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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1940.

Paging Mr. King

Hon. Ian Mackenzie, former Minister of Defense in the King Government, has rendered an account of his stewardship.

When Mr. Mackenzie had finished with a two-hour oration, he had not refuted one of the many charges levelled against him and the Government of which he was, and still is, a prominent member.

"Now," says the Post, "what about the Prime Minister of Canada? When may the people expect to hear from Mr. King?"

"He it was, as Minister of External Affairs, who saw to it that a contract-seeking promoter received access to the British War Office in connection with the Hahn machine gun contract, when well-equipped industrialists were being told that Ottawa could take no part in their relations with London.

"He it was whose only comment on the Hahn contract exposure was that scurrilous article."

"He it was who kept Ian Mackenzie in charge of Canada's war preparations long after his unsuitability for the post had been abundantly revealed and who removed him only when public opinion rose to near revolt.

"He it was who then put that same minister in charge of another important spending department.

"When it first began to expose the patronage and inefficiency and worse in the Department of National Defense, the Financial Post refrained from criticism of the Prime Minister. It felt confident that when the facts were brought to his attention he would take appropriate action. It hoped that Mr. King would cancel unbusinesslike contracts and remove those responsible for them from public life.

"Mr. King took none of these steps. Thus he assumed full responsibility for all the acts that stank so in the nostrils of the Canadian people.

"The country is still waiting for Mr. King's explanation and reply. Will it get it?"

Talks On Character

The following is an extract from "Aids to Scoutmastership" by Lord Baden-Powell, Chief Scout of the World.

"A Nation owes its success, not so much to its strength in armaments as to the amount of character in its citizens."

"For a man to be successful in life, character is more essential than erudition."

So character is of first value whether for a nation or for the individual.

Erudition—that is, reading, writing and arithmetic—is taught in the schools; but where is the more important quality, character, taught? Nowhere in particular. There is no authorized training for children in character. Yet, if it is going to make a man's career for him, it ought to be developed in him before he starts out; while he is still a boy and receptive. Character cannot be drilled into a boy. The germ of it is already in him, and needs to be drawn out and expanded. How?

Character is very generally the result of environment or surroundings. For example, take two small boys, twins if you like. Teach them the same lessons in school, but give them entirely different surroundings, companions, and homes outside the school. Put one under a kindly, encouraging mother, among clean and straight playfellows, where he is trusted on his honor to carry out rules of life and so on. On the other hand, take the second boy and let him loaf in the slums, with a filthy home, among foul-mouthed, thieving, discontented companions. Is he likely to grow up with the same amount of character as his twin?

There are thousands of boys being wasted daily to our country through being left to become characterless, and, therefore, useless wasters, a misery to themselves and an eyesore and a danger to the nation.

They could be saved if only the right surroundings or environment were given to them at the receptive time of their lives. And there are many thousands of others who may not be placed on quite so low a level (for there are wasters in every class of life), but who would be all the better men and more valuable to the country and more satisfactory to themselves if they could be persuaded, at the right age to develop their characters.

Here, then, lies the most important aim in the Boy Scout training—to educate; not to instruct, mind you, but to educate, that is, to draw out the boy to learn for himself of his own desire, the things that tend to build up character in him.

Disguised Fascism

"Every decent, loyal Canadian is for national unity," declared Dr. Manion in his first political address, in which he replied to Mr. King's "key-note" speech. "How then can national unity be an issue in this election?"

How indeed? "When," asks a contemporary "has it ever come to pass that honest difference of opinion in politics should be translated in terms of national disunity." And it adds with truth: "The whole thing is preposterous."

Reduced to its simplest terms, Mr. King, in maintaining the partisan set-up in his Government and at the same time appealing to the

people of Canada to support a one-party Cabinet in the interest of "unity," has offered the electors a formula which is totalitarian in form and essence. The German dictatorship, under which the Nazi totalitarianism flourishes, is a single-party institution, which has extinguished all organized opposition in the state. The Fascist dictatorship at Rome has forced a similar totalitarian system on Italy, through the agency of a single party monopoly of government, industry, press, radio, and all the machinery of state.

