

MAXIMS
OF A
MERE MAN
A man can avoid making up his mind but he cannot avoid making up his life.

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MAXIMS
OF A
MERE MAN
No society can be upheld in happiness and honor without the sentiment of religion.

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CHURCHILL, EDEN ARRIVE IN ATHENS

NAZIS STRIKE A NEW IN WINTER OFFENSIVE

Campaign On Leyte Closed

(By The Associated Press)
ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific, Dec. 26 (Tuesday)—Gen. MacArthur announced today that the Leyte Island campaign is closed. The island was invaded by the Americans Oct. 20 in the first operation to liberate the Philippines. Japanese casualties in the battle for the island were estimated at 113,291. American casualties in the campaign were 11,217, the communiqué reported.

"Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita (Nipponese Commander in the Philippines) has sustained perhaps the greatest defeat in the military annals of the Japanese army," Gen. MacArthur said.

The communiqué reported the enemy had lost 2,748 planes in defence of the Philippines since Oct. 20.

U. S. Expands Rationing Program

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25 (AP)—A greatly-expanded food rationing program in the United States, will become effective today.

309 Holiday Fatalities In U. S.

(By The Associated Press)
NEW YORK, Dec. 25—Christmas holiday fatalities mounted to 309 in the United States Monday night in the three-day festive period.

Wintry Weather Christmas Day

(By The Canadian Press)
CHRISTMAS DAY brought ideal weather for the holiday all across Canada with a traditional white Christmas in the eastern part of the country as snow fell in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec and Ontario.

F. B. I. Probe Rail Accident

BEVERLY HILLS, Ill., Dec. 25 (AP)—The death of one person and the injury of at least 19 others in a freak passenger train accident near here last night was being investigated today by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents.

Vanderbilt, Jr. Has Heart Attack

CHICAGO, Dec. 25 (AP)—Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., author and lecturer, suffered a heart attack on board the Santa Fe Chief yesterday and was taken from the train to a hospital when he arrived here.

More Motor Car Parts Permitted

OTTAWA, Dec. 25 (CP)—The Munitions Department announced Saturday a new motor vehicle order which permits the manufacture of a wider range of motor car replacement parts, although producers still must give preference to war orders.

Fewer Tires For Civilians In U. S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25 (AP)—Civilians in the United States will get 300,000 fewer passenger tires in January than this month, the Office of Price Administration said today.

Coming Events

*Loading hogs at Bradalbane, Tuesday, December 26th. Alex Macdonald, 15-25-31.
*Buying live and dressed poultry. Paying top market prices. Island Cold Storage Ltd. 11-17-11.
*Card Party and Dance. Kelly's Cross Hall, Tuesday night, December 26th. Lunch served. 12-22-31.
*Next shipment dressed hogs Dec. 29. Book, McLaughlin & Boyle. 12-27-71.
*Box Social and dance in Emerald Hall, Tuesday December 26th, dancing commencing at 8 o'clock. 12-8-31

Allied Airmen Heap Havoc On Nazi Columns

By JAMES M. LONG
PARIS, Dec. 25 (AP)—The Germans struck anew in their winter drive Sunday as they seized Libramont, 23 miles northeast of the French gateway city of Sedan. Front reports said tonight as Allied air power for the third day heaped havoc on the enemy.

The dispatch reporting Libramont's fall—the Germans neared it several days ago—covered action up to late Sunday morning. Today's front reports said there were signs of line stabilization with no broad enemy movement sighted such as the one which touched off the surprise offensive 10 days ago.

The Germans followed up today with strong tank and troop thrusts westward which made some gains against American lines blocking the last 15 miles to the Belgian water barrier of the Meuse.

The Berlin radio said U. S. forces in great strength, bolstered by veteran divisions of the 3rd and 7th Armies, went over to the attack Sunday on a broad front against the southern flank and had forced some German withdrawals.

American prisoners released by their comrades said today their captor officers had told them the offensive's schedule called for arrival in Paris Jan. 17, after which, they were told perhaps "nosevents" will talk peace terms.

While the struggle has been a mauling, bruising one, the enemy has had to pay heavily for his gains.

