

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the
Weakest Ink.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1941.

Reconsecration Aftermath

Following a week of Reconsecration services
and speechmaking, during which federal cabinet
ministers gave nightly broadcasts on the serious-
ness of the war situation, it was disquieting, to
say the least, to note the import of two news
items in Saturday's Guardian.

One was to the effect that Labor Minister
McLarty had gone "on a vacation trip to last
about a fortnight, but his exact whereabouts
could not be learned at the Labor Department."

Another War Industry

One ancient plant to which the war brings
much extra business is the British Royal Mint.
Undoubtedly the number of medals and decorations
for valour on the field will increase, as the months
go by, while there is, in addition to this list,
the George crosses and medals awarded to
civilians for acts of bravery and outstanding
patriotic service.

Unsatisfactory

The figures on Canada's export trade in August,
just published by the Bureau of Statistics,
serve to confirm the impression that Canada is
still falling substantially short of the fulfilment
of her commitments to Britain about munitions
and foodstuffs.

Explanations of a semi-official character were
forthcoming to the effect that the scarcity of
shipping was delaying the despatch of consign-
ments which were ready, and that numerous fac-
tories had only begun to produce during the
summer. Hopes were also held out that the later
months of the year would show a notable ex-
pansion in exports to Britain. But the trade data
for August give Canada's exports to Britain a
value of about \$61,500,000, and, when exports
of nearly \$5,500,000 sent to Egypt but obviously
intended for the British army in the Mediterran-
ean area are added, the total is rather less than
\$67,000,000.

Therefore, the expansion of our exports to
Britain during August showed a negligible ad-
vance over the average scale prevailing in the
previous four months and with five-twelfths of
the fiscal year already elapsed we have shipped
to Britain substantially less than three-twelfths
of the amount of supplies which we promised
her. Unless this unsatisfactory picture undergoes
a change in the next two months, the Opposition,
when Parliament reassembles in November,
will be fully entitled to demand an explanation
from the Government, and indeed will be derelict
in its duty if it fails to do so.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A saving of \$70,000,000 has been effected by
Canada since the Government eliminated travel
for pleasure by her citizens to countries where
the Government needed dollar exchange.

Members of the Government, including Mr.
Lapointe, say Canada can provide a million men
for active service, yet our army at June 1st
consisted of only about 188,000 men, with a reserve
of 170,000.

Here is one kind of reconsecration that may
not be altogether popular. Young King Peter of
Yugoslavia has vowed never to dance again until
his country's freedom has been restored. He
announced this before 4,000 persons attending
an officers' reception at Grosvenor House, Lon-
don.

In checking over their lists of imports from
non-sterling countries, the South African author-
ities have decided on a complete cut-off from
Canada on baking powder, yeast, biscuits, bread,
cakes, puddings, pastry, cheese, confectionery
other than chewing gum, and various fish prod-
ucts such as lobster, anchovies, and fishpaste.

At the Chief Constables Convention, Chief
Constable George Smith of Winnipeg said in his
presidential address that the fingerprint method
of identification is being used by the Royal Cana-
dian Air Force and that he would like to see the
Department of National Defence adopt this
method for all branches of the armed services.

Philip Dormer Stanhope, 4th Earl Chesterfield,
born this date, 1694. Lord Lieutenant of Ireland,
where he ruled with firmness and moderation.
His "Letters to his Son" are the best literary
production of the age of Walpole. They are
frank to impropriety, and cynical, but a com-
pendium of worldly wisdom and craft. He wrote
also "Letters to his Godson," but they are less
pungent and more discreet.

Among those to be honoured by Queen's Uni-
versity at its centenary celebration next month
are the Governor-General and Princess Alice,
Rev. G. R. Donald, St. Andrew and St. Paul,
Rev. A. S. Walker, King's College, Halifax,
Sir Thomas Halland, Edinburgh University, Dr.
Cyril James, McGill, Rt. Hon. Ernest Lapointe,
Sir Ernest MacMillan, Toronto Conservatory of
Music, General McNaughton, Rt. Hon Arthur
Meighen, Hon. J. L. Ralston, Mgr. Camille
Roy, Laval University, Dr. Charlotte E. Whit-
ton, Canadian Welfare Council.