It is unlikely that kind of thing will ever get a toe hold in Canada. It is improbable that Mr. King realizes that the whole spirit of his appeal for national unity around a partisan government is thinly disguised Fascism. But it is just that. And because it is just that, it will get Mr. King nowhere.

Quick Answer

Dr. Manion's appeal for a National Government to win the war drew a quick answer from Halton County, Ontario. George C. Atkins, editor of the Oakville Record, accepted the nomination as National Government candidate at the end of the last week.

"I accepted the open nomination because I believe R. J. Manion's National Government idea the best for the country," Mr. Atkins declared after his nomination. "While he had not held an official position in the party, Mr. Atkins was considered a strong Liberal until the start of the present campaign."

EDITORIAL NOTES

"Going, going, gone," is the slogan the one-time Press supporters of the Mackenzie King doomed government are now regretfully proclaiming.

It is evident the Maritimes, and especially this Province, have every right to expect that a change of government will give the farmers the chance they have been longing for—to get a margin of profit off their produce of the soil.

A National Government will see to it that grafters and party beclers and feeders at the public trough are sent about their own particular business. There will be no selling of government jobs to provide seats for Western and Eastern cast-offs.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow born this date, 1807. His Evangeline makes him almost a Maritimer.

"A boy's will is the wind's will, And the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts."

"The time has come for Canadians to decide whether they wish to continue under a dictator without a mandate, who delegates his powers to autocrats, censors and policing authorities intent on maintaining at any price a regime of political partisanship or wish to be given a national government, founded on true national unity." Mr. George Heon, member of the last Parliament for Argenteuil, declared. "The truths is said Mr. Heon, that Premier Mackenzie King and Rt. Hon. Ernest Lapointe are 'devooured by fear; fear of questions, fear of friends as well as their enemies, fear of London, fear of Toronto, fear of the West, fear of Quebec.' In Britain, Parliament had continued to sit throughout the war; in Canada, 'we are governed by a single man, elected in time of peace.'"

The redoubtable George Bernard Shaw has received a letter from Poland appealing to him to intercede for the release from a Warsaw prison of a Polish actor and director who before the war staged Mr. Shaw's comedy "Geneva," in which the playwright endowed the character Adolf Hitler with gifts "which no mortal further ever possessed." The actor, Joseph Wegzyn played the Hitler role in the production, which was directed by Arnold Szyman. Mr. Shaw's correspondent wrote: "As Wegzyn may be condemned to death, I beg you to do all to deliver this innocent and eminent Polish artist from that danger and to raise the world's opinion against that new proof of German 'culture and humanity' in Poland." Mr. Shaw passed on the letter to the British Press Association with the following note written on the back: "If Herr Hitler is responsible for this I am shocked at his ingratitude. I have handed him down to history in the play with gifts of eloquence, debating power and readiness in repartee which no mortal fuellier ever possessed or ever will possess, and this is how he requites me. If he had an atom of common sense he would decorate the great Polish actor and order a thousand performances."

A farmer's son is more likely to follow his father's occupation than the son of a man in some other kind of work, according to the findings of a survey made at Cornell University by Professor W. A. Anderson of the Department of Rural Sociology. The study was based on 850 Cornell students covering three generations. Twice as many farmer as non-farmer sons were found to take up the father's occupation. The other lines of work were largely law, medicine, business ownership and skilled mechanical trades. When three generations are studied, whether in farming or other work, there is a tendency toward decreasing transmission of the father's occupation to the sons. Farmers' sons, however, are more likely to follow the family tradition even to the third generation, than are the sons of non-farmers. There is now little tendency for the sons of non-farmers to switch to farming, which means that it is largely self-perpetuating, according to Professor Anderson. The oldest son is the one most likely to take up his father's work, whether it be farming or some other kind of work. Farm boys who turn to urban and other non-farm pursuits go into all sorts of occupations, most of those covered in the Cornell study entering professional and business activities. Finally, there was found no indication that where social classes were comparable, farmers' sons were less successful when they entered other work than were the sons of non-farmers.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The Bank of Alberta is the big election issue in 1940. The idea of the bank is to have a place to deposit the \$25 a month promised in 1935. — Lethbridge Herald.