The tank battles of the bulges has destroyed at least two enemy divisions—an armored one on the Stavelot sector of the north flank, and an infantry division apparently in the swelling combat on the south flank, front dispatches reported.

Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt, who led the Sunday attack, was described as "desperately" in a southern flank's assault which had swept to within six miles of enclaved Bastogne and narrowed the base of the Bastogne bulge to possibly 27 miles in Belgium and upper Luxembourg.

The German High Command claimed both sides had thrown fresh forces into the great winter battle, that its troops had won "further successes," and launched a "concentric attack on Bastogne." It said the situation was "a bit more promising" and "we are confident about the outcome."

As of tonight, the staff officer said, no further broad enemy movements had been reported, although the F. B. I. was called in after reports that a broken rail had caused two cars of the southbound northwestern railroad "Vielva" to tumble over an embankment as it headed toward Chicago from Minneapolis. A seven-foot piece of the rail could not be found, Sheriff Fred Smith and Coronor Floyd Atkins of Boone County, Ill., reported.

Two other cars of the 15-car train, also left the rails but did not overturn.

While earlier reports had indicated at least four persons died in the accident, Coroner Atkins listed the only fatality as that of Mrs. Anna Quirk of Beloit, Wis. She was pinned beneath one of the cars, and it was necessary to use acetylene torches to recover the body.

Railway Conductor Killed By Train

HALIFAX, Dec. 25 (CP)—William Foster of Kentville, N. S., a Dominion Atlantic Railway conductor, was killed instantly today at suburban Armadale station as he was getting off a train. He was struck by the C. N. R.'s outgoing Maritime Express as he stepped from the D. A. R. train.

Christmas In The Far North

OTTAWA, Dec. 25 (CP)—That super-salesmen who is supposed to have sold ice cream to Eskimos may be a myth, but a report on the Christmas festivities in the Arctic Circle area records how ice cream was served as a dessert in at least one lonely outpost.

Included in radio reports on how Yuletide was spent in the shadowy winter of the top of Canada was an item from ice-fringed Nottingham Island—200 miles south of the circle and situated where Hudson Bay joins Hudson Strait.

Outside the sky was splashed with the beautiful hues of the northern Lights and inside the post, the Government radio crew and friends entertained the Eskimos with their favorite big and reel music, after which the company sat down to eat a meal that included ice cream—presumably made on the spot.

War Situation Last Night

By Kirke L. Simms, Associated Press War Correspondent

The war news from Europe on Christmas Day held two elements that helped brighten the Yuletide Season on United Nations home fronts. In the west the German counter-attack across Belgium and northern Luxembourg had spent its first force. Front line observers read the relative lull as a sign that the Germans were regrouping for another lunge; but battle momentum once lost is hard to regain.

Portents were even more encouraging in the southeast. The battle of Budapest was close to its end. A vast Russian pincer attack had all but throttled Budapest's last communications westward and the twin drive on Vienna up both banks of the Danube was taking definite shape. It is a fair deduction that the uncertain breathing space gained at high cost in the west did little to abate the apprehension with which German high command watched the evolution of Russian strategy in Hungary and Latvia—and above all on the still ominously quiet Polish front.

That the moment is close at hand for rested Russian armies of the centre astride the short road to Berlin to join in the attack German military experts cannot seriously doubt.

What happens in the east, particularly in Poland, within the next week or two could go far toward shaping events in the west. The savage but risky German counter-attack between the Roer and the Moselle has attained its first objective—bringing the Allied advance toward the Rhine in the Aachen bulge to a halt and diverting much of the American 3rd army from the Saar Basin offensive.

There has been no hint of Allied withdrawals on either stalled attack front, however, to cope with the German power drive between them. A critical decision must soon confront the German commander in progress northward and east commencing on the Aachen bulge probably is traceable to his necessity of diverting troops from offensive to defensive action. He must hold open the neck of the great sack in Belgium into which he has poured such strong forces.

The Nazi commander must decide whether to attempt to hold the Belgian bulge almost to the Meuse as a leverage to keep the Allied offensive north and south of it in continuous check, or to withdraw again within Siegfried Line defences from which the ally was started. To hold that ground securely more troops must be committed in the sack. Even to attempt withdrawal would require a massing of troops to keep the dangerous neck open against American 3rd army punching from the north and 3rd army attacks from the south.