The other day in Hoboken, N. Y. the honesty
of the average man in the street was put to a
successful test. The rear door of an armored car
containing open and seven bags of nickels, each
containing \$200, rolled to the street. This hap-
pened: One man got in his car and chased the driver
to tell him Another picked up a sack, called a
cab and drove three blocks to restore it. A cab
driver turned in two other bags. A woman stood
guard over a broken sack. The driver recovered
all except \$2.

Seconded to the Wartime Prices Board from
the Department of National Revenue in Septem-
ber, 1939, Mr. C. R. Morphy, as licensing
officer for the board, has been in charge of the
plan which has already brought Canadian dealers
in coal and hides and leather under licence pro-
visions of the board. Early in the Great War
Mr. Morphy was a lieutenant with the Canadian
Field Artillery. Later he was associated with the
licensing division of the Canada Food Board.
Now he is supreme controller of all we eat and
all we wear.

NOTES BY THE WAY

It is suggested that the new peace
move, if it comes, will be preceded
or accompanied by a German an-
nouncement that the British Isles
of Europe are now in being. This
would be intended to serve three
purposes. The enemy would hope
to suggest to Americans (and our-
selves) that having assured the
peace and unity of the continent,
he had "no further political or
territorial claims" to make. He
would hope to appeal to the prej-
udices of many Americans (and of
some people outside America) who
have been fond of asking why the
European peoples should not solve
their troubles and end their quar-
rels by uniting as the Americans
state and century ago and half
ago. And he would present him-
self with an excuse for insisting that
neutral European countries (par-
ticularly the two remaining de-
mocracies, Sweden and Switzerland)
should stand up and support the
New Order—under threat of course,
of being overrun if they did not.—
The Glasgow Herald.

Rumors that Finland might con-
sider a separate peace with Russia
are not implausible. If the Finns
can induce the Russians to meet
their territorial demands, they will
have satisfied the only interest
they can have in the war, they
are waging. There is, however,
one other point to be considered and
it may well be the one on which peace
hopes will be wrecked. The Ger-
mans will have something to say
about what Finland will offer. It
is the next thing to it. Germany
is estimated to have about six divi-
sions on the Finnish-Russian
front, and to assume that Berlin
would evacuate those troops while
Leningrad stands, or allow the
Finns to go to a Leopold, is going a
little far.— Windsor Daily
Star.

A blitz story from London relates
that a businessman, searching for
traces of his office after a raid was
confronted by a depressing array of
debris. Surmounting it was a colorful
object. He climbed the rubble to
satisfy his curiosity. It was a
loose leaf calendar which had for-
mally been upon his desk, bearing
the appropriate date, together with
the inscription: "An hour may de-
stroy what an age was a-building".
—Edmonton Journal.

According to recent word from
Norway the Germans are appar-
ently making use of the postage
stamps bearing portraits of King
Haakon and Queen Maud, which
they are sending to Norway. The
beginning last summer. The post
office had on hand about one mil-
lion dollars worth of these stamps
and prepared to burn them when
the Germans stepped in and
seized the whole lot, leaving in re-
turn a "receipt". Opinion in Nor-
way is that the Nazis intend to
capitalize on the world-wide inter-
est which has been aroused by the
issues and profit by a demand they
themselves have caused.— News of
Norway.

A plaintive little letter to the
editor the other day showed pitifully
the futility of a certain type of
mind which still, in these hard and
realistic days, lives in an Ivory-
towered Never-Never land. Be-
ginning with "The Great Gatsby"
and ending with "The Great Gatsby",
this gentle well-meaning soul pleads:
"Have often thought it would be
better if the world's governments were
headed by philosophers rather than
by men of letters." It is a good
course, lots of other "philosophers"
had the same thought, including
Plato, 2500 years ago. But govern-
ments aren't headed by philoso-
phers as a general thing. It's like
disarmament. If the great nations
do it at once. But a world with
fifty countries ruled by philoso-
phers and one ruled by a Hitler is
still a world in which an ivory
tower is nothing but a bomb-target.
—Montreal Herald.

