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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1938

Farm Machinery Prices

Our local contemporary falsely accuses Hon. Dr. MacMillan of "seeking to convey the impression" at the Conservative convention in Cardigan that the King Government had made no tariff reductions on farm implements. Dr. MacMillan neither said nor implied, nor is reported to have said or implied, anything of the kind. He was dealing with the Liberal failure to obtain reduction in prices (not tariffs) and he was fully justified because one of the chief promises held out to our farmers in 1935 was reduction in the alleged exorbitant prices of farm implements, through Liberal tariff policies. What happened? The King Government cut the tariffs, and farm machinery prices went up instead of down. There have been three price increases since the Liberals assumed office.

Our contemporary, with unaccountable complacency, lists this among the "benefits" bestowed by the King Government on the farmers of Canada!

Dr. MacMillan compared this tariff bungling with the method adopted by the Bennett Government in dealing with farm machinery manufacturers. They were warned that if they raised their prices they would lose their tariff protection. This proved an effective check on price increases, and the only regret our farmers must have is that the King Government didn't have the sense to do likewise.

The Thanksgiving Season

Throughout Christendom last Sunday services of thanksgiving were held following days of intense excitement, in which Europe trembled on the very brink of war. Deliverance, at least for the present, from the horrors of such a catastrophe has come and a feeling of gratitude to Divine Providence is uppermost in the minds of all our people as we approach the national Thanksgiving Day observance, which falls on Monday next.

We still have domestic problems to contend with, including low farm and fishery prices, unemployment, and burdensome taxation. But we are not singular in this respect, and there is undoubtedly reason for optimism in the improved condition in some sections at least of the Western Provinces.

It is customary at this time to review the situation from the agricultural standpoint. Up to the present, the season in this Province has been a rainy one. Good crops were harvested of oats and barley, while the turnip and mangel crops have seldom been better. Our dairymen have benefited by large quantities of milk for cheese and butter production, and their cattle will go into the stables in fine condition due to the large amount of second growth of clover and grass in addition to the abundance of roots for winter feeding.

The wheat crop, unfortunately, is almost a total failure on account of rust. It is apparent that some effort must be made to obtain, if possible, a variety of wheat that is rust-resistant. Efforts directed along this line would be of great value in years to come.

Some of the hay crop has also been affected adversely, due to weather conditions during the harvest.

The potato crop is materially affected with rot where spraying was not properly attended to. This applies especially to table stock. Seed potatoes, which as a rule are more carefully sprayed, are turning out much better, though, as stated the other day, no definite estimate of the damage can be given until the inspectors have completed their examination.

The chief worry of our farmers is with regard to market conditions. Field crop prices are by no means satisfactory and in some cases will fall below production costs.

The price of oats in particular is very low. As this crop is good, it would seem to be more advantageous if our farmers fed their grain at home, as finished products, such as hogs and poultry, are in good demand at fair prices. This would also tend to enhance the fertility of the soil which is one of the most important factors in animal farming.

While butter prices have dropped considerably within the past week, cheese is still at a fairly high price.

The number of horses, though perhaps equal to the preceding year, is still much below what it should be. It is suggested that an effort be made to obtain pure-bred fillies of the heavier type.

There has been a slight increase in hog and poultry production this year, but the opportunities in both these lines are still capable of development. The same applies to dairying which has always been regarded as the sheet-anchor of our farming industry.

The approximate acreage this year was as follows: Wheat, 18,900, oats, 146,800, barley, 7,800, buckwheat, 3,300, mixed grains, 32,700, turnips and mangels, 11,400, seed potatoes, 18,000.

Estimated livestock production: poultry, 830,220, sheep, 28,895, cattle, 99,400, swine, 41,180, horses, 48,700.

For the fox industry the prospects are more hopeful as a result of the peace terms negotiated last week in Europe. The season has been favorable for fur quality, and there has been steady improvement in ranching methods. The fox population is about the same as last year, with between 70,000 and 80,000 pups and about

60,000 adult animals.

In the oyster fishery substantial improvement is reported this year in Prince County, especially in the Richmond Bay area. The output is greater and there is a good demand for the product. In Queens County, however, production has declined to a discouraging level.

Cod and herring catches show an increase over last year, with mackerel slightly lower. Prices remain about the same.

Lobster prices show a decline of about one-third over last year, but the catch is greater. About 300 more cases have been packed to date, and there has been a slight increase in shipments in shell.

