THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER, 4, 1939.

The Government's Duty

It is well, says the Winnipeg Free Press, to have the promise that the public will be told more about war activities at Ottawa. The Government needs the strong support of all the people of Canada, and one way to obtain it is to take the public into the Government's confidence just as far as possible. This is not to be regarded as an incidental duty, but it is something in which the Government should take direct interest. It is the way to secure the maximum co-operation in Canada's war effort.

Moreover, says our Winnipeg Liberal contemporary, it is for the Government to remember that the extraordinary powers that have been given it for meeting this crisis do not lessen its accountability to the people. The greater and more serious the purpose in giving the Government almost unlimited power, the greater the public desire to know that the purpose is being fulfilled.

Reitz Doesn't Forget

South Africa's war-time liaison Minister to London is a Boer, Colonel Deneys Reitz, who holds the portfolio of Minister of National Affairs in the South African Government. Just before sailing for London, he told why he joined the revolt against Premier Hertzog, which brought South Africa into the war with General Smuts.

"Speaking as one of the older Afrikaner stock, as an old Republican who for three years fought against the British and sooner than submit to British rule went to Madagascar as an exile, and as the son of a former President," said Colonel Reitz, "I feel that if South Africa had remained neutral in this war we would have been shamed in the face of the world. The British treated us with greater generosity than has been shown by any other nation toward a race beaten in war. I have not forgotten that.

"If General Hertzog's neutrality motion had been accepted by Parliament, it would have been on the Afrikaner vote, and we Afrikaners would have been shamed before the world."

This is a convincing reply to Nazi propaganda with regard to the alleged injustic of British rule in South Africa.

Senate Vacancies

No fewer than twelve vacancies exist in the Senate and according to the Ottawa correspondent of the *Montreal Star*, Premier Mackenzie King intends filling a few of them between now and the opening of Parliament in the middle of January. It is understood, however, that none of the appointments to be made soon will embrace members of the House of Commons. Applicants from this quarter will have to await dissolution of the 18th Parliament later on next year, as the Government has no intention of inviting more by-elections.

Conservatives will still hold a majority in the Senate, even after all the vacancies have been filled by Mr. King's appointees. The present standing is 52 Conservatives, 32 Liberals. At the moment there are five vacancies in Quebec Province, four in Ontario, and one each in Alberta, Manitoba and Nova Scotia.

Commoners thought likely, in due course, to go to the Senate are Arthur Beaubien, of Provencher, Manitoba; J. Fernand Fafard, of Montmagny-I'Islet, Quebec; Hon. J. C. Elliott, former Postmaster-General, of West Middlesex, Ontario, and Charles B. Whoard, of Sherbrooke.

Mr. King has already made seven appointments to the Senate since the last election in 1935. Of those appointed two have since died, Charles MacDonald, Vancouver, and Frank P. O'Connor, Toronto.

Nazis Face Another Foe

An article by Dr. Martin Gumpert, German physician and author, appearing in translation in an American review, paints a dark picture of the physical deficiencies of the German people today. Children's infectious diseases have all increased sharply since 1933, and rickets is appallingly widespread. As to the Hitler Youth, a German doctor openly reported in 1938 that "the registration of foot deformities surpassed to an astonishing extent our uneasy expectations. More than 70 per cent of the young of both sexes had splayed, twisted or flat feet."

University students, presumably with a better-than-average economic background, have been examined with true German efficiency, and a report issued in a medical journal this year states that "the number of students not in condition to meet the sports schedule has doubled in the last two years. In 1935 the number of those unable to meet the standard of physical work requirements was below 20 per cent, while today it is almost 50 per cent." Young factory workers are in a much worse conditon than the undernourished students: "Sports contests between older students and the working youth lead to the unavoidable conclusion that the physical capacity of the students is essentially superior. The athletic performance of young workers is nothing short of appalling; scarcely 20 per cent come up to normal."

Child labour laws have been relaxed, the increase in female labour is "almost inconceivable," and the people as a whole are under a terrific strain. Tuberculosis, in contrast to conditions in every other civilized country, is sharply on the increase, due partly to the lengthened working hours, and to the limitation of the free choice of foods. Although Hitler is a teetotaler, the consumption of alcohol has grown to unprecedented volume. Suicides almost equal the total for the rest of Europe. Quack healing has been given every encouragement.

