

To be good when with good men  
is no great matter for praise.

# THE GUARDIAN OF THE GULF

The People's Paper Read by Everybody

Where all think alike, no one  
thinks very much.

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## WOMEN JOIN MEN IN DEFENCE OF CAPITAL OF LAOS

### Allies Threaten To Release Anti-Red POWS

#### British Commentators See Serious Threat In Invasion Of Laos

LONDON, (CP) — British commentators appeared convinced that the main threat to the free world

#### Coming Events

- Crockinole Party, Wheatley River Hall tonight.
- Annual Meeting Mount Stewart Strawberry Growers Exchange Limited, May 5th.
- Dance every Friday night, South Rustico Hall. Centre service, Charlottetownians Orchestra.
- Jimmie Powers variety concert in Murray Harbour Hall Friday, May 1st, starting at 8:30.
- In stock Barb and Page Wire, Asphalt Shingles. Booking orders for Cleaner Seeds. W. I. Bowman.
- Dance, Orwell Hall, Monday, May 4th. Morrissey—MacDonald Orchestra.
- Clyde River Hall tonight. Emerald Players present play and specialties. Sale of candy.
- All Charlottetown Optometrists will be closed all day Wednesday from May 1st to September 30th.
- Rummage Sale, Group 2 in Zion Hall, Saturday, May 2nd, at 3 P. M.
- In stock Ceresan M. for treating grain and Semson Bel for potatoes, seed barley and seed oats. Dillon and Spillitt.
- Now booking Clover Seed. Also seed, wheat, barley, oats, turnip and mangle. Lowest prices. Clark Seed Service.
- Commencing May 1st, W. E. MacDonald's Store, Mayfield, will be closed every Wednesday afternoon and evening.
- Reserve Monday, May 11th, for the adjudication of Indian River's 3-act play in King George's Hall, Kensington.
- Corran Ban Hall, Monday, May 4th, "Eyes of Love" three-act comedy-drama. Dance. Burns Orchestra. Curtain 8:15.
- North River Hall, Monday, May 4th, 8:15, Pownal Y. P. U. presents "Happy Valley" sponsored by Baptist W. M. S.
- Dance in St. Peter's Bay Holy Name Hall, Friday, May 1st. Dancing from 9:30 to 1. Chaisson's Orchestra.
- Commencing May 2nd, our Feed Mill and Saw Mill will close at noon on Saturdays instead of Wednesday. Biris Feed Service, Souris.
- Showing at Mt. Stewart Friday and Saturday nights at 8:30. Carson City—A super western by Warner Bros. Starring Randolph Scott and Lucille Norman.
- The Pownal Y.P.U. will present their four-act play "Happy Valley". Winslow Court Hall, Wednesday, May 13th. Auspices North Winslow W. L. Curtain 8:30.
- Buying daily, good thrifty young pigs over 30 lbs. Also listing good veal calves under 250 lbs. Paying top market prices. Wellington McNeill & Son, Buntain & Bell's Wharf.
- Just arrived. Car ground oats and barley. Special \$300. cwt. New bags. Phone us today. Contact us before purchasing Asphalt Shingles. It will pay you. R. L. Dickieson, New Glasgow.
- Showing at Morell tonight, May 1st. Here's the show we have been waiting for. M. G. M. presents one of the years' biggest! Rudyard Kipling's "Kim". Color by Technicolor. Starring Errol Flynn with Dean Stockwell. Famed spectacular adventure story. Filmed against authentic backgrounds in mystic India. The greatest spy thriller of them all. If you like a real show here's one to see.
- Beginning Monday Evening, May 4th, at 8:00 P. M. The Evangelistic Service in Tryon, with Rev. L. R. Atkinson, of Bay View, Digby County, N. S., will be transferred from the Tryon United Church building to the Tryon United Baptist Church building. Special choral group from Summerside Tuesday evening, from Bedouque Wednesday evening, and Charlottetown Thursday evening, Monday, Friday and Saturday evenings. Tryon choral groups in charge of music.

lies in the rugged country of Laos, Shiang-Li of French Indo-China. The British government is reported "concerned" at the Viet-minh invasion of the 600-mile-long territory bordering Siam. Writers on foreign affairs, going further, paint a gloomy picture of what may happen if Laos falls to the Communist invaders.

