THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1943

Christmas Mailing

November 1 is the deadline for mailing Christmas parcels to men in the armed forces overseas. This does not mean that it should be put off until that time. Such delay would be tantamount to leaving domestic Christmas mail until Christmas Eve.

The Post Office will do its best to get the mail to the men in time for Christmas, even if it is posted the very last day. But there is no guarantee that it can do so. It is far better to take no chances, and to get the parcels away at once, allowing reasonable leeway for delays that so often occur during wartime, and relieving the postal authorities of a last-minute rush.

Britain's War Expenditure

Recently, when U.S. Senator Ellender stated that Great Britain's per capita war debt had increased only $57 in five years while that of the United States had increased $642 since September, 1940, it was obvious that he knew nothing about what he was talking about. The Ottawa Journal has obtained the official figures, which tell a completely different story. Here they are:

What the official figures now show is that Britain's per capita debt in 1938 was $848; that on June, 1943, it was $1,846; that, consequently, the increase in per capita debt over five years has been roughly $1,000

The British per capita debt, far greater than that of the United States, is a terrific thing. It would be still more terrific were it not for the fact that British taxation is among the heaviest in the world; vastly heavier than any existing taxation in the United States. Britain has been waging this war on a "pay as you go" principle. In 1942 she devoted 62 per cent of her national income to war expenditure, this as against 47 per cent for the United States. This year the United States outlay, in terms of national income will be greater; but it is doubtful whether it will be as great as that of Britain.

No N.B. Election

The announcement of Premier J. B. MacNair of New Brunswick that the general election in that province is to be deferred till 1944, giving the present Legislature its full statutory time limit, is not surprising says the Sydney Post-Record, in view of the disappointing results from the Liberal point of view of the provincial elections held this year. The overwhelming defeat of the Nixon Government of Ontario and the near defeat of the Jones Government of Prince Edward Island are regarded by political observers, as reactions in provincial politics to the growing unpopularity of the King Government and the consequent weakening of the Liberal cause both in the federal and provincial arenas.

There was considerable talk of an appeal by the Government of New Brunswick to the electorate this year until quite recently. It is now almost four years since the present New Brunswick Legislature was elected on November 20, 1939, and although the Assembly has another year to run, an appeal this year would have conformed with general political practice, had the Government felt secure enough in its position to risk a 1943 election. The result of the 1939 contest in New Brunswick was the return of 29 Liberals and 19 Conservatives, to make up a House of 48 members. There were, however, six or eight extremely close contests for Legislative seats in that election, and the outcome was one of the closest New Brunswick had known in many years. There are now several vacancies in the House and in view of the fact that there is to be a fifth session of the Legislature it may be assumed that these vacancies will be filled through by-elections in the interim, although Premier MacNair was singularly silent on this point in the course of his statement which took the form of an elaborate argument against going to the people "unnecessarily" while the war is still in progress.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

Everybody is doing it now—buying Victory Bonds.

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It is estimated the estate of the late Mr. Hillson amounts to $200,000, and that the bequest to St. James Church endowment fund will be $30,000.

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"Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition" is not just a song title to a preacher in Wallacetown, Mass. The Rev. James H. Burckes, pastor of the Second Congregational Church, praises the Lord each Sunday with his congregation and during the week passes the ammunition as a war-worker in the General Electric Co. plant at Pittsfield.

* * * *

Fighting a losing battle with two unknown thieves who dynamited Zeller's N.S. Limited department store safe, Halifax, Constable Edward Doyle wasn't able to use his policeman's stick on the two but used something almost as good. He slugged them repeatedly with a bag he had wrested from them. He later found it to contain three sticks of dynamite. The thieves, who escaped with $1,000, left another $10,000 behind them in an inner compartment of the safe.

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Aviation conference at London will not define the pattern of post-war aviation, but will indicate the general policies of the Governments which participate. Mr. Roosevelt has made it clear that the U.S. is committed to free enterprise in the air. Powerful pressure is being used in the U.K. for a similar declaration. Canada enters the Conference embarrassed by Mr. King's unfortunate attempt to commit the country to exclusive Government operation of international lines.

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Sir Archibald Henry Macdonald Sinclair, 4th Bart of Ulbster, Carthness, P.C., K.T., C.M.G., M.P., British Liberal Leader and member of the Churchill Cabinet, born this date 1890; like his chief, his mother was an American, daughter of Mr. M. Sands of New York; he owns 100,000 acres; joined the Army in 1910; entered politics in 1919; has held various portfolios in Liberal and Coalition Governments, his present office being that of Secretary of State for Air.