It is not, of course, for material blessings alone that we should observe the Thanksgiving season. "To watch the corn grow, and the blossoms set; to draw hard breath over ploughshare or spade; to read, to think, to love, to hope, to pray—these are the things that make men happy." We have been endowed with a profusion of such opportunities for happiness in this favoured Province, and we should be the last people on earth to

"Trieve in disputes, or vainly struggle With that eternal mercy which protects us."

Canada's Position

Canada's constitutional position in regard to any war in which Great Britain may become involved has been, during recent weeks, a matter of very grave consideration. There seems to be a good deal of misconception on this subject, which the *Fortnightly Law Journal* undertakes to clear up in its current issue. The editors of this authoritative publication take the ground that, regardless of Canada's independent status under the Statute of Westminster, if Great Britain goes to war, so does the whole Empire, and of course Canada with it.

The reason for this is that the whole Empire forms part of the same sovereignty. No part of that sovereignty can remain neutral while the rest is at war unless that one part throws off the sovereignty to which it owes allegiance. In other words any Dominion declaring its neutrality in any war in which Great Britain, a co-qual—at least—member of the Empire, becomes involved, in fact declares its secession from the Empire, because it refuses to recognize the King's war and so disowns the King.

That is, of course, not to say that Canada cannot in the assertion of its autonomy refuse aid to Great Britain in the Empire's war. But to do so, if not amounting to an actual declaration of neutrality, does not mean that Canada would enjoy any immunity from attack from Great Britain's enemies, and certainly would invite such an attack in these days when the world is apparently returning to the rule of might. It would also appear that in such a case Canada's defense would undoubtedly be up to itself, as the patience of the other members of the Empire has its limits, just as surely as their resources would be taxed in the defense of their own vital interests. Just exactly what defense Canada would have against any such attacks should its refusal of support be reciprocated by the rest of the Empire, is not apparent. Navies do not grow overnight, and even aeroplanes take time to build. All the man power in the world is useless without arms. Even the airy promises of a Roosevelt seem little more than emotional impotence.

Editorial Notes

Henry Fielding died this date 1754.

The process of white-washing the King and Campbell Governments still goes on at Liberal meetings, but the record remains as unsightly as ever in the eyes of the electorate. Indeed, it has gathered not a few ugly blotches in recent months.

Ontario's roadside traffic "courts" which save touring United States traffic law violators both time and money, are working satisfactorily. Attorney General Conant said recently. When United States tourists are stopped for violating highway laws, the provincial traffic officer becomes both prosecutor and judge. He determines the fine and collects it on the spot. If the tourist disagrees, he can go into court in the usual way and get a refund if he proves himself right.

It pays to be a beggar in a big city like Philadelphia. The other day, as for many days, a little woman in a tattered brown sweater and billowy skirt stood on a busy downtown street corner, stretched out a thin hand and piped a plea for alms. But this time, Policeman John Smith strolled over to her, took her by the arm and led her away. Booked on a charge of begging, the little woman groaned and held her side. She said she was ill, but when they offered to take her to a hospital she "couldn't afford it." "Let me go," she wailed. "I want to go home. I've got to pay the rent." A police matron searched her clothing. A gold coin fell out; then another and another. The matron's expert hands found bulges in the old black skirt. Coins and bills had been carefully stitched in. Total resources of the poor beggar-woman: \$2.89, 35¢—the 36 cents clenched tightly in her fist.

Scientists are still on the trail of that lost hero who ate the first oyster. Dean Swift called attention to this adventurer in the pithy remark, "He was a bold man that first ate an oyster." But Dean Swift, with his eighteenth century grammar and his eighteenth century knowledge of prehistoric man, could never have suspected how far back in time his light quip would be pursued, in search of the missing pioneer. Science Today says, Prehistorians in their studies of man's rise to civilization have trailed the oyster-eating custom back through the Neolithic or New Stone Age. They find great mounds of shells at Neolithic settlements to prove that oyster eating was an old story then. They have also found evidence that mankind ate oysters in the preceding period called the Mesolithic or Middle Stone Age. That establishes the oyster as human food no less than 15,000 years ago.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Things are still in the flint, steel and tinder stage in Europe. There are the Poles to reckon with; the Czechs and the Germans themselves. It is true enough that the League of Nations has been abolished in the cards, that the little nation is better off to have yielded up bloodlessly what, except for the Munich Conference, would have been carried off by force. But it is being superlatively optimistic to believe with Mr. Chamberlain that a larger settlement of European affairs is in the offing as a by-product of the Munich settlement. Did Herr Hitler build his "impregnable" lines, "his unquenchable" army and navy just to take a fringe of land on the rim of the little Czechoslovakia?—Portland Press Herald.