Very interesting if true is the report from Nova Scotia that Premier Angus L. Macdonald, of that province, has been marked for promotion in public life for some time, may become the Liberal candidate in Inverness-Richmond at the Federal general election. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

Italy made war so willingly on Ethiopia and Albania that at first sight it may seem strange to see her in the role of peacemaker in the Balkans. Her past adventures are, however, the most convincing explanation of her present prudence. Her people are tired. Apparently they have had enough of military "glory." Already they are being taxed on a scale comparable to England's, and their country is suffering from a serious lack of raw materials. Such reasons are enough to account for Italy's strict "non-belligerence" and for the skillful and persistent efforts of her government to strengthen peace in the neighboring Balkan peninsula. — New York Times.

The hormones, which are manufactured by the so-called ductless endocrine glands, are so powerful that a thirty-thousandth of a grain—a grain is a seven-thousandth of a pound avoirdupois—can titillate an effective dose. In some instances, these hormones seem to be the same in all mammals. Thus, a hormone extracted from the ductless glands of a sheep or cow has the same effect when administered to a human being as does a hormone extracted from the same glands in the human body. A new field is thus opened up for the slaughter-houses of the world. In addition to supplying meat to the human race, they can now furnish hormones to those whose own supply is deficient. — David Dietz in "Builders of Health," (Allen and Unwin).

It will have been noticed that the published correspondence between Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Hor-Belshazzar followed the modern trend of some incoherent formula of "My dear Les" and "My dear Prime Minister." The historian of political personalities may have some little difficulty in deciding when this convention was introduced. Certainly it is a product of recent years. No Prime Minister, we may be sure, ever wrote to Mr. Gladstone as "My dear William" and when he was Prime Minister his colleagues even in private correspondence among themselves, frequently wrote of him as "Mr. Gladstone" or "Mr. G."

Thomas Blakelock, M.L.A. for Halton County, Ontario, the platform in Brampton, Saturday in support of the King Government and declared he had "no apology to offer" on one of those fellows who voted for the motion censuring Prime Minister Mackenzie King's Government. He told the Peel County Liberal Association.

There is only one answer for that. An emergency arose in the House and we had only two or three minutes to decide how to vote. At least I didn't get down on my knees and speak out. I have voted for the return of the Government when I thought it was right, and I've voted for the Hepburn Government when I thought it was wrong. This time I voted for the Hepburn Government when I knew it was wrong. He said amid cheers.—Exchange.

A young lawyer, who has only recently passed his state bar exams and hung out his shingle, got his first client last week and had to appear on his behalf at City Court before Judge Fawcett. A fledgling attorney's first court appearance is as big an occasion for him as a young surgeon's first operation, and the fellow waited with bridled excitement for the case to be called. When the word finally came, he laid his hat and coat on a bench and stepped up to the examiner until he got up to where the judge's eye was. He assumed that this is the way to persevere in this court, that a judge said, sternly, "What would you have done—wrong feeling, on the board table and said, 'Well, I went up to proceed to business, gentlemen, and somehow the examiners thought he was the banker's lawyer and the lawyers thought he was an examiner until he got up to catch an edition. Someone must have asked him, 'And whom do you represent?' 'Hears' Chicago American,' my old man said, and bowed out. Arthur Pegler's son Westbrook could tell many another story of his old man, for the elder Pegler is a living example of the old-time newspaperman. — Time, New York.