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Who is likely to be successor to the late lamented Justice Saunders on the Supreme Court bench? This question is agitating lawyers and politicians. According to the usual, though by no means invariable practice, the Provincial Attorney General if backed by his colleagues and the Federal representatives has the first refusal. Will the Hon. Mark McGuigan be so supported? Other names mentioned as prospects are Judge Palmer, who has earned a great reputation as Judge of Probate, with no judgments reversed; Mr. George Tweedy, Magistrate for Queen's County, and Mr. K. M. Martin, City Magistrate. There are other aspirants, of course, but these are the four most prominently mentioned.

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Mr. W. T. Hill, a live stock dealer, farming just outside Lethbridge. (Alta.) has reported this year a banner crop of wheat in Southern Alberta—60 bushels an acre from a 100-acre irrigated field. Last year the same field yielded 69 to 70 bushels an acre and its poorest yield was 50 bushels during a year when there was a scarcity of irrigation water. The field is irrigated by pumping and has grown five consecutive crops since the land was first broken. The first crop was flax and the succeeding four were wheat. Next year the field will be summer-fallowed because the farmer has no place to store more wheat. This year's crop was a good grade, weighing 64 pounds to the bushel.

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Already the "Seventh Columnist" is at work among the Bloc Populaire, a manifesto having been issued by Dr. Hamel, Paul Gouin, Jean Martineau and Rene Chalout to the effect that "we cannot publicly support the movement so long as Mr. Edouard Lacroix, M.P., is connected with it." "We have made our platform one on which we have committed ourselves to fight the 'trusts' and the financial interests which dominate the lives of the French-Canadians and as Mr. Lacroix is himself a millionaire who has made his money by being closely associated with these trusts, we could not in justice to ourselves or of the policy we preach take our place beside him on the hustings." Mr. Chalout said that Mr. Lacroix had "eased himself into the Bloc Populaire movement because of the illness of Maxime Raymond, M.P., for Beauharnois-Laprairie."

A Well-Earned Honor

(The following editorial tribute to a distinguished Prince Edward Islander appeared in the Oct. 19 issue of the Toronto Globe and Mail):

The announcement that Archbishop McGuigan of Toronto has been accorded by the Pope the rare distinctions of an appointment as assistant to the Pontifical Throne and the rank of a Roman Count will give to our Roman Catholic community deep satisfaction, which will be shared by many people of Protestant faith. These high honors are bestowed by the Vatican only when it desires to give formal recognition to a very successful stewardship of important offices in the Church, and provide encouragement for further labors of the same fruitful kind.

The Catholics of this province are aware how well Archbishop McGuigan has earned these prized distinctions by his selfless labors in his chosen vineyard as a preacher and spiritual guide, and by his assiduous zeal for the interests of their Church. But others, who do not accept his religious teachings, have come to recognize in him a public-spirited ecclesiastic, endowed with scholarly erudition and fine dignity, who has a broad-minded tolerance of other faiths than his own. They have noted that since the beginning of this war he has been an unswerving supporter of the cause of democratic freedom and the national war effort planned for its salvation, and that he has given freely of his time and energies to assist various domestic phases of this effort. Leadership of this kind for the Roman Catholic Church in Ontario makes a great contribution to the prevention of sectarian feuds, and there will be a widespread feeling that in Archbishop McGuigan His Holiness has selected a very fitting personage for special honor.

Roads To Rome

(Prof. W. M. Hugill in the Winnipeg Free Press)

By possessing itself of Capua and crossing the Volturno, the Fifth Army has definitely set its feet upon the road to Rome, or perhaps upon two roads to Rome from the south. Meantime the Eighth Army is steadily approaching Pescara, the eastern terminus of the most direct road between Rome and the Adriatic. Neither should we overlook western route of sixteen miles from Ostia along either bank of the Tiber. The latter, though involving new amphibious operations, is now made possible by our complete command of the sea and newly captured airdromes.

