

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By Mail in P. E. I., \$4.00 per year; \$2.50 for 6 months
City Delivery: \$3.00 per year; \$2.00 for 6 months

The Charlottetown Guardian may be obtained at
Metropolitan News Agency, 1244 Peel St., Montreal, J.

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

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 1941.

A National Emergency

In connection with the price increase and curtailment in the hours of sale of gasoline, it is emphasized that these measures will not of themselves effect the 50 per cent decrease in gasoline consumption which is necessary as a war measure.

Still On The Statutes

A writer in Saturday Night reminds Prime Minister Mackenzie King and others who may be jittery about conscription that we have already a conscription law on the statute books; a law precise, clear and definite.

Nothing vague about that. The Government of Canada, declaring the existence of an emergency, can call any of us between the ages of 18 and 60 to join the militia, can then call upon the militia to serve anywhere in Canada or beyond Canada.

Mr. Bullitt's Message

It was an inspired speech which Mr. William C. Bullitt, former U. S. Ambassador to France, delivered before the University of Montreal on Bastille Day.

Whatever may be done by those who rule at home by violence and abroad by threats, what-

ever may be done by those who consider themselves the masters of people and are only tyrants of consciences—the man who fights for justice and truth will always find the means to accomplish his whole duty.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Rt. Hon. Ernest Lapointe, Minister of Justice is touring New Brunswick unofficially but in his official car.

One of the consequences of giving Government contracts outside the Island is seen in the reduction of our Income Tax returns.

Fatal drowning accidents at our beaches are comparatively few, and the sympathy of all will go out to the bereaved in connection with Mr. Emmett Quinn's passing at Cavendish, Wednesday.

Rt. Hon. Malcolm MacDonald took the "high road," while the Government reception party took the "low road" on Wednesday, and the MacDonald party reached their destination "before we."

Australia's Commerce Minister Sir Earle C. G. Page has announced that, despite a reduction of refrigerated shipping space for meat to one-third of that provided in the first year of the war, the government will buy the entire export surplus of quality meat, whether it is shipped or not.

George Bemis was arraigned the other day in the police court of Tottenham, a London suburb, charged with violating the clothing rationing rule by allowing his wife to anticipate on her coupons.

As previously announced authoritative sources disclaim knowledge on the subject, but Britons generally would show scant surprise if they were informed soon that the United States was moving to acquire naval or air bases in Northern Ireland.

Jane Austen, English novelist, died this date, 1817. She had difficulty in finding publishers for her books, and full recognition of her genius came in more recent years, though at the time Scott, Tennyson, Coleridge, Macaulay and others were enthusiastic admirers.

"I must say the west is far ahead of the east in its demand for conscription from what I have learned so far," Hon Mr. Hanson states. He predicted conscription for Canada but said "it may come too late."

The revolution in Montreal Civic affairs is bringing hoped for results. A surplus of \$1,086,901 has been reported by the Council's finance director, Mr. Lactance Roberge, in his annual statement covering the city's 1940-41 budget year.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Now we know the inside dope on why Hitler decided to declare war on Russia. The champion of the isolationists, told a Hartford, Conn., American Firm rally, that "Hitler is playing the game mapped out by the Anglo-American diplomatics."

For the future of Canada it is advised that industries be located in smaller centres throughout the country, rather than crowd them all in the cities. It would mean even distribution of population.

The Postmistress at Huntingdon, B.C., reports that she is continually receiving mail addressed to soldiers stationed at Huntingdon, P. Q. Advice has been also received from the Postmaster at Headquarters, B.C., that mail addressed to different branches of the Armed Forces stationed in Canada.

It would be strange indeed if Hitler's mechanized march should be halted by the vast, unyielding spaces of the Russian steppes and the Ukraine. The Red Army is "broken," reported last week that their advance in the Ukraine was slowed up by mud and snow.

Walking through the streets of Belfast a boy looked up, as all boys do, at British fighter plane passing overhead. Then he dashed for a phone box and rang the nearest R.A.F. depot.

Keep tires at the right air pressure. If you change a tire, check the air after a few miles. Change tires from wheel to wheel at least every 5,000 miles. Keep safe tires every wheels—blowout destroys a complete tire.

We have been kept well posted on Germany's use of psychology to undermine the morale of the victimized. The "Hitler" includes false alarms of attack followed by false overtures of peace; panic-mongering by humor and panic-creation by terroristic bombing.

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Dance Of The Meridians

What constitutes the Western Hemisphere and whether Iceland is or is not within it depends as the President said yesterday, on the last geographer one consults. It is a metaphysical issue, on a par with the famous question about the angels dancing on the head of a pin, and with about as much relevance to the urgent realities of war and policy.

It is an indication not of the desirability of delimiting the hemisphere, but of the utter impracticality of the Congressional restriction. The Iceland garrison is going to call for a large force of all arms—not only because we are in honor bound to the Icelandic government to make it strong, but because for the sake of our own men, we must send them in sufficient strength to be impregnable.

Iceland has made plain the urgency of Gen. Marshall's blunt request to Congress to remove both restrictions, Congress shied like a frightened horse at the political difficulties of acting according to its own sense.

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The Poet's Corner

Little snatch of ancient song, What has made thee live so long? Flying on thy wings of rhyme Lightly down the depths of time, Telling nothing strange or rare, Scarce a thought or image there, Nothing but the old, old tale Of a hapless lover's wail.

By what turn of rhythm or phrase, By what subtle careless grace, Can thy music charm our ears After half three hundred years? Landmarks of the human mind About the others are left behind, And a subtle change is wrought In the mould and cast of thought; Modes of reasoning pass away, Types of beauty lose their sway; Creeds and causes that have made Many noble lives must fade, And the words that thrilled of old Now seem hushed, dead, and cold; Fancy's rainbow tints are flying, Thoughts, like men, are slowly dying.

All things perish, and the strongest Often do not last the longest; The stately ship is seen no more, The fragile skiff attains the shore; And while the great and wise decay, And all their trophies pass away, Some sudden thought, some careless rhyme, Still floats above the wrecks of Time.

Iceland

Iceland, occupied by United States naval forces Monday, is a volcanic island plateau covered with glaciers in the northern part fringed with pastures and meadows in the south, and creased with deep fiords that swarm with fish.

The oldest surviving democracy in the world—her National Althing has had a continuous existence since 930—Iceland has been a republic since she severed her ties with Denmark in May of this year.

The 110,000 Icelanders have a strong cultural affinity with Denmark through long historical ties. Before Iceland became a republic, the Danish King served as Iceland's monarch. Despite the country's isolated situation and its barren terrain, its people are comparatively well-educated and Iceland's capital Reykjavik, a city of about 18,000 persons enjoys most of the conveniences of the modern age.

The British are reported to have moved planes and much mechanized equipment to the island. They have built substantial barracks for their troops and have fortified strategic coastal points. More than 3,000 miles of Iceland's roads are paved.

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THE TWO MACS

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Escape Clause

Though Canada signed an agreement which commits her to the construction of her portion of the works in the International Rapids section of the St. Lawrence, and to deepening her part of the ship channel she has reserved the right to wait for a more propitious time than the present before spending some \$55,000,000.

Canada has good reason for imposing such a condition. She has already taxed herself heavily. Her profitless government-owned railways and her eastern seaboard are bound to suffer if the St. Lawrence project is completed.

ATTENTION MR. FISHERMAN

The lobster season is over and we trust it has been a successful one for you. Now that the cod and mackerel are running we to give you this gentle reminder, we are ready to serve your complete requirements, so come in today and get your supplies.

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