Great Britain desires, above all, a general pacification of Europe. Again and again during the crisis it has been suggested that Mr. Chamberlain was reaching out to-day to take a fringe of land on the rim of the little Czechoslovakia?—Portland Press Herald.

One thing emerges from the much-misunderstood, much-maligned bit of the British Prime Minister's speech in Prague. He kept her head. There was no "crawling" or surrender. She is more familiar with the tragedy of war than the savours of emigration. Mr. Chamberlain spoke in the ocean protecting them! She knows better than they how an Armageddon might bring a torn peace being handed to a state of chaos that defies imagination. She knows, too, how easy it would be for one false step to set off that blaze that is why we can feel that Mr. Chamberlain is for the British people and for civilization in the town by the Rhine; why he spoke with iron when he held the fate of Europe in his hands.—Hamilton Spectator.

It is at least a tribute to Mr. Chamberlain that he has agreed to transmit this proposal to Prague. He had for almost a week seen a friendly atmosphere at home changing slowly into one of gloom and depression. His position had deepened in men's minds that neither justice, nor honor, nor indeed, the true cause of peace, was being served by a solution which destroyed the League of Nations. In the face of that rapidly growing opinion he has undertaken to transmit proposals of a kind much more drastic, and much more open to denunciation. What vestige of impartial self-determination in the armistice occupies the ground? What price is being paid for what can be at best only a breathing-spell? What consideration is being given to the condition of the new frontier begins?—Winnipeg Free Press.

They are in no position to criticize unless they are ready to back up the League themselves. Canada, officially, has backed away from military obligations under the League of Nations. Therefore, what right have we in Canada to shout "betrayal" at others? The same argument holds in connection with criticism in the United States of Great Britain's position in the present crisis overseas. Had the United States gone into the League of Nations the world might have been spared the challenges to peace and order that it has witnessed of recent years—the Italian onslaught on Ethiopia, Japan's thrust, and grabs in China, and now the possibility of Czechoslovakia being overrun by its neighbour, Germany. Canadians who are ready to let the British Empire go, who believe that Britain is following a spineless course have a right to criticize both the British and Canadian governments for not stepping out and aggressor. But Canada, as a nation, has not been a leader in doing anything that would involve our necks in Europe or anywhere else.—Regina Leader Post.

The Bren Gun Contract

One of the decisions taken by the Dominion Government last year was to create an interdepartmental committee to examine all Government armament contracts. The purpose behind this was the control of profits on all such contracts, the prevention of undue

Last Friday a member of this interdepartmental committee, giving evidence at the judicial inquiry into the Bren gun contract between the Government and the Inglis Company said that in the case of this particular contract the committee had simply left responsibility for it with the Department of National Defence.

Which was an odd thing, to say the least.

Here was this interdepartmental committee set up by the Cabinet to protect the public interest, including that with respect to the biggest contract before it take nothing if it could do but take the contract to the department most concerned with the contract. The department, in fact, which had drawn up the contract. Just where protection for the public interest

The Poet's Corner

THE NIGHT
 Most Holy Night, that still doest keep
 The keys of all the doors of sleep
 To me when my tired eyelids close
 Give me repose.
 And let the far lament of them
 That chant the dead day's requiem
 Make in my ears, who wakeful lie,
 Soft lullaby.
 Let them that guard the homed Moon
 By my bedside their memories
 Of grief and joy, of love and loss
 In my brief rest.
 Fold thy great wings about my face
 Hide day-dawn from my resting place
 And cheat me with thy false delight,
 Most Holy Night.
 Filled with sweet thought, then happy I
 Take not my state from other eyes
 What's in my mind—not on my face
 Or theirs—I prize.
 Sing, happy soul, thy songs of joy;
 Such art thou, sing in the woods
 That all night has been strengthened
 By Heaven's purer flood.
 —Hilaire Belloc

Industry is largely dependent upon imported raw material which would be shut off in case of war with the countries from which they are now obtained. The Wuhan city, in the Yangtze River, is 600 miles up from the sea—rare vital factors in the industrial and commercial life of Central China. There is a total population of over 4,000,000 at Han yang are located the Hanyang Iron and Steel Works, which have given that city the name of "China's Pittsburgh." The Japanese have tried in the past to get control of these steel works by means of financial and political pressure, but without success. The capture of them now would both weaken China and strengthen Japan, whose own steel

The I. L. O.

