusual candor in official Fascist reports of African war.

ROME, Dec. 15.—(AP)—Italy's desert regions, beaten back into Libya, in the bloodiest hand-to-hand combat since dawn to sunset on a battlefield strewn with groups of burning enemy tanks and armored cars, and boast of unceasing Italian opposition to the British in the air. The high command claimed the maelstrom of land attack and defence centred on the zone of Salum, Bardia and Fort Capuzzo. Of the three only Salum is in Egyptian territory. The high command contended that "all speculations, enemy propaganda and guesses regarding the great battle in course on the Cyrenaican border (Cirenaica) is part of a 'Lava' would seem premature."

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## Petain Continues To Overhaul French Gov't

He appointed another "papease" former Premier Pierre-Edouard Flaminio, to be Foreign Minister, and ordered Flaminio to resign. "I will be more apt to follow a policy of collaboration between France and Germany."

### Britain Preparing

Britain is training the men and amassing the equipment. She can not expect to raise troops in numbers to equal those of the Germans; hence their equipment must be superior. With United States help, the British are confident of eventually having air superiority in the Mediterranean.

### Special Prayer For British People

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—(AP)—A special prayer for the embattled people of Britain was offered by St. Basil James, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, at funeral services today for the Marquis of Lothian, British Ambassador to the United States, attended by high officials of the Government and Washington diplomats. In the vaulted dimness of the National Cathedral, in which the pulpit stones come from Lord Lothian's homeland and are inscribed with the first words of the Magna Carta—"The Church of England shall be free—Bishop Freeman prayed God to "strengthen and sustain" the British people "in this hour of their need."

### Prominent North Carleton farmer Died Saturday

There passed away on Saturday afternoon at his home in North Carleton Mr. Robert Aldred Wright, a prominent farmer of the district. Mr. Wright was 64 years of age and had been ill for some time. He was well and favorably known in the district and many will learn with much regret of his passing. His wife predeceased him some time ago and he leaves to mourn three sons, Wilbur on the home-stead, Stewart of the Department of Agriculture in Charlottetown, and Arthur in Ottawa. The funeral will take place on Monday from his late residence at 2 p.m. to the cemetery at Cape Traverse. —S.

### WHERE WILL

(Continued from page 1) ...ans or even through Italy. The Turks probably could be counted on to help British such offensive would entail tremendous movements of men, material and supplies over great stretches of land and water.

### Holland Logical Place

Even by the process of elimination, and for other reasons as well—that leaves the Netherlands as the most logical bridgehead for the campaign of 1942 and 1943 which are constantly in the back of Winston Churchill's brilliant mind. It is this fantastic, with Germany holding tightly to every inch of continental coastline from the north cape to the Bay of Biscay? Holland forms the curving, north-west corner of the continent proper. Given air superiority in an offensive sense, operating from British bases scarcely 100 miles from the coast of the province of North Holland, above Amsterdam, and gain a foothold.

### Hon. C. D. Howe

(Continued from page 1) ...able from official quarters but there was every reason to believe information that the Minister is safe is correct. Rumor circulated in Ottawa that Mr. Howe's safety had been established definitely, but these could not be confirmed. The Prime Minister's office said that no definite information was received. Mr. Howe, who sailed from New York on the Western Prince Dec. 8, on an official mission to the United Kingdom, was accompanied by Hon. Gordon Scott, Montreal, and E. P. Taylor, Toronto. All were executives in the Department of Munitions and Supply.

### No Information Released

News of the torpedoing came unofficially yesterday morning when Mackay Radio Corporation of New York intercepted a wireless message which said the vessel had been attacked 400 miles west of Ireland. As is customary in such cases, no information was released by the British Admiralty. It was impossible for even the highest government officials here to obtain specific information.

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Lord Lothian, British ambassador to the United States, and great friend of that nation, died early Dec. 12 in Washington. His death followed a few hours after his address, challenged the people and the United States to help Britain in the face of serious dangers, had been read for him in Baltimore. With such help Britain can win "and win decisively in 1942 if not before," he declared.

### Hon. C. D. Howe

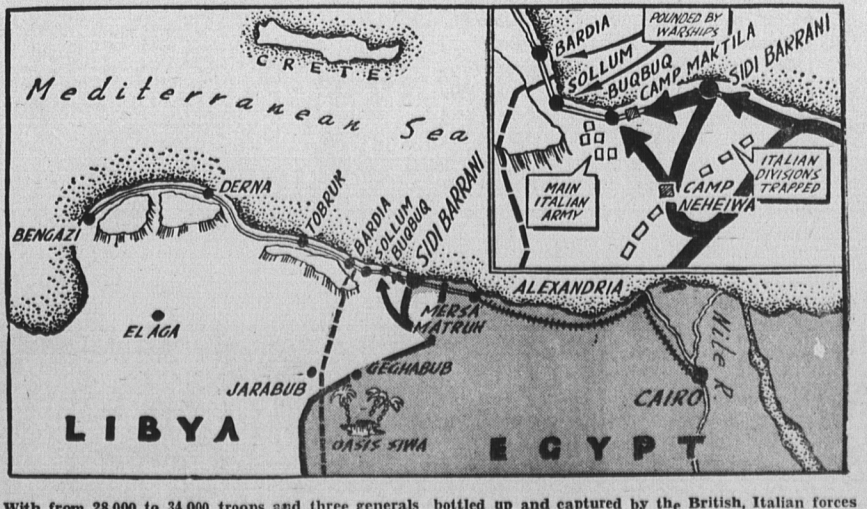
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With from 28,000 to 34,000 troops and three generals bottled up and captured by the British, Italian forces in Egypt were reported retreating in disorder, Dec. 12, while British land, air and sea forces pressed their relentless combined attack. Sidi Barrani was taken and Buqubis under assault by swift, hard-hitting motorized columns which drove along the coast and up through the Italian lines to the south. At the same time, Italian bases all along the coast were hammered by R.A.F. bombers. The Royal Navy took a hand, mercilessly shelling the strongholds at Sollum and Bardia, and harassing Italian movements along the coastal road.

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