

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink."

FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1943
Watch Magna Carta Day

All signs point now to the imminence of a
mighty Allied invasion, with Pantelleria as the
prelude. The plans, of course, are a closely
guarded secret, but Prime Minister Churchill
has intimated that the great moment is approaching.

Magna Carta, as every schoolboy knows, was
the document signed by King John at Runnymede
in 1215, binding king and subjects alike
to obey the laws of the land, asserting the
supremacy of Parliament, prohibiting punishment
without fair trial or justice from being denied,

What better day, in the whole calendar, could
be chosen as Liberty Day for enslaved Europe—
for the launching of the imminent British-American
invasion of Hitler's stronghold, and the
beginning of the final phase of a war in which
we are pledged to get all nations free!

Mr Power's Confession
The most outspoken member of the King Cabinet
is Hon. C. G. Power, Minister of National
Defense for Air, who for this reason is heard in
Parliament with all the more respect and confidence.

Mr. Power's answer was illuminating. He
said: "Someone must have just told me I should
not; that is all. We have certainly given a lot
of publicity to it since. I do not know why I
said that. I might have had a reason. Some of
my officers must have told me it should not be
disclosed, but I cannot understand why I agreed
with them."

This raises the question as to how much more
information has been suppressed for equally ob-
scure reasons. One must assume the reason in
this case was unimportant or Mr. Power would
certainly have remembered it. When officialdom
dictates to the people's representatives what and
how much they shall be permitted to know, with-
out even having to account to the minister for
its reasons, there is an end to democracy. Cen-
sorship in wartime is of course required; but it
is the duty of the ministers to see that where
Parliament is concerned, no interference of this
kind is tolerated except where absolutely necessary.

Hon. Cyrus MacMillan, who is Mr. Power's
parliamentary assistant, will frequently be called
upon to answer for his chief on the floor of the
House. It is to be hoped he will be guided by
Mr. Power's frankness in this case, and where
any sin of omission or commission is laid at his
department's door, state the facts bluntly and
briefly. If, like Mr. Power, he doesn't know
why he did or said something obviously at variance
with his subsequent actions or statements, let
him make the same open confession and skip the
alibis. It will save Parliament a lot of time.

Beating The Sub Menace
So dangerous do the Germans find the aero-
plane as an anti-submarine weapon, that it is
now reported from London that orders have
been given German U-boat captains not to sub-
merge when attacked by a plane, but to stay on
the surface and fight it out, endeavouring thus
to destroy as many planes as possible. It is
further reported that German submarines have
been allotted a very considerable increase in
their anti-aircraft armament in order to enable

these instructions to be carried out.

This information links up with Prime Min-
ister Churchill's reassuring account of the growing
success against the enemy submarine men-
ace. The new Allied submarine weapon is a
huge new Liberator bomber which can range
over a thousand miles from its base, and carry
sufficient weight of bombs at that distance to
blast the subs out of the water. May, Mr.
Churchill reports, was the most successful month
the Allies have had in their warfare against un-
dersea craft, and the first week of June was
"the best ever." Last month the combined build-
ing exceeded losses by more than three to one,
while "for the first time our killings of U-boats
substantially outnumbered the U-boat output."

The Germans themselves have conceded a 50
per cent drop in their sinkings, as between April
and March, and a still further reduction in May.
It is safe to guess, therefore, that the U-boat
campaign is not going any too well.
It is, of course, too early to assume that we
have the submarine menace licked. Mr. Church-
ill warned against making easy assumptions of
that kind. Yet it is interesting to compare the
German claims of 850,000 tons of Allied shipping
sunk in March, 415,000 in April and 372,000
in May with actual sinkings in the spring of
1917, when the U-boat campaign of World War
I rose to its highest peak. April was the worst
month of that year, with sinkings of 840,000
gross tons. Then the improved surface convoy
system began to work. Sinkings declined to 551-
000 tons in May, rose a little to 633,000 tons in
June, dropped to 495,000 tons in July, and there-
after declined till an average of 256,000 tons per
month was reached for the year 1918. It is
possible that what we are seeing now may be the
first effects of a combined system of surface
and air convoys which, coupled with other mea-
sures, will once more be the prelude to achiev-
ing complete naval supremacy.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Prince Edward Islanders can and will do
their part in the Greek War Relief Fund cam-
paign. Now is the time to show our sympathy
in a practical form.

Farmers in Ontario are in the depressed
classes these days. With the exception of about
four days there has been rain for six weeks.
Even high lands have been flooded, and in one
section where water is seldom seen in summer,
boats have been floated in farm yards.

