

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink.
TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1945

Why Not A Bailey Bridge Head?

The eminent British Civil Engineer, Donald Coleman Bailey, played a leading part in the development of the bridge bearing his name. It is noteworthy that his rough plans for a new design to be used in offensive operations were made at the end of 1940, during Britain's darkest hour.

According to the loading required the strength can be varied from one row of girders at each side to three tiers, each three girders side by side. The girders are assembled on rollers and pushed through a gap to be bridged. To overcome the natural sag over the gap the forward section is raked upwards to form a "launching nose" which is received at the far end on rollers, light enough to be carried across by men straddling the girders.

For the lightest loads gaps up to two hundred and forty feet can be spanned. Much larger gaps can be crossed by forming a pantoon bridge, each section of which can be constructed independently. In pantoon units, pinned together at the bottom only joints at the top are left open so that if the load on any one pantoon makes it sink unduly the top joint is closed up, causing the load to be distributed along the whole bridge.

The simplicity of the construction enables any section damaged by the enemy quickly to be replaced with pantoon sections, which are readily removable to permit navigation. The initial bridge suitable for light tanks may subsequently be built up with additional sections to take heavier types. British Sappers have learned the art of assembly by night as well as by day. The longest Bailey Bridge heretofore mentioned, the pantoon bridge in Burma across the Chindwin near Kaiewa, was thus constructed by night as well as by day utilizing lorry headlights. Sections of this twelve hundred-and-fifty foot bridge were built independently and then floated half a mile to a selected site. Transport of material from factories in Britain, the U.S.A. and India, then three hundred miles across Burma from rail head was a notable feat of British organization.

Several hundred Bailey Bridges have already made a notable contribution to Allied victories in Tunisia, Italy, France, the Low Countries and Burma. Military authorities of all nations have accorded this British invention the highest praise. Montgomery says, "Quite the best thing in that line we have ever had."

Results Of Diphtheria Survey

The results of a diphtheria survey conducted by Immunization Division of the Health League of Canada for the years 1934 to 1943 inclusive, reveal some interesting facts which are not entirely complimentary to this country, and show a need for improvement. The survey pointed out that in some parts of the country effective efforts to combat the disease were successful, but there still remained some spots which hurt the nation's record as a whole. From 40 reporting cities for 1934 there were 1,073 cases revealed and 74 deaths, as compared with 1,100 cases and 81 deaths for 44 cities in 1943—no appreciable change in the ten year period covered by the survey. War-jammed Halifax had the darkest record. In 1943 the city reported 522 cases and 21 deaths, compared with 77 cases and four deaths in 1934. War and diphtheria in Halifax seem to go hand in hand, because in the first four years of the war there were 2,092 cases reported and 69 deaths, compared with only 225 cases and 20 deaths in the four years immediately preceding the war.

Other larger centres across the Dominion reported fewer cases generally but the number of deaths remained about the same, although it was noted Vancouver and Ottawa showed considerable improvement. The Health League in calling the attention of the public to the diphtheria and whooping cough situation, stresses the incidence of both diseases was far too

high. A continuous educational program directed towards immunization against these diseases would go a long way in improving the situation.

Notes By The Way

Major Richard Lloyd George, eldest son of Earl Lloyd George, has taken the current title Viscount Glynedd. According to the "Gazette" of the British Isles, Glynedd is the name given to "ancient territory nearly identical with North Wales."

Much will be made of the fact that there are now several hundred girls and women out of work in the Saar Basin. Actually, of course, there is no reason for them to be idle. They are unemployed simply because they are "choosy" about their jobs. If anyone doubts, that let him try to find a woman to do any kind of housework. — Windsor Star.

Someday the Germans may be able to prove they think a man is a member of the same human race, that they are not out to run the world. Until then handshakes and paly-walky stuff and Stripes, army newspaper, on fraternization.

Hitler tries desperately to lift German hopes by predicting that the Allies will become weary of the struggle. He has been wrong many times, but never more so than when he essays to judge Allied morale. — Hamilton Spectator.

Virginia von Lamps, a Red Cross worker from Yonkers, N. Y., was trying to deliver doughnuts through a very touchy spot of front-line, where she was held as a prisoner of war. She got herself out of one of the tightest situations she will probably ever be in by repeating on the last year's Brooklyn Dodgers line-up. Here we declare, is American womanhood at its best. — Christian Science Monitor.