(Hamilton Spectator)
 The League of Nations has fallen on evil days. Its most fervent champions are compelled to make the admission, but the influences which have brought about the decline of its prestige are not to be considered as more than temporarily triumphant; indeed, the conviction is stronger than ever that, in some form or other, the League will have to be revived, avoided, in the light of past mistakes, the pitfalls and strengthening the foundations. In the meantime, despite disappointment and betrayal, the League continues to do good work for which it gets little credit and which is not appreciated as its proper value because it is insufficiently known. In that section of the peace treaty which constituted the International Labour Organization are the following clauses: "Whereas the League of Nations has for its object the establishment of universal peace and such peace can be established only if it is based upon social justice; and whereas conditions of labour exist involving such injustice, inequity and privation to large numbers of people as to produce unrest so great that the peace and harmony of the world are imperilled, and an improvement of these conditions is urgently required, the high contracting parties, moved by sentiments of justice and humanity as well as by the desire to secure the permanent peace and order, agree to... for the promotion of the objects set forth in the preamble."

How has the I.L.O. fulfilled its duty? It has held a series of conferences (sometimes delegates meet more frequently than once a year), to which four representatives are sent by each member state—two government delegates and one workers' delegate and one workers' delegate. A good attendance has been secured and there is freedom of action when it comes to casting votes. The conference cannot make laws, which, of course, a prerogative of parliament. I do, however, draft agreements, which the government cannot ignore, but which are subject to ratification. It was the hope to make resolutions "possessing the force of international law" but this hope is now deferred, but this hope is now deferred, but this hope is now deferred.

What has been the practical result of these deliberations? They have been many and highly important. A large number of conventions, affecting conditions all over the world, have been approved and acted upon, and recommendations for the improvement of labour relations have been collected and literature distributed governing such questions as wages and hours of work, unemployment, sickness and old age insurance, protection of young persons, women, welfare of emigrants, justice for workers at sea. It would be well if the public—employers and employees—look a deeper interest in the work of the I.L.O., co-operating with its efforts to advance social justice and industrial progress.

Mr. Justice Davis, a Canadian Commissioner in this Bren gun inquiry, was apparently disturbed. Said he to the witness:
 "When your committee acquiesced in the chairman's view that after all it was the Department of National Defence that was going to take the responsibility for the contract, you stand your position—as I understood you, you said the committee said, 'Oh, well, there is nothing for us to do but to acquiesce in this matter. Should that not have gone back to the Cabinet council? I am only suggesting that.'"

It may be as Mr. Justice Davis remarked later, that the committee, in the case of this particular contract, was rushed, that it did not have reasonable time for adequate consideration. Nevertheless, and making allowance for the circumstances, the procedure will seem unsatisfactory to many.

This interdepartmental committee, if it is to be of any value, any protection to the public has got to report to somebody—either to the Cabinet, or to the Treasury Board. It certainly has no right to somebody—consult somebody in a case of doubt. Certainly to take the word of the head of the department concerned with some particular contract, to abdicate its functions and leave responsibility to the people who have entered into the contract, is to provide no protection at all.

If this judicial inquiry brings no more good than some betterment in a position like that, it will have been very worth while.

That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D.
BLEEDING THE PATIENT
 Years ago we were inclined to smile when we read the stories of the medical man of the savage African natives who boiled human organs and used this liquid in the treatment of disease. Today extracts of organs—thyroid, pancreas, stomach, intestine, pituitary and others—are used regularly by many physicians.
 Many years ago regular physicians used to bleed their patients for various ailments but the bleeding in the treatment of disease, however by the medical profession, however as many healthy individuals now give up blood regularly for patients with anaemia or after operation or a severe illness. Research physicians do not investigate the health of these blood donors.
 Dr. G. Cadham, Winnipeg, in the Canadian Medical Association Journal states that following the 1936 epidemic of infantile paralysis in Manitoba, convalescent serum for the treatment of the disease was prepared in the government laboratory. This serum was made from the blood of those who have recovered from the disease. Each of the 125 blood donors was asked to return at intervals and each time about 2 to 3 ounces of blood was withdrawn. Fifty of the 125 donors supplied blood six or more times, at an interval of one week.
 An investigation of the physical condition of donors six months later showed no ill effects. Forty-seven of the fifty donors said they were improved in health; even those who were apparently in good health remarked on a feeling of well-being. Sixty-five of the donors experienced an improvement in appetite and seven noted a clearer and healthier tone of the skin. Three who had suffered with acne (pimples) found that the acne had disappeared. Seventy-two of the donors increased in weight (3 to 15 pounds).
 Of 200 blood donors who had not had infantile paralysis, that is normal healthy individuals from whom 2 to 3 ounces of blood was withdrawn over a period of from six to ten days, none suffered any ill effects and the majority were really benefited by the giving up of this blood.
 The removal of these small quantities of blood benefit the donors is not clear, but Dr. Cadham states: "Evidently under certain circumstances the withdrawal of small amounts of blood at regular intervals may prove of value in treatment."