The Belgian government in exile has hon-
oured Canada through Defence Minister Ralston
by presenting him with the Croix Militaire
Belge. This is in appreciation of the opportu-
nity of training Belgian recruits in this country.
The reason why their training centre is being
closed is significant: the supply of Belgian man-
power in Canada and other parts of the contin-
ent has been exhausted.

Sir Henry M. Stanley, journalist and explorer,
born this date 1841; while a member
of the staff of the New York Herald he was
commissioned by the proprietor and publisher,
Mr. Bennett, to proceed to Africa to search for
Explorer Livingstone, who had been missing
for a considerable time; he did so, after a tedious
and trying journey through "Darkest Africa"
he got in contact with Livingstone and subse-
quently went exploring on his own account.

Prime Minister Churchill told Allied air-
men in Algiers "we had Corporal Hitler to help"
in the Tunisian campaign, in one of his many
impromptu speeches during his tour of Tunisian
army camps. "This self-made and self-unmade
man has added sauce to the goose you have
caught, killed and eaten." The Prime Minister
added. He told the audience: "Whatever cam-
paigns follow will not overshadow this one."

Out of the mouths of babes and Poulitons
sometimes come words of wisdom. Here is
how in the House of Commons, the member for
Temiscouata summed up the nature of our present
administration: "This country is run from the
kitchens of Rideau Club, the pantry of the
Prime Minister's office in the East Block, and
the House of Commons is nothing but a cafeteria."
It is all the more effective when we bear
in mind that "cafeteria" means each patron "help-
ing himself," only.

This is a memorable anniversary for the
well-known local firm of W.W. Wellner, Ltd.
It was established just three-quarters of a cen-
tury ago. The present proprietor, Mr. Lloyd
E. Wellner, a son of the founder, has carried
on the business with increasing success for the
past several years. Four wars have occurred in
the seventy-five years since the store first opened
its doors. It is today one of the most popular
and up-to-date establishments of its kind in the
Maritimes. The Guardian joins with the firm's
many friends and patrons in extending best birth-
day wishes.

Good news for radio fans. Sir Edward Ap-
pleton, secretary of the Department of Scientific
and Industrial Research, has disclosed the
results of an experiment that took 11 years to
complete and which may solve the problem of
radio fade-outs and make world-wide broadcast-
ing after the war loud, clear and certain. With
a fellow-scientist, R. Naismith, he devised a
radio method of measuring the electricity in the
atmosphere 60 to 160 miles above the earth.
They found things of interest to the scientist and
of importance to the ordinary man with a radio
set. The long experiments confirmed the fact
that the electrical character of the upper air
varies with sun spots. Sun spots, believed to
be electrical effects, appear and vanish in an 11-
year sequence. World-wide radio depends on the
reflection back to earth of electric waves by the
electrified layers of the upper air. The Ap-
pleton-Naismith tests showed that the range of
short wave lengths available for long distance
broadcasting varied substantially with sun spots.
The two scientists have plotted the variation and
soon will be able to say what wave lengths are
reliable for broadcasting at different times during
the 11-year cycle.

Notes By The Way

A scientist estimates that a bee
travels 43,776 miles in gathering a
pound of honey. Yes, and the con-
sumer travels just as far from store
to store trying to find the same
pound.—Peterborough Examiner.

On this continent the word "bul-
let" literally a little ball is being
used to describe not only the pro-
jectile, but the whole loaded car-
tridge—a live bullet. It is not
yet sanctioned by the dic-
tionaries, but no doubt in due course
it will be.—Toronto Star.

We will know that the war is
over when we will be able to go
into a fruit store and ask for a
banana crate to use as a waste
paper basket. And none better was
ever made for the purpose. Why, oh
why couldn't we have secured one
long before now? We have had the
free reading notices which pour into
the office day after day month after
month, and year after year.—

According to the Highway Traffic
Act bicycles must carry a headlight
for a reflector on the rear mid-
guard after sundown. The law is
persistently flouted, to the great
danger of cyclists and the annoy-
ance of motorists. So the
Provincial police should take action
against cyclists breaking this law
whenever they are found in their
that serious accidents may be pre-
vented.—Peterborough Examiner.

A new portrait of Hitler, painted
by the Nazi artist Kurt Schmitt
which was to have been shown in a
Berlin gallery in May, has been
written — to be repainted. It de-
picted Hitler flatteringly as a
healthy, fresh-faced, well-fed
Fuehrer, confident and apparently
without a care. It was realized that
this aspect did not conform to Go-
ebbels' recent propaganda describing
Hitler's careworn face reflecting the
strain of the war. The artist, Kurt
Schmitt has now to paint in the
lines of worry and anxiety before
his picture can be exhibited.—Lon-
don Daily Sketch.