"The Nazis," concludes Dr. Gumpert, "have produced not health, but sickness. The German people have reached the limit of their physical and psychic working capacity. If no relief comes, Germany faces the prospect of a collapse much more dreadful than that of 1918."

EDITORIAL NOTES

John Gay, poet and dramatist, "Fables", "The Beggar's Opera" died this date, 1732. "Soft as the breath of distant flutes at hours when silent closes up the flowers."

* * * *

It is announced that though His Majesty's legal birthday is on the 14th of this month, no Honours' List will be issued on that occasion, being reserved until the official celebration in June.

* * * *

Lloyd George is of the opinion Britain should have allied with Russia to the defence of Czecho-Slovakia. "Since we failed to take a measure to vindicate the Munich agreement at the time it was first broken, Hitler came to the conclusion that he could trust us never to fight unless we were directly attacked. That is why he marched into Prague in March." Still we had no guarantee that Russia would not have demanded her pound of flesh from us as she has since done from Germany.

* * * *

The British Cabinet have realized, as Prime Minister Bennett realized to his cost and the cost of his party, that radio is no way to put over an effective campaign. There is a lack of personality and personal magnetism in the voice of an invisible speaker that sadly detracts from its force and power. Beside it cannot produce the enthusiasm engendered in a crowd anxious and hungering to be fed with something more than cold reason and logic—the personal touch which a speaker can only give by looking his audience in the eye. So it has been decided that members of the war cabinet will undertake speaking tours to acquaint the British public fully with the progress of the war. Cabinet ministers will take the platform in all large cities. Members of parliament will also speak, mostly in outlying districts. Heart to heart talks are necessary to put the war over and relieve the growing strain on the multitude.

* * * *

While attention is centred now on the mine warfare in the North Sea and Soviet aggression in the Baltic all leaders in Turkey including the President, believe that in a few weeks Russia and Germany may launch a big offensive against the Balkans and the Near East. For Russia it would be a question of taking control over Central Asia and arriving at the threshold of India, and for Germany the aim would be to obtain an outlet to the Mediterranean and have access to the oil, minerals and foodstuffs which Anatolia and Mesopotamia offer in abundance. It is therefore not surprising that far-seeing Turkish leaders are studying the possibility and, with the help of France and Britain, preparing to meet it. By springtime the combined forces of France and Britain and Turkey in the Eastern Mediterranean will be such as to give the Germans cause for reflection, and it seems doubtful whether Germany will attempt this adventure unless there is no other way out of the conflict which she has begun.

* * * *

In telling a delegation from the Ontario Temperance Federation, headed by Rev. Dr. A. J Irwin, Secretary, that there would be no extensive alteration in liquor laws as a war-time measure, Premier Hepburn said he will refuse to permit advertising of liquor in Ontario "as long as I am able do so." Dr. Irwin said the matter will be taken up with the federal Government and efforts will be made to restrict the flow into Canada of publications containing liquor advertisements. "I hope you succeed in that," the Premier replied. Dr. Irwin said Canada's liquor bill is higher than her gold production, but Mr. Hepburn contended the statement was unfair because millions of United States tourists visited Canada and purchased a great deal of liquor, therefore all money spent on liquor could not be attributed to Canadians. Mr. Hepburn pointed out that any municipality had the right to close beverage rooms by vote but contended that public opinion appeared to be increasingly in favor of them. "Suppose we close the beverage rooms early and drive the traffic underground to blind pigs," he said. "Many municipalities and police forces urge us not to close early."

* * * *

According to the Ottawa correspondent of the Montreal Gazette the Government will soon announce plans regarding members of the Canadian Active Service Force who fail to pass their final medical examinations. They will not be simply demobilized from the army without money, clothes or a job. An order has already been issued that no one is to be demobilized until a definite policy in this regard is laid down. What form compensation will take is not yet known. The final medical check, including X-ray examination of chests, is proceeding rapidly and has already justified the expenditure it entails, medical officers say. A number of cases of tuberculosis in the very early stages have been spotted. These men will be sent to sanitariums at the expense of the provinces from which they enlisted. The X-ray examination will result in demobilization of a number of men who do not require hospital treatment but whose health would likely break down in the rigors of army life. It is the problem of what to do with these men who gave up their civilian jobs to enter the army that is now being considered by the Government. The list includes men with heart as well as chest conditions spotted by the X-ray and other conditions revealed by the urinalysis now being done. None of these tests was made in the last war. It costs $100,00 to make the X-ray tests but tuberculosis in the last war cost the Dominion Government in pensions and in hospitalization around $150,000,000. With large potential savings in sight it is believed the Government can well afford to be generous in dealing with the men being sent back to civilian life. Military authorities state that the deferred rejections will not interfere with the efficiency of the First Division. Any men demobilized will be replaced at once with recruits from the Second Division