All four routes are served by railways which follow the course of ancient Roman highways. The natural lines of travel were long ago determined by a nation of master builders, who covered western Europe and parts of Asia and Africa with a network of roads as intricate and as interesting as a spider's web. "All roads lead to Rome," said the Romans, and well they might, since they built them specifically for that purpose, and set up countless milestones to record the distance of each from the golden milestone which stood in the Forum at Rome

The Roman Campaign, like all Italian plains, is limited in size and hedged about by volcanic hills and spurs of the Apennines through which the roads, ancient and modern, thread their way and seek the passes leading to other plains and cities of the peninsula. Inevitably, they parallel the courses of some of the principal rivers. The Ostian Way ran straight to the mouth of the Tiber, as do the modern electric railway and motor highway. Parallel to it on the north bank, the Port Road led from Rome to the artificial harbor built by Claudius and enlarged by Trajan, to the right of the Tiber's mouth, which fills with silt so fast that it has never been practicable for ships of heavy burden.

Access to the Adriatic is not so easy. The spinal column of Italy lies between the coldest regions of the Apennines two thousand feet above the sea. From Rome the key to this route is Tivoli, a favorite ancient summer resort, perched upon the brow of the Sabine hills, over which the Anio plunges in picturesque cascades to mingle its waters with the Tiber. A few miles lower down is the Villa of Hadrian, the tourist emperor who tried to reproduce the natural wonders of his empire on a small scale on this broad estate in the Sabine foothills. A few miles farther up in the site of Horace's beloved Sabine farm, to which the poet fled from the heat and cares of the metropolis.

The Via Tiburtina followed the Anio upstream to Tivoli, whence it was continued east by the Via Valeria, which presently reached the upper Pescara and followed river down to the town of the same name on the Adriatic. In the highlands beside the road and between the two rivers once lay the Fucine lake, which had no outlet until the Emperor Claudius drained it with a mile-long tunnel. The decayed tunnel was restored and extended in 1862, and the lake is now replaced by a fertile farm of 36,000 acres. This is the difficult route that the modern railroad follows, and by this route Montgomery may come if he plans to assail Rome on its eastern flank.

* * * *

The more apparent threat to Rome is from the south from Capua, Rome's ancient rival in Campania. Here after his devastating victory at Cannae in 216 B. C., Hannibal made his base. Here in 73 B. C. began the slave revolt of Spartacus, which dealt the republic shrewd blow. Here, in 1860, Garibaldi was stopped and could neither take Capua nor cross the Volturno. Capua was the native capital of Campania, a site of considerable strategic importance, connected by a short road with the Greek cities of Naples and Pozzuoli on the bay, and with Rome, one hundred and thirty miles away, by the two chief Roman roads to the south. In 856, the inhabitants were driven from their homes by the Saracens and founded the new Capua three miles distant at the crossing of the Volturno, and at the convergence of the Via Latina and the Via Appia.

The Appian Way is the better known of the two, and bore the heavier traffic. It is strange but true that Pozzuoli, so far to the south was preferred over Ostia as the port of Rome. By landing on the Bay of Naples, passengers curtailed the voyage up the coast and avoided trans-shipment at Tiber mouth. They completed their journey to Rome by the Appian Way. Most famous of all the roads, it is called by a Neapolitan poet "the queen of ways." This way went Paul to the court of Nero. To Pozzuoli came his brethren from Rome to meet him. The final lap from Terracina to Rome runs as straight as a taut string for sixty-five miles. But at Terracina it is almost crowded into the sea. The mountainous headland was cut back 120 feet to let it pass. Between Terracina and Capua it bends circuitously, among the hills and crosses the river Liris, sometimes called Garigliano, a convenient line for a German stand. The new railroad from Rome to Naples, parallel to the Appian Way, reaches its destination through considerable tunnels.

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The less familiar Latin Way parallels the older and more familiar rail line from Naples to Rome by Cassino and Frosinone. The Latin Way was perhaps older than the Appian and the natural line of transportatoin through Latium. It followed the long valley of the Liris and its tributary the Sacco to the Alban hills, and then dropped to the Campaigna at Frascati, about fifteen miles from Rome.

The Fifth Army at Capua stands upon the threshold of both Appian and Latin Ways. It will be interesting to observe which way the vanguard follows. Both were built long ago, primarily for military purposes to speed the legions on their way. The standard and symbol of the Roman legion was an eagle, a bird that lost many tail feathers at the hands of German barbarians. American eagles have come at last to the rescue and will doubtless pick some barbarian bones before the battle is done.

The Poet's Corner

HOW DO I LOVE THEE ?

