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

MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 1941.

No Time For Appeasement

Last week Canada found major tie-ups in vital war production at the aluminum plant in Arvida, in the Cape Breton coal fields, in the Natoinal Steel plant at Hamilton. In one of the country's largest and most modern aricraft plants another tie-up is threatened.

A mere handful of workmen in the Arvida plant cost us three full weeks of aluminum production. Thousands of tons of metal needed for British and Canadian war planes have been lost. Almost 10,000 war workers have been thrown out of employment. At least half a million tons of coal have been lost through the slowdown strike at Cape Breton.

This, comments the Financial Post, is a situation that cannot and must not be tolerated in wartime. It is exactly the same and just as serious as a major defeat on the battlefield. We are being unfair to the vast majority of Canadian workers who are willing and anxious to do their full share in winning the war. We are unfair to industry which has pledged itself and its resources. We are unfair to our armed forces who are offering their very lives and are absolutely dependent for that vital equipment on our war industries.

There has been little labor trouble in Great Britain because the people and the government of that bulwark of world defense are grimly determined to make this an all-out war effort, are determined that nothing shall interefere with their battle against Hitler.

Mr. King has proclaimed an all-out war programme for Canada. That programme has met full approval from one end of the country to the other. All classes, all creeds are ready to back it. But it has not been enforced.

The time has come when the Government must realize that we are engaged in a struggle of life and death. There can be no more appeasement. The public demands that the real saboteurs, no matter in what disguise they may appear, be treated as they deserve.

Re-estimating Russia

"There is no doubt about it," says Saturday Night, "we owe the Stalin regime a lot of apologies. We used in this column to poke much fun at certain Moscow policies for being unintelligible as parts of a communistic design. In particular we used to point out that no intelligent planning authority would so lay out its industries and its habitations that a subway was necessary in order to get its population from the one to the other. We now perceive that the Moscow Subway has nothing to do with the ideal world which was to be brought about by the universal triumph of Leninism and the Comintern, and everything to do with the purely military problem of defending the Moscow population against German air attack. Similarly the program of intensive mechanization of Russian agriculture, which always struck us as most illogical in a country with an enormous supply of cheap and very ill-trained labor, is now revealed as an essential part of the national plan for defence. Defence is now very largely a matter of gasoline-operated machinery, and as we of the democracies know to our cost, you cannot improvise the technical and physical organization for the production, distribution and use of gasoline after a war has come upon you; you must make it a part of your peacetime economy so that it can be readily thrown into gear for war when needed."

War Expansion

As new plants and additions to plants are being completed, the construction phase of the industrial effort is gradually shifting into the production phase, says the current issue of the Monthly Review of The Bank of Nova Scotia. In the last few months, the increase in the output of the tools of war has been accelerating and there is every reason for believing that the pronounced rate of increase will be sustained for some months to come. Employment has been soaring—no milder word would describe adequately an increase which for the goods-producing industries (covering manufacturing, forestry, mining and construction) has recently been some 25 per cent over last year's levels and 50 per cent for the metal-using and chemical branches.

Nor is the picture entirely one of the expanding war activity. With the great increase in employment and payrolls, the demand for civilian goods and services has risen substantially and production in many non-war lines is close to capacity. The official index of retail sales, which has been running about 17 percent higher than a year earlier, illustrates the degree of stimulus to such additional production. About two-thirds of this increase probably represents larger volume, and the remainder, higher retail prices.

Yet, says the Review, this does not mean "prosperity". The day of both "guns and butter" is passing and the costs of an all-out war effort are beginning to become apparent. Shortages and potential shortages of certain materials and fuels are now appearing. To an increasing degree, the additional materials and manpower needed for war will have to be obtained by withdrawing them from non-essential uses and activities.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

War declared this date, 1914.

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This begins the week before the great week.

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The Gas Controller has relented to the extent that he now says that the report that compulsory rationing of gasolene is on the way has no foundation in fact.

* * * *

The 3rd Division being safely over now begins the necessity of training reinforcements and the 4th Division. More people than ever here will be vitally interested in the defence of Britain.

* * * *

And it was left to the Hon. R. B. Hanson to compare the "Big Interests" with "pirates" and to suggest that after the war the rising generation should emulate them!

* * * *

Do you recall these halcyon days long, long ago, why it must be almost ten years since, when we all rushed out of doors to catch a glimpse overhead of a passing airplane? And now? —we all would seek cover.

