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By Mail in P. E. I. \$1.00 per year; \$2.50 for 6 months.
\$1.25 for 3 months; 50¢ for one month.
City Delivery \$2.00 per year; \$5.00 for 6 months.
\$1.75 for 3 months; 65¢ for one month.
By Mail to other Provinces and U.S.A. \$2.00 per year.
Saturday Weekly: \$2.00 per year; \$1.00 for 6 months.
50¢ for 3 months.

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1943

A Much Needed Survey

From Ottawa comes announcement that Canada's medical services, sapped by the demands of the armed forces and running short in rural areas, are to be subjected to an unprecedented survey and planning effort to be launched at a conference of health authorities opening at the Dominion capital on January 20. At the invitation of the Canadian Medical Procurement and Assignment Board, representatives of all health organizations and agencies have been asked to meet for two days to map out a concentrated attack upon the problem. The survey to be attempted is intended to show just what medical, dental, nursing and hospital assets Canada possesses, how they are distributed and where adjustments may be made to obtain the greatest service from existing sources.

One of the aims of the conference will be to investigate the situation in rural communities deprived of adequate medical attention. This is something of direct concern to many sections of Prince Edward Island. At the outbreak of war we had sixty-two doctors in this Province. Today we have only forty-seven. Some who are still practising are too old to discharge the added duties which the shortage of younger men has forced upon them. In a few large sections, such as the Belfast District and Tynes Valley, there is now no resident doctor at all; in many others, only one, where there were formerly two or three.

This condition, of course, is not confined to this Island. When the war started there was an estimated force of less than 11,000 physicians, 28,000 trained nurses, 4,000 dentists, 1,000 hospitals and nine medical schools in Canada. The war has taken about 3,000 doctors and many nurses and dentists. Medical schools are being aided and are cooperating in the work of speeding up graduation of doctors, but the problem of meeting civilian requirements in anything like adequate measure is likely to increase rather than diminish while the war continues.

Some progress has been made by the establishment recently of a Medical Procurement and Assignment Board with advisory committees in each Province. The Board is controlled by the Canadian Medical Association (five of its nine members being appointed directly by this organization) and has authority over "health services and health requirements of war industries and the civilian population, as well as the armed services." The local advisory committee members are Hon. Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan, chairman, Dr. J. W. MacKenzie, and Dr. B. C. Keeping, Deputy Minister of Health. In addition there is a Maritime advisory board whose chairman is Dr. J. R. Corston, Halifax, and to which the provincial chairmen belong. As an example of how the Board functions it may be stated that at the request of the local advisory committee it has taken doctors out of the service forces and made them resume their civilian duties where there was no available doctor to replace them.

It is to be hoped that full opportunity will be taken by our provincial health authorities of the Board's invitation to meet at Ottawa on Jan. 20 to discuss this very serious problem of medical manpower, and to cooperate in every way towards its solution.

Beecham Tells 'Em!

Our American neighbors were "told off" in style by Sir Thomas Beecham, England's internationally famous orchestra leader, at a reception given in his honour the other day by the Citizens Committee for the Brooklyn Symphony Orchestra. The episode is reported amusingly in the Brooklyn Eagle.

Sir Thomas' behaviour, says the reporter, was at first "formal, polite, a little stiff perhaps, but all conventionally pleasant." Then the distinguished guest "tweaked his little pointed chin beard, called for some whiskey and soda, took off the white kid party gloves and tossed them right into the laps of the astounded committee. He told Brooklyn off with a sharp wit, but he didn't neglect Detroit, or Salt Lake City or Seattle, or any other city of millions that can't stir up civic pride enough to support a decent orchestra."

Sir Thomas expressed the view that people who fail to take advantage of good music "dwell under the veil of semi-barbarism." Instead of four concerts a year, Brooklyn should have one every week. He told his audience about his orchestra at home, the London Philharmonic Orchestra, which he took over ten and a half years ago "when it was almost as bad as the New York Philharmonic is today." The London Orchestra plays five nights a week in wartime, with a repertoire of 1,000 numbers, and can go on tour without any music and play a whole programme. "If London can do that, 'Immortality' is in front of us," he went on. "Of course I don't expect to lift Brooklyn to cultural heights all at once, but I'm working on it."

Sir Thomas said the secret of a good orchestra is "to play the best music in the world, with a

discreet infusion of the novelty, in the best manner possible." Good music, he said, is as easy to take as bad and he paid a left-handed compliment to Philadelphia when he said he never heard of the city until it had a fine orchestra. He lambasted Detroit as "the richest city in the country, that in the middle of a war decides to take the shine out of its life by stopping its symphony orchestra." He confessed that he didn't care whether he reached "the money-bags" or not; he wanted the people. So in Seattle he called in the representatives of the unions . . . "Fourteen unions, what they represented God only knows, but I decided to have them, so we could get to the people and make them appreciate good music."