How do I love thee Let me count the ways.
I love thee to the depth and breadth and heights,
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight,
For the ends of Beings and ideal Grace.
I love thee to the level of everyday's
Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light,
I love thee freely, as men strive for Right;
I love thee purely, as they turn from Praise,
I love thee with the passion put to use.
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose,
With my lost saints, I love thee with the breath,
Smiles, tears, of all my life!—and, if God choose,
I shall but love thee better after death.

—Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

— Notes By The Way —

Col Knox, the United States Navy Secretary, believes the Germans will treat Rome as they treated Naples, when forced to retreat. One thing about these Huns — they are consistently and inevitably Hunnish. They can be depended upon to loot, kill and destroy. —Ottawa Journal

The Royal Navy's battlefront is 60,000,000 square miles of ocean; it covers half the world's seas. Despite the help from the Royal Canadian Navy and Allied navies, the Royal Navy has to carry the main burden still and this requires great endurance from men and ships. —Ottawa Citizen.

A newspaper Correspondent dined in Ireland on Saturday night, had breakfast in Newfoundland, lunched in Canada and was in New York for his Sunday dinner. Post-war trans-Atlantic travellers will probably find such an experience commonplace. —Brockville Recorder and Times.

Because deerskins are urgently needed for war purposes the War Production Board and the Fish and Wildlife Service of the U. S. Department of the Interior appeal to deer hunters to turn all hides from deer shot this season into commercial channels for the manufacture of military equipment. Deer hides furnish the necessary leathers to make gloves and mukluks (Arctic shoes) for cold-climate use. These are urgently needed by the armed forces. —Exchange.

The hunting season and the annual tragedy of errors are with us again. A soldier, home on leave, went hunting. Another hunter mistook him for a bear. So the soldier is dead. Through the years in New Brunswick, dozens of persons have been shot and killed because they were mistaken for partridge, woodcock, jackrabbits, deer, moose and other varieties of native game. The familiar and faltering explanations —"I thought he was a deer" has been heard by most veteran coroners. It sounds ludicrous enough to be a line from a joke; but when a blunder costs a life, it is no joke. —Saint John Telegraph Journal.

Unreasoning optimism about the duration of the war is to be discouraged, but it is just as unwise to become arbitrary about the certainty of a long-drawn-out struggle. A sample of unfounded pessimism is to be found in the speech at London, Ont., of Reverend Norman Rawson, who declared unequivocally that "there isn't a ghost of a chance of the war being over before 1945." The war could certainly be over before that time. No one should be foolish enough to predict the end this month or this year. But neither should anyone be foolish enough to make the positive statement that the end cannot come before any certain date. No one can know that, and adopting this policy of studied hopelessness is distinctly bad for morale. —Windsor Star.

During the terrible cold of the first blockade Winter in Leningrad, the tiger in the Zoo one day ceased to get his meat ration. He felt lonely, sucked his paw as the bear does. His keepers stuffed rabbit skins with porridge, and the tiger pounced at the "rabbit," tore him to pieces, and wondered at the strange fauna one encounters in this world. He learned to eat "shici" —cabbage soup —without a trace of fat. —U. S. S. R. Bulletin.

Twelve men at the University of Illinois have been undergoing special nutritional tests. It seems that scientists have discovered that certain substances known as amino acids may be considered as the building blocks of proteins, the food constituents found in meat, milk, eggs, etc. There are twenty two of these amino acids. Twelve of them are known to be non-essential to human diet, eight of them are known to be essential, and the status of the remaining two has not yet been determined. For eight months these twelve men at the University of Illinois have got the nutritional equivalant of beefsteak in the form of amino acids in distilled water, a dash of lemon juice being added to the drink to make it more palatable. They also get special crackers, spread with purified butter; cod liver oil; and vitamin pills. By omitting the amino acids one at a time and checking the weight and nitrogen balance of the individuals undergoing the test; it is hoped to determine whether or not the amino in question is essential to the human system. The aim of this investigation is to help plan adequate diets during meat shortages by substituting amino acids for part or all of the meat in the menus. A nice, thick, juicy steak, grilled to a turn, still looks good to us. —Des Moines Trigune

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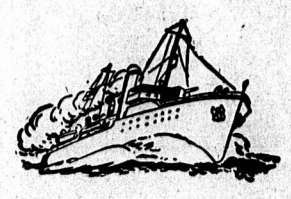

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NEW YORK, Oct. 21 — (AP)— French Patriots have tried to kill Pierre Laval four times in the last 15 days and as a result the Vichy chief of government has reinforced his bodyguard, the Dakar radio said today in a French language broadcast.

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