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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1941.

A Black-Letter Day

Yesterday was a black-letter day in British naval annals. It was one of the days which Prime Minister Churchill warned us must be expected before victory is achieved.

Fortunately there is no evidence of truth in a statement attributed to Japanese authorities, announcing they had "reason to believe" that the King George V also had been sunk in the same engagement.

The Prince of Wales and the Repulse were the sixth and seventh major losses by the Royal Navy since the start of the war.

Coupled with yesterday's bad news was the further announcement of one of our own Canadian corvettes, the Windflower, sunk in a collision, with twenty-three members of the crew missing.

At this moment, we may be assured, Allied naval and air forces are scouring the southern seas for enemy craft, and any hour may bring news of an engagement which may completely reverse the tables so far as Japan is concerned.

Meanwhile it is reassuring to note the progress of the war in other areas. The Nazis are still being pushed back in Libya, while the Russians, holding air superiority on the central Moscow front (some reports say on the whole Soviet front) continue to improve their positions and have recaptured the important rail centre of Tikhvin, southeast of Leningrad.

Kipling And Churchill

One can re-read Kipling today much more profitably than in the years of peace, pacifism and appeasement. The great poet laureate of Empire has indeed a vital message for us in these times of stress and sacrifice.

Post-War Plan In Progress

The United States and Great Britain, have made "substantial progress" toward the completion of an important agreement on the broad economic principles that they intend to follow at the end of the war, in negotiations now going on,

mainly in London, to reach a "master agreement" on the settlement of Britain's lease-lend obligation, it is understood, the United States has asked the British Government to cooperate in post-war plan to remove restrictions on the free flow of international trade and to give all nations fair access to essential raw materials controlled by the British Empire.

This is interpreted in authoritative quarters as meaning that the United States is asking Britain, as part of the lease-lend agreement, to reconsider our Empire preferential tariff program, as defined by the Ottawa Agreement of 1932, in an effort to promote international trade and international peace.

Two other vital factors, however, are believed to have been stressed in a United States memorandum to London: (1) that the United States was not asking Britain and her Empire to make economic concessions without an assurance that the United States would make similar concessions, and (2) that the United States recognized that the aims of this economic plan could be realized only after a transitional period in time of peace.

This "Declaration of Intentions," which both governments are expected to make public within two months, is divided into two parts. The first deals with the way in which the United States will be repaid for the lease-lend material and the second is the post-war plan that is expected to form the basis of the economic peace.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Mails are again slowing up across the Atlantic, better write weekly, the boys are hungering for news from home.

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers in Canada at the end of October amounted to 538,763 compared with 623,032 on the corresponding date last year.

The accession of King George VI this date 1936; His Majesty was called unexpectedly to ascend the throne on the abdication of his Royal brother, Edward VIII, who preferred to marry "the woman he loved" to continuing to serve his people as King.

When Miss Sarah Churchill (Mrs. Vic Oliver), 27-years-old actress daughter of the British Prime Minister, joined the W.A.A.F. recently, she sacrificed two film contracts worth \$20,000.

Under present circumstances in Canada, and in every country opposing totalitarianism, the one vital principle is that our every act help defeat the common enemy, says "The Printed Word."

Edinburgh is to be "dry" on New Year's Day, not by request of teetotal advocates but at the instance of "the trade" itself. The revolutionary order, making Edinburgh District dry—officially at least—on Jan. 1 was the result of a suggestion by local trade associations, which recommended that such a step be taken partly because there is a shortage of liquor stocks and partly because the staffs of pubs and other establishments have been depleted by war work.

Discussing the C. C. F. opposition to Mr. Meighen's candidature in South York, the Montreal Gazette has this pertinent comment: The C. C. F. can scarcely be counting upon Liberal support, enough of it to defeat Mr. Meighen, if official Liberal abstention from the election is an honest gesture, as it must be presumed to be.