A prisoner at Birmingham Quartermaster's quarters, a free lance was told to choose from the barbers sitting in front with their backs to the wall. The Recorder being announced the name of the counsel, and when he got to "Mr. Churchill" the accused man immediately stopped him. "That name is good enough for me," he said, and Mr. A. R. Churchill took the defence. The man, charged with the murder of a woman, was freed after two years.—London Daily Mail.

Little notice has been taken of Britain's new modern highway through Trans-Jordan from Damascus to the north, and the Red Sea. The highway bypasses Palestine, a potential British market, and enables much Middle East commerce to reach the Red Sea without using the Suez Canal, thus saving the British the cost of the Suez Canal. The British are currently developing the port of Akaba, which has a deep water anchorage for a large ship. A branch pipeline will be built to it from a Middle Eastern oil field.—Newsweek Magazine, New York.

The British have done it. Just as we feared all along they have outsmarted us. They knew that sooner or later, with their greater experience in such matters, they would pull the wool over our eyes and we would wake up some morning to find ourselves at a terrible disadvantage in the post-war world. The British have devised a more insidious plan than any we have found in any newspaper. The Deal or otherwise, it isn't fair. It's rank imitation and more. The agent is SWOODCOTT.

A pair of silk stockings costs \$1.00 in China. If you invite your girl to dinner at a restaurant, with a little rickshaw ride between restaurant and theatre, you're in for a bill of \$100.00. But, of course, of the Chinese dollar. But even the cost of a pair of silk stockings for your friend will cost \$50 in Canadian money, \$100 in U.S. dollars, and the movie tickets \$20. This is inflation. Inflation can occur in any country which war puts in the hands of the people more money than they need for the available goods—it can occur unless controls are introduced to take care of abnormal situations. Price control in Canada was instituted for one purpose; to keep as low as possible the cost of merchandise bought every day. It is in your own interest to buy only at ceiling prices or lower. It is in your own interest to buy only your rightful share of rationed products, to buy only what you need and save your extra dollars.—Montreal-Matin.

Just recently, Sgt. Joe Louis, newly crowned champion of the world, now in the United States Army, appeared in Ottawa as referee at a big services boxing card. Joe's appearance in Ottawa was heralded by big pictures and stories on the front pages of the nation's papers. At the auditorium he was cheered to the echo, sought after for autographs and derby-hatted civil servants vied with each other to shake his hand. That's a grand way to receive a champion, be he white or colored—but for great many people it's an inconsistency. Louis hadn't been champion, he'd be just a plain nigger, even though a patriot. He would have been just the same people wouldn't go near him with a 10-foot pole, if he was a porter. For instance, now they'll boast they touched Joe Louis' hand. —Swift Current Sun.

Toronto is not the only city contemplating a subway. Detroit also has a project under consideration. But while Toronto, as might be expected, is following comparatively conservative designs, and is modeling the project largely on Old London's famed Underground, Detroit is talking about something much more startling. In fact it would seem that the engineers of that city must have been studying the comic strips. The proposed Detroit system would be different from any underground now in existence. Instead of the orthodox trains there would be a broad steel and rubber conveyor belt carrying seats on endless lines of sled-like conveyances travelling at a constant 30 miles an hour. Naturally you couldn't casually hop on or off such a conveyance, so there is a boarding belt travelling alongside. The passenger steps on this, holds a hand rail while it gains

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

KILLING AN EAGLE

Sir,—Apropos of the shooting a few days ago of a bald eagle which had been caught alive in a trap near Kensington, the following may be of interest. Five years ago in November last an eagle was seen soaring over the fields at Murray River. An enterprising boy baited a fox trap with fish with the result that the eagle was captured unhurt, both feet being held securely in the jaws of the trap. The bird was kept through the winter in a large barn where it had freedom to fly about. It was provided by its captor with plenty of water and with fish, chiefly fresh herring.