NOTES BY THE WAY

From the detailed account given by Mr. King it is apparent that vast sums of money will be required and that unusual proceedings are essential. Inconveniences experienced under the regulations of the Exchange Control Board are not of great moment, considering the necessity. The Dominion will have to loosen the purse strings. Here economy is of secondary importance but it means that public expenditure must be restricted in all other lines, as affecting municipal and provincial affairs as well as Dominion.—Toronto Globe and Mail.

Twenty pounds of lead a day, during open season, over a period of many years and in a limited area is a considerable aggregate of this metal. It is not extravagant to assume that the lead deposit at the bottom of many favorite duck ponds or sloughs, or lake margins where hunters have long been accustomed to shoot may actually be reckoned in tons. Hence we have as a problem of wild duck conservation, the poisoning of hundreds of thousands of ducks annually by the leaden pelets they pick up in lieu of gravel while feeding. — Portland Oregonian.

The conference in London will not pass unnoticed by Hitler, Goering and von Ribbentrop, but can they really comprehend the British way? The German ideal has always been the consolidation and concentration of power. That has been carried to a greater extreme under the Nazi regime than ever before. How cou'd the Nazis possibly understand the close voluntary co-operation of the members of the British Commonwealth? How could they understand that the bond uniting the British nations has been strengthened rather than weakened by the complete freedom they have lately attained? — Winnipeg Free Press.

Very much faster than Peter the Great managed to do it, and without spilling blood, Stalin has recovered the use of the Baltic shores for Russia. The treaty imposed on Esthonia made that country a protectorate disguised as an ally—precisely what Irak and Egypt are in relation to the British Empire. Russia will have naval and aerial bases on the islands of Oesel and Dago, a military aerodrome near Tallinn, and the use of its port. Each State may use the other's railways and canals, and the volume of trade is to be increased. Esthonia is tied to Russia as a perpetual ally, but is permitted to retain her capitalistic social structure. The Foreign Ministers of Latvia and Lithuania were next summoned to the Metropolis of the East, to receive similar decrees that will regulate their future Lithuania, which inclines to be anti-German, will be handled with relative kindness, and may get a small share in the loot of Poland, but not, it would seem, her ancient capital, Vila. Her railway system will be used to give the Russians access to the Latvian port of Liau. The treaty with Lativia is believed to be on the lines of the Esthonian model. What fate awaits Finland is not yet clear. Omnipotent in the East, for the time being, because Germany is busy in the West, Russia has used her giant's strength with relative moderation. She has taken all she wanted from the Baltic States, but left them what their ruling class chiefly values, profits and the private ownership of land. Meanwhile, in Asia, Stalin is also on the move: does the advance in Sinkiang mean that he has an understanding with Japan as well as Germany. — The New Statesman and Nation (London.)

The German air forces are striking, and striking hard, in combination with submarines. This, however, was only to be expected, and the public may as well prepare itself for far more extensive and far more serious attacks than any of those hitherto made. While it is only natural that the losses of ships like the Courageous and the Royal Oak should be the cause of widespread regret, at the same time it cannot be too strongly emphasized that no alarmist attitude is justified and that the worst possible thing for general morale is to indulge in hysteria over these matters. Fortunately that is alien to the British spirit; it is contrary to British tradition; and it is unlikely to permeate more than the most insignificant and trivial section of the public. The First Lord of the Admiralty has warned the Empire of what may be in store We know what heavy losses the British Navy suffered during last war. And we also know that it was due to the ceaseless vigilance of, and the wonderful work done by the Navy that the war eventually closed with victory to Allied arms. This time we have to fight an enemy even more ruthless, even more determined to be bound by no sense of human decency or of humanity. Therefore we shall be making no mistake if we steel ourselves to face evils hitherto not within our experience. We shall in all human probability have to suffer infinitely greater blows at sea, from the air and on land then any hitherto known before Hitlerism vanishes. The only way to face these is to regard them as the inevitable penalty of war, the inevitable but necessary sacrifice in order that right may triumph, and to redouble our determination, in the face of each successive blow that we must and shall endure to the end. At such a time as this carping criticism of the British Admiralty and of British commenetal exercise. — Montreal Star. manders by armchair critics is surely a very foolish form of menetal exercise.—Montreal Star.