A Canadian Commission of five
members under the chairmanship
of the Hon. Charles Stewart, was
appointed in December, 1938, for
the purpose of inquiring into the "en-
gineering, economics, finances and
other aspects" of an Alaska high-
way. Its report is now under pre-
paration. The route is a great
veined 5,000 miles of potential high-
way. It has worked on what is
one of the largest road projects
ever considered in the Dominion.
The route, the right of way, the
posed traffic arteries from Vancou-
ver to Fairbanks, Alaska, ranges
from 1935 to 2240 miles, depend-
ing on the route finally accepted.
Only 200 miles of this distance
would be in United States territory
in Alaska. Hence, the Canadian
Commission has had vastly more
work than the United States
Commission. The work of the Cana-
dian body has been intensive. It
has held hearings throughout
British Columbia and the Yukon
territory, and made aerial and sur-
face surveys of various alternative
routes through the mountains.
and the Yukon territory to the Al-
aska boundary. There has been
considerable controversy in Western
Canada regarding the ultimate
route to be selected. It is under-
stood that the Commission has de-
scribed two practical routes, giving
estimates of the cost in each case,
and also recommending what it be-
lieves to be the most practicable.

A new remedy for spasmodic
stomach ache, obtained from the
purple sheen of coal tar, was an-
nounced recently at the Ameri-
can Chemical Society's annual
meeting here. It is a substitute for
atropine and papaverine, both im-
ported but hindered in their avail-
ity on account of war. The new
medicine is made from inexhaus-
tible American resources. The an-
nouncement was made by Robert
E. Burdick and Dr. W. C. Clark of
C. D. Searle and Company, Chicago.
The new chemical has as yet no
name, except a 50-letter chemical
phrase. It is in experimental use
by physicians in and around Chicago.
Atropine, an old remedy for
stomach and intestinal spasms,
comes from belladonna. The new
remedy, the report stated, has
none of the bad effects of atro-
pine, which dilated the eyes and
that reading is temporarily stop-
ped, raises the pulse, flushes the
face and dries the mouth. The
search for this substitute started
just before the present war. The
irritating material is fluorene (not
fluorine) a substance which gives
the purple sheen to coal tar. In
making it, the Chicago chemists
sought to combine in a new type of
molecular molecule, the good ef-
fects of both atropine and papa-
verine, another remedy frequently
used for internal spasms. Ex-
change.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the
discussion by correspondents of
current events of interest. The
Charlottetown Guardian does not
necessarily endorse the opinions
of correspondents.

A TOURIST'S TRIBUTE

Sir:— I have just concluded my
third vacation visit to Park Corner,
and would like to express to the
people of the Island, through your
paper, my deep appreciation of
their courtesy. Each time I come
to the Island I spend my two weeks
with Mrs. Ella Campbell, by the
Lake of Shining Waters, and I
have, each time, been more im-
pressed by the friendly spirit of
the people, and their eagerness to
make one feel at home. They have
succeeded so well that when I leave
the red shores of the Island I feel
I am parting from a dear friend,
and can only comfort myself with
the thought that some day I shall
come back. Perhaps the following
will express it better.

VACATION AT PARK CORNER

The mornings in rosy glory
Rise from the night that is gone
And the crows fling their raucous
challenge
Into the pearly dawn.
The skies weep for dying summer
The wind sighs for a day
But tomorrow it sings for Septem-
ber
And the dark clouds roll away.

Now the air is like wine, you can
drink it;
The skies are their deepest blue.
And the sun goes down in such
splendour
Like Heaven breaking through.

The Lake of Shining Waters,
Is pure beauty, pure delight
And the sea is a cradle of glory
With its breakers of foaming white.

And the Island is steeped in magic
There's a thrill in every mile.
The red roads, the green, green
meadows
Creet you like a smile.