As, with the exception of one or two bogs in Cape Cod, the serious disease known as "False Blossom" has become quite prevalent. The Island Provincial Department of Agriculture is aware to some extent on the mainland, eating the False Blossom will be imported. As yet, however, it is not known whether the disease is already on this Island, but it is certainly worth investigating. It is a very serious disease and small sample in a corked bottle, the vines having been treated with formaldehyde by Dr. Franklin.

In the event of its being found possible to work up the cultivated cranberry industry on this Island, the question of the source of the vines to be planted will be a problem that will call for serious and scientific investigation. An apparently much time and money might be lost in the propagating of a fruit or fruits that would not be suitable for the Island climate.

Although apparently many wild berries are picked in Cape Cod, their total value is so insignificant compared with the enormous quantities of cultivated berries that are processed and sold under certified brands that little or no consideration is given to them. They are apparently either used by the family or sold to local retailers for what they will bring. In Maine and New Hampshire they are picked and dealt in just as in this Province. It is not, however, known whether in those states they are subjected to the separating process, which first eliminates all leaves and portions of the vines and then discards all or nearly all imperfect berries. This it is now proposed to do in Mount Stewart, as a result of the gift of a separator by the Cranberry Growers Association. This, I believe, is a wise move on the part of Mr. Dennis, for the processing will

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Attention

Have you trouble with your stomach? If the answer is yes, then we ask you to try EVAN'S STOMACH MIXTURE
 Evans' Stomach Mixture is a prescription of Dr. L. B. Evans of London, England and is the treatment of Indigestion, Sour Stomach, Gastric Distress, and many other ailments peculiar to the stomach.
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PRICE PER BOTTLE 85c.
MAC'S BLOOD FOOD
 For pale and thin people. A combination especially valuable in the treatment of those diseases where the origin is traceable to an impoverished condition of the blood.
 We highly recommend Mac's Blood Food for the treatment of rheumatism and for those who have lost their appetite. Mac's Blood Food will prove the restorative.
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THE 2 MAGS
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Cranberry Growing In Prince Edward Island
 (By H. K. S. Hemming)

It may be said that the above heading is not correctly applicable to this series of letters, which tell only of the cranberry situation in Cape Cod. My object, however, in writing is simply to give facts regarding cranberry growing in Cape Cod that will serve as a guide to those who propose to go into the cultivated cranberry industry in this Province, and certainly no better pattern could be followed than that of Cape Cod, where 70 per cent. of the cranberries of the world are being produced.

Now, there are three kinds of cranberry bogs:—
 1. Wild bogs.
 2. Dry cultivated bogs.
 3. Wet cultivated bogs.
 The latter are subdivided into four classes.

THE WILD CRANBERRY BOG

This, I believe, is the only kind of bog at present in existence in Prince Edward Island. There are apparently large areas in different parts of the Province, where the soil is a mixture of peat and sand, upon which cranberries have for years been growing without the aid of man. Just as wild blueberries grow where they came no one seems to know. Like Topsy, they simply grew.
 Another surprising feature is that in the wild bogs the berries are frequently of different size, shape and color and even when similar to one another in these respects the berries in the same bog may not be alike in keeping qualities or in resisting powers against frost, insects or disease. These facts regarding the peculiarities of the wild berry are the result of long experience and years of research. Some berries that I took with me to Cape Cod compared favourably in appearance with their established varieties, although the vines are not quite the same either in the leaves or stems.

In Cape Cod the growers specialize in different well known varieties, mainly in the "Howe" and "Early Black" Macfarlane's is a newer berry that is gaining favour. When asked if our vines were similar to theirs the reply was that it would take years of experimenting to tell just what varieties we have. We may have vines quite superior or very poor, but only growing experience can tell. Asked again if it would be a bog, it would be advisable to transplant the vines that are already growing wild, the reply was that such a course might quite possibly result in a loss of vines. Joseph's coat of many colors or rather, a result would be fatal from a marketing standpoint.

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What Is Your Aim?

Some men lavish everything upon their families by living right up to the limit of current income, making relatively little provision for the future.
 A more practical method combines the right amount of spending in the present with security for the future.
 The world depression has brought home to many Canadian citizens the inconsistency and insecurity of not making some provision for a rainy day.
 The Great-West Life offers an ideal plan under which both objectives can be accomplished—and for a comparatively small outlay.
 Write for particulars about this easy way to make sure that your wife will not have to battle single-handedly with the world, the home and family; and at the same time make provision for your old age.

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