# THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1944


## Paris Liberated

The liberation of Paris by the French patriot rorces is something to stir the imagination. It is, as a press commentator remarks, confirmation of the fact that Hitler has lost control of the great Nazi machine, both civil and military, through which he ruled France since her tragic collapse. It is also a symbol of the rebirth of the French nation, and as such will be hailed by all lovers of liberty and democracy. Let us not forget, at this great moment, that it was lies—Nazi lies — that Marshal Petain and his miserable fellow stooges at Vichy repeated when they claimed that France fell because she was decadent. France fell because she was more vulnerable than other nations to Nazi power and treachery. Let us remember that it was not our virtue but our greater distance from the battle that saved this continent from knowing defeat.

The collapse of Paris spells a speedy end to Nazi power throughout all western Europe. But let us not be too hasty in assuming that the war is won. The Allies are preparing for a triumphal march into the French capital but have wisely resolved to wait "until the campaign of destruction of the German armies goes a stage further." The flagwagging can wait. What matters—for France and for all of us —is that the Boche is on the run. Soon the hour of deliverance for all who lie in Nazi bondage will have come. Let us prepare to hail it in no spirit of boastfulness, but with profound gratitude and thanksgiving.

*For heathen heart that puts her trust*
*In reeking tube and iron shard,*
*All valiant dust that builds on dust,*
*And, guarding, calls not Thee to guard,*
*For frantic boast and foolish word—*
*Thy Mercy on Thy people, Lord!*

## Drought Conditions

It is encouraging to note, on the authority of Mr. Peppin, that despite exceptional drought conditions the potato crop of the Province is fairly promising, with the prospect of a somewhat larger yield than last year. In New Brunswick there is at present serious concern over the condition of the potato crop. Our neighbors have also had to fight disastrous forest fires.

Drought conditions seem to have been pretty prevalent this year. Regions affected include the U. S. Atlantic coast area from New England to Pennsylvania and northern New Jersey; West Virginia, western Maryland, most of Wisconsin, parts of Missouri, and Oklahoma and Texas generally. Rains would be helpful in much of the Rocky Mountain, Great Basin and northern Pacific areas.

Crops affected by the dry weather include corn, cotton, potatoes, soy beans, truck crops and gardens. Pastures likewise have been damaged.

One of the severest summer droughts of record has developed in the Ohio Valley, including principally Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

With only a few days of the June-August summer season remaining, Tennessee has had only about 45 per cent of normal rainfall; Illinois, 50 per cent; Indiana, 52 per cent; Kentucky, 44 per cent and Ohio, 61 per cent.

The greatest shortage in moisture was reported in southern Illinois, where the total rainfall since the first of June has averaged slightly more than two inches, compared with a normal precipitation of nearly nine inches.

In addition to the Ohio Valley States, where most crops have been damaged by the lack of moisture and extremely high temperatures, drought conditions have become more or less serious in a good many other sections.

## Argentine Beef

Word coming from Buenos Aires says that Argentina is struck with the fear that the United Nations mean to neglect to renew their contract for the purchase of Argentine meat.

The contract not only insured that all of the Argentine's surplus meat would be purchased for stricken populations and Allied armies by the United Nations, but it bought up that meat at figures highly gratifying to the Argentine cattle and packing industries.

The whole economic structure of Argentina has been stabilized during the stress of war by this purchase of more than 1,200,000 tons of meat in the last two years. The packers had no fear of meat left on their hands so long as they knew it was already bought by the United Nations, nor had the ranchers any fear for the immediate disposal of their stock so long as they knew that every steer on the hoof was moving toward consumption paid for by the British and United States Governments.

The embassies of the United Nations are understood, however, to be passing the word around in Buenos Aires, and the big packers are asking the Government to listen.

The United Nations do not say they will not go on buying meat from the Argentine if they have to decline to renew a contract formerly so favorable to the Argentine, but they are openly wondering why they should renew the contract with a Government more disposed toward the Axis than toward the Allies.

The United Nations even feel that they are diplomatically prevented from continuing the contract under those circumstances, and so, even if willing perhaps to keep on buying meat, will be quite unable to say for how long they may keep on buying it, and equally unwilling to say what they will be prepared to pay for it.

