

MAXIMS
OF A
MERE MAN
No business can afford the luxury
of silence.

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MAXIMS
OF A
MERE MAN
He prayeth best who loveth best—
all things both great and small.

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SINGAPORE FALLS INTO HANDS OF JAP INVADERS

R. A. F. Scores Over 30 Axis Dive Bombers



Iran's annual spring surprise may spell trouble for new Shah of Iran, former crown prince Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, shown here with Queen of Iran, sister of Egypt's King Farouk, and their child. Shah succeeded to tottering throne abdicated by his father as British and Soviet forces moved in.

1,500 Troops Rescued From Transport Ship

20,000-ton former Liner set afire by Japanese Bombers. Rescue made by small Australian Warship.

SYDNEY, Feb. 15—(CP)—A small Australian warship has picked up 1,500 troops from a 20,000-ton former liner which had been set on fire by Japanese bombers in the Java Sea. The ship was rescued by the Australian warship today in a broadcast heard by NBC.

Forty Japanese bombers, attacked the transport 10 miles from Singapore Island and after three hours of heavy bombing the ship burst into flames. In the confusion, the transport's crew abandoned ship and took to the water. More than 1,500 men were rescued by the Australian warship.

The transport's entire cargo, including a large amount of ammunition, was lost. The warship's crew reported bagging three bombs.

There was no word for more than 20 men who had jumped overboard but lifeboats picked them up. A young Australian officer said that bombs rained for hours but that the transport's crew had been ordered to abandon ship to meet the warship.

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Enemy planes Ambushed; 20 Are shot down

Enemy May Attempt To By-pass Tobruk In Desert War; British Subs Active Also.

(By Edward Kennedy) (Associated Press Staff Writer)

CAIRO, Feb. 15—(AP)—The R. A. F. scored its greatest victory over the battle-scarred Libyan desert, smashing a formation of 30 Axis dive-bombers and fighters near Ain El Gzala, but the Germans tonight were attempting to flank the main British lines before Tobruk.

At sea, submarines sank one large and another medium-sized supply ship and probably destroyed a third. A fourth Axis vessel, carrying supplies, was attacked by naval aircraft which brought the ship to a standstill with columns of black smoke pouring from it. A fifth ship—an enemy trawler—was hit by 15 submarine shells almost within sight of the Axis-held shore, and the crew abandoned ship.

The great air battle was fought over Acroma, only 10 miles west of Tobruk. A squadron of 18 Spitfire fighters from British and Australian pilots ambushed the Axis squadron attacking Empire land forces and shot down 20.

Not one of the enemy formation escaped damage, the R. A. F. said. The desert was studded with the smoking wrecks of 16 Italian planes and five German Messerschmitts. An anti-aircraft battery added a 21st victim. Two Axis victims earlier in the week were confirmed as shot down, and three other planes were added to the growing toll of Malta's anti-aircraft batteries.

On land, the enemy started moving "considerable" mechanized and armored forces against the main British lines between El Mechili and Timimi and it appeared that he might try to by-pass Tobruk. A good coastal road parallels the Cirenaican coast some 30 miles south of the Mediterranean from El Mechili to the Egyptian frontier.

The enemy columns were dispersed so widely that British artillery was unable to engage them effectively, but patrols hurried out to harass the enemy continuously.

The new threat to the second largest island in the Netherlands East Indies, only 250 miles from Batavia in Java, developed early Sunday when three large Japanese transports appeared at the mouth of the Musi river between Sumatra and the island of Bangka.

Netherlands bombing planes immediately attacked the ships loaded with troops as they swung into the channel only 25 miles from Palembang. Direct hits blasted the manoeuvring vessels near Munok, the commander said.

Twenty armed parachute troops, dropped at three points in the important oil region around Palembang from 100 transport planes, probed by fighters, had already been mopped up with the exception of "only a few score of the enemy still alive," the defenders said. The Japanese had light mortars and tommy-guns.

OTTAWA, Feb. 15—(CP)—The Department of External Affairs tonight announced it is taking immediate action to check the truth of a report from Chungking that 5,000 troops of the surrendered Hong Kong garrison—including Canadians—are living in an internment camp at Kowloon under primitive conditions and without proper food.

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War Situation Last Night

(By KIRKE L. SIMPSON, Associated Press War Analyst)

The struggle unfolds an eye-blink picture to allied eyes everywhere except along the blood-drenched snags of the Nazi-Russian front. Disaster after disaster has stalked allied arms from North Africa to the southwest Pacific.

