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

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1939

Taking The Plunge

It is not altogether a surprise that the Campbell Government have called an election for the middle of next month. Rumors to this effect have been in circulation for some days, and as it turns out the Conservatives have begun their organization arrangements none too soon. The question on everybody's lips is, why this drastic determination to go to the country fully a year before constitutionally necessary and in the midst of planting? Needless to say the explanation given by the Premier is not the reason, but merely the excuse.

It has been currently reported for sometime that the Government had got so involved financially that there was no way out except an appeal to the electorate with the hope and expectation that they would be defeated, or alternatively, get a new mandate that would enable them to float further loans and carry on for an additional five years. But we are very much mistaken if they succeed in fooling the electorate a second time. We have had practically four years of dictatorial administration in which the cost of government has soared to previously unknown heights, and the service generally gone to pigs and whistles, the dictatorship being supplemented by a bureaucracy unanswerable to the taxpayers. Economy has been a word practically unknown in the Campbell Government vocabulary, borrow and spend, spend and borrow, being the watch words of the administration ever since the first special session called for the purpose.

Our readers may readily realize the dreadful undisclosed financial straits of a Government which would upset the Province by a spring election on the very eve, too, of the first visit of the King and Queen to the Province. If the necessity were not imperative, were the misfits not driven to this last resource by a hidden hand, the industrious, loyal and law-abiding citizens may be assured the legislature would have been allowed to run its natural course. As it is, the farmers are to be compelled to devote time and attention to a Provincial election in May, and in all probability a Federal election in August or October, besides having to participate in the Royal and patriotic welcome to our beloved King and Queen in June, and to take part in the Confederation anniversary celebration in July. In other words, the people of the Province are expected in May, June, July and August or October, to depart from their ordinary ways of life to participate in extraordinary happenings, one of which, the Provincial election, has been unnecessarily and callously thrust upon them by a Government which has proved itself incompetent, inconsiderate and even blasé in its discharge of its legislative and administrative duties. It is taking the plunge now, and judging by the feeling expressed throughout the Province, it will be a deliberate case of *felo de se*.

First And Foremost

Several Liberal members who participated in the so-called debate on the Budget implied that they had given no binding promises to their constituents. Not one of them undertook to review the Liberal Platform and Manifesto, 1935, which contain sixteen specific pledges to which every Liberal candidate subscribed.

"The Liberal Manifesto Presented to the Electors of Prince Edward Island" was published in the Liberal organ on July 5, 1935. It professed to be "the Provincial Platform Amplified and Explained by Mr. Thane A. Campbell, K. C., M. P. P., Provincial Campaign Leader," dealing with the "Policies on which the Liberal Party Expect to Achieve a Sweeping Victory."

"Our Platform is introduced," says the Manifesto, "by Plank No. 1 which proposes a 'reduction of expenditure sufficient to balance the Budget annually.'" Comparative statements of expenditures under both parties are given, but only in respect to the three full years of each administration. In this period, it is stated, there was an increase in ordinary revenue under the Conservatives, plus unemployment grants from Ottawa which should have enabled the MacMillan Government "to make large savings by being permitted to use Federal relief money for the construction and repair of bridges and other public works," and to show "a magnificent surplus over all expenditures." It expressed alarm that the total debt was increased by \$927,212 and pledged the Liberal party to reverse this condition by making such reductions as would "bring about a balanced budget and restore a condition of sound financing and confidence."

(Since that assurance was given and accepted by the people, the ordinary revenue of the Province has increased by half a million dollars; the total debt has increased by over two million dollars (not counting bank overdraft and outstanding accounts of probably another two million dollars); gasoline, truck license, amusement and other taxes have been increased,—and the budget is still \$80,000 short of being balanced on ordinary account alone.)

"This brings us," says the Liberal Manifesto, "to the second Plank in our Platform, namely, 'Strict economy in administration and reduction in number of officials.'" The Conserva-

tives, it was charged, had created "new portfolios and new offices, carrying substantial salaries for themselves and their friends." The affairs of administration, could be "carried on just as efficiently" by abolishing many offices and by "combining or reducing the number of officials previously employed." The Liberal Government, if returned to power, "will undertake such reorganization as may be possible to bring about substantial economies in this respect."

Results as shown by the Comparative Statistics tabled this year: General Government Expenditures 1934, \$96,502; General Government Expenditures 1938, \$118,387.

We shall return later to some of the other pledges in the Liberal Platform and Manifesto. The first two were evidently regarded as of most importance, and were given precedence and special emphasis in the campaign. According to at least one Liberal member, they were the only planks worth a hoot in the 1935 campaign,—the only ones that elected them to power.