And its people, match their Island—
Friendly, loyal, true—
'Tis a promise I am making
I'll be coming back to you.
I am, Sir, etc.

MARY WHITELEY
Park Corner,
September, 1941.

Nature's Defences

(Reader's Digest)
Many defence methods and de-
vices used in modern war have a-
mazing counterparts in the protec-
tive measures evolved ages ago by
Nature for creatures of the woods,
fields and sea.
Artilery: The bombardier beetle
carries a cannon—a peculiar gland
in its abdomen—and when it fires a
blast of evil-smelling gas accom-
panied by a bang like that of a tiny
popgun. Its enemies, predators,
ground beetles and birds, retreat in
panic.
Grapples: News dispatches report
that the British have developed a
projectile which upon exploding, re-
leases metal filaments that ensnare
raiding airplanes' propeller. Simi-
larly, the Paramecium, a protozoan
found in ponds, protects itself by
shooting forth a mass of drapping
threads that entangle the foe while
the paramecium escapes.
Smoke screen: To mask itself
from a prowling predator that inter-
rupts its search for food on the
ocean floor, the squid ejects a cloud
of inky fluid under cover of which
it whisks away to a rock-cranny
home port until danger passes.

Camouflage: Of the countless ex-
amples of camouflage in Nature, the
spider crab has the most astonish-
ing trick. Taking cuttings of sea-
weed, it chews the ends to give them
better purchase, then affixes them
among the hooked bristles that grow
on top of its shell, where they take
root and effectively conceal the wily
crab.

Parachutes: The common spider
of our woods and meadows clamb-
bers up a tree and spins out a long
floating filament of silk. The wind
catches the breeze the spider lets go
of its perch and after it has soared
the desired distance it partly reefs
the parachute and thus floats
gently to the ground.
Air combat: As the pursuit plane's
greater speed and manoeuvrability
enable it to overtake the lumbering
hummingbird, the latter drives large
hairs and other manœuvres away from
its nest by darting at them and aiming
its lance-like little beak at their eyes.



THE HEIGHT OF THE
RIDICULOUS

I wrote some lines once on a time
In wondrous merry mood,
And thought, as usual, men would
say
They were exceedingly good.

They were so queer so very queer,
I laughed as I would die;
Albeit, in the general way,
A sober man am I.

I called my servant, and he came;
How kind it was of him,
To mind a slender man like me,
He of the mighty limb!

"These to the printer," I ex-
claimed,
And, in my humorous way,
I added (as a trifling jest)
"Ther'll be the devil to pay."

He took the paper, and I watched,
And saw him peep within;
At the first line he read, his face
Was all upon the grin.

He read the next; the grin grew
broad,
And shot from ear to ear;
He read the third; a chuckling
holer
I now began to hear.

The fourth; he broke into a roar;
The fifth; his waistband split;
The sixth; he burrs five buttons off,
And tumbled in a fit.

Ten days and nights, with sleepless
eye,
I watched that wretched man,
And since, I never care to write
As funny as I can.

—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

WORDS OF
CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY
FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR
"We haven't begun to win
this war so far. All we have
done is to avoid losing it."
— J. L. Ralston, Minister of
National Defence.

Two Islands

(Lethbridge Herald)
Vichy still controls a couple of
islands abutting on the Canadian
Maritimes. They are St. Pierre and
Miquelon, the remnants of the
French colonies in North America,
with a population of 6,500, mostly
fishermen, though in prohibition
days many of them engaged in boot-
legging.
The announcement that Canada
was sending a consul to the islands
is evidence of the importance they
hold in our eyes, for if they were
to be controlled by Germany via
Vichy it would mean a menace at
our front door. Some people argue
that we should seize the islands to
make sure that enemy spies do not
get too close to our shores. The new
consul will be Canada's eyes and
ears if he detects enemy activities
in the islands.
Back in 1700, the French fortified
the islands but they were captured
two years later by the British and
held till 1763 when they were given
back to France as a fishing station.
The English depopulated them in
1778, restored the islands to France
in 1783. They were again captured
and depopulated by the English in
1793, recovered by France in 1802.
The French lost them again to the
British the next year, but the 1812
treaty of Paris in 1814, St. Pierre
and Miquelon have remained in
French possession.