In the midst of Sir Thomas' harangue, which extended beyond the scheduled hour for closing, a wedding party which was to use the reception hall next attempted to crash the gate. Sir Thomas looked up blandly and asked, "What's this, a bomb?" and went on undisturbed.

Editorially, the Brooklyn Eagle suggests that Sir Thomas' criticism may do much good "even though it may ruffle civic consciousness a bit to be spoken to thus." Aren't we all in need of being deflated occasionally for the good of our souls?

Western Grain Orders

It is expected that in the early months of 1943 the Canadian railways will handle the largest movement of feed grain in their history, states the Agricultural Supplies Board. The demand for railway cars will be beyond the available supply, consequently it will be difficult for the railways to give the customary prompt service on feed grain deliveries from Western Canada. To protect supplies for distribution to feeders, the Board urges planning orders for grain as far in advance as possible and recommends local dealers to keep their storage space full. Floor prices offer protection to the buyer. The important point is always to have feed grain available ahead so that demands from farmers for feed may be met and vital livestock production encouraged and assisted.

EDITORIAL NOTES

More open-air skating the better. It is encouraging, but none the less a reflection on public spirit, to see boys flooding their back yards in order that they may engage in skating and hockey on a small scale.

H.R.H. Prince Arthur of Connaught, eldest son of the late Duke, Governor-General of Canada, born this date 1883, died Sept. 12, 1938, succeeded by his only son the Earl of Macduff, born August 9, 1914, and who is now A.D.C. to H.R.H. the Earl of Athlone, the present Governor-General.

The Minister of Defence tells the Mayor that his colleague Hon. Mr. Angus Macdonald sees no reason why there should not be another ship called "The Charlottetown". Would that the Minister of Transportation adopt the same attitude, then there would be some hope of a new ice-breaker at Borden-Tormentine.

It is most unusual to have brothers head of respective public services in two different countries. But in Canada and the United States there is a case in point. Mr. G. C. Bateman is Controller of Metals in Canada, and Dr. Alan M. Bateman, Metal Controller in Washington. The oldest brother is Mr. G. C. Bateman, who is a Queen's University science graduate of 1909. Dr. Alan M. Bateman is a Queen's University science graduate of 1911.

Mr. R. A. Adamson, Conservative member of Parliament for York South, in an address in Toronto said a high percentage of Canadian men rejected for military services are morons. "The reports of the medical boards examining the young men of Canada prior to their entry into the army are alarming," Mr. Adamson said. "They show that approximately a quarter are category C2 and that a very high percentage of these are incurably mentally sick, the medical term for moron. These are the figures for young men in their 20's. If you consider the whole population, it would, I believe, show that we are rapidly becoming a C3 nation." Mr. Adamson said medical care, both preventive and curative must be made available to all citizens, irrespective of their economic status.

The Russian Orthodox Church is backing the Soviets financially and otherwise. Sergieus, the Metropolitan of Moscow, acting Patriarch has advised Joseph Stalin that the Patriarchy is contributing 100,000 rubles and is urging all clergy and church leaders to donate funds for construction of the Dmitry Donskoy tank column. His telegram recorded by the Soviet Monitor said: "Sincere greetings to you. In prayer I wish you New Year health and success in all your undertakings, for the welfare of our country is entrusted to your care. By a special message I advised the clergy and all leaders to contribute to construction of the Dmitry Donskoy tank column. As a beginning the Patriarchy itself contributes 100,000 rubles."

Harsh words about the prevalence of bureaucracy at Ottawa were spoken by Mr. John Bracken in his first broadcast. He declared that for servants of the Government to execute policy and even to defend policy was the negation of responsible government. This coming session should afford legislators an opportunity to test the truth of Mr. Bracken's assertion, says the Gazette. While the probes that have been conducted these last two years by special committees into war expenditure have produced some beneficial results, it is probable that something more tangible might come from a committee inquiry into the extent and the operations of the so-called bureaucracy. There is abundant warrant for such a move, for a similar inquiry is being instituted by the House at Washington where they are determined to discover whether or not too many persons are employed in Government positions in the American capital, whether or not the controls are being wisely and efficiently administered.

NOTES BY THE WAY Parties And Policies

Many shopkeepers who for more than a year have been forced to conduct their business in semi-darkness, because their windows were smashed in the air raids, are now seeing daylight again. Never before have so many people had their windows replaced as at present. In one street recently I counted three separate lots of workmen repairing windows, and it is good to see a steady reduction in their number. —Belfast News-Letter.

As events have transpired, the brutal murder of Admiral Darlan has created a situation from which the Nazis must derive cold comfort. The Fighting as well as the former "Vichy" French in North Africa firmly united under the leadership of General Giraud. —Sydney Post Record.

The discussions which arise from the earlier proposals made to whether these honours (orders or medals) are "democratic" or not seem to us to be unrealistic. In a democracy all men have equal rights under the law, but this does not mean that natural superiority must go unrewarded or that the brave or the brilliant must be denied honours or titles which they have a right to expect. If a man does great service to his fellow men in war or in peace we cannot see any reason why the sovereign should not give him an award; and honours are the only tangible benefit which comes to him in return for a deed or piece of work which took great courage or faith or intellect or sinew, to accomplish. We cannot see that the bestowal of titles for distinguished service is in any way contrary to the nature of democracy. —Peterborough Examiner.

Nothing has been heard of late of the compulsory suggestion that compulsory billeting of proper and forced. In other words, that families with an unoccupied room or two should be compelled to rent them to those who need them. It is not, willy nilly, so many snags become immediately apparent that it is not surprising that the plan petered out. The average home could not accommodate an extra man, and many new fittings which are unobtainable because of official restrictions. —Calgary Herald.

Fats make glycerine, and glycerine makes high explosives. Bones produce fat, also glue for war in industry. It is why the authorities at Ottawa are making such a fuss for the saving of every spoonful of dripping, every piece of fat and every bone. It has been estimated that one ounce of fat will produce 100 lbs. of high explosive. —Toronto Telegram.

One of the really moot and knotty questions of American history has to do with the Chicago school that started the great Chicago fire. The problem has been threshed out time and again, but never quite satisfactorily. First there was the story that the widow O'Leary had invented the fire by kicking over a lantern. Then somebody said, no, that there was no such cow, some reporter of the old imaginative days had invented the animal. Then came what is now the historians as the Theory of the Three Buns, which had it that three un-washed and unspiced temporary tenants of Mrs. O'Leary's barn, who were drinking and smoking, started the fire accidentally. One of the best stories for this was one by Peg-Leg Sullivan, who was a well-known Press had a circumstantial story from Indianapolis quoting a saying, Mr. Joseph A. Kleker, as saying, he says his father bought Mrs. O'Leary's cow and calf and shechered them, saving their hides for such uses as kerosene. Mr. Kleker says the cow started the fire but admits the presence in the barn of three buns. How does he know his testimony? We must view his own part we shall continue to hold to our cherished original belief, that the cow started the fire by kicking over a lantern. And she alone, is the culprit. And we'll go farther and throw one hypothesis into the controversy. The three buns, was the Lost Dauphin. —New York Herald Tribune.

The allies have found French Africa to be a land of extreme scarcity, its stores of food and live stock depleted by Germany and the Vichy. The ultimate administration of justice lies in the hands of the Bench and the Bar. It is only by the united efforts of both the purity of justice can be maintained. The final analysis, therefore, the responsibility for the satisfactory administration of justice must be with the Bar for it is from the Bench that the Judges must be chosen. The most rigorous exclusion from the Bar of men unworthy to practise law cannot avoid to maintain the purity of justice if only those men who display real judicial qualities are appointed to the Bench. For the Bar can do little with a weak Bench, and the best lawyers do not always make the best Judges. As therefore the real responsibility for the proper administration of justice lies with the Bar—at least the public lay the blame for faulty administration of justice upon the lawyer and little upon the Bench. It behoves the Bar to remember that it is not enough to do everything in their power to exclude unworthy men from practise if they do not at the same time insist upon having a much greater say than they have at the present time in the appointment of Judges and to make it plain that lawyers must have more than a partisan political qualification in order to obtain such an appointment.

The obvious other defect in the use of political qualifications as a criterion for judicial appointment is that the lawyer who has devoted enough of his time to acquire political eligibility, has taken that much time away from the law. When trained of law is a full-time job for any man who wishes to become a sound lawyer, has demonstrated that he is only a part-time lawyer. The lawyer who is a politician of view far less qualified to accept judicial preferment. If one were to make a list in any Province of the men best qualified to be appointed Judges that list would consist of men whose practice permitted them no time to play politics. The result always is that the men