Fellow Firemen Extend Warm Welcome Home to Column Officer Stewart

Amid the blowing of horns and the ringing of bells, Column Officer Stewart was escorted to his home at 11:20 last Saturday night. He was met on Elm Avenue by the City Fire Department which escorted him to the base of the fire station where he was tastefully decorated for the occasion.

On the platform to which Column Officer Stewart was escorted was City Councillor W. R. LePage, chairman of the Fire Committee; Fire Captains Fred Pickard and H. Jewell, and Lieut. J. A. Walker.

Coun. W. R. LePage opened the program in an address warmly welcoming Column Officer Stewart back to his native city. Other speakers were Captains Pickard and Jewell and Lieut. Walker.

The program was presided over by Fire Chief Angus MacEachern, then briefly reviewed Column Officer Stewart's career with the local fire department and, on behalf of the fire department, called for three rousing cheers for his guest.

Column Officer Stewart, previously enlisted for overseas duty in the Canadian Fire Fighting Corps, had been Captain of the local fire department for several years. He did splendid fire-fighting service in England, especially in Southampton and Portsmouth, in which latter city he had seen as many as 135 fires raging at one time. Only the decline of the Luftwaffe's striking power prevented the Canadian Corps from going to France. With the disbandment of the Corps, its members are being sent back to Canada. Several of the vanguard returned to Canada recently with Column Officer Stewart at their head.

Red Drive Closes Grip On Budapest

(By The Associated Press)
LONDON, Dec. 25—The Red Army drove to the western city limits of Budapest today, cutting the last railway escape routes westward from the Hungarian capital, which was within 10 miles of encirclement.

A Soviet communiqué, announcing these successes, also reported a continued Red Army surge westward in southern Czechoslovakia along the Iron (Garam) River in the vicinity of Leva (Levice) in a drive towards Vienna and Bratislava, now less than 98 and 65 miles distant, respectively.

Pravda In Review Of Western Front

MOSCOW, Dec. 25 (AP)—In a lengthy review of the German counter-offensive on the Western Front, the newspaper Pravda took the line today that Gen. Eisenhower would deal with the situation, and gave the impression of every confidence in the Western Allies.

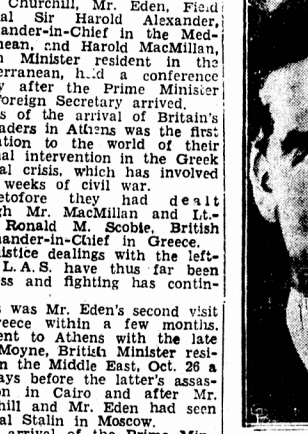
Dramatic Move To Settle Civil Strife

ATHENS, Dec. 25 (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Secretary Eden have arrived in Athens in a dramatic attempt to settle the Greek crisis, it was announced tonight.

A political conference was convened for Tuesday to which delegates of the E.L.A.S.—the left wing group which has been fighting British forces—had been invited.



PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL



ANTHONY EDEN

Will Visit Fighting Zones In Europe

LONDON, Dec. 25 (CP Cable)—Col. Alford Brooks, Progressive Conservative member of the Canadian House of Commons for Royal, N.B., and R. Finlayson, of Winnipeg, adviser to John Bracken, national leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, arrived Friday in the United Kingdom.

Col. Brooks and Mr. Finlayson, Manitoba delegate to the National Progressive Conservative Committee, will visit the fighting zones after a short stop in London.

Heavy Snowfall On Italian Front

ROME, Dec. 25 (AP)—A heavy Christmas snowfall carpeted the Italian front today, confining Italian troops to their positions and making it difficult to probe enemy positions after heavy German artillery mortar and machine-gun fire throughout the night.

Pope Gives Views On How To Assure Peace In World

ROME, Dec. 25 (AP)—Pope Pius XII, in his annual Christmas message Sunday, "welcomed" proposals for a strong organization, "a society of peoples," to preserve peace and another any future threat of aggression, but warned that the world would be "perpetually burdened" were placed on the vanquished of the present war.

"While governments and peoples to whom responsibility for this war is attributed can reasonably be punished, he said, they must eventually be permitted to assume the rights and duties of members of the family of nations.

