

Joy oft springs from a well of tears.

Charlottetown Guardian, Two Cents. Morning Guardian, Founded 1887.

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN The People's Paper Read by Everybody Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

It is better to lose time than patience.

CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1940 14 PAGES

Annual Subscription Delivered, \$5.00. By Mail: P.E.I., \$4.00; Canada and U.S. \$5.00

BARDIA SURROUNDED, ITALIANS RETREAT WESTWARD

Newsman Tells Of Ordeal In Drifting Boats Was passenger on torpedoed Western Prince; Saw Nazi Sub from lifeboat.

French Ships Sail from U. S.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18—(AP)—The French freighter Fort De France, 4,279 tons, sailed for Philadelphia today, despite an attempt by the British Ministry of Shipping to hold her in port.

(James Bone, London editor of the Manchester Guardian, a passenger on the British liner Western Prince, torpedoed Saturday, today cables the Baltimore Sun an eyewitness account of the disaster from a northwestern British port where survivors were landed. Bone, who had been sent to the United States by his newspaper to interview the American scene for British readers, was returning to England on the Western Prince. His story follows.)

By JAMES BONE (Copyright, 1940, Baltimore Sun). A NORTHWESTERN BRITISH PORT, Dec. 18—(AP)—One hundred and forty passengers and crew of the liner Western Prince, torpedoed in the Atlantic on Saturday, were landed here today from a cargo steamer which courageously came to their rescue.

Her name cannot be given at present, but it will always be remembered by the rescued so long as they live. Nothing could exceed the skill, resource and complete hospitality which the captain, his officers and crew gave us.

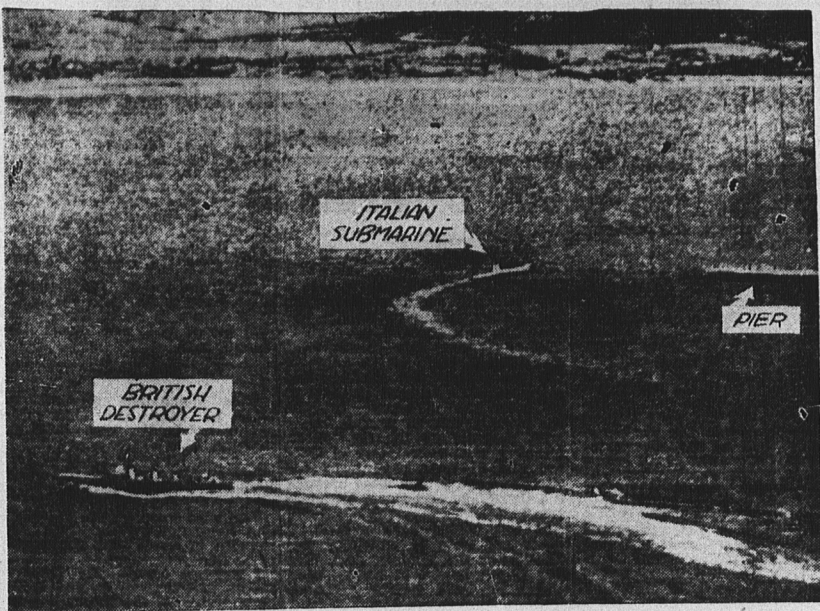
Six passengers and 11 of the crew are missing, including Captain Reed, a Scot of 66, heavily built, liberate, with the look of a man of strong resolution. It is not thought by his colleagues that he intended to go down with the ship, but events and his own sense of responsibility to others brought that end about.

Captain Charlton, a former captain of the Furness Withly Line, who played a large part in the conduct of the departure and the rescue, told me Capt. Reed had handed him his overcoat and had told him to have a lifeboat around later. Captain Charlton thought Captain Reed's intention was to try for a boat or a raft at the last moment.

The second officer, R. F. White, who remained with Capt. Reed, was rescued from a raft before the rescue ship was boarded. Lifeboat No. 3 tried to rescue White, but the rope slipped and he was carried overboard. The third man who remained aboard the Western Prince was Francis, a steward, who had a personal attachment to the captain. He was seen by one of the last passengers off the ship with the purser's key going down to get the Spitfire brand rescued by the crew to bring to safety.