It is said to be probable that
there will be Japanese in the
Niagara District within a short
time, engaged as farm help.
There is, for instance, one red
light signal. A woman Jan who
has been round the Evansville
for a year past is nurturing the
idea of acquiring ten acres in the
district. If the time ever comes when
Japs gain a foothold or control of
the fruit growing industry in the
Niagara Peninsula, as they did in
Columbia, there will be no more
million plus Victory Loan objectives
reached in this historic county —
St. Catharines Standard.

From Southern France, a French-
woman writes of how she set a bait
for a German spy. An Arm-
istice Commission officer, she lived
in a hotel in a large town, and he
occupied the apartment next to hers.
From the bath she saw the spy
entering the room. When she heard him
in the bath she turned on the Ger-
man broadcast from London. Until
she saw the spy enter the room,
she switched off the light. When
the sound of water running out of the
bath was heard she switched on the
German broadcast from London. The
German took his bath at the same
time—the time of the BBC news
in German. No word was ever said
from the spy about the broadcast
taken against the Frenchwoman.—
BBC Bulletin.

A friend who knows the people
concerned assures me that this
story is true. An elderly man, now
bedridden, is living with his son and
daughter-in-law in a Yorkshire
Dales town. Thinking to save him
anxiety, the couple decided not to
tell him that there was a war on.
As he is deaf and no reader they
have succeeded in their kindly plan.
Recently the old man called his
daughter-in-law to his bedside. She
looked on his face. "I say, Marv,"
he said confidentially, "has Fred
cut down your housekeeping money
lately? If he has, you must let me
give you a bit more. It's no use your
trying to deceive me. You're not
keeping me in the dark, are you?"
—Leeds Yorkshire Post.

By the appointment of General
Eisenhower here in March, the
Knights Grand Cross of the
Order of the Bath King George VI ex-
presses once more British apprecia-
tion and admiration of the military
skill and achievements of those il-
lustrous soldiers. The Honorable
Order of the Bath, founded in 1725
was instituted in 1816. In three
classes "to commemorate the aus-
picious termination of the long and
arduous contest in which the Em-
pire has been rescued from the grasp
of the French." The Order of the
Bath is now carrying on a far more
terrible war against a despotism
many times more malign and de-
structive than that of Napoleon. It
is hoped that it will not be too long
before the Order of the Bath and its
two new honorary members will be
able to celebrate the auspicious ter-
mination of the contest in which
we are now engaged.—New York
Times.

Balbo had 250,000 men in Libya
in 1940. The Duke of Aosta had
250,000 in Ethiopia. And Wavell
had a few thousands of men
and a mere handful of guns. He had
no tanks worthy of the name of
tanks of the Bombay command.
The only biplanes as bombers and
Gladitorial biplanes as fighters. The
one hope was that the French in
Syria and Iraq would be strong
enough to create an effective di-
vision: instead of that the news came
that France was out of the war.
The British army had been captured
in France or escaped without a tank
since the day of the "Dunkleke".
There was only one thing for
Wavell to do—bluff the enemy into
thinking he was far stronger than
he was. He did it by telling them
we had attacked on the Egyptian
frontier he executed one of those
movements of the British army has
since the day of the "Dunkleke".
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HATS IN TEXAS
The bluebonnet is the state flow-
er of Texas.

The Word Of A
British Admiral

(Montreal Gazette)
"The British Fleet in Alexandria
has given in to the British." So
speaks the German radio, with its
usual boast. The fact has not given
him. If it has joined with the fleet
of Hitler it has done so in the same
spirit which actuated the patriotic
commanders of the British larger
French fleet at Toulon to sink their
fine ships rather than permit them
to pass into Axis control. The ves-
sels at Alexandria were in no such
extremity but their officers and
their crews had the same hatred of
the invader. They have learned to
trust the British over a long test-
ing time.

The story is interesting and there
is a moral. Since 1940 one battle-
ship, four cruisers, three destroy-
ers and a number of smaller vessels
have been moored in a British port
at Alexandria. They have remained
there under the simple assurance of
Admiral Sir Andrew Browne Cun-
ningham, Allied naval commander-
in-chief in the Mediterranean, that
they would not be molested. They
would have been of enormous value
to the British during the dark and
doubtful days of the German drive
against Egypt, but a British admiral
had given his word. What Hitler
would have done, or Mussolini, in
like circumstances is no matter of
guesswork. They would have taken
these ships and the crews with them
against the French people.