Fugged masses of granite, with
a few small streams and lakes, the
islands have a thin covering of soil
of scanty vegetation. St. Pierre has
a sheltered harbor and a good road-
stead for large vessels. The islands
have been the centre of French At-
lantic fisheries because of their
proximity to the Great Banks.

Dinner With Churchill

(Ottawa Journal)
Quentin Reynolds, who used to be
a sort of Broadway playboy reporter
for Collier's, his headquarters
mostly at the Stork Club, and who
has turned out to be one of the
war's ace reporters, has written a
great piece for his magazine on
"Dinner With Churchill." It is the
story of luncheon and dinner—
summarily at a Chertsey— with
Churchill and his family, makes an
appealing picture of Churchill the
man.

There was Churchill and his
eight-year-old daughter Mary
and Harry Hopkins, and Churchill's
two secretaries, Thomson and Mor-
tin—and Reynolds. Dinner over, and
Mary gone, the men lingered over
talked. He didn't talk war. Instead
his conversation darted back into
antiquity; touched on Greece, and
brought talk of Homer, who went to
India and brought back the Kipling.
Something Hopkins said awakened a
memory of Thomas Moore, and
"from the store of that incredible
memory came stanza after stanza of
Moore." And then amazingly, as
Reynolds says, Churchill jumped to
Bret Hartle, and "he laughed because
the Hopkins, who could recall the
passages he quoted."
From Bret Hartle to Shakespeare.

Writes Reynolds:
It was fun, it was exciting to hear
Winston Churchill recite Shake-
speare. On and on his sonorous voice
rolled. He was acting the part now.
He was Hamlet, and not a word in
the long passage did he miss.
"Not one real poet has emerged
from the war as yet do you think?"
Harry Hopkins asked.
Churchill shook his head. "No, and
very few from the last war. But
there was one who died too soon,
Rupert Brooke. Do you remember
that lovely thing he wrote called
The Fish?"

"In a cool curving world he lies
And ripples with dark ecstasies"

"And further on"—Churchill's eyes
were blazing with enthusiasm now—
those lines:

"The dark fire leaps along his blood;
Dateless and deathless, blind and
still,

The intricate impulse works its will;
His woven world drops back; and we
Sans providence, sans memory,
Unconscious and directly driven,
Fades to some dark, sufficient
heaven."

"And how about these lines to apply
to today?" Churchill chuckled. "Can
you fit them to anyone?"

"But there the night is close, and

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bled with gas pains, sour stom-
ach and heartburn should try
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tressing symptoms.
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ANNUAL MEETING

QUEEN'S COUNTY CONSERVATIVE
ASSOCIATION
Oddfellows Hall, Richmond St. Charlottetown, P.E.I.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2nd, 8 P.M. (Standard Time)

Election of Executive and routine business.

SPECIAL SPEAKER
Gordon Graydon M. P., National Chairman and
Dominion Organizer.

Each Poll is entitled to five delegates. It is re-
quested that each District hold a preliminary meet-
ing at 7.30 in the same hall to select their representa-
tives on the Executive, so that the regular meeting can
begin promptly on time.

A. R. McINNIS, Secretary. P. W. TURNER, President.

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there
Darkness is cold and strange and
And the secret depths are whisper-
less . . .

"That was a poet", Churchill said
softly.
"Ah, yes. And he, you remember",
he said sharply, "was killed by the
Hun."

A footnote to this tale by Queen-
tin Reynolds.
When Rupert Brooke was killed,
and English poetry robbed of one of
its authentic voices, many disting-
uished literary figures wrote moving
tributes. But one tribute, more mov-
ing and eloquent than the others—
it was later used as foreword to
Brooke's volume of poems—caught
the nation's attention. It was signed

simply "W. S. O."
The writer was Winston Churchill

EXAMINATION

Fitting and Supplying Glasses
Etc.

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