More important than Korea is the big danger they agree, is that the uneasy balance will be upset in all of southeast Asia. Thus they regard Laos as potentially more important than Korea.

"For the first time," says the independent Weekly Economist, "the Communists look dangerously like breaking through the shield, composed of mountains and French union troops, that has hitherto protected the soft heart of southeast Asia."

In the same way, the Manchester Guardian, an independent Liberal newspaper, says in its leading editorial Thursday that the invasion could mean "the start of a transformation of the whole situation in southeast Asia." It says it seems "extraordinary" so little attention is being paid to developments in Laos.

The Liberal News Chronicle says a Laos divorced by force from the French Union "could easily upset the works" throughout southeast Asia.

#### Intensifies Anxiety

The British government's anxiety, it is said unofficially, has been intensified by the Chinese Communist news agency's claim that the Siamese government is preparing to aid the French and to make the country a United States military base. The Siamese government is thought to be friendly to the West but the country's population of 17,000,000 includes about 3,000,000 "fence-sitting" Chinese.

Few writers on Asia take an optimistic view. Although there were some suggestions after Stalin's death that his successor Malenkov would rate less highly with the Chinese, thus loosening the Moscow-Peking axis, there were others who predicted an even closer relationship between the two Communist countries.

M. N. Roy, Indian writer who once said Communism in Asia is usually "nationalism painted red," warns that Mao Tse-tung's comparatively easy victory in China opens a bright perspective for Red conquest in Asia.

#### Approve Credit Union Legislation

OTTAWA, (CP) — The Senate Thursday night approved legislation under which credit unions will be able to do a Canada-wide business. They now are restricted within their own provincial boundaries.

The measure, which engendered opposition in Senate discussion previously, was endorsed after a Senate committee wrote tighter control provisions into it. The amendments provide that loans by a credit union in one province to a union in another must be limited to 10 per cent of the total assets of the loaning union. For business within their own provinces such credit unions—now restricted as to the amount of loans—will be limited to \$10,000 with application for a larger sum being subject to a two-thirds vote of the membership.

#### Delegates Sign Plan For West Indies Federation

By Sidney Taylor  
LONDON, (Reuters) — Political leaders of Britain's rum, sugar and spice islands in the West Indies have put their signatures to a plan for a new and eventually self-governing dominion within the Commonwealth called "the British Caribbean Federation."

#### Take Tougher Stand At Truce Talks

By Sam Summerlin  
PANMUNJOM, Korea, (AP) — Allied negotiators, taking a tougher stand at the truce talks, headed back to Panmunjom today after threatening possible release of 32,000 North Korean prisoners who don't want to go back to Red rule. The threat was voiced Thursday in the face of an unflinching stand by the Reds on the key issue of what to do about the 32,000 North Koreans plus 16,000 Chinese Reds also unwilling to be returned.

Talks At Standstill  
The Allies demanded the Reds name their choice for a neutral nation to handle the 48,000. Until the Reds speak up on this, the truce talks are at a standstill.

Thursday, possibly anticipating that the Reds had India in mind as their choice, Allied negotiators pointed out that all Asiatic countries were close to "communist military, economic or political influence."

Later Lt.-Gen. William K. Harrison, chief Allied negotiator, said he did not know if India would be acceptable to the Allies because it was "a matter that has to be settled on a pretty high level."

An hour before today's scheduled truce session, Allied and Red (Continued on page 13, Col 2)

#### Fierce Fire In Toronto Causes Heavy Damage

##### Queen Juliana Observes Birthday



THE HAGUE, (AP) — The Netherlands celebrated the 44th birthday of Queen Juliana Thursday. The monarch spent the day quietly with her family at Soestdijk Palace but military parades were held through the country.

TORONTO, (CP) — A fierce fire, nourished by turpentine and varnish, destroyed the two top floors of a hardware warehouse in north-central Toronto Thursday but was brought under control before it got to three tons of ammunition. Damage estimates ranged from \$350,000 to \$1,000,000.