All boats were away within half an hour. There was no rush nor (Continued on page 2, Col 6)

Italian Subs Can Run, Too, Boy And How



Here is a dramatic picture from the western end of the Mediterranean, graveyard of Italian submarines, where the British reported last month they had sunk three undersea boats in rapid succession. This is one of Mussolini's tinfish which got away, ducking under the breaker and into the neutral harbor of Tangier with a destroyer in hot pursuit. The sub was sighted first by an R.A.F. patrol plane and hastily submerged. When it came up, the destroyer, tipped off by the sharp-eyed airman, was ready on the scenes.

Montreal Fur Prices Develop Strong Advance

Some types of Silvers register as high as 53 per cent advance over figures of one year ago.

The Canadian Fur Auction Sales Company, Ltd., conducted its sale of silver fox pelts at Montreal yesterday afternoon. It had commenced on Wednesday morning and the selling continued on 12,000 skins. Comment was extremely keen and advances ranged as high as 53 per cent, compared with a year ago. Every type of skin, except seal, registered advances, and they reached their own.

Over 11,000 of the 12,000 skins found new owners. It was in many ways one of the most successful auctions held in years and clearly shows the prevalent scarcity of silver fox pelts as compared with a year ago. Ranchers throughout the Dominion of Canada, and particularly in this Island province, will take new heart from this report. For some time the Guardian has been chronicling the upward trend of silvers and the lessened quantities available as compared with other years. Reports published from Stockholm, Oslo and London all showed higher trends; and now the principal Canadian forum for furs registers the most encouraging kind of prices.

Here are the details and comparisons with a similar auction held in Montreal a year ago. They were officially released by the Canadian Fur Auction Sales Company, Ltd., Montreal, last evening.

Selected half and three-quarter silvers, 50 per cent, sold; advance \$28.90; unchanged. Regular half and three-quarter silvers, 93 per cent, sold; average \$23.50; advance 83 per cent. Selected full silvers: 88 per cent, sold; average \$37.30; advance 25 per cent. Regular full silvers: 92 per cent, sold; average \$27.55; advance 38 per cent. Inferior: 95 per cent, sold; average \$19.10; advance 49 per cent. Low grades, 86 per cent, sold; average \$8.27; advance 33 per cent. Total offering, 91 per cent, sold at average of \$22.36.

Italians told Armies in Libya Fight fiercely

ROME, Dec. 18—(AP)—Italians were told today that Marshal Graziani's forces in Libya had turned to tactics of trying to "wear down" the pursuing British army of the Nile.

The final victory, Virginio Gayda, authoritative editor, assured his readers, would depend on who occupies the most territory, but on who inflicts the heaviest losses. The Italians, he claimed, are dealing out "ruthless punishment" and resisting inch by inch, and are far from beaten.

The high command, reporting on yesterday's operations, saw the British forces as "worn down" and weakened by losses, and said they had slowed down their pressure. It Popolo sought to reassure its readers with a picture of white Italian troops from the mainland, with motorized equipment, fighting "the second phase" of the battle after Libyan infantrymen were overwhelmed in Egypt by the British forces and driven back from Sidi Barrani.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 18—(AP)—Germany has military resources "far transcending" anything Great Britain can command, Sir Walter Citrine, British labor leader, declared today.

He must have the means in the next few weeks of striking at Germany's war production," he said in an address before the Cleveland foreign affairs committee and the English speaking union.

He appealed for "all the bombers we can possibly get from this country and all other types of swift-striking machines we can get now."