We therefore submit them as Exhibit "A" in the case of the People vs. the Campbell Government, which comes up for trial and judgment on May 18.

Editorial Notes

Princess Elizabeth born this date, 1926.

The Legislature is duly prorogued, when will it be dissolved?

Spain is now left with 24,000,000,000 worthless pesetas in paper currency issued by the defeated Republican Government.

An air escort furnished by the Royal Canadian Air Force will accompany the King and Queen from Cape Tormentine to Charlottetown and subsequently from Charlottetown to Pictou on June 14.

The expected has happened. Mr. Joseph R. Wallace, fisheries warden, Portland, Me., states that "for the first time, to his knowledge lobsters were shipped from Eastern Maine to Canada last month."

The London Times and the London News Chronicle have both closed their Berlin offices, as the Nazis ordered their chief representatives to leave because they would not write "in the German Government's view objective and truthful."

The Campbell Government, inconsiderately, if not defiantly as usual, has chosen Ascension Day, a Church festival commemorating the Ascent of Christ into heaven, for their appeal to the electorate. The festival is always observed on a Thursday, hence its designation, Holy Thursday.

Premier Dysart and five members of his government are now in Ottawa seeking new Dominion-Provincial relief works to replace those already concluded. Could not the Campbell government be equally vigilant in getting the Brighton Bridge recognized as a Federal relief project?

Admitted to Canada as physicians and surgeons, a dozen medical men who fled from Germany and Austria because of Nazi terrorism are trying hard, so far without success, to get permission to earn their living in Canada. Some of them brilliant and all outstanding in their fields, the doctors are unable to fulfil regulations regarding the practice of medicine in Canada. To do this it is necessary for all doctors to get license from the Medical Council of Canada, after taking examination. All candidates however, must have an "enabling certificate" granted by one of the nine provincial medical bodies, before presenting themselves, and so far not one of the dozen refugee doctors has succeeded in obtaining an enabling certificate, without which the Dominion body is powerless to let a candidate sit for the tests.

Other parts of the Empire are taking as their motto "Be Prepared." Intensive programme of food production throughout Ceylon, including increased paddy cultivation in the dry areas, is likely to be launched as a precaution against a possible war. It is proposed that the Food Controller should create surplus stocks of imported rice sufficient to last for two months and that the Minister of Agriculture and Lands should increase internal food production so that Ceylon may be self-sufficient. These proposals are the outcome of a conference at Queen's House, Colombo, when the Governor met the Naval Commandant-in-Chief of the East Indies, the Board of Ministers and officials. The official view is that in war regular supplies of rice from Burma cannot be guaranteed as regular shipping facilities may not be available and guarding the trade route between Burma and Ceylon against enemy submarines will not be the only task that His Majesty's ships will have to undertake in these waters. It was urged at the conference that Ceylon, with other parts of the British Empire, should be thoroughly prepared for war. Senior students of schools, both male and female, have been called upon to assist the Food Controller in writing ration cards at a time of emergency. Principals of schools circualised have given their consent. In the Western Province alone it is anticipated that 1,000 senior students will be required. The main districts concerned are Colombo, Galle, Kandy, Jaffna, Kurunegala, Uva, Ratnapura, Kegall, Kalutara, Matala, Nuwara Eliya, Mataara and Puttalam. The students will be placed at the disposal of Revenue Officers in the various districts and should be able to write in English, Tamil or Sinhalese. A scheme for the organisation of road transport in an emergency is now under consideration. It assumes that the rationing of petrol and fuel oil will be inevitable.

NOTES BY THE WAY

"Times are a decisive factor who the enemy has none." — Editorial. Still, you can say that much for bows and arrows. — Buffalo Evening News.

The usual process was reversed by the Curtis Publishing Company of Philadelphia in announcing that it would stop the sale of all its magazines to Germany. The action was taken because Nazi censors had seized some issues of the Saturday Evening Post commenting on European affairs. — Edmonton Journal.

Here is Bert Overland for instance going on record in the Star last December to affirm that we were going to have a late Spring because "the birds were laying in unusually large stores of food." "Nature is nature," said he, "and that's the best sign I know." The birds are not altogether dead but we have noticed that ten or twelve neighbor's Fall woodpile will be ample and then comes along a Winter that enables him to spare some for them on dark nights. — Sault Ste. Marie Star.

From inside Prague I hear that there is something like a passive strike in progress. Officials of the Sudeten party have taken possession of factories and businesses and the German police and Gestapo are trying to stop the workers. The heavy rain that caused the Skoda works, I am told, free use of sand has put some of the machinery out of order. While another report tells of a line of tanks in Prague immobilized by the simple trick of putting sugar into the petrol. — New Statesman and Nation.