* * * *

Are our practical farmers getting dumb or were they too busy to attend the conference with the Hon. Mr. Gardiner the other day? For the most part it was officialdom that held sway. The Superintendent of the Experimental Station proved a first class "deputy" in rebuttal.

* * * *

Alas that rain! Fine week-ends are appreciated by everybody, for the farmer as well as the urbanite and tourist loves to have the life-giving and fruit and vegetable ripening source shining on the just and unjust alike, knowing full-well that in the long run the just, including themselves, will come out on top.

* * * *

Medical examinatoin of 69,795 Montreal pupils during the 1940-41 school year in Catholic, Protestant and independent schools showed 33,389 of them to be normal while 36,406 were found to have one or more physical defects, according to a report by Dr. J. N. Laporte, superintendent of Montreal's health department's child hygiene division, appearing in the latest civic health bulletin.

* * * *

Bad luck still seems to follow possession of the Hope diamond. The present owner, Mrs. E. B. McLean, Washington, has just found herself cut out of her husband's will except for dower rights, whereas another lady, sister of a screen star, gets $300,000 because "she has given me her association and affection." It does not say what the Hope owner gave him, but one can well imagine.

* * * *

Another instance of bureaucracy vs. democracy is the incident which caused U. S. Secretary of State Knox to countermand an order of an admiral of the Fleet who refused Richard, the 23 year old son of Isolationist Senator Wheeler, a commision. First word of Richard Wheeler's case came from Senator David Walsh (Dem-Mass), who told the Senate that an unnamed Admiral had asked Richard whether he shared his father's view on national policy. When young Wheeler said yes, Walsh related, the Admiral declared that "there is no place in the Navy for you." Walsh said Knox subsequently reviewed the file and ordered granting of the commission.

* * * *

Queen Elizabeth Angela Marguerite, wife of King George the Sixth, daughter of the 14th Earl of Strathmore and Kingborn, born this date, 1900. Lady of the Garter, Lady of the Thistle, Dame Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order and of the Order of the British Empire, Doctor of Literature, Colonel-in-Chief The Queen's Bays, and Dragoon Guards, The Black Watch, Royal Highlanders, The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, Honorary Colonel 14th London Regiment, London Scottish, T. A., and 1st Bn. Hertfordshire Regt., T. A.); succeeded to the Throne December 11, 1936; crowned at Westminster, May 12, 1937. Their Majesties have issue:— H. R. H. Princess Elizabeth Alexandra Mary, Heiress Presumptive to the Throne, born at 12, Bruton Street, London, W. 1., April 21, 1926. H. R. H. Princess Margaret Ross, born at Glamis Castle, Angus, Scotland, August 21, 1930.

* * * * *

Herr Adolf Hitler is reported to have advised Japan that Russia will be crushed by the end of August, Great Britain conquered in September, and the war ended with a complete German victory before Winter comes. At the same time Virginio Gayda, editorial mouthpiece of Benito Mussolini, informs the Italian people that the Soviet's vast reserves and mighty armament may prolong the war in the East. Is there something wrong here or does it merely seem so? The probability is that different types of salesmanship are being used to meet the needs of different peoples in different situations. The Italian editor, detecting signs of disquiet over the failure of the Nazi Russian campaign to destroy the Red Army in one or even two thrusts, may have been preparing his readers for a gentle letdown. His task is to keep the Italian people in the war into which their Government led them. Hitler's task in Japan is a little different. He wants to get that country into his war. The technique there is to convince Japan's rulers that the Nazis have the war all but won already, and that if Japan wants to share in the plunder she had better get in now.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Auxiliary Territorial Service women who take their job seriously, and the great majority of them are very serious about it, have not worried in the least about make-up or wearing rings. The smartest of the officers use little in the way of cosmetics, save a dusting of powder, and, may be, a touch of lipstick. Those with out-of-door work to do find the fresh air better for the complexion than any rouge, and regular hours and plain wholesome food do the rest of the beauty treatment. — Nottingham Evening Post.

The simple truth about Adolf Hitler is that he is not human; there is not an atom of humanity in his nature. He is incapable of real love or real friendship, and he has no genuine friends; no woman is capable of loving him. He is as cold-blooded as a snake, or any other reptile, and he resembles a reptile in human guise more than a man. — San Francisco Argonaut.

Peter Fleming, the London Times writer, who has just won some new fame because his book, "The Flying Visit", anticipated the sort of escape that Hess made, is better known in the Far East for another reason. He arrived in Japan once when an anti-foreign campaign was at its height. A Japanese officer met him at the gangplank and, learned that Fleming was a journalist, demanded that he fill out a long questionnaire. At the end was this question: "For what purpose do you visit Japan"? Fleming scratched his head. Finally he wrote; "Espionage". — Boston Globe.