Coming Events

- Talkies—Sours Thursday, L-700-12-17-11.
Talkies—Montague Friday and Saturday, L-530-12-17-11.
Buying poultry daily, dressed only, W. L. Bowman, Hunter River.
Buying live hogs Friday, Dec. 20th, Edwin Bowman, Kay Bag-nall, Hunter River, L-533-12-18-24.
Long Creek Christmas Concert postponed till Monday, Dec. 23, L-562-12-18-41.
Come to Christmas Concert in West Academy School tonight, L-570.
Marshfield School Concert at Marshfield Hall Friday, Dec. 20, L-567.
Canoes Cove School Concert, Dec. 20th, L-563.
Christmas Concert at Norton Wiltshire, Dec. 19th, L-534-12-18-21.
Cherry Valley School Concert in Hal, Saturday, December 21st, L-549-12-19-11.
School Concert Brookfield Hall, Friday, December 20th, L-385-12-19-11.
Come to Concert Margate School Friday evening, December 20th, L-447-12-19-11.
Vernon School Christmas Concert postponed till December 23rd, L-551-12-19-11.
Christmas Concert in Wheatley River Hall, Friday, December 20th, L-240-12-19-21.
Pleasant Valley Sunday School Concert, Monday, Dec. 23rd, L-573.
George Leightner Co., Water Street, buying dressed poultry, all kinds, top price, L-715-12-18-21.
Don't miss Brackley Point School Concert Thursday December 19, 11 stormy Friday, L-152-12-7-18-19.
Come to Christmas Concert, Lot 45 Hall Friday, December 20th. Good specialties. Dance after, L-444-12-17-19.
Buying live hogs as usual for winter months, Albany Thursday afternoon, Emerald Friday until 11 o'clock A.M., A. G. Green, Albany, G. G. Green, Emerald.
Collecting hogs Hunter River district every Thursday and Friday as well as regular shipping day. Parties requiring this service please phone Lemuel Crowsley, representative Livestock Marketing Board, L-558-12-19-11.

London has long Raid free time

LONDON, Dec. 18—(CP)—Bombing raids were into their second successive night without an alert tonight for one of their longest raid-free periods since September.

War—25 Years Ago Today

By The Canadian Press DEC. 19, 1915—Main body of Allied expedition in Gallipoli withdrawn from Anzac and Suvla Bay with only two casualties and the loss of a gun. Goumar's party returned in Crete elections, supporters of Eleutherios Venizelos abstaining from voting.

Spain plans to Rush Ships for Grain supplies

MADRID, Dec. 18—(AP)—A plan to mobilize all available Spanish ocean-going ships and rush them to Argentina for wheat and corn was disclosed today as an urgent step in the government's effort to cope with the food shortage.

Shipowners met at the navy ministry and offered all the ships at their disposal. It is hoped here that the badly needed supplies will begin arriving before the end of January.

Injured by Propeller of R.C.A.F. Plane

HALIFAX, Dec. 18—(CP)—LAC, R. Lougher of Toronto today suffered a fractured skull and serious scalp wounds when struck on the head by the whirling propeller of a bomber at the East Main Passage station of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Unrest reported Great in Norway

LONDON, Dec. 18—(CP)—Unrest is so great in Norway that no German soldier there will be granted Christmas leave outside the country. The British Broadcasting Corporation said tonight.

British Labor Leader appeals For prompt aid

By Douglas Amaron Canadian Press Staff Writer A BRITISH PORT, Dec. 18—(CP Cable)—Hon. C. D. Howe, Canadian Munitions and Supply Minister, today announced the death of Gordon W. Scott, Montreal accountant and financial adviser to the military, who was drowned when a lifeboat from the torpedoed liner Western Prince capsized at the side of a rescue ship.

Mr. Howe, his executive assistant, Col. W. C. Woodward, Vancouver, and E. P. Taylor, Toronto, and 50 other passengers, as well as 99 crew members—a total of 152—landed from the rescue ship at this port.

Military barracks Destroyed by fire

GLACE BAY, N. S., Dec. 18—(CP)—A newly-erected military barracks in this vicinity was destroyed late today by a fire that for a time threatened other military buildings. The one-storey building was not occupied.

Subs take toll Of three craft; Nazi Ship captured

NEW YORK, Dec. 18—(AP)—Submarines lurking in shipping lanes of the North Atlantic torpedoed two tankers and a freighter today. On Britain's credit side was the reported capture of a German freighter.