Firemen brought blaze in check about 2 1/2 hours after it started with an explosion in the top floor of the three-storey White's Hardware building, on Yonge street just below St. Clair Ave. All 250 company employees escaped unhurt.

The fire was still smouldering Thursday night. Firemen said the small-arms ammunition was stored on the ground floor but was in no immediate danger of being set off.

Fire Chief Joseph Waterman said only a "miracle" kept the flames away from the ammunition. It was piled near the rear of the building where firemen were able to halt the spread of the flames.

#### Coronation Medal Approved By The Queen

LONDON, (CP) — The Queen has approved a Coronation medal, her personal souvenir of the Coronation, it was announced today.

Individuals selected for the traditional medal in the United Kingdom will receive it shortly after the Coronation. The medals will be shipped in bulk to the Commonwealth countries for dispersal to persons chosen by arrangement with the individual governments and at a time to be settled in each country.

Number of medals to be struck was not disclosed. There were 90,000 struck for the 1937 Coronation, of which 10,000 went to Canada. The Sovereign allocated 2,000 to each of the services of the United Kingdom.

The 1 1/2-inch-wide medal was designed by Cecil Thorne. An effigy of the Queen, crowned and robed, is depicted on the front. The other side of the silver medal bears the Royal cipher, E II R, surmounted by the crown, and the inscription "Queen Elizabeth II, crowned 2nd June, 1953." It will be suspended from a 1 1/2-inch-wide ribbon, dark red with narrow blue strips at the edges and two narrow dark blue strips near the middle.

It must be worn on all occasions when decorations or medals are worn, affixed to the left breast. In precedence, it follows war medals, jubilee and previous Coronation medals but precedes effigy and long service medals.

No individual member of the public can apply for it, it was emphasized. Canadian government officials here said they considered it likely that allocation of the medals in Canada will be done from Ottawa.

Some probable Canadian recipients are troops and other personnel taking part in the Coronation procession, as well as prominent citizens.

The medal was instituted by King Edward VII.

#### Substantial Increase In Co-op Store Sales

An increase of \$150,000 in sales in the local Co-op Store featured the presentation of the financial statement at the annual meeting held at Prince of Wales College last night. At the same time it was reported that the net profit was over double that of last year.

The meeting approved payment of a rebate on consumer purchases at the local store amounting to eight per cent to shareholders. It also decided on a rebate of two per cent on purchases of feed. For the first time since the store opened for business all departments showed a desirable profit and all enjoyed a considerable increase in business. The annual statement was read by Mr. J. G. Dennis, supervisor of co-operatives for the island, who congratulated the directors on the excellent showing.

In his report as secretary Mr. Lorne Callbeck said there was a false impression prevailing that co-operatives did not pay taxes. To offset this idea he cited figures showing that on the local store civic taxes amounted to approximately \$1,000 last year while the (Continued on page 13, Col 4)

#### Cannot Consider Rescinding New Lobster Minimum

The following telegram, which is self explanatory, was received yesterday from the Hon. James Sinclair, Federal Minister of Fisheries.

"View fact that protests received present no new reasons beyond those previously considered for rescinding new carapace measure and that fishing under new limit has in progress for ten days in another area Maritimes without protests, cannot consider rescinding new measurements."

#### Rain Is Good News To Prairie Farmers

EDMONTON, (CP) — A light, consistent rain was general over the Prairies Thursday and some snow was reported in Alberta and southwestern Saskatchewan, interrupting spring grain seeding.

"The ground is getting a real soaking," the weather office said. This was generally good news to Prairie farmers who had just heard forecasts that low rainfall earlier in the month might bring less-than-average crop yields.

#### British Lift Controls On Nylon Stockings

LONDON, (AP) — The board of trade Thursday abolished price controls on nylon stockings, the last of a one-long list of consumer goods controlled by the department since the Second World War.

Other ministries still control the price of some raw materials and commodities, including steel, used by industry and the food ministry still fixes the prices of certain foodstuffs, notably meat.

#### Junked Truman Defence Blueprint

WASHINGTON, (AP) — President Eisenhower junked what he called the Truman "crazy-quilt" defence blueprint Thursday and announced in its stead a more gradual military-foreign aid program pointing toward an \$8,500,000,000 slash in appropriations for the next fiscal year.