"The school was built in 1910 and had 11 departments. The cause of the fire was unknown. It is believed to have started in the basement and shot through the roof before the flames were noticed.

Series Of Week-End Fires Cause Damage In N. B.

(By The Canadian Press)
SAINT JOHN, N.B., Dec. 25—Fire destroyed the King Edward School at the corner of St. James and Wentworth Streets early today, causing loss estimated more than \$100,000. Replacement cost of the three-story building probably would exceed \$200,000.

With other city schools already overcrowded, officials faced a problem of accommodating nearly 400 pupils who had attended the school. The children started a two-week holiday Friday.

The school was built in 1910 and had 11 departments. The cause of the fire was unknown. It is believed to have started in the basement and shot through the roof before the flames were noticed.

How Canadians Spent Christmas On Western Front

BY DOUGLAS AMARON
WITH THE 1ST CANADIAN ARMY IN HOLLAND, Dec. 25 (CP Cable)—This was a Christmas of contrasts for soldiers of the 1st Canadian Army standing guard across the flooded rivers of southern Holland and in the forests of the German frontier.

There were festivities almost comparable with the wartime Christmas in England. There were cold vigils in no-man's-land where the night was never silent nor toly. Guns firing over men in slit trenches provided a rumbling background for voices at Christmas eve carol services.

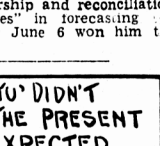
Christmas morning broke clear and crisp, providing weather reminiscent of Canada. But there was no snow, although drying puddles were frozen and the ground was no-mans-land where the night was never silent nor toly. Guns firing over men in slit trenches provided a rumbling background for voices at Christmas eve carol services.

Neither Canadians nor Germans made any Christmas eve move to the long lull on the front and there were reports of raids which occasionally enliven the front.

SAINT JOHN, N.B., Dec. 25 (CP)—One of the two large unloading towers at the Dominion Coal Company's coal pocket on the waterfront here was wrecked by fire this afternoon. Firemen kept the flames from spreading to other property.

BATHURST, N.B., Dec. 25 (CP)—A \$15,000 fire on Christmas eve destroyed the Presbytery of the Church of the Holy Family. Started possibly by defective electric wiring, the fire spread quickly through the large wooden rectory. No interference resulted in celebration of the Christmas eve midnight mass. The pastor and his assistant priest have taken temporary quarters at Sacred Heart Rectory.

IF YOU DIDN'T GET THE PRESENT YOU' EXPECTED, CHEER UP MAYBE IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN WHAT YOU WANTED ANYWAY!



METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE
Toronto, Dec. 25—Minimum and maximum temperatures:
Dawson 23b, 15b; Vancouver 22, 30; Edmonton 22b, 9; Regina 28, 3; Winnipeg 20b, 2b; Toronto 26, 38; Ottawa 11, 19; Montreal 9, 27; Quebec—23.

Forecast—
Lower St. Lawrence: Fresh winds, partly cloudy and becoming colder with snowflurries.
Lake St. John: Partly cloudy and much colder with scattered snowflurries.
Gulf, North Shore and Bay Chaleur: Strong winds with snow, becoming colder at night in western districts.
Maritime West: Snow in north portion with rain or part snow in southern districts, becoming somewhat colder at night with increasing winds.
Maritime East: Fresh to strong winds with snow or rain.

High tide this morning at 9 and tonight at 8:49.
Sun sets this afternoon at 5:24 and rises tomorrow morning at 8:37.
Full moon December 29th, 11:55 A.M.
Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

DAILY AIR SERVICE — Charlottetown — Summerside — Moncton
Leaves Charlottetown 7 A.M. 11:30 A.M. 5:15 P.M.
Arrives Charlottetown 12:45 P.M. 5:45 P.M. 7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY SERVICE
Leave Charlottetown 11:30 A.M. and 4 P.M.
Arrive Charlottetown 2 P.M. and 5:45 P.M.

CHARLOTTETOWN — NEW GLASGOW (Daily except Sunday)
Leave Charlottetown 1 P.M. Arrive Charlottetown 5:30 P.M.

A DEPENDABLE FLOUR FOR ALL YOUR BAKING