In the minds of many people, the idea of conscription is just grabbing off all young men of eligible age and physical fitness and throwing them into the army. It is an illusion which is hard to crack down on. It is far removed from what national selective service is, the allocation of manpower in the right place and where the best service can be given.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The motive of frightfulness is understandable enough. Destroy a nation's courage and fortune by every form of physical, mental and moral torture that you can devise; go to every extreme of brutality, intimidation, and double-dealing, and you will come to victory by the necessary route. That, at least, is the idea. But you must have the courage of your convictions.

As the shadow of the Nazi legions stretches further southeastward into Asia the 400,000,000 people of India begin to receive attention. More than two months ago Mr. Churchill indicated that the Atlantic Charter did not apply to them.

The United States, and to some extent Canada, is beset with strikes in defence industries or industries of defence work, fomented by union leaders who are taking advantage of the emergency to apply the screw to employers and to the governments.

Sir—There was one regiment that took the fire shock of the attack on Calais before the defence was fully organized by the various Rifle Regiment. I refer to the Searchlight Regiment, R.A., which was present. Sent to take over the A.A. gun emplacements and first and second batteries carried out their job with steadfast heroism and then, when the defence was broken, they went into Calais itself and took up positions as infantry—these men, or rather youths, with no infantry training what-so-ever, and very little experience in firing a rifle.

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WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A Thought A Day For A People At War
We can have one great object and one only—to re-invigorate the war effort of our country in every sphere and phase, to light into flaming life the war spirit of our people, the resolve to do or die.—Arthur Meighen.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

THE SABBATH DAY

Sir—Permit me to reply to John McCracken's letter in your Tuesday's paper for December 6. In my article I pointed out that according to St. John, chapter 1:1-3, 14, Jesus is the creator of the Sabbath and since He created it and "is Lord even of the Sabbath," Mark 2:28, therefore the seventh day of the week is the Christian Sabbath, then I would ask him where in the Bible he finds the "Jewish Sabbath." Certainly not in the New Testament!

Mr. McCracken contends "Never once in all scripture, either Old or New Testament, was any other person asked to keep the seventh or Sabbath day." Listen to the following and judge for yourself as to the truthfulness of this statement: "Also the sons of the strangers that are round about the Patians, the Lord, to serve him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and he that toucheth the gates into the house of prayer." Isaiah 56:6, 7.

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Scores Of Practical Gifts To Make A Happier Christmas!

We have the most complete most practical selection of Christmas gifts, now on display. There are gifts for every one on your shopping list.
Keystone Brush, Comb and Mirror Sets for Women. Handsome gift sets at attractive prices.
Yardley Gift Sets in beautiful Gift Cases.
Ashes of Roses Gift Sets in Walnut Chests, also in attractive Gift Cases.
Dorner's "3 Secrets" Gift Sets in Walnut Chests and in attractive Gift Cases.
Men's Keystone Military Sets in Leather Zipper Cases which makes an unusually attractive gift.

Advertisement for Gillette Razors and Blue Blades. Includes text: 'SOLDIER OR CIVILIAN... He'll appreciate one of these Gillette Gift Sets! At 98¢ to \$2.50, Gillette Gifts Bring Thanks Worth Many Times the Price You Pay!' and images of various razor gift sets.

Advertisements for 'The Poet's Corner' (SONG OF THE WHEAT), 'We Are Showing A Big Assortment In the Following Goods' (Toilet Waters and Perfumes, Ladies' Toilet Sets, Christmas Chocolates, Smoker's Goods, Shaving Sets, Yardley's Toilettries, Cutex and Revelon Sets, Lucien Lelong Cologne and Hudnut's Toilet Waters, Gents Travelling Sets, Military Brushes, Watermen's Pens and Pencils, Ronson Lighters, Rolls and Gillette Razors, Men's Wallets), 'Say to Your Grocer I Want BRAHMIN ORANGE PEKOE TEA', 'Prof. A. B. MacDONALD St. Francis Xavier University will lecture on CREDIT UNIONS', and 'THE TWO MACS'.