Books go all over the world and are put down anywhere the radiator or on the window-sill, and the bookbinder has to remember that fact. Surprising as it may be, it has even to study the taste of white ants. It was found that white ants had a most alarming passion for English books, but left some foreign books severely alone. The problem was solved, a certain chemical was mixed with the paste and glue, and now these extraordinary creatures have completely lost their taste for English literature. — The Listener, London.

A lecture from the Bench was long overdue in Ontario for lawyers who are not interested in proceedings with cases on the date set for trial. Requests that cases be traversed to later dates are so numerous that the courts are forced to close their doors, that there can be no other explanation than the failure of lawyers to buckle down to the work of preparing their cases. Behind some readers, it is said, there are legitimate reasons, but it is significant that lawyers who are frequently not ready to go with country court cases seem to have no difficulty in completing their preparations in time for Supreme Court cases. — Kingston Whig-Standard.

The proposal to devote the Alpheus Jones homestead in the town of Prescott to public purposes after purchase by the municipality of interest to many people who are not established residents of that town, because this fine old stone house, with its surrounding grounds, has been visited by many visitors to the community who have expressed fear lest it disappear as so many of the older mansions scattered throughout the towns and villages of this district have disappeared. As one of the landmarks of the town of Prescott, a reminder of that period when the art of architecture was built for permanence, and not a homestead should be preserved, and if it can be preserved and at the same time put to worthy public use, so much the better. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

An early twelfth-century document, which had not been the light of day for nearly 300 years, is one of the latest of many papers of historic interest to have been rescued by the Records Preservation Section of the British Records Association. The document, retrieved from a collection of family papers which were threatened with destruction, is a deed signed in 1194 by a certain Richard of Beverley, who was elected Archbishop of York in 1114. His election in that year establishes the date of this document, executed by Thurston and not by the Archbishop, as not less than 825 years. The whole of this collection, numbering several dozen papers of early date concerning properties in the East Riding, has now been sent to the repository of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society in Leeds. — London Sunday Times.

The Russian army today is an enigma, as it was at the beginning of the Great War in 1914. Then the Allies exaggerated its fighting qualities, its equipment, its morals; the Germans and Austrians, on the other hand, deprecated it. And yet it is well to remember that it was the Russian advance in the Autumn of 1914 which compelled Molke to change the Schlieffen plan and to throw additional divisions from the west to the east, thus enabling Joffre to turn the tide on the Marne. Today the same discussion goes on. The greatest weakness of the Russian army before and during the Great War was the internal situation, and in this regard nothing has changed during the last 25 years. The chief weakness of the Red Army today is to be found in internal political dissensions, which bind the hands of Stalin. — From the Manchester Guardian.

The German Secret Police — the Gestapo — seem mainly interested in England in transferred money. One method said to have

That Body of Ours
 By James W. Barton, M.D.

PREVENTING DEMENTIA PRECOX—THE PERSISTENT DREAM STATE

You naturally think of heart disease as the most grave of danger of all diseases, from the standpoint of the organs of the body, heart disease does cause more deaths than any other ailment. However, once an individual knows he has heart disease and lives within his strength, he may live 20 to 40 years afterwards.

There is, however, a mental ailment that should receive the most earnest consideration of parents, teachers, and physicians which, if treated in its early stage, may result in a cure in the majority of cases. Undiscovered or neglected, this mental ailment sends more patients to mental hospitals than any other single ailment. I am referring to dementia precox, the ailment which the individual lives really two lives, one life amidst those about him and the other life "in a world of his own." And this is his own support, but the support he holds the life about him.

All the unusual or queer things done by the dementia precox patient are neither unusual nor queer if it is remembered that these queer and unusual things fit into the particular world in which he lives; the world that he has created for himself and, of course, into which he fits perfectly.

What must parents, teachers, and physicians do to prevent the development of dementia precox in children and young adults?

The Clinic of Dr. Edward A. Strecker and Francis J. Brackland, Institute of the Philadelphia Hospital, in the Philadelphia number of Clinics of North America, says:

Prevention must be intensively cultivated during childhood and every child who presents dementia precox should be given the "queser," "shy," "reserved," "difficult," "unsociable," "seclusive," etc., — should be suspected of a possible development of dementia precox.

In the home, "parents must play no favorites" either in rewards or punishments. The extra ability or sociability of brothers or sisters should not be pointed out. The reason for punishment should be explained.

Unfortunately, many of these children are the only child, or are catch youngsters, or their brothers or sisters. Fortunately, the school puts all youngsters on the same level from the standpoint of reward and punishment, but the Clinic of North America, in reading matter of these youngsters should be supervised.