President Truman had asked \$72,000,000,000 in new appropriations. Under the Eisenhower plan this would be cut to \$64,400,000,000.

#### Traditional Moving Day Finds Housing Shortage

(Canadian Press)  
It wasn't so long ago that May 1 was the traditional moving day for many Canadians. But in this day of long leases, high rents, big mortgages and a housing shortage, the date is little more than a headache to would-be movers.

Although a Canadian Press survey indicates Canada's housing situation improved during the last 12 months, the demand for living quarters increased to such an extent that new housing developments failed to fill the gap for which they were designed.

The problem facing families contemplating a change in location is not where or when to move, but simply a case of what to move into. There aren't enough homes to go around.

Slow Season  
Movers report one of the slowest seasons on record. The habit of moving May 1 has given way to a policy of moving when and where living accommodations are available.

Housing officials at St. John's, Nfld., report rents up 100 per cent over 1939, mainly because United States military personnel based there can meet high rents, prompting landlords to boost (Continued on page 13, Col 2)

#### Red Assault Is Expected Within Hours

By IAN FAWCETT  
LUANGPRABANG, (Reuters) — Luang Prabang women with mud-streaked faces joined their men Thursday in digging trenches to defend this royal capital of Laos, Indo-China, from Communist invaders only 11 miles away.

Children, too, helped to dig string barbed wire and carry logs for barricades outside the ancient town. Stores shut down and main streets emptied as every available person of the 7,000 population worked on defence on the town outskirts.

Expect Early Battle  
Peering up nervously from their shovels at the thickly wooded mountains around the capital, they wondered when the Vietminh rebels would start charging down the slopes. Defending French and Laotian troops expected the crucial battle to start at any moment.

All signs pointed to the first military showdown since the rebels stormed unopposed across the Laotian border 18 days ago and occupied more than one third of the state.

Jean Letourneau, French minister for Indo-China, announced in Paris that French Union forces would stand and fight the rebels in Luangprabang.

The help and dog... (Continued on page 13, Col 3)

#### Unique Aircraft Ferry-Flight Launched From S' side Station

An aircraft ferry-flight unique in the annals of RCAF Station Summerside took off on schedule in the early hours yesterday. Under the experienced hand of P/L T. M. Webster of Exeter, Ontario six Harvard and one Expeditor aircraft started the long flight bound for Claresholme, Alberta. The Harvards flying in two, 3 plane "V" formations led by formation leader P/L Webster and P/O George Waugh of Vancouver anticipate that they will require roughly 18 flying hours to complete the 2,500-mile trip. The Expeditor flown by P/O Gord Davis of Lethbridge, Alberta will act as "mother ship" for the expedition as well as carry needed tools and supplies to be used by the technicians enroute. Piloting the remaining four aircraft are: P/Os Jim Mitchell and Jim Stacey both of Toronto, P/O Doc O'Connor of Sudbury and P/O Bud Stevenson of London, Ontario.

Each aircraft will be accompanied by a ground crew technician, a member of all ground trades connected with the maintenance of aircraft being represented. These men are perhaps the most important members of the expedition and their work will only begin when the pilots duties for the day are completed. At every stop-over these men must make a thorough inspection of the aircraft and see that they are kept in perfect flying condition.

(Continued on page 13, Col 7)

#### Debate Hog Production In New Brunswick

OTTAWA, (CP) — The Commons argued about hogs Thursday—New Brunswick hogs.

G. W. Montgomery (PC—Victoria Carleton) said hog production in his province is slipping. Agriculture Minister Gardiner said it is going up.

Mr. Montgomery quoted Mr. Gardiner as saying there now were more hogs in Canada. But that was not true in New Brunswick. Some potato growers there also were having difficulty.

Generally speaking Mr. Montgomery didn't think the farmer was "getting a square deal." Farms were being vacated and young people were going into other fields.

Mr. Gardiner kept his reply strictly to hogs.

He said New Brunswick had more than 85,000 hogs as of last June, some 4,400 more than in June 1951. That was just about the biggest hog population the province ever had and hog production was going up in New Brunswick as well as elsewhere.