The development now announced
is scarcely surprising in view of this
history. These French officers and
sailors learned whom they could
trust. They had no more than the
word of a British officer, but that
word had proved sacred. The fleet
now joins the Allies of its own free
will. The moral? If Britain's word
can thus be relied upon in con-
ditions of extreme and deadly urgency
in time of war, the nations which
are depending upon Britain's prom-
ise of freedom and fair dealing
and national integrity after the war
have nothing to fear. The word of
a British admiral would be enough.

Garibaldi's Curse

(Exchange)
"Ever England should be so
circumstanced as to require the
help of an ally, cursed be that
Italian who would not step for-
ward with me to defend her!"
Do these words ring these days
in the ears of Benito Mussolini? He
knows them, who said them, and
the occasion upon which they were
said.

They were written in 1854 to
Mazzini, the Italian patriot in Lon-
don by Garibaldi, and were in ac-
knowledgment of unforgettable
services rendered by England and
the English people to the cause of
Italian liberation.

It is the word "unforgettable" in-
appropriate in view of all that has
happened in the past eight years?
Not, it is clear, in the opinion of
Churchill. His references in his
speeches to Italy and Italians re-
veal his abiding love for the
people of Italy, apart from men-
bers of the Fascist hierarchy, hate
with Britain, and are anxiously
looking forward to an oppor-
tunity to seek peace. For their
encouragement to this end, as
Churchill said at Washington,
methods both of the stick and the
carrot are being employed.

How People Are
Mised

(Ottawa Journal) Post, a
newspaper which ought to know
better, opens an editorial on "Can-
adians and Free Trade," with this:
"Sixty per cent of the people of
Canada are hoopy."
Canadian people think that there
should be free trade between Canada
and the United States—that all pro-
ducts and merchandise crossing the
border either way should be free
of all tariff and customs duties.

Such is the finding of a recent
Gallup poll by the Canadian Insti-
tute of Public Opinion.
Now the clear impression given by
this language of the Financial Post
is that the so-called Gallup poll
took a poll of ALL of the people
of Canada, and that 67 percent of
them voted as indicated. It says
"67 percent of the people of Can-
ada."

Now what are the facts here?
Well, the main fact is that the
Gallup poll didn't poll all the
people of Canada (only 40 percent
of them voted in the last general
election) nor half the people of Canada.
We doubt whether it "polled" one
percent of them. Consequently, and
inevitably, the results of this poll—
if correct at all—are absolutely worthless
for the reaching of a conclusion upon
the subject dealt with. Worthless
and misleading.

Over a period of a year, and after
some investigation. The Journal has
met but one citizen of Ottawa who
was "polled" by the Gallup poll.
This particular gentleman was ac-
cused in the street by a young man
who asked what he thought about
certain questions. The results, given
of hand, were not signed. Apart
from this, we have never met a
man (or woman) who was "polled"
by the Gallup poll, or who had ever
heard of anybody else being "polled."

What if all sums up to is that
these week-to-week claims about
Canadians believing in this or that,
or wanting this or that, on the basis
of the Gallup poll, are just so much
hoop. They are hoop, and worse
than that: because, unless their
mischievousness is understood, they
are likely to create in the public
mind false dimensions of reality.

Recently a Gallup poll, purport-
ing to show what Canadians were
thinking about a certain important
political matter, had to be suppress-
ed—suppressed because its results
based on a tiny fraction of the
people, were manifestly false and
harmful.

Incidentally, we are told that this
Gallup poll is taken by the "Can-
adian Institute of Public Opinion."
What is that? When was this "Insti-
tute" organized? And why? Where
are its headquarters? Who are its
officers and operators? And how
many of them are Canadians apart
from the news editors of a few
newspapers, who do the buying of
feature services?

It might not be a bad idea to
have this Gallup poll business look-
ed into by the appropriate au-
thorities. It is a source of grave
mischievousness.

ROTARY CONVENTION
SAINT JOHN, N. B., June 8 (CP)
—Delegates registered here today
for the annual conference of Rotary
District 152, comprising the Mary-
land Provinces, Northern and Eastern
Maine and Newfoundland. A

SHALL GREECE PERISH?



Conditions in Greece today shock the world. Men,
women and especially CHILDREN are dying from starvation
by the thousands, but still the noble Greeks will not bow their
knees to the Nazi oppressor.
Canadians are now asked to give money to send food
and medicines to alleviate the awful suffering that is taking
place.

It Is a Most Worthy Cause
The local campaign is being sponsored by the Charlotte-
town Rotary Club and we heartily endorse this believing it to
be one of the most necessary and urgent causes.

S. A. MacDONALD
Contributions are to be sent to:
Mr. Arthur Belcher, Manager Bank of Montreal,
Charlottetown

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