Adding diplomacy and butchering in this way may adjust a relationship not at all to the liking of the United Nations. Of course Argentina will be left free to do as it wishes, but it has had a plain lesson in how Axis nations can go too far for their own good. It can continue to be a hive of Fascist intrigue if it wants to, but that will be poor return for the unsold stock left around its haciendos.

## EDITORIAL NOTES —

The North Nova and P. E. I. Highlanders are sure making a name for themselves at the front.

* * * *

Taking time by the forelock. The British Government has purchased large quantities of timber in Rio Grande do Sul for the rebuilding of London and other bombed British cities.

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A wealthy bootblack, Antonio Zupa, who shined shoes for 40 years at Buffalo railroad station, left a gross estate of $134,909. Zupa, who died January 5 at 63, was the father of 12 children who supplemented his earnings. Thrift and judicious investments accounted for the large estate.

* * * *

Out West they are busy arranging for Fall shipments of produce to prevent tie-ups. A special conference to discuss methods of averting congestion will be held in Winnipeg on Sept. 6 by the Canadian Meat Board. Similar meetings will be held in Saskatoon September 7 and Edmonton September 8. Representatives of transportation, packing and storage houses and provincial governments will attend.

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Some time ago we commented adversely on a report that the Minister of Labour had instructed taxi strikers in Montreal to ignore ceiling rates, as he would take no action in the matter. The Eastern Chronicle, in unparliamentary language, points out we were in error in this respect, as it was the acting Provincial Minister of Labour of Quebec, and not the Hon. Mr. Humphrey Mitchell who was at fault. Thus our comment loses its point, though the fact still remains that it was a Liberal portfolio holder who made the break.

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The Rt. Hon. Frederick James Marquis Woolton, 1st Baron, British statesman, born this date, 1883; educated at Manchester University, and entered upon a business career as a retail trader, becoming managing director of Lewis' chain stores; appointed honorary adviser to the Government on War Production of Army clothing, and a member of the Advisory Panel for Supply; in 1939 raised to the peerage and appointed Minister of Supply; in 1940 made Minister of Food, in which office he made an outstanding success of rationing and food control generally.

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The Dominion Bureau of Statistics accounts for Prince Edward Island being the only province that did not record an advance of sales for the first six months of the current year by declaring it was due to a "relatively poor" crop and a decline in the supply of potatoes. That is not altogether accurate. The loss was due to the lack of transportation facilities and the bungling of the Wartime Trade and Prices Board. Unless necessary steps are taken now in the interest of the producers and shippers, there may be a similar loss recorded in the second half of the year as well.

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Results of a study of public opinion, sponsored by Association of National Advertisers, show—among other things—that "the drive toward collectivism of the past decade is failing in attaining its ultimate goal—state socialism. You can lay your plans for the post-war era on the theory that if public opinion prevails—and it usually does in the long run—you will not be taken over by the state, that there is still room for individual corporate enterprise, competing to manufacture newer, better products at lower prices. The tide of public opinion is now running with you instead of against you."

* * * *

Mr. Camilien Houde had a great reception on his return to Montreal from four years internment at a concentration camp near Fredericton. Switching into English in his speech at the station, Mr. Houde said: "I want to tell the people of the English language present here and those who will read about this in the newspapers that I have not been the victim of British fair play. I was only the victim of a political party and a political organization and nothing else. Some day I will meet the English population and let them know the truth and they will know that I was right. The English population was wrong because it was wronged," he added. The automobile used by Mr. Houde on his triumphant home-coming was that in which General de Gaulle made his tour through Montreal.

* * * *

In view of the announcement of a special day of prayer on Sept. 3, it is interesting to note that the heads of the Church of England and the Methodist Church have stated that the men and women who are bringing about Hitler's defeat are performing a divine service. The Archbishop of Canterbury expressed this view at a ceremony dedicating two mobile churches near London; while at the fifth Methodist Conference to be held in wartime, which took place recently at Leeds, the new president, Dr. W. F. Howard, said in his presidential address: "No wonder that some of us feel that war, with the degradation it brings, is so terrible that nothing can justify it. Yet the overwhelming majority, in the church as well as in the nation, clearly recognizes that, in this conflict forced upon the world by ruthless diabolism, there was but one choice to be made. Here stand we. We can do no other. So help us God! For the sake of ultimate decencies of life, this conflict must be carried through with inflexible resolution until that victory, without which there can be no peace."

## Notes By The Way

**The great thing about a heat wave** is the delight we get from the cool days and nights which follow it.—Ottawa Journal.