There is one other less sinister facet to the war picture. In Libya the counter attack of Rommel's reinforced legions has been halted short of Tobruk.

The latest of the allied strokes which slipped three powerful and dangerous warships away from Brest through Britain's watch-on-the-Channel at Dover Strait depends on the use Hitler has planned for them.

Their successful dash for hundreds of miles along England's own heavily manned coast has sent new waves of invasion apprehension over British minds. They must weigh that equation anew.

If a veritable German battlefleet screened by the Nazi air force can run the channel for 750 miles from Brest to Heligoland, the crossing of its 22-mile narrows by a Nazi invading host certainly is not impossible.

How the passage of Dover Strait against British sea, air and coastal battery power could have been achieved passes understanding. Britain has been at war more than two years with her first concern always centred on her channel defences. That the British bulldog could be caught dozing on his own front stoop in such circumstances is difficult to explain on any thesis.

CHUNGKING, Feb. 15—(AP)—Five thousand troops of the surrendered Hong Kong garrison—Y.M.C.A. troops—are living in an internment camp at Kowloon under primitive conditions and without proper food, Arnold Vaught of the International Friends' Mission reported today.

Vaught is supervising expenditure of American relief funds in China.

"As the troops marched past the Kowloon Y.M.C.A. camp today, Vaught said, 'People who ran to give them some were driven away by the Japanese who threatened them with bayonets.'

"In camp they had no water for two days. There were no latrines and the prisoner were not given any tools to make them. Officers and men were put together and no communication was allowed with the Japanese general."

"They had only two bowls of poorly-cooked rice a day with nothing else. There was only one water faucet for the entire camp and no way to boil water. In the first 11 days 200 cases of dysentery were reported."

Vaught said thousands of Chinese are leaving Hong Kong every day for lack of food. European non-combatants confined in concentration camps are allowed only two hours a day and given little food, he declared.

15,000 Victory Bond Salesmen Go into action

OTTAWA, Feb. 15—(CP)—Fifteen thousand victory bond salesmen tomorrow morning launch a nation-wide drive aimed at raising at least \$500,000,000 to help meet Canada's war bill.

Already many organizations, business firms and individuals have earmarked funds for subscription to this second victory loan and an encouraging first-day response is anticipated, said national loan headquarters.

"Immediate goal of the three-week drive is to borrow from Canadians a war chest of at least \$500,000,000," headquarters said in a statement. "But it is officially hoped that actual returns from the appeal will pass the nominal objective by a sizable margin."

Tonight, G. W. Spinney, chairman of the national war finance committee which is directing the drive, expressed confidence in success of the drive, "because I am sure the spirit of Canadians will respond to the challenge and the need confronting them."

Inquest opens Into death At Georgetown

The adjourned inquest into the death of Mrs. James MacDonald, 67-year-old resident of Georgetown, will be resumed next Friday.

Mrs. MacDonald was found dead on the side of the road leading to Newport, about two miles from her home, Friday morning. The aged lady had been in ill health for several years and her sight, was badly impaired.

Police said she had protested when her son, Emmett, wanted to take a horse out of the stable Thursday evening. However, the boy hitched the horse and left to drive a friend to Launching. It is believed that the woman started on foot after him without his knowledge.

When found, the woman was lightly clad. Dr. A. Kennedy of Georgetown testified at the inquest before Magistrate L. B. Mellish that in his opinion she had died from shock and exposure or probably exhaustion. She had left her home about 6:15 Thursday evening.

Other witnesses to testify were: Two sons of the deceased, Emmett and Frank, Albert King and his companion (whose name was not available last night).

The foreman of the jury was Mr. Arthur Jenkins, Georgetown. The deceased is also survived by a daughter, May, in the United States. Her husband predeceased her.

(Continued on page 7, Col 4)

Churchill Tells Of Loss In Talk On War Situation

Declares faith in ultimate victory is unclouded; Lack of unity only thing which can bring defeat now with United States in conflict.

LONDON, Feb. 15—(CP)—Prime Minister Churchill announced grimly tonight the fall of Singapore, said it was a "heavy and far-reaching military defeat," and in a stirring plea for the life of his Government declared that now with the United States in the war "we are no longer alone."

Broadcasting to the world in a 24-minute speech the Prime Minister answered rising criticism of his cabinet with the declaration that his policies had been based on the United States' entry into the conflict, that "it is what I have dreamed of, aimed at and worked for, and now it has come to pass."