On 23rd June, 1940 the bird was liberated. The occasion was a happy and interesting one for the neighbourhood. The eagle had been banded with a leg band obtained from the Biological Department at Washington, D. C., bearing a registered number so that information could be sent to Washington should the bird be killed or again captured. A ten page booklet or pamphlet with information and descriptive material about eagles had been prepared and was distributed among the school children of the neighbourhood and their parents who had been invited and gathered for the event on a Sunday afternoon. Those witnessing the liberation numbered several hundreds. The eagle was banded in the neighbourhood for some days afterwards, but eventually it returned to its former habits and was probably captured again. It is still alive. Had its capture been reported the information would have been forwarded to the nearest police here. Eagles are rare visitors to this Province but are occasionally seen over Murray River. The birds live almost entirely on fish and are harmless. Mr. R. W. Tufts, Chief Migratory Bird Officer for the Maritime Provinces, writing of eagles, states: "Because of their rarity; their beauty; their impressive size; and their general harmlessness they are all deserving of protection; and I hope the time is not far off when all the Provinces in the Dominion, and we in this State, will place this bird on the continuously protected list for the reasons which I have listed above."

I am, Sir, etc.

W. E. BENTLEY, Vice-President, S.P.C.A.

Volcano Bombs

(Canadian Press) The R.A.F. in this sixth year of war is dropping upon Germany the world's largest explosive missile, 11 inches in diameter. When each Volcano bomb strikes, it is as though a full salvo from the guns of a battleship were hitting the target. But experts of the British Information Council say that the devastation created by explosion of one Volcano bomb probably would be almost entirely neutralized by the 35,000-ton King George V. They point out that the destructive power of a Volcano bomb is concentrated; 10 one-ton shells from a battleship would not land in one spot at the same time. Designed primarily for attacks on underground structures, the Volcano bomb is 25 feet, five inches in length and three feet in diameter. It has much greater striking velocity than previous bombs used by the R.A.F. and may be combined with its special anti-aircraft or piercing shells fitted with modern battleplans. Already disclosed last autumn, was developed by an important railway adjunct at Bielefeld, a target difficult to injure by use of ordinary bombs. The B. I. S.M. disclose that the Volcano bomb was first proposed five years ago. Our aircraft then could not carry a six-ton projectile and the plans for the 22,000-pound monster the big "earthquake" bomb, use of which was disclosed last autumn, was developed. Bigger and better bombs probably are being developed, for the R.A.F. knows that one big bomb does more damage than several small ones. To handle the volcano, a new design of bomber trolley and hoisting tackle had to be employed. It takes a crew of six men 30 minutes to load the bomb aboard a modified Lancaster which now carries the greatest bomb load of any aircraft in service. The new weapon was tested by Barron, Wintler-Morgan, M.C. and Sqn. Ldr. J. B. Davies. Mr. Wallis this week was visited by the Royal Society in London.

KELLY'S CROSS PERSONALS

Mr. Gerald Monaghan of Bonshaw, a recent visitor to John P. Carragher's. Mr. Cecil Sturdy left recently for Halifax to join His Majesty's forces. Messrs. Louis Kelly, James and Cecil Murray were recent visitors to Charlottetown on business. Miss Blanche Murray spent the week-end at her home in Emyvale. Mr. Lenius McManus was a weekend visitor to Emyvale. Mrs. Emmett Sturdy made a business trip to the city. Mr. George Monaghan spent a few days at his home in South Melville.

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The Poet's Corner

SAND DUNES Sea waves are green and wet. But up from where they die, Rise others vaster yet, And those are brown and dry. They are the sea made land To come at the fisher town, And bury in solid sand The men she could not drown. She may know eave and cape, But she does not know mankind If by any change of shape She hopes to cut off mind. Men left her a ship to sink, They can leave her a hut as well; And be but more free to think For the one more cast-off shell. —Robert Frost.

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NOTICE is hereby given that TOPAZ LIMITED intends to make application to the Honourable the Secretary of State of Canada for leave to surrender its charter for cancellation in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 of The Companies Act, Canada. CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., March 16th, 1945. (SGD.) W. A. G. KELLY, Assistant Secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING Potato Growers' Association

QUEEN SQUARE SCHOOL HALL ENTRANCE FROM SYDNEY STREET THURSDAY, MARCH 22nd 2 P.M. and 7:30 P.M. The Annual Meeting of the P. E. I. Potato Growers' Association for the transaction of general business will be held in Queen Square School Hall. Any potato grower interested in this Organization is welcome to attend and take part in the meeting. 7:30 p. m. Public Educational Meeting open to growers, shippers and all interested. There will be an open discussion on any phase of the potato industry that may come up. It is hoped to have an up-to-date technician film now being prepared, showing various stages of potato production in Canada. The potato industry is of vital importance to this Province. It is in your interest to be present at one or both meetings.

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