Personally, I believe the biggest factor in preventing dementia precox is group living. The young youngster has to "give and take." There is no "royal road" for him to tread when he is playing or mixing with others.

SEEK NEW INSIGNIA

FREDERICTON, — (CP) — Just before the New Brunswick legislature ended its 1938 session Premier Dymally moved, seconded by Opposition Leader Squires, that New Brunswick apply to the King for new armorial bearings for the province, these include supporters and crest which the great seal of the province now lacks.

"Too much insurance often 'keeps the home fires burning,'" would be hard to find more virile or sonorous English than in the Fifth Book of Pentalogia Rustin, a conspicuous example of literary mastership nurtured obviously on the Bible. Yet another—and no mean literary master—was Eider Haggaard, the likened Deuteronomy to the sound of the wind in pine trees. Among present day Bible devotees, L.G. holds a prominent place, but not more so than did the late Joseph Chamberlain, whose speech bore striking evidence of his close acquaintance with Holy Writ.

Among my early acquaintances was a Devon seaman whose reading on long windjammer voyages, was confined religiously to Shakespeare and the Bible. I never knew anyone who used the English language more admirably.

Bible Readers

One evening journal has been compiling a day-to-day list of eminent persons who are regular Bible students. It is a far more extensive one than modern cynicism would suggest. The Bible is, of course, quite irrespective of its sacred tradition, one of the finest examples of English literature.

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PUBLIC FORUM
 This column is open for the discussion of questions of general interest. The CharloTTetown Guardian does not assume responsibility for the opinions of correspondents.

DR. GRANT'S MEETING

Sir,—Rumor has it that not in twenty years was the Liberal party dealt such a devastating blow in Georgetown as was handed it by the recent "Grant Invitation Conference." That "secret conclave" will be street talk in the Eastern Capital long after the distinguished Doctor ceases to be evanescent memory; and if it were only street talk things would not be so terrible from a Liberal viewpoint, but in many of the better Liberal homes it still ranks as the No. 1 subject for discussion.

Questions are being asked as to why was the meeting not held in the public hall as before? Who prepared the list of invited guests? Was the list prepared with the sole idea of furthering the discord already far too prevalent? Perhaps, of course, those questions are unfair. Who knows?

Another view held by some is that the whole thing was engineered with the one idea of blasting the last feeble flicker of support that the Doctor might have for here in Georgetown. Those who hold this view say, well, did not at least one of the great ones there previously promise not only his own support, but that of the town delegates at the next convention to the present Minister of Public Works, Mr. Manton? However, one of the things discussed at the meeting, so rumor has it, was the procuring of an ice-breaker to break up the harbor ice, to which some "smart guy" later was heard to remark: "Why not get some one to paint the word 'promises' at regular intervals over the harbor ice, say from Pooles wharf to the harbor entrance, then let the earned Doctor have a try if he will do a better job of breaking than any ice-breaker, even the N. B. McLean."

Oh, but that was rather mean, didn't you think? Yet, but then the whole meeting, invitations and all, was hardly snow white.

Those darn rumors persist; if we hear any more we shall be glad to pass them on.

I am, Sir, etc., "G."

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In Plain Language Risks Of Makeup

(Hamilton Spectator)
 President Roosevelt has disregarded both internal and foreign political sniping in his admirable stand for unity of the democracies. In this role, as in the case of Premier Chamberlain, his honesty and integrity are being assailed by his opponents. Talking in the only language they understood, they dig up the sinister motives of party strategy; confine their work to the hack propaganda of the bull ring.

But somehow the majority of people will undoubtedly feel that when he gave full approval Tuesday to the editorial opinion of an American newspaper—"nothing less than the show of force will stop them (the fascist aggressors), for force is the only language they understand"—he spoke for a far broader body of opinion than that of the vote-grubbing "isolationists" with whom even Canada is not altogether unacquainted.

The present world threat has gone so far beyond the realm of recalcitrant localism that none can reasonably ignore its implications. During the much abused period of appeasement, one fact became clear; the arrogant excesses of the expansionist powers were unmistakably the signposts of a predetermined policy, not a series of disconnected events. They represented more than a policy; they marked a new and almost unbelievable approach to the objective of a people. No ridicule from within or without can discount the building up of a repulsive philosophy of force by the blustering chieftains of the totalitarian powers.

The words sanctioned by President Roosevelt made this clear: "What is insufficiently realized is the tremendous implication of a predetermined policy for every citizen of this country. . . . A war affecting the foundations of western civilization . . . would immediately affect us vitally."

Thus the issue is brought outside the confines of national pride, outside the befogged nonsense about "imperialism," and into the most intimate contact with the lives of all who still have respect for freedom and decency. And by the same

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