Shop-Keeping In Pioneer Days

THE STORY OF BEDEQUE'S FIRST STORE

By E. S. D.

From the Day-Book of William Schurman, merchant, "on the Island of St. John," begun 1784

(Continued from Saturday's Guardian)

Combs, rather essential in the days of long hair for all the family, were not charged previously to 1793. That July however within a few days of each other, "fine combs" at 40c apiece are written up in many accounts including those of John Baker, Jonothan Palmer, Dudley Wells, David Stage and Ebenezer Ward. "Cors Combes" were cheaper selling at eight pence in 1795, at one and three (25c) in 1807.

Doubtless a joy of the pioneer woman was the purchase of ribbons. From 1796 onwards there is frequent mention of hair ribbons, narrow ribbons, and——ribbons. One of the earliest ribbon items was a credit sale to one of the Acadians:—

1798 2 yds. B. Ribbon 2: 6:
2 yds. red ribbon 2. 8:

Later on in 1799 ribbon is charged at 30 cents a yard. "Hare riben" in 1800 was 15 cents a yard, and narrow ribbon seven. Still later in 1801 narrow ribbon (it must have been very narrow) was selling at two cents a yard. No doubt while the lady of the shopping-party fussed over ribbons and found how far a sixpence would go, her better half just naturally wandered towards the back of the store to ascertain how far a sixpence would go in providing him with a gill (half a cup) of rum,—and generally there was a penny over. Rum and Ribbons, wet goods and dry goods, how they seem to go together in the early accounts, especially in the ten year period 1795-1805! It's "2 yds. ribben, 1 gill rum," . . . "1 scane silk——1 gill rum," "1½ yds. narrow ribbon, 1 quart rum", or "1 paper pins, 1 gallon rum". Dry-goods accounts are nearly always interlarded with liquor entries. Rum, distilled from molasses, was the universal beverage of North America, and it made no difference who you were in the Bedeque of one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and fifty years ago, you bought and drank it. This is in contrast to the present year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty nine when Bedeque has perhaps more total abstainers than any other community on the Island.

The first account in Schurman's day book is almost unique. Opened with William Warren of Tryon in 1784, it was crossed off as settled without an entry for rum. It must be stated however that a later account in 1795 with one of the same name, either father or son, has record of a three gallon purchase. Between the years 1784-1800 the fiery spirits were sold mainly by the quart or gallon. Prices seemed to vary for different people. In December of 1784, John Lord of Tryon paid 4/6 for a half gallon, at the rate of 9 shillings or $1.80 the gallon, while David Penman paid at the rate of ten shillings ($2.00) for his, except for the gallon he got Christmas day 1784 which was only nine shillings. Rum became cheaper towards the close of the century. In 1791 it was seven and six ($1.50) a gallon, dropping in 1793 to $1.40, and in 1795 it was $1.20, $1.30 and $1.60 (perhaps different grades). By 1800 however it was up to $2.00.

(To be Continued)

The Poet's Corner

FROST SONG

Here where the bee slept and the orchid lifted
Her honey pipes of pearl, her velvet lip,
Only the swart leaves of the oak lie drifted
In sombre fellowship.
Here where the flame-weed set the lands alight,
Lies the bleak upland, webbed and crowned with white.

Build high the logs, O love, and in thine eyes
Let me believe the summer lingers late.
We shall not miss her passive pageantries,
We are not desolate.
When on the sill, across the window bars,
Kind winter flings her flowers and her stars.

—Marjorie Pickthall.

Swine Breeders Attention

Now is the time to guard against

PIG-WORM

By using the most effective remedy on the market.

MACS PIG-WORM TONIC POWDER

It will thoroughly abolish all traces of worms and improve the health of your herd.