At the same time, New York shipping circles said the Belgian liner Ville D'Arion, the former American Traveller, of the United States lines, was more than a month unreported and presumed lost. The liner had been ferrying food and materials from New York to Britain.

In wireless messages picked up by MacKay Radio during a four-hour period, these ships reported submarine attacks. The Napier Star, 12,190-ton British refrigerator ship used in carrying Australian and New Zealand beef to Britain, "torpedoed at 1:35 GMT, position 58.58 North, 23.13 West" (about 675 miles west of Scotland).

Dalforn, Norwegian motorship tanker, 9,860 tons, "attacked by submarine, 58.27 north, 18.11 west, suspicious tanker flying Dutch flag in the vicinity."

Pendrecht, Netherlands tanker, 10,745 tons, completed last year, "torpedoed by sub, position 59.03 north, 17.48 west."

Eighteen minutes later the Pendrecht reported the loss of two lifeboats, said she had only one left and needed immediate aid.

The attack came as United States shipyards were being flooded with rush orders for tankers due to an acute shortage of the vessels. More than 100 tankers—British and neutral—have been destroyed in the war. Tanker charter rates in American waters have increased four-fold in recent months because of the shortage.

Fascist Troops Imperilled By Giant Pincers

Important base cut off by British Mechanized Forces; Trouble for Il Duce in Ethiopia.

CAIRO, Egypt, Dec. 18—(CP)—An Italian retreat westward along the Libyan coast toward Derna, 150 miles within the colony, was reported today by Royal Air Force observers while the British and Imperial army closed in on the Mediterranean port of Bardia, Libya, the easternmost base left to the Fascists in their disastrous Egyptian campaign.

Bardia itself appeared surrounded and doomed to fall to the British forces whose armored cars were reported to have cut communications to the west. From the east, thousands of fresh imperial troops brought in from Egyptian desert camps stormed the other end of a closing pincer which imperilled several Fascist divisions.

Reports of British pilots drew a picture of Fascist flight over a vast area—from Bardia to Tobruk, itself more than 70 miles from the Egyptian frontier and the strongest Italian base in Libya, and on to the west from there toward Derna.

The Italian columns were reported under machine-gun attack by British planes. While the offensive of the western desert thus proceeded, a British feint into Italian East Africa was reported by general headquarters.

British forces operating from the frontier of the province of Kenya raided the strongly-defended township of El Wak in the Kenya-Italian border region, killing 50 of the Italian garrison and capturing 120, along with war material.

One Canadian Official Lost In Torpedoing

Hon. C. D. Howe and three Members of Party land safely; Hon. Gordon Scott lost in lifeboat. By Douglas Amaron Canadian Press Staff Writer



SAID INTERNED Reuters News Agency in a dispatch from Athens says that Italian non-commissioned officers who surrendered in Albania stated the Italian troops believe that Crown Prince Humbert has been interned by the Fascists somewhere in northern Italy.

100 Italian Planes Downed in Africa

NEW YORK, Dec. 18—(AP)—The British Broadcasting Corporation in a broadcast heard by the Columbia Broadcasting System said tonight British airmen have shot down or put out of action more than 100 Italian planes during the last seven days' action in Africa.

5 MORE SHOPPING DAYS EVERYBODY TALKS 'SHOP' THESE DAYS

Table with 3 columns: City, Minimum, Maximum temperatures. Includes Dawson, Victoria, Edmonton, Regina, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, Saint-Hyacinthe, Charlottetown.

British buy 16 Steamers

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18—(AP)—The Maritime Commission accepted today the bids of J. H. Winchester and Company, Inc., and Waterman and Company, Inc., both of New York City and both acting as agents for British interests, to purchase 16 vessels for \$3,295,800.

THE CAR FERRY SAILINGS Leaves Bord'n 9:45 A.M. 1:00 P.M. Leaves Tormentine 11:00 A.M. 3:15 P.M.