Mr. Churchill did not mention the escape of the German battleships Gneisenau and Scharnhorst and the cruiser Prince Eugen through British home waters last Thursday, a flouting of Britain's cherished sea power, which with defeats in the Pacific, had added fuel to the growing anger against his Government.

He made it plain that neither today's fall of Singapore nor Japan's other quick victories could cloud his faith in eventual allied victory.

Immediate reaction to the speech was that Mr. Churchill had spoken well but had left much unsaid.

"The British public sees eye to eye with him about the great American ally," said one commentator. "But that still does not explain the Malayan disaster and the channel chagrin with all their dreadful implications."

Mr. Churchill spoke in an earnest, unemotional voice. Outside the studio where he spoke the tense atmosphere had been heightened by the news of the disaster in the Far East, repercussions of last week's channel battle and evil portents of the fight in the Middle East.

LONDON, Feb. 15—(AP)—Following the text of Prime Minister Churchill's broadcast Sunday night, nearly six months have passed since at the end of August I made a broadcast directly to my fellow countrymen. It is therefore worthwhile looking back over this half-year of struggle for life—for that is what it has been and what it is to see what has happened to our fortunes and to our prospects.

At that time, in August, I had the pleasure of meeting the President of the United States and drawing up with him a declaration of British and American policy which has become known to the world as the Atlantic Charter. We also said a number of other things about the war, some of which have had an important influence on its course.

Combatant and Benevolent Neutral

In those days we met on the terms of a hard-pressed combatant seeking assistance from a great friend who was, however, only a benevolent neutral. In those days the Germans seemed to be tearing the Russian armies to pieces, and riding on with growing momentum to Leningrad, to Moscow, to Rostov and even farther into the heart of Russia.

It was thought, a very daring assertion when the President declared that the Russian armies would hold out until winter. You may say that military men of all countries, friends and neutral alike, were very certain of this.

Japs attempt To gain hold In oil area

(By Witt Hancock) (Associated Press Staff Writer)

BATAVIA, Java, Feb. 15—(AP)—Determined defenders of southern Netherlands Sumatra fought today a sea-borne Japanese attempt to establish a foothold in the prized oil region near Palembang after cutting down 700 parachute shock troops and dynamiting at least part of the huge refining centre, a Netherlands high command communique said tonight.

The new threat to the second largest island in the Netherlands East Indies, only 250 miles from Batavia in Java, developed early Sunday when three large Japanese transports appeared at the mouth of the Musi river between Sumatra and the island of Bangka.

Netherlands bombing planes immediately attacked the ships loaded with troops as they swung into the channel only 25 miles from Palembang. Direct hits blasted the manoeuvring vessels near Munok, the commander said.

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Importance of Java to the whole Allied cause was stressed by some commentators who said its retention would shorten the Pacific conflict by two years.

"Java can be defended if fighter and bombers arrive in time," said one observer. "Manpower also is needed, but aircraft come first."

Russian Troops Meet Fresh Nazis

Moscow tells of 30-mile advance in one sector.

(By Eddy Gilmore, Associated Press Staff Writer)

MOSCOW, Feb. 15—(AP)—Russian troops driving against entrenched positions of the German army have come in contact with fresh reserves but have advanced 30 miles in one sector, dispatches from the front said tonight.

In many sectors, Russian troops are confronting Germany's basic winter line. The communique issued by the Soviet bureau of information spoke of German counter-attacks in some sectors with the Germans throwing in their first reserves.

The communique said seven German planes were shot down yesterday, bringing the total for the first 14 days of February to 289 against 83 lost by the Russians. Three German planes were shot down "near Moscow" today.

(The BBC broadcast a Stockholm dispatch saying Soviet forces driving through White Russia were within 72 miles of the old Polish frontier and the Vilna district on the southeast frontier of Lithuania.)

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Report British Prisoners ill Treated by Japs

(By Russell C. Landstrom, Associated Press Staff Writer)

LONDON, Feb. 16—(Manday)—(AP)—The detailed story of Singapore's dying gasps remained untold in this Empire capital today as Prime Minister Churchill's brief announcement that the once mighty symbol of British strength had fallen to the Japanese.

How it fell—by surrender or otherwise—remained unknown. Mr. Churchill's own grim announcement, without implication, last night confirmed Japanese trumpeting earlier in the day that heroic British defenders had yielded the stronghold into which British had poured so much money, talent and development.