PRICE 35 CENTS PER LB.

We carry a complete line of Cattle Remedies.

Gassy Stomachs Relieved

Every person who is troubled with gas in the stomach and bowels should get a bottle of Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture and see how quickly it will relieve all distressing symptoms.

Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture taken at meal time, not only prevents all bad effects from gas, but it promotes the functional activity of the stomach, assists digestion and improves the appetite.

Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture is sold only at the Two Macs at 85c per bottle.

Get Your Bottle Today.

The 2 MACS

149 Great George Street

The Health League Of Canada

A CANCER CURE FRAUD

The widespread mortality from cancer has been responsible for many years for the exploitation of fake "cures" one of the most interesting being a fraud in the United States that shows the perseverance of those who prey upon the gullible. It is known as "the Stroopal Fraud" which recently has had to have Government attention after being under the ban nine years.

The Stroopal cancer cure fraud originated in Germany many years ago. It consisted of three powders to be taken at monthly intervals. When it is considered that many otherwise intelligent country people are still convinced that a calf should be weaned and the potatoes planted at certain phases of the moon and when many City people exhibit superstition in other ways, it is not surprising, perhaps, that the Stroopal idea found acceptance.

At all events, after the business was forbidden in Germany and the headquarters transferred to England, a branch was opened in Chicago and for nearly twenty years it was able to carry on a profitable trade. Most of the American business was directed to Americans of German descent, for much of the advertising was printed in German script.

As far back as 1913 it was known that Stroopal was nothing more than powdered leaves of wood garlic but it was not until 1930 that action was taken against the company. Then it was shown that the advertised "certificates of merit" were utter fakes and the stuff was dangerous to health.

After the importation of Stroopal was barred, it was smuggled into the United States as "metal cleaning powder".

Then the promoters conceived the idea of operating the fraud from London, England, still finding victims in the United States. This year's order by the U.S. Post Office Department closes the Stroopal concern of England to the mails. are now returned to the senders Letters addressed to the Company marked "fraudulent" and postmasters are warned not to issue postal money orders to the Stroopal concern.

Good Times Again In P. E. I.

(D.E. Swift in Canadian Advertising)

In contrast to the past few years. which were dificult times, this fall and winter will probably be the most prosperous for Prince Edward Island since the dawn of the depression.

This may seem an optimistic statement when one hears the reports that the fox industry, for which the Island has been so famous during the past, is in a rather precarious position, and the outlook for fair prices for this season's pelts is anything but good, but Prince Edward Island farmers have seen "the writing on the wall" for profits from the fox industry for some considerable time and have developed a programme of mixed farming, which will prove its worth to them this fall.

Before the declaration of war prospects for fair prices for this general farm produce were good and since the war condition has developed and basic farm produce is in greater demand than ever, markets and prices are far better than even the most optimistic had hoped.

All of these ideal market conditions come at a time when "Canada's Garden Province" is reaping one of its best harvests in years. As the result of a fairly dry summer the grain crop, which is ordinarily fair, has a yield far above the average, with exceptionally good quality. The price to the farmer for oats is about 35c. per bushel, as compared with 28c. per bushel last year. Hay is selling at $10 per ton.

With the exception of the Irish Cobbler variety, there is good reason to believe that the potato crop will be the most profitable in years. The hot dry weather during the month of August affected the growth of the Cobbler variety but the rains early in September were very beneficial to the rest of the crop, with the result the potato industry is in better shape than it has been for years.

One third of the Island farmers have developed good bacon hogs and through the organization of a co-operative Marketing Board are able to place their products on the market with the least possible sales costs and greatest return to the farmer. This is of particular advantage today when bacon requirements are exceptionally keen, particularly on the English market. Dairy products are likewise receiving a considerable impetus in price.

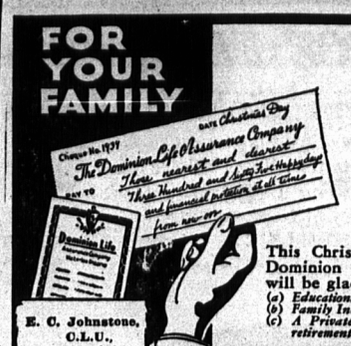
The poultry industry, which affects practically every farm home, and which for several years was neglected in this province, is now being developed to an extensive degree, and is already an important factor in the average farmer's income. Products from this industry are in keener demand this year than ever before, and while the Island is not in a position to reap as great a benefit from them as Upper Canadian Provinces, the return to farmers here is of sufficient worth to interest them in building a permanent poultry industry.