Mr. Montgomery said he would not accept that.

"The minister," he said, "is a year behind in his information."

#### German Immigrants En Route To Canada

BREMEN, Germany, (Reuters) — The Canadian liner Beaverbrae sailed from here Thursday with 774 German emigrants on their way to new homes in Canada. The voyagers, mostly farmers and forest workers accompanied by their families, are travelling under the sponsorship of the Canadian Christian Council.

IF YOU DO THE BEST YOU CAN YOU'LL BE HARD TO BEAT

#### Urges Bigger Premium For Top Grade Hogs

OTTAWA, (CP) — Arnold Darroch (L-Wellington North) told the government Thursday it should offer greater financial encouragement to Canadian farmers to produce top-quality hogs.

Speaking in the Commons on agricultural estimates, the Ontario farmer said quality is the best guarantee of good markets. For that reason it was not right that there should be only an average of 60 cents apiece difference in prices paid for grade A and grade B hogs.

The difference should be at least \$1. As a start, the government should increase the bonus it pays farmers for grade A hogs to \$3 from \$2, he said.

Andrew McLean (L-Huron-Perth) said farmers were concerned about getting an equitable balance between costs and prices. Consumers tended to blame the farmers for high food prices, but they seemed to forget the higher costs of freighting, packing and handling.

As the committee neared the end of its labors, a brief discussion broke out on lotteries, with P. D. Shaw (SC-Red Deer) contending that present enforcement of lottery regulations is "absolutely ridiculous."

Mr. Robichaud said he favors national lotteries such as the Irish Sweepstakes in aid of hospitals and charitable institutions.

Angus MacInnis (OCF-Vancouver East) said he opposes such lotteries.

#### Churchill Refuses To Complain To Washington

LONDON, (CP) — Prime Minister Churchill has rejected a Socialist suggestion that he complain to Washington about the American offer to pay Communist pilots who surrender with their jet planes in Korea.

"I am not going to make any complaints to the United States government upon the subject," Churchill told the House of Commons Thursday.

The prime minister hinted, however, that there might be doubt whether the offer was well timed in view of the prospects for a truce in Korea.

The United States has offered to pay \$50,000 to any Communist airman who surrenders with a Mig-15 intact plus an additional \$50,000 to the first one. The offer has stirred up an argument in the British press as to whether the offer is "strictly cricket" and whether it will do more harm than good.

Labor minister George Wigg asked if the UN command in Korea had consulted with the British government about the offer. Churchill replied:

"There was no need for any consultations and none took place. I am advised it is not contrary to the accepted laws and customs of war to bribe an enemy provided hostilities are in progress."

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#### Law Committee Completes Study Of Criminal Code

OTTAWA, (CP) — The Commons criminal law committee Thursday recommended that a royal commission or parliamentary body be set up to consider abolition of the death penalty and whipping, relaxation of lottery laws and clearer definition of insanity for legal purposes.

Justice Minister Garson had told the committee previously the government is prepared to appoint such a body.

The committee, considering the first overhaul and consolidation of Canada's Criminal Code since 1892, completed its work Thursday, except for formal drafting of its report Friday, after 37 meetings and 15 sub-committee meetings since Feb. 4.

#### Changes In Code

The new code, under study by the Senate for the last two years, would eliminate minimum sentences and compress the present code of 1-152 clauses into 744. It still must be approved by the Commons and the Senate before it becomes law.

The committee approved the clauses maintaining the present law dealing with capital punishment, execution by hanging, whipping, lotteries and definition of insanity, but only on the understanding that a royal commission or joint committee of the House and Senate study them further and recommend in details what changes should be made, if any.

Four Clauses Unchanged  
Four of the five clauses in the new code were unchanged from the present law. The committee adopted the amendment of A. M. Robichaud (PC-Glochester) that the fifth, dealing with whipping, be restored to its present form.

Mr. Robichaud said the new clause did not specify the instrument to be used in whippings nor that a medical officer be in attendance. The committee restored the present requirement that a doctor be present and that the cat-o-nine tails be used, unless otherwise specified in the sentence.

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