In measured, sombre words he gave the bare news a few moments before terminating his "black Sunday" broadcast to the world.

"Singapore has fallen," he said briefly. "I speak to you all under the shadow of a heavy and far-reaching military defeat."

A few breaths later he added: "All the Malay peninsula has been overrun."

But Singapore was written off—temporarily in the optimistic qualifications of many—as Britain's deepest humiliation and a blow of great magnitude to the United Nations.

Local man given Honorary office

MONTREAL, Feb. 15—(CP)—Dr. Sidney E. Smith of Winnipeg, president of the University of Manitoba, was re-elected today as president of the national council of the Young Men's Christian Association at the concluding session of the annual meeting.

Col. G. W. Birks of Montreal, Hon. R. P. McWilliams of Winnipeg and D. J. Bonnell of Charlottetown, P. E. I., were named honorary vice-presidents.

Dr. H. L. Keenleyside of Ottawa was re-elected vice-president, while Dr. N. A. M. McKenzie of Fredericton and J. H. McDonald of New Westminster, B. C., were elected to similar posts. W. J. Hastie of Toronto continues as treasurer.

Details Untold Of Singapore's Capture

Believe many Troops successfully evacuated from Island; Security reasons forbid full story.

(By Russell C. Landstrom, Associated Press Staff Writer)

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International At A Glance

LONDON—Churchill announces Singapore's fall.

SYDNEY—Australian troops pour into Netherlands East Indies.

MOSCOW—Russians encounter German reserves, advance 30 miles in one sector.

BATAVIA—Dutch cut down 700 Jap parachute troops.

RANGOON—Battle for east coast of Martaban Gulf nears climax.

SHOOT WRONG PIGEONS

LONDON—(CP)—More than 10 million pigeons trained for dispatch carrying, have been shot in mistake for the common wood pigeon cousin to the crow, the enemy of every English farmer.

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Nazi Munitions Depot Blown Up In Holland

NEW YORK, Feb. 15—(CP)—The BBC reported tonight that a munitions depot had been blown up at The Hague and that the Germans had ordered 30 Hollanders shot unless those responsible are caught in five days. The broadcast was heard here by NBC.

Aussie Reinforcements Rushed To Dutch Indies

Government considers calling home Australian Airmen from Britain for defence in Pacific.

War—25 Years Ago Today

(By The Canadian Press) FEB. 16, 1917—British issued order-in-council compelling vessels sailing to or from a neutral country to call at a port in British or Allied territory. Turkish ships repulsed British attacks near Kut-el-Amara on the River Tigris.

SAD HOME-COMING

Dr. Dafoe Quits As Quints' Physician

TORONTO, Feb. 15—(CP)—Dr. Allan Roy Dafoe's association with the Dionne quintuplets since the day of their memorable birth nearly eight years ago is ending. The little country doctor whose fame grew with that of the babies has submitted his resignation as the quint's physician to Premier Hepburn.

Premier Hepburn said Dr. Dafoe's position "has been made almost impossible by reason of the fact that the children are not allowed to speak English. Although there are other factors this was the chief reason for the doctor's resignation," Mr. Hepburn added.

Dr. Dafoe's comment from his Callander home, near the nursery that bears his name and where the quint's have lived since a few months after their birth in the Dionne farm home May 28, 1934, was brief. "I feel my period of usefulness is over," the doctor said. "I hope I have done a good job."

Mr. Hepburn said he would make a public statement in the Legislature when he receives an answer to a letter to Olivia Dionne, the quint's father, asking for his views.

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TORONTO, Feb. 15—(CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Dawson	6 26
Victoria	33 52
Edmonton	6 28
Regina	28 32
Winnipeg	10 20
Toronto	27 37
Ottawa	12 27
Montreal	17 27
Boston	— 28 40

Synopsis

Light snow has occurred in many parts of the Prairie Provinces and it is turning colder in Alberta and Saskatchewan, while in Ontario it has been generally fair and comparatively mild.

High tide this morning at 11:55 and tonight at 11:45. Sun sets this afternoon at 5:28 and rises tomorrow morning at 6:58. First quarter moon, Feb. 22, 10:40 P. M. Summerside tide 18 minutes later than Charlottetown.

BORDEN — CAPE TORMENTINE SERVICE

Leave Borden 9:25 A.M. 1:00 P.M. Leave Cape Tormentine 11:00 A.M. 3:20 P.M.

WIN BAKING LAURELS use BLOSSOM CANADA THE ALL PURPOSE FLOUR