During the summer months private treaty sales of fox pelts were greater than any other previous year, and prices were well in keeping with sales made any time during a corresponding season. With war conditions in Europe as they are today, leaders in the industry hesitate to make any statements in regard to this fall's prices. There is considerable feeling, however, that increased hazards of shipping will eliminate a great deal of the Scandinavian offering from the South American markets, and thus open them to Canadian products. If this is the case, fox pelt prices will probably be better than for the past few years. Local fur organizations report that about 17,000 skins were sold in London during the last month, as compared with 20,000 in corresponding period last year. Prices show very little decline on the pelts sold. In the United States stocks in sales companies and dealers' hands, are reported to be extremely low and this season's offerings, therefore, depend greatly on the possibility of securing the South American markets and the control which marketing houses may be able to exert over producers to stem any panic resulting from the war scare so that ranchers may not give up the business and rush large quantities of skins to market, which would under any circumstances create a very unprofitable condition, will be a major factor in this fall's fox pelts price.

There has been no great amount of building activity in the province during the past year, but local contractors and building supply houses report that considerable interest is being shown in construction of new homes during the coming spring. The lack of a building volume is not an important index to general conditions in this province, and particularly the lack of a volume of building as reported by contractors. In a rural community, such as this province is in the main, a great deal of this work is done by the farmers themselves. Building materials are sold in considerable quantities even when contractors and carpenters are idle.

In general then, both retail and wholesale outlets are confident that this winter the farmer will have more money to spend than he has had for a number of years, and Island conditions in general depend altogether on the farmer's prosperity.

FOR YOUR FAMILY



The Time-ful CHRISTMAS GIFT ...yes, a full-time Christmas Gift, because it goes beyond the "Merry Christmas" greeting of this year alone. A Life Insurance Policy doesn't wear out—it pays out! It pays the means of health, happiness and good cheer for years to come. This Christmas consult your local Dominion Life Representative. He will be glad to tell you about—
(a) *Educational Policies for Children.*
(b) *Family Income to keep your home together.*
(c) *A Private Income for you and yours at retirement.* 422

E. C. Johnstone, C.L.U., Provincial Manager 111-115 Grafton St.

THE DOMINION LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY WATERLOO ONTARIO

IRISH LEARNING ECONOMY LESSON

DUBLIN, Dec. 2—(CP)—The "Scottish" influence has crept into the Eire civil service. In the interests of economy, workers have been asked to use smaller sheets of paper, write on both sides of each sheet and where possible use obsolete forms for recording memoranda. Borrowing of official pencils and use of office ink for filling of fountain pens for home use are being discouraged. An economy committee has been established to survey expenditure in all government departments.

THIS LITTLE GIRL WILL HAVE A HAPPY CHRISTMAS *but*

Tuberculosis is still the greater killer of youth . . . and takes *fifty per cent more girls* than boys between the ages of 15 and 25!

Two modern aids that help the physician detect tuberculosis in its earliest, *curable* stage are the tuberculin test and the chest X-ray.

Your purchases of Christmas Seals make it possible, not only to teach people that tuberculosis is preventable and curable, but to look for early stages of this dread disease among children who *seem to be* in good health.

So from now 'til Christmas, mail no letter—send no package—unless it is decorated with the Christmas symbol that saves lives!

BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS

We dare not let up in our efforts. Chamberlain drops phamphlets instead of bombs to arouse the German people to their danger. These little Christmas Seals are the bombs to arouse the people of Prince Edward Island to their great and immediate danger from Tuberculosis.

For Vitality always use BRAHMIN ORANGE PEKOE TEA

HICKEY'S BLACK TWIST CHEWING

Has that extra something which has made it an unshaken favorite for many years. Don't forget that many Island soldiers look for it when they receive a box of comforts from Home.

10c Per Fig
FROM EAST POINT TO NORTH CAPE
MANUFACTURED BY
HICKEY and NICHOLSON TOBACCO CO., LIMITED
Charlottetown