Columnists, like most people, have families. Unlike most people, columnists often parade their relatives before their public. To make a point or fill a stock Constant readers know about the mothers of Hugh Johnson and Heywood Bruhn, about Dorothy Thompson's son and Eleanor Roosevelt's husband. Last week Westbrook Pegler had a good story to tell about his father. Speaking of gate crashing, Pegler told how his father once got into a meeting where examiners were over the papers of an absconding bank president in Chicago. "He just walked in, laid his stick and gloves on the board table and said, 'Well, I went up to proceed to business, gentlemen, and somehow the examiners thought he was the banker's lawyer and the lawyers thought he was an examiner until he got up to catch an edition. Someone must have asked him, 'And whom do you represent?' 'Hears' Chicago American,' my old man said, and bowed out. Arthur Pegler's son Westbrook could tell many another story of his old man, for the elder Pegler is a living example of the old-time newspaperman. — Time, New York.

War's pinch is forcing what seem pretty trifling economies upon people in Europe. Germany saves a little cloth by limiting men's trousers to one pocket. England a little wood by decreasing that British broom handles from now on must be square. In this country a professor of aeronautical engineering at Michigan University calculates that his state's new auto license plates, 39 percent larger than the old ones, will add nearly \$1,000,000 to Michigan motorists' gasoline bills in 1940. Even the old plates, he says, increased the air resistance of the average car enough to burn up \$2.50 worth of fuel in a year. What is waiting for war, American genius might save a cent of

A Sorry Defense

Hon Ian Mackenzie States His Case

(The Financial Post)

Last week Hon. Ian Mackenzie, former Minister of Defence and now Minister of Health and Pensions in the King Government, delivered what purported to be a defence of his administration in his own constituency in British Columbia. Specifically he attempted to reply to charges of gross partisanship and incompetency made against him by the Financial Post. The Post publishes the following detailed analysis of A. Mackenzie's alibi:

Insurance Brokers' Bomb Contract THE CHARGE: That an order for practice bombs was placed with a partnership of three insurance brokers (International Equipment Company) who had no plant and whose tender was "one cent per unit lower than the lowest tender submitted by a bona fide manufacturing company."

MR. MACKENZIE'S DEFENCE (as reported): "The extent of the misinformation is revealed when I tell you that the lowest tender was lower than the second lowest bid not by one cent but by \$123. Officials of the department recommended the lowest bid. It (the firm) had a factory fully equipped for work of that type. The recommendation was signed by the Acting Minister."

THE CHARGE: This is a typical example of Mr. Mackenzie's twisting of the facts. The truth is that tenders for 12,300 bombs were called ON A UNIT BASIS and were so reported to the Government. International Equipment Company tendered at \$2.64, the lowest tender of a bona fide producer was \$2.65. The difference between the two tenders, multiplied by 12,300, is \$123.

THE CHARGE: The bombs were made in a Montreal plant owned by Engineering Products of Canada, Ltd. International Equipment Company had no plant and functioned simply as a middleman or agent. The acting minister merely implemented formally the decision of a department for the administration of which Mr. Mackenzie was responsible.

THE CHARGE STANDS UNCHALLENGED. That Montreal Building Lease THE CHARGE: A Montreal building which the owner had bought for \$62,500 was put up for rent by the Department for more than two months later for use by the Signal Corps at the rental of \$27,000 for a ten-year period.

MR. MACKENZIE'S DEFENCE: "The transaction was not carried out by the Department of National Defense at all. It was carried out by the Public Works Department."

THE CHARGE: The building was leased through the Public Works Department for use by the Signal Corps. The fact being reported in Maclean's Magazine, Nov. 15, 1939, Mr. Mackenzie's sole defence is that another minister of the Government of which he is a member should take the blame. He has nothing whatever to say in defence of the transaction itself.

THE CHARGE: The Department let six cost-plus aircraft contracts which provided no ceiling on costs and no limit to aggregate profits on production of 63 planes of three types. These contracts will cost the country more than \$4,300,000. They provided for payment of 10% profit not only on direct costs, but on such items as executive salaries, travelling expenses, municipal taxes, depreciation, legal fees, etc.