**In the opinion of the Galt Reporter** a bore is a man who opens his mouth and puts his feats in it. —St. Thomas Times-Journal.

**"One torpedo costs as much as a** dozen medium - sized automobiles. But can it do as much damage?—Ottawa Citizen.

**Everywhere the Wehrmacht is** making its last stands at Hitler's orders. For the record, the Fuehrer lets it be known he can be pushed just so far, and even farther. —Winnipeg Tribune.

**Australians learn as they fight.** The Army Education Service has been outstandingly successful. Report on one case: "Four weeks ago he could not read or write. Yesterday he was up before the colonel for forging a leave pass."—Empire Digest.

**These are the days when Victory** gardens are bringing in appetizing dividends. It is economical and also a source of joy to be able to pick tomatoes from one's own plants; cobs of Golden Bantam or a nice, large melon. These are the rewards for those backaches earlier in the season.—Hamilton Spectator.

**"When I get through with my** work on the Boeing Superfortress they're ready to fly," boasts a sixteen year-old Seattle high school youth, one of the thousands of pupils spending a "Win the War Vacation" at vital plants. As final inside man on Renton bombers, four-foot - eleven - inch George Bann, armed with polishing cloths and a vacuum cleaner, is one of the few people who can say they have given the B-29's a real cleaning

**This is vacation time for most** birds, according to ornithologists of the Royal Ontario Museum. Their family responsibilities are over for the year and the hard work of food-hunting is made easy by the annual peak of the crop insects, seeds and berries. Even the business of singing is largely suspended. Although most birds are obliged to grow a new suit of feathers in August, this can be accomplished while loafing.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

**Some one suggests that the** American soldiers are called doughboys because they used to go for doughnuts so well during the last war. That is not the reason for the name. In the Mexican and other wars, the khaki uniforms of the American soldiers blended with the mud-coloured adobe houses in the native villages. Adobe is pronounced "a-doe-bay," and the people referred to the khaki as adobe. Then they began to call the soldiers the adobe boys. Gradually adobe boys became doughboys and doughboys they are. — Windsor Star.

**Carloads of Army shoes in good** condition are being sold for scrap and ground into fertilizer. Representative Calvin Johnson, Republican, Illinois, charged in Congress recently. The disclosure was made to House members during debate on a proposed $3,920,000,000 appropriation for lend-lease and the United Nations Rehabilitation and Relief Administration for the 1943 fiscal year. Exhibiting a pair of the Army shoes shipped in open coal cars to the Smith-Rowland Co., fertilizer manufacturers at Granite City, Ill., the Congressman noted they were only recently halfsoled and had new rubber heels. "It appears that these shoes are newly repaired before they are sold for scrap."—Washington News Digest.

**Research awards totalling more** than $250,000 to various colleges and universities for scientific investigations of the chemistry of sugar and its role in the diet were recently announced by Dr. Robert C. Hockett of New York, scientific director of the Sugar Research Foundation, sponsored by leading members of the beet and cane sugar industry, says The New York Times. New industrial uses for sugar that will aid the post-war market for the product are being discussed by Dr. Hockett at a series of conferences at nine Western universities this week. Among the institutions being visited by Dr. Hockett are Onio State University, University of Denver, the Universities of Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Idaho Oregon and California, and the State College of Washington.

**Cherburg's breakwater owed** much of its strength to a peculiar natural factor. The French, ever resourceful, harnessed the mussel to help in the construction. Mussels abound on the Normancy coast, and spin what is known as byssus, or a fine silk-like strand formed by the mussel into a kind of string. The strings of all the mussels join up into a rope and form a mussel-mass so secure that not even the strongest sea can shift it. When the breakwater was being built the ingenious French engineers put thousands of mussels on loosely piled stones, knowing that the byssus would bind them together more strongly than any cement. This method certainly helped to make the breakwater a worthy challenge of the sea's most violent moods. — London Daily Sketch.

