



The Acton Free Press

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What About Singapore?

There's no use denying the fact that war events of the past week have put most folks in low spirits. Those German vessels clipping past the coast of England and making a successful run for German ports means that raiders will have to be chased all over the high seas and untold damage will be done before they are eventually put out of commission.

The loss of Singapore is another blow that has not been pleasant. True it's not a knock-out blow but added to others it means a war of longer duration. Those who had hoped the Russian successes and the other bright spots would shorten the struggle can forget all these hopes and buckle down to face a long struggle.

None of us were in England when the German vessels slipped away. None in Canada could do much about the fall of Singapore, but there are some things we can do. To win this war is going to strain every resource that we have. Every effort that presents itself on the home front is a challenge to help those fighting the battles in far away parts of the world. Just now the challenge is your buying of Victory Bonds. You can't do anything about Singapore. How much can you buy in Victory Bonds? How much now? How much on time payments?

If the Allies win you have an investment. If they fail you lose all. Acton has never failed any call. That success is only possible if everyone takes their part in the line.

Growth of Local Hydro

Evidence of the growth of the use of Hydro in Acton and of Acton's industrial importance is the activity around the sub-station here this week where transformers are being installed that will look after twice the capacity of the equipment now in use. While Acton's population is not large the use of hydro here is quite high. In a village of 2,000 the monthly load is now over 1500 h.p.

When one looks back over what seems like only a few years to a load of about 100 h.p. or less when Hydro was installed it is readily seen how rapid its expansion of use has been here. While domestic use has steadily been on the increase with more home appliances using electric energy the greater increase in the load has come from the demand from industries.

And Hydro has kept pace with the demand. How long the present equipment will allow for only time will tell, but Acton's industries seem to be of the type that will still be running when the demands for war materials are not required.

When Halton's Member Speaks

The speech recently of Mr. Hughes Cleaver, member for Halton, has drawn editorial comment in many newspapers throughout the province and comment on many different parts of this address. Here is one from The Windsor Daily Star.

Quite the most penetrating comment on the tactics of certain types of critics of the Government has come from Mr. Hughes Cleaver, Liberal member for Halton. His words will make many people pause and consider the sort of propaganda that is being spread under the guise of legitimate criticism.

Mr. Cleaver did not accuse these critics of being enemy agents. He simply remarked that if he were working for the Nazi in Canada, he would agitate for conscription in order to injure voluntary enlistment, charge the government with extravagance at a time when a war loan was imminent, and seek to

undermine confidence in national leaders by charging them with being complacent and dictatorial, with interfering with private business and ruling by order-in-council.

"After all there can be little quarrel with his words. They outline a very effective plan of campaign for enemy agents doing their best to sabotage our war effort. In fact, what more could one of them do, short of poisoning soldiers' rations and placing bombs under munition factories?"

Choose Your Terms

Monday a group of men started offering Canada's second Victory Loan Bonds to the public. We've often wondered after being questioned, if most people understood what a Dominion of Canada Bond really was and how negotiable was such document they possessed (or didn't possess).

It's better than the paper we call money. A bond grows and pays interest while the paper money usually gets less and pays no interest. Every six months you clip off a coupon and cash it at a branch of any bank in Canada for its full interest value. If your bond is for 12 years and \$100 you collect during the period \$136.

Supposing you need that \$100 before the date of maturity. Dominion of Canada Bonds can be negotiated quite readily through your bank—and your investment returned. But as long as you leave it there it pays you good interest every six months.

And this is the kind of investment you are asked to make to help bring victory. You don't give a cent and you get well paid for your help. Canadians that have the money shouldn't hesitate a minute. Those with prospects of steady employment should take all they can while Victory Bonds are available. An investment like Canada's Victory Loan is an opportunity. What would you be offered if Hitler were dictating the terms?

"Inflation is a symptom of scarcity: it arises because people try to buy more goods and services than are currently available and it inevitably results in higher prices and increased cost of living."—J. A. McLeod, president Bank of Nova Scotia.

Of course, Canadians don't have to loan \$600 millions to the government. They can dilly-dally as France did, and meet the same fate. France has paid about \$2.5 billion for costs of German occupation and owes the Nazis another \$1.3 billion—Chesley Enterprise.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Who says the world isn't getting better. We didn't get any valentines this year.

Strange as it may seem No. 25 was one of the best highways in the district last week. It was open for traffic earlier than the more southern roads.

When your enquire about bus and train travel just relax and remember that the time given you is the same time as is shown on your own timepiece.

In the last war it was sometime before we realized that to win we had to stop the sale of intoxicating beverages. Hope we don't realize it too late this time.

It cost some people a fine of five dollars for breaking the sugar rationing regulation. Oh no it wasn't in Acton of course where these offenders were caught.

The Canadian production of steel ingots and castings amounted to 2,411,887 tons in 1941 as compared with 2,014,172 tons in 1940, an increase of almost 400,000 tons.

The price of victory at best will be high. The people of the democracies will pay that price, knowing it is the only way to save their freedom."—Wendell L. Willkie.

The time of year is coming when motorists driving through towns can make themselves objectionable individuals with a lot of pedestrians if they don't drive slowly. Don't Splash!