The Chief of Police of Chatham, Ontario, has placed a ban on unseemly noise-making at weddings in that city. He is to be commended. As The Chatham News points out, while happiness is the keynote of such occasions, marriage is, after all a sacred ceremony and should be accepted thoughtfully and seriously. Between expressions of happiness and near pandemonium there is a great difference. Wedding guests who feel that such an event should be marked by hilarity, practical jokes and rumpus-raising exhibit bad taste born of an inconsiderate attitude. Yet the practise is perpetuated in many places. Brantford is one of the places. In London, as well as in Chatham, definite steps are being taken to persuade the unthinking into the adoption of better manners. — Brantford Expositor.

Britain's R. A. F. coastal command, the world's biggest users of photographic materials, clicks the shutters of its cameras every sixty seconds of the war. In the month of April the command took photographs at the rate of 566,400 a year, using 104,400 square feet of film and 813,000 sheets of bromide paper. All this material, as well as vast quantities for export, is supplied without difficulty by Britain's own manufacturers. Photography plays a vital part in the work of the coastal command which safeguards Britain against invasion and fights the Battle of the Atlantic at its source, that is to say, up and down the coastline of Europe from Trondheim to Bordeaux. There, squadrons of the coastal command attack enemy U-boat bases, harass supply ships creeping down the Norwegian fjords or along the Channel coasts, and intercept the Luftwaffe's raids on Britain's shipping. Not only does the command record every movement of the enemy across the Narrow Seas, but it keeps the eagle eye of its cameras upon suspicious looking surface craft. The pilots are themselves highly trained in the observation of ship types, but when in doubt a photograph rushed to the naval authorities for identification is enough to ensure that she is speedily brought in for examination by the Contraband Control. — By Robert Williamson.

One of the great imponderables of the war is civilian morale. The British people have shown their mettle under terrific stress, but until now the regimented masses of the Axis Powers have had no comparable opportunity. If, in the end, the stamina of the free people of the British Isles proves less brittle, some of the credit must go to the ways of democracy, which concedes to the citizens the right to know the truth, and some to Winston Churchill, who has not hesitated to tell it to them. Yesterday, after reviewing some of the British capital's civilian defense workers, Mr. Churchill congratulated them on their victories of last Winter against the incendiaries and high explosives with which the Luftwaffe tried to make good Adolf Hitler's threat to raze British cities. He warned them, however, that they might see an even more savage struggle in the Winter that is to come. A strengthened R.A.F., he said, is ready to give the Germans in their own homeland a taste of the "torments" they have visited upon their neighbors. This statement, like the recent one of Colonel Moore-Brabazon, new Minister for Aircraft Production, that R.A.F. raids on Berlin will soon make the Luftwaffe's worst assaults on London seem "like child's play", sounds as though the British are prepared to give the Nazis a dose of their own medicine. When they went to war the British people expected their cities to be destroyed, their people to be killed. Anticipation proved worse than the reality, hideous though it was, and when their hour of trial came the men and women of Britain were prepared, morally and mentally, as well as physically. The people of Berlin, however, have been fed on propaganda about the impregnability of their anti-aircraft defenses, which they were told would keep any enemy bomber from coming within striking distance of their homes. Whether they will stand as unflinchingly as the British when this illusion, already strained, is shattered, remains to be seen. The British doubt that they will. Mr. Churchill knew whereof he spoke when he said that the victims of Hitler's worst bombings would be the first to spurn a convention granting them immunity from air attack if it involved a similar immunity for Berlin. This is no sadistic desire for revenge manifesting itself; it is rather a sincere conviction that bombing Berlin will hasten the victory and speed the peace. — New York Times.

In no country in the world is there higher respect for education than in Scotland. And if Scotland feels that wisdom impels them to a shortening of the list of studies in the schools, other lands may well pay attention to that example. The Scottish belief is one that is growing. There is a strong feeling in this province that the curriculum is overloaded and that less stress is placed on the primary requisite of education than should be. No doubt our educators have given thought to this subject but the situation might well be examined officially. — Guleph Mercury.

'Canadians All'

Under the title "Canadians All", a little booklet issued by the Director of Public Information, makes a fine appeal for mutual toleration and kindliness among the people of the Dominion.

Described as a "Primer of Canadian National Unity," the booklet is ably written by Watson Kirkconnell, Ph.D., F.R.C.C., of McMaster University, outstanding Canadian scholar on foