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

FRIDAY JUNE 1, 1945

Conservative Cabinet Timbre

Prime Minister King continues to ask rhetorically where the men are to be found outside his own decimated parliamentary following for the organization of a Cabinet which will compare favorably with his own reconditioned Ministry. As the *Sydney Post Record* points out, it is absurd to suggest that any Cabinet cannot be replaced by one equally good or better. But in Mr. King's case the idea becomes grotesque, considering the unseasoned character of the Cabinet he produced by his recent wholesale shuffle. There is full warrant for the electors to change the parliamentary picture if only to get rid of a makeshift Cabinet, not long enough reorganized for its members to get acquainted.

But everyone must realize that when Mr. King demands the names of the men from the Progressive Conservative party who will succeed his Ministry, he asks something that cannot be answered with constitutional propriety. There is no precedent for the announcement by an Opposition leader of the names of the men he will recommend to the Crown as Ministers, before being given a mandate by the electors to form an Administration. But the *Montreal Gazette* takes up the challenge and points out that Progressive Conservative party has a notably able line-up of candidates, drawn from every sphere of useful vocation, from amongst whom a Cabinet personnel of proven capacity and wide experience could readily be recruited. To quote:

"The ability and fitness for public service of several of them have, indeed, been publicly endorsed by Mr. King himself. It is only a few years ago that Mr. King revealed that he had invited Mr. J. M. Macdonnell, of Toronto, presently a leading figure in Progressive Conservative party councils and a candidate in Muskoka-Ontario riding, to be Minister of Finance. And when Mr. C. P. McTague, now another party leader and a candidate in Wellington South, retired last year from the chairmanship of the National War Labor Board, Mr. King recorded his regret and his high opinion of the services of the former Ontario Supreme Court judge.

"These two men are obvious and excellent possibilities for the Finance and Labor portfolios. The Prime Minister would, of course, be Mr. John Bracken, Progressive Conservative national leader whose experience and political acumen were built up during his 20 years as undefeated Premier of Manitoba.

"Other outstanding Progressive Conservative candidates who come to mind as Cabinet possibilities, and none of whom are exactly "unknown," include Lt.-Gen. E. W. Sansom or Maj.-Gen. G. R. Pearkes, V.C., for Defence Minister, and Maj.-Gen. C. B. Price (Veterans Affairs). Demonstrated abilities of Cabinet calibre are possessed by Messrs. Gordon Graydon, Howard Green, and J. G. Diefenbaker, all members of the last Parliament; P. D. McArthur, a leading agriculturist and national chairman of the Progressive Conservative Party; Hon. Earl Rowe and Hon. Grote Stirling, both former Cabinet members; A. L. Smith, K.C., distinguished Calgary lawyer; John Charlton, president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture; Dr. E. C. Hope, professor of farm management, University of Saskatchewan; and H. F. McPhee, former Attorney-General of Prince Edward Island, to mention but a few."

Nor would it be difficult to select other names not included in the foregoing list of Progressive Conservative candidates for an alternative Cabinet, which would compare more than favorably with the one now facing the electors, and which, incidentally, ignores this Province completely.

Bacon Production Decline

It is somewhat disquieting to learn that inspected slaughter of Canadian hogs for the first 16 weeks of 1945 showed a decrease of 31 per cent compared to the same period of 1944. All estimates on the probable marketings of hogs through the summer and fall months indicate heavy decreases as compared to a year ago.

Yet the needs of Great Britain for bacon from Canada are fully as great as they were last year. It appears that any marked reduction in our bacon exports must be accompanied very soon by a reduction in the already small weekly ration of bacon in Britain. There is at present no other exporting country which can make up a reduction in Canadian bacon exports.

Various factors have operated in bringing about the reduced marketings this year. It is now too late to do anything about the number of sows which will farrow on Canadian farms this spring. An increased breeding of sows for fall farrow could prevent a similar shortage in the spring of 1946.

Although possibly the major part of the spring farrowing has already occurred, reports indicate that there are still large numbers of sows to farrow in early June. Under the circumstances, in view of Britain's urgent need for bacon, it becomes increasingly important that every possible pig be saved from these later litters.

Dominion Government hog survey figures indicate that each year probably from 12 to 25 per cent of all the pigs farrowed are lost before weaning. Various causes contribute to this fatality. They are dealt with in the current letter on Canadian livestock products issued by the Industrial and Development Council of Canadian Meat Packers. The point most strongly emphasized is that now, as never before, every extra effort that will save young pigs to add ultimately to Britain's short bacon supply is a patriotic duty that will at the same time add profits to the farm hog ledger.

—EDITORIAL NOTES—

The month of brides and bribes—weddings and elections.

* * * *

The R. C. A. F. man who relieved the safe of the No. 2 Navigation School of $4,500 would not likely be a "fly-by-night" pilot.

* * * *

The 35-mile limit on the operation of motor trucks has been removed. Another relief, but what about the necessary tires for the journey?

* * * *

And what is so rare as a day in June?
Then, if ever come perfect days;
Then Heaven tries the earth if it be in tune,
And over it softly her warm ear lays.

* * * *

It is too bad the Magnetic Pole should have been moved 300 miles north-northwest of where it was previously. Perhaps the World War II was making its position too hot for it.

* * * *

Church conferences and assemblies will be in competition with political meetings the first part of this month—then a break till the Fall, when congregational work will be resumed, and probably Parliament convenes.

* * * *

John Bracken is asking the electors of this country to clear the air of uncertainty and make possible strong, vigorous and forward-looking legislation. On June 11, the electors will have an opportunity to respond to Mr. Bracken's appeal for good government.

* * * *

San Francisco looks like being a substantial success. The great danger at San Francisco was that we might set up a silly copy of the defunct League of Nations, and the fact that this is not any longer possible is a great victory for sanity.

* * * *

Prime Minister King is the Champion Egotist in this election. In his half-hour's speech at London the other night he used "I" and "My", by actual count, no fewer than 65 times. That is going some, more than once every half minute.

* * * *

A special survey of the fertilizer trade in Canada during the fertilizer year ended June 30, 1944 has been completed by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the results have been published in a special report. A total of 535,534 tons of mixtures and materials were sold in Canada during the year ended June 30, 1944, compared with 489,769 tons during the preceding twelve-month period.

* * * *

A manufacturer of personal aircraft predicts that farmers are the most likely prospects for his private planes and he expects 60 per cent of his post-war sales in that group. He bases his hopes on the utility of small aircraft for crop dusting, cattle checking, and commuting between farms, together with the many ready-made landing areas on farms. Recently a Texas farmer, using a specially equipped plane, seeded 2,500 acres in five days which ordinarily would have taken weeks with grain drills.

* * * *

Hon. John Masefield, D. Litt. (Oxon) O. M., British poet, born this date 1878; narrative poet, playwright and novelist; Poet Laureate since 1930; his publications include: *Salt Water Ballads, Reynard The Fox, The Everlasting Mercy, The Taking Of The Gry, The Box Of Delights, The Tragedy Of Nan, Good Friday, The Coming Of Christ, Live And Kicking Ned, The Nine Days' Wonder, Conquer*:

So from this glittering world with all its fashion,
Its fire and play of men, its stir, its march,
Let me have wisdom, Beauty, wisdom and passion,
Bread to the soul, rain where the summers parch,
Give me but these, and though the darkness close
Even the night will blossom as the rose.

* * * *

Where ignorance and bliss intermingle. Lieut. Hugh H. Aiken, of the United States Navy, visited a place in the S. W. Pacific, and liked it. Also he liked a girl he met there sufficiently to want to write to her. But he was not quite sure where the place was, so he addressed his envelope:—"Miss Patricia Lublow (a University student), working at The Portage (a small resort, hotel and sheep farm, about 35 to 60 miles from a large port that has a beautiful, land-locked harbor, a Navy yard, and a University. Also is cool and windy), Australia." Sydney postal authorities and Sydney University were stumped. It sounded like Sydney, but there was no "Portage," and there was no record of Miss Lublow. The letter will probably go on to New Zealand, because research has revealed a "Portage" over there, and the description might apply to Wellington. And the lieutenant may have Patricia's name right.

* * * *

Business is booming all right. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics report the number of commercial failures in Canada declined to 52 the first quarter of 1945 compared with 76 in the first three months of last year. The number was less than in the first quarter of any year since 1922 when the statistics of commercial failures were first collected. The trend of first-quarter failures has been downward since the end of the First Great War. The largest number for the first quarter was 1,110 recorded for 1923. The defaulted liabilities dropped to $994,000 in the first quarter of the present year, compared with $2,036,000 in 1944.

Notes By The Way

An exclusive organization is one where the members not only hate all outsiders, but are doggoned suspicious of each other. — Brandon Sun.

Then there was the customer who went into a cigar store to buy some cigarettes and before he got out the clerk borrowed one off him.—Detroit Free Press.

A firm of English manufacturers has found a 100 per cent effective remedy for the termite menace—one of the most destructive of all tropical scourges. The new odorless and economical remedy consists of a wood preservative which is stated to render every class of timber immune from insect attack. It also arrests and prevents dry rot and fungi. —From U.K. Information Bulletin.

At the risk of giving offence to cat-lovers, herewith be it suggested that the feathered kingdom is of far greater worth to mankind than all the cats in creation and the birds are surely worth protecting, where it can be reasonably done. Hence, cats should wear bells as they furtively roam abroad at dawn and dusk. —St. Catharines Standard.

Through extremes of cold and heat in "blind flying" conditions where tropical storms might have proved disastrous, the crew of an R.A.F. reconnaissance Mosquito of Eastern Air Command recently completed a record flight of 2,483 miles in eight hours and fifty minutes. This was the longest photographic reconnaissance mission yet made in southeast Asia. — British Information Services.

Distance has hitherto protected North America from the type of terror bombing, by planes and by jet-propelled missiles, that caused great damage to Great Britain. The Japanese, however, are very ingenious people. These balloon bombs of theirs are clever contraptions and speak strongly to the fact the Western Allies would be very wrong to under-estimate their intelligence, scientific ability or workmanship. — Vancouver Sun.

To interests farm youth in the improvemtnt of agriculture practices and rural social life is most desirable. On the other hand, there must be a strong resistance to official pampering. The young people must do the work themselves. Such a policy would develop leadership, maintain interest, and generate a better community spirit. To be protected by benovolent adults from the possibility of making mistakes is no privilege. It is certainly not democractic. — Globe and Mail (Toronto).

There is one thing about President Truman—he is made in the image of the people. You go into a men's shop to buy a pair of pyjamas, President Truman waits on you. You go to have a tooth X-rayed, Truman takes the picture. You board a downtown bus, Truman is at the wheel. Probably it's those glasses he wears, but whatever it is, we rather like having a president who always seems to be around. President Roosevelt was for the people, but Harry Truman is the people. — From the New Yorker.

Rhubarb is a vegetable but it has all the characteristics of a fruit as far as eating goes. It is juicy, it is refreshing and it has a distinctive and appetizing flavor. Rhubarb pies nowadays all are baked in round tins. There are no corner pieces. In other days many of the pie-tins were oblong and the corner pieces were favorites with hungry boys, for they had more of the delectable crust and were especially tasty when covered with rich country cream. Aw shucks! Let us go out and see if we can corner a piece of rhubarb pie.—Fort William Times-Journal.

A new "pocket tractor", lowpriced and with small running costs, which enables even small fields to be mechanized, has been designed and produced by a British manufacturer. This is a track-laying tractor, powered by a small 5 h.p. engine. It was specially designed for work in areas of soft or water-logged ground, or steeply sloping fields—conditions in which the wheeled tractor is not suitable. It is now also being used with great success in small fields and in market size, it is able to work nearer to gardens, where, owing to its small the edges of fields.—Fort William Times-Journal.

No less than the great timber limits, farmlots contribute their quota of the pulp for the manufacture of newsprints. In Canada the manufacture of paper began early in the last century, the first mill being installed at St. Andrews, near Lachute, in Lower Canada in 1803. The Chinese were the first to discover a practical method of paper making by the weaving of fibres. The Arabs of Samarkland acquired the art from the Chinese and were followed by the Persians. The Moors introduced paper making into Europe in the 13th century through Spain, as they did agriculture after that art had been lost and forgotten during the dark ages. From Spain, paper making spread to Italy, France, the Netherlands and Germany. It was begun in England in 1402 but apparently died until re-introduced 100 years later. However, it did not become firmly established until the end of the 17th century. — Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

What has been called "our good left arm", the bulldozer, has performed another miracle on Okinawa. A month and a half after out troops splashed ashore through the surf to the major island of the Ryukyu chain, and while the fighting still goes on, Okinawa has been converted into a major military base. Predicting an end to the fighting in a short time, Admiral Richard Kelly Turner, the amphibious commander of the operation, reports that hundreds of miles of hard-surfaced roads have been built in the central part of the island behind the battleline and that many airfields are operating from which 'planes take off daily to attack or reconnoiter the Japanese home islands, the rest of the Ryukyu chain and Formosa, which also is being pounded by fighters and bombers flying from airfields on Luzon in the Philippines. Okinawa now is at, or nearing the point, where it can furnish all its own air protection and also keep neutralized the enemy air bases within striking distance. This frees our carrier forces to proceed to some new order of business.—New York Times.

Whitehall Notebook

By JOHN DAUPHINEE

The Communist Party, which previously intended to put 52 parliamentary candidates in the field, has decided to endorse only 22 in the general election in July.

The reduction was made by the party's executive committee "in the light of the political situation following the Crimea conference decisions."

The Communists have been urging an electoral alliance among all "Progressive Parties" but have had no success.

"The Communist Party will continue to urge on the Labor Party and all progressive sections the desirability of such an alliance," said an executive statement.

"...In order to diminish the difficulties in some of the constituencies arising from conflicting candidatures in the absence of such an electoral alliance, the Communist Party has taken steps to reduce considerably its list of candidates."

The party's only member in the present House is William Gallacher, representing West Fife constituency since 1935.

Patrick Cunningham and A.J. Mulvey have been members of Parliament for 10 years and have never taken their seats. Not having taken the oath they draw no salary and so make a joint present to the Exchequer of £1,200 ($5,400) annually.

Mr. Cunningham, a farmer, and Mr. Mulvey, editor of a nationalist weekly newspaper, are both Irish national abstentionist members. They promised their electors they would not take their seats if elected.

Mr. Mulvey said after the 1935 voting that their protest was not so much directed against the British Government as the Government of Northern Ireland.

But regardless of their reasons, the effect is that nearly 120,000 voters are disfranchised.

Conservative candidates for London seats are going to a school where the curriculum is what-a-would-be-M.P.-should-know.

One such course was completed recently at the Junior Carlton Club. The class had a gruelling time of note-taking and studying every phase of attack and defence on the hustings. Several cabinet ministers gave lectures

"It was just like a staff course," said one Army officer who attended.

San Francisco Spotlight

(By C.R. Blackburn, Canadian Press Staff Writer)

—(Advance) — Before the United Nations security conference opened in San Francisco there were elaborate promises from the State Department that more than ever before at an international gathering proceedings would be open to the press.

After five weeks this promise is far from realized. Some plenary sessions have been open to press and public, but the meetings, where the debates take place and decisions are made, are closed and heavily guarded

Some committee chairmen met the press after daily sessions but that was largely abandoned for one reason or another. Much leaks out and often in garbled form, but the conference is well covered, largely because of the reporters' individual efforts.

Certain delegations hold press conferences daily for "briefing" purposes but restrict those attending to their own nationals. Thus American correspondents only can attend briefing sessions held by the American delegation, and only United Kingdom writers can get in to the British delegation press sessions.

An outstanding exception is provided by the Canadian delegation. Every morning at 10 o'clock the Canadian ambassador to Washington, L.B. Pearson holds a background press conference for Canadian correspondents. But from the start non-Canadian reporters were welcomed and they have come in increasing numbers.

In the roped-off civic centre where the conference works in the veterans building and adjoining Opera House, one can get cigarets, food and drink and tickets to alluring free excursions — but not a daily newspaper. News vendors cannot get into the area without a pass and apparently nobody thought of arranging for paper deliveries... probably the need for an international language was never emphasized more strongly than at this conference where more than half the time of formal committee and commission sittings is occupied by translations. Even long, non-controversial reports, of which cowies have been available to every interested person, are read in two or three languages.

The Loss Of Gallant Ships

(Ottawa Journal)

A compilation made in New York gives 169 as the number of ocean liners of all countries lost during the war, with 75 of them British, or of British registry, this category including Canadian ships.

Many famous ships have gone to the bottom, war casualties. The consolation, for us, is that the lost British and Canadian liners were casualties of active, fighting service. They did not hide uselessly in their ports, as the German Bremen and Europa did, to be blasted finally by bombs and shells. They blacked out their portholes, mounted guns on the top deck and rode the seas about their business. They took the risk of war, and their losses were very heavy especially in the early years, but they carried troops and supplies and they won battle honors on many an ocean field.

Those risks were very real even for fast, well-armed liners. Fifteen months ago this writer had the privilege of a visit to Western Approaches, the naval establishment at Liverpool where the Battle of the Atlantic was plotted and where there was an immense wall chart with the position of every ship at sea, including U-boats, marked by a symbol. One of the things said then by the officer in charge remains in my memory. We had asked about the position of the Queen Mary, on which we had travelled to England, and the Queen Elizabeth, on which we expected to return—but didn't. They sailed, as is well known, without escort, relying for safety on their speed, their armament, on frequent changes in their route. "If the war lacts long enough," said the officer, "it is inevitable that some day one of our great ships will come upon an enemy submarine sitting in the exact spot from which to hit it with a torpedo. That would be pure luck for the U-boat, but sooner or later it is bound to come."

The Germans didn't get that bit of luck, and the Queens survive, but many another gallant ship has paid the price of victory.

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again:
To see along the road the
blow haze:
To feel rain-fingers missed
many Mays,
The gentle, friendly, lilac-
rain.
For this I lost those barren
between:
Blue-flag in spruce-blue
in the swamp;
Dogwood against the sky, a
edged stamp,
Of transient loveliness. The
den green,
Of grass after a thunder storm
passed,
And buoyant call of oriole:
well."
The incredible wonder of a
egg shell
Dropped from a robin's nest,
now at last
I know why I came back: to
a thrush
Perch briefly in the honeysuckle
bush.

—Alma Roberts Glordan in Christian Science Monitor.

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