publish elsewhere a very significant resolution passed by the Bar of Ontario at their annual meeting in Columbus at their appointment of Judges. We have spoken of this matter before and do not hesitate to speak of it again. There is an increasing body of opinion in the profession generally that the time has come to end the appointment system of the Bar. The ultimate administration of justice lies in the hands of the Bench and the Bar. It is only by the united efforts of both the purity of justice can be maintained. The final analysis, therefore, the responsibility for the satisfactory administration of justice must be with the Bar for it is from the Bench that the Judges must be chosen. The most rigorous exclusion from the Bar of men unworthy to practise law cannot avoid to maintain the purity of justice if only those men who display real judicial qualities are appointed to the Bench. For the Bar can do little with a weak Bench, and the best lawyers do not always make the best Judges. As therefore the real responsibility for the proper administration of justice lies with the Bar—at least the public lay the blame for faulty administration of justice upon the lawyer and little upon the Bench. It behoves the Bar to remember that it is not enough to do everything in their power to exclude unworthy men from practise if they do not at the same time insist upon having a much greater say than they have at the present time in the appointment of Judges and to make it plain that lawyers must have more than a partisan political qualification in order to obtain such an appointment.

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Andrew Drummond-Hay

(Saturday Night, Toronto)
The Charlottetown, P. E. I. Guardian observed last month that "Saturday Night does not profess to be Liberal, actually is anti-Conservative and anti-C.O.F." In case this rather unclear description of our periodical leaves some readers in doubt as to our real character we propose to add some clarifying sentences.

We do not profess to be Liberal, for the excellent reason that we are not Liberal. We are not anti-Conservative, in the sense that we are not opposed to the Progressive Conservative party as formed, re-oriented if you prefer, at Winnipeg. We never have been anti-Conservative, but we have felt, as we think a good many Conservatives have felt for several years past that the management of the Conservative party has been unwisely administered by those who had control of it. It is our conviction that there was no particular reason for desiring that the Liberal Government be replaced by a Conservative Government, and there had at any time during the last few years been any prospect of such a change. As a matter of fact the management of the Conservative party during the last three years have been advocating, not a Conservative Government, but what we termed a National Government, at first with policies which would have made possible the inclusion of some French-Canadian representation, but after Dr. Manion's resignation with policies which would have made such inclusion impossible. Neither of these projects has particularly appealed to us, and we have not particularly whom they did not particularly appeal either, and there seems to be good reason to suppose that they did not particularly appeal to the mass of the electors.

The party has now undertaken the task of preparing itself to form a strong Progressive Conservative Government by proper and legitimate method of carrying on a strong Progressive Conservative Opposition; and it will have—no doubt—qualified support in everything it may do, and no intention of becoming a party organ of Mr. Bracken's any more than we are a party organ of Mr. King's—but our freshly expressed approval of everything in which it seems to us that it is doing Opposition work that is useful to the country. The fact that the doing of such work will strengthen its claims to be entrusted later on with the task of providing a government will not deter us in the least.

In the matter of the C.C.F. our position is somewhat different. We believe that considerable changes in the economic structure of modern society are inevitable and desirable; but we do not believe in the abolition of competition. We do not believe, we do not believe that the emergence of one individual by another individual or a group of individuals should be prohibited, and in general we do not believe in many of the features of universal state socialism as it is more or less frankly proclaimed by its advocates. We believe that the C.C.F. has thereto performed very useful functions as the mouthpiece and defender of the weaker classes of the community. We should be sorry to see it entrusted with the responsibilities of carrying on the government of this country, and the enormous amount of work of actually managing the country's industry and commerce, as its doctrine extends to require it to do. To be justified in desiring we think "anti-C.C.F." though we think poorer for the loss of several of its C.C.F. members, and the best in democracy comes up to hold the electors of several Ontario representation in the Legislature even if they are likely to return C.C.F. candidates.

Judicial Appointments

(Fortnightly Law Journal)

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Otto's Not The Voice Of Austria

(Ottawa Journal)

We do not know how widely Dr. Franz Klein circulates the magazine called The Voice of Austria, which he publishes in Ottawa, but we should be greatly surprised if it is doing any good to the cause of Austria.

Dr. Klein's objective, hardly disguised at all, is the restoration of the Habsburgs to the throne of an Austria restored by the United Nations' office. Head of the movement is Crown Prince Otto, who recently was given the opportunity to visit the United States. That permission, according to Drew Pearson, a well-informed Washington commentator, came from President Roosevelt over the stout opposition of his most eligible for judicial appointment men are never considered for such appointment until their merit forces them upon the politicians' attention and by that time it is much too late to make judicial appointment in any way attractive to them. The surprising thing is that despite the fact that the most eligible men are thus passed over, the Bench will become weak and the eventual result of the continual extension of the political spoils system must be to bankrupt the Bench, because, like everything else which politics intrudes, political considerations finally become the only factor.

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