**Now that border-crossing re**strictions have been largely removed and Canadians can again enter the United States without feeling that they are under suspicion of criminal activities the next step the governments of the two countries should take is to end the ridiculous business of the premium which United States currency enjoys over that of Canada. We have never been able to perceive any good reason why the Canadian dollar should not be worth just as much as the American dollar wherever it might be tendered. In fact, we have sometimes thought that it might be worth a bit more. Year after year, however, the United States dollar goes on enjoying a premium over the Canadian dollar which seems to be arbitrarily set up by a group of money barons in New York or elsewhere and, in consequence of this, our dollar is at a disadvantage in the United States whereas the American dollar commonly commands a higher value in Canada.—Brockville Recorder and Times

**Pig - in - the - poke buying of** advertising as demonstrated by sales of unaudited radio time continues to be a mystery of modern business methods. While newspaper circulations are under constant ABC check, all that is definitely known about broadcast listeners most frequently tabulated on the basis of radio set ownership, is

## 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.

### PREMIER JONES' DILEMMA

Sir:—Premier Jones' discussion on Prohibition in your paper was enlightening to me, and being interested in the control of alcoholic uses and watching the effect on the growing generation it is sad to note the bad tendency for drinkers to get something to drink with a kick in it, and when they get the kick the tendency is to do something wrong.

In his remarks he refers to our leader, Premier Mackenzie King, as stating that the people should be "earnest, sober and efficient during war time." Sober and efficient is necessary at all times.

A million dollar business is suggested as being carried on by the bootlegger. Is there that much money spent for illegal liquor here? There must be, because all the other provinces are under Government control and have no bootleggers. The Premier admits this high sale of illegal liquor over and above the amount sold through the vendors in the supposed legal way.

The Premier did not say what his Government is doing to stop this million dollar sale. A new law would not stop it. If it can, why not show us now before the law is changed that bootlegging can be stopped.

Mr. Jones states that many army rejections are caused by bootleg liquor; this complaint is all over Canada, not only P. E. Island. Mr. Jones claims it is the small amount of liquor allowed from Ottawa that causes the upset. There is no upset. He is trying to enforce the regulations at the vendors; that is causing the holler.

Mr. Jones states the quota is not sufficient. How does he know, he doesn't drink it! Let him keep the proper distribution of scrips as he suggests, and all the sick people will have lots and to spare.

I will make a wager with the Premier that if he makes a personal call to all the reputable doctors of the city, and describes some imaginary ailments he has and doesn't make a suggestion to them, there will not be one who will suggest a bottle of liquor.

Now, in reference to the Government having to take action, etc., it should not come up at the 11th hour as it did in the House of Assembly as that caused a lot of suspicion and confusion. But let the Premier give us a plan that will give the public a chance to look it over, but I may warn him that whatever law he suggests he will still have the bootlegger to contend with.

P.S.: We have been told that the present law is driving tourists away from Prince Edward Island. What about Old Home Week the last two years?

I am, Sir, etc.,
OLD TIMER.

## Canadians Nearing Firstwar Battlefields

(CANADIAN PRESS)

As the 1st Canadian Army pushes towards the Seine river in a drive by the Allied armies to clear the Northern coast of France of Germans it is heading towards the scenes of some of the bloody battle in which the Canadian Corps fought during the first great war.

The next water barrier after a crossing of the Seine is the river Somme and the entire Canadian Corps of four divisions was in the thick of the battle of the Somme in September; October and November of 1916.

That battle or long series of great battle is regarded as one of the turning points in the first Great War. It marked the end of a period of continuous offensive pressure by the Germans and the start of the application of continuous offensive pressure on the part of the allies.

As the Canadian army now fights a few miles south and west of the Seine it is about 100 miles from the Somme.

In the same general area from 100 to 150 miles distant from present Canadian positions are names of places which made headlines in Canadian newspapers during the last war and which are familiar to thousands of Canadian veterans.

They are St. Eloi, Sanctuary Wood and Hooge where Canadians fought in June, 1916, Courcellette, the scene of the Canadians special show in the Somme, Vimy Ridge which the Canadians captured in April, 1917, Passchendaele where they fought in October and November of that year.

Beyond the Somme was the jumping off place for the great Allied offensive which brought the last war to a close in 1918.

The great battle of Amiens in August of that year found the Canadians in action and one of their special contributions to victory was the smashing of the Quenat-Drocourt line, a part of the famous Hindenburg defence system which the Germans considered impregnable.

## Petains Arrest

(CANADIAN PRESS)

Petain's arrest spelled the end of Vichy authority so certainly that the Swiss minister has returned home, planning to conduct through Berlin any business concerning parts of German-held France.