It was the Institute at Springville where we first noticed leadership in conservation in this district. The ladies there decided to eliminate cake from the afternoon lunch for the duration of the war.

Central electric stations in Canada produced 33,745,360,000 kilowatt hours of electrical energy in 1941 compared with 30,080,248,000 in 1940. This was an increase of 11 per cent, and was the largest output to date.

"If voluntary saving can be carried out with the wholehearted support of the entire population there is little doubt that it can achieve results which only a ruthless scheme of compulsory saving could match. It is this which gives such importance to the Victory Loan campaign this month."—Dr. W. A. McIntosh, Canadian Chairman, Joint United States-Canada Economic Committee.

The Week at OTTAWA

Specially Written for The Acton Free Press by ALAN HARVEY Canadian Press Staff Writer

OTTAWA, (CP)—Manpower and war financing are themes of dominant public interest as the House of Commons settles into stride after more than three weeks of debate.

In parliamentary circles discussion on the administration's proposed plebiscite to seek release from re-election promises against conscription has thrust continued emphasis on manpower; and Canada's second Victory Loan for \$600,000,000, which opened Monday, draws attention to financial measures necessary to meet the costs of war.

A joint international broadcast by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Mackenzie King, delivered on the eve of the campaign was the herald of other similar speeches to be given across Canada in support of the drive.

Requests from opposition members for a secret session of the House of Commons to discuss conscription and general matters relating to the conduct of the war have been granted by Prime Minister Mackenzie King. It will be the first in Canada since April 17, 1918.

The throne speech debate in the House has drawn a variety of opinions from members of all parties. The

plebiscite and compulsory overseas service have been the crux of discussion. One of the few facts that emerge clearly is that a comprehensive scheme of selective service is being drafted in which the shortage of farm labor will be one of the outstanding considerations.

Key Farm Workers

War Services Minister Thomson has tabled an order-in-council designed to ensure that key workers will be granted postponements in compulsory military training as far as is possible to do so, by providing a representative of agriculture on boards hearing applications for postponements.

This clause in the order gives rise to reports that boards will require definite proof applicants are needed on the farm. The possibility was seen that the farm community will be viewed as a whole, its manpower pooled for all practical purposes, so the maximum number of men may be released for military service or in war industry, while still retaining enough men to ensure adequate direction of farm operations and enough help at periods of peak agricultural activity.

Committee Study

The manpower problem is under study by a cabinet sub-committee, Justice Minister St. Laurent and War Services Minister Thomson are two of its members, and Revenue Minister Gibson is the third.

An official viewpoint on the farm labor situation was given by Defence Minister Iltis when he told the house:

"I freely admit there may be faults in that we have not yet taken full measures to replace those

who have come from the farms, by making quite certain that workers are provided to keep those farms in operation; and a very important part of the selective service plan will be to deal with that particular situation, because the indications are that more rather than less workers will be needed in this tremendously vital activity."

Hong Kong Inquiry

Members of the House and public generally, meanwhile, looked forward to the results of an investigation to be conducted by a royal commission appointed to investigate the circumstances surrounding dispatch of a Canadian contingent of 1,065 men to Hong Kong which included 136 to 148 men who had less than the 10 weeks training prescribed by departmental orders.

To head the commission Prime Minister Mackenzie King chose Chief Justice Sir Lyman Duff. He said the policy adopted by the United States in having a member of the Supreme Court conduct the Pearl Harbor investigation had influenced his decision in appointing a commission rather than the parliamentary committee originally asked by Conservative House Leader Hanson.

LEMONS ON SHOW

LONDON, (CP)—Eggs and lemons are so rare people will pay to look at them.

Peter Brown, nine-year-old schoolboy, raised £1 (\$4.50) for the Admiralty by borrowing a lemon and egg from his mother and putting them on display.

Britain Calling For More Eggs

Britain is calling for eggs and more eggs. It is hoped this call will penetrate into the home of every poultry keeper in Ontario, because two-fifths of the poultry population is in this province, says Dr. F. S. Marcellus, head of the Poultry Department, O. A. C. Guelph. At the present time Ontario is supplying almost half of the eggs being exported to Britain. This calls for an all-out effort on the part of every flock owner to produce to the limit of his or her capacity and ability.

Eggs a priority position in the shipment of funds to Britain. This emphasizes their relative position with other funds. This recognition of the importance of eggs in the diet, and the limited supply available one to two eggs per person per month is a challenge to the industry in Ontario to help keep Britain's egg basket supplied.

Ontario has a hen population of twelve million birds. Two dozen more eggs per bird in 1942 than in 1941 would provide half the eggs called for in contracts arranged or proposed. Let us, therefore, accept this as our objective for 1942. More careful feeding and management of our present flocks, and better care of the eggs that are produced will enable us to attain our objective," states Dr. Marcellus.

Poultry producers in Ontario have a real opportunity to serve in helping to win the war. Let us measure up to our responsibilities by doing the job just a little better this year."

Advertisement for the Victory Loan, featuring the coat of arms of Canada, the text 'The Minister of Finance of the Dominion of Canada offers for public subscription \$600,000,000 SECOND VICTORY LOAN', and details of bond terms, interest rates, and subscription procedures.