MR. MACKENZIE'S DEFENCE: "Only three types of aircraft were placed under cost-plus contracts. The reason why we had to buy three types on the cost-plus basis was that there was insufficient data upon which either the contractor or the Department could estimate the Canadian production costs in advance."

THE CHARGE: The Minister offers no defence of the terms of the contracts and pleads necessity. But—the British Government in governing planes in Canada was confronted with identical conditions which faced Mr. Mackenzie and not one British Government plane order has been placed in Canada on a no-ceiling cost-plus basis.

Propellerless Airplanes THE CHARGE: Completed units of certain aircraft delivered to the Air Force in October, some six weeks after the outbreak of war, could not be used because the Defence Department had neglected to provide a sufficient number of propellers.

MR. MACKENZIE'S DEFENCE: No defence reported.

gasoline by devising streamlined license tags for our streamlined automobiles. — New York World-Telegram.

Kidney Acids Rob Your Rest Many people never seem to get a good night's rest. They turn and toss—lie awake and count sheep. Often they blame it on "nerves" when it may be their kidneys. Healthy kidneys filter poisons from the blood. If they are faulty and fail, poisons stay in the system and sleeplessness, headache, backache often follow. If you don't sleep well, try Dodd's Kidney Pills—for half a century the favorite remedy. 103

A Striking Tribute

A striking tribute to life insurance is paid in a recent advertisement published by a prominent Canadian Trust Company, to explain why it is such a wholehearted supporter of life insurance. The advertisement says:—"In administering hundreds, nay thousands of estates, we have often found too much of everything; too much due to banks and brokers; too many guarantees; too much real estate, particularly unimproved; too many insecure bonds; too many speculative stocks; too many heirs for the amount available for them—but never too much in life insurance."

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Lenten Meditation By Rev. James Henry Larson 16

"Love is the greatest thing in the world." These words were written by a great Scotchman who was careful to weigh his words, and the world has taken notice of what Henry Drummond said. "The world is full of roses, and the rose is full of dew, and the dew is full of heaven, only love that falls for me and you. This sentiment comes from a southerner, who knows how to love and glory in it. "As the Father has loved me; I have loved you. Continue in my love. As I have obeyed my Father's commands, and continue in his love, just so, obey my commands; and continue in my love. Love one another as I have loved you. The greatest love is shown by a man when he gives his life for his friends." The next day Jesus gave up his life upon the cross for all humanity. Who will accept this love? "Love your enemies, and pray for your persecutors. If you love only those who love you, what reward have you earned? The pagan tax collectors do that, but I tell you that you LOVE YOUR ENEMIES, so that you may become sons of your Father, and be perfect as he is perfect." This is the command of the world's greatest teacher; love your enemies; love one another; love Jesus, as he loves you.

Another Friend THE CHARGE: W. G. Mackenzie, intimate personal friend of Mr. Mackenzie, as owner of British Columbia Bridge and Dredging Company, secured a \$41,250 contract from the Defence Department on tender—but only one tender is shown on the file, that of Mr. W. G. Mackenzie's company. This indicates that this contract was awarded to a personal friend of the Minister without competition.

MR. MACKENZIE'S DEFENCE: No defence reported. COMMENT: The charge stands unchallenged. That Officers' Mess THE CHARGE: The Department expropriated a highly developed private estate for use as an officers' mess at a cost of \$94,440 when undeveloped land owned by the Department was available. The property was assessed at \$49,150 and it was owned by the wife of a prominent Vancouver citizen associated with a group known to be "close" to Mr. Mackenzie.

MR. MACKENZIE'S DEFENCE: The purchase was recommended by staff officers. "The acquisition of this property was definitely in the public interest, and has enabled the Department to possess additional assets which are indispensable to the operation of the Jericho air station."

COMMENT: Included in these indispensable assets were such military paraphernalia as a fish pond, a manure pit, ornamental gates, greenhouses, garden walks, chicken house, decorative shrubs and a non-skid floor.

MR. MACKENZIE'S DEFENCE: Forty-four contracts were carried out.

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