The National Zeitung of Basdl, Switzerland, said the Germans forced their way into Petains Villa and demanded he go immediately to Belfort. Petain refused and called his bodyguard but yielded a few minutes later when the Nazis threatened to bomb Vichy to ruins.

The 86-year old Marshal after four years of collaboration with the Nazis was unceremoniously carried away with other members of his government; apparently as a result of his refusal to accompany Laval to the new puppet government seat.

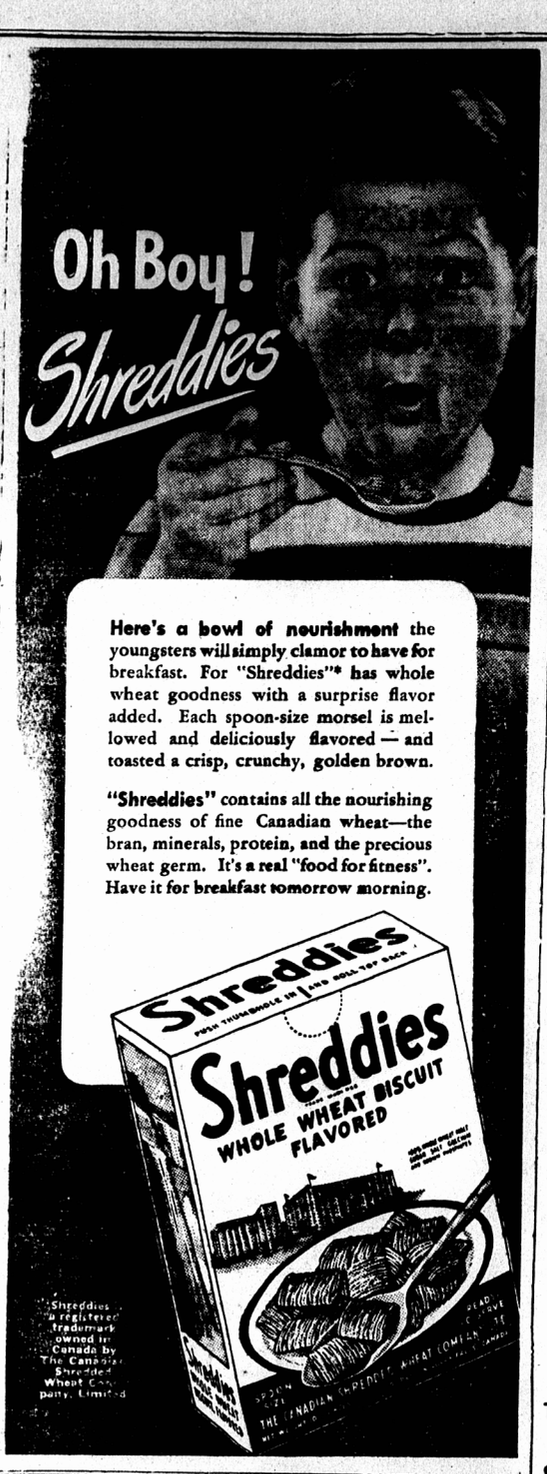
Reported arrested with Petain Lt.-Gen. Eugene Bridoux, Vichy Minister of war Admiral H. P. A. Belhaut, minister of navy Charles Antoine Rochat, secretary-general of the foreign ministry and Bernard Genetrel, the Marshal private secretary and physician.

Petain before leaving reportedly whote a short letter of adieu, copies of which already are in circulation in France.

Although not ruling out completely the possibility that Petain's seizure was a ruse to gain sympathy against the day of reckoning; Associated Press Correspondent Thomas Hawkins from Switzerland reported positively that Petain had an "understanding" with the United States on his course of action when a crisis, such as now; approached.

If this is substantiated it may spell considerable trouble in future allied relations.

For one thing. Franch patriots regard the punishment of vichyites as a matter to be settled by themselves and any hint or suspicion of outside compromise would be bound to rouse the ire of followers of Gen. De Gaulle.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## Poets' Corner

### ATLANTIC

No season frontiers here: the snow-white foam
Expects no dark campaigning of the Spring;
No gold corn trampled; no long lived-in home
Smoking in ruins, a tear-pictured thing.

Here bitter war has no such weeping; loss
Is borne unseen, and gain goes unrenowned.
The convoy to safe harbour wins; no cross
Marks where the ship was sunk, the sailor drowned.

—G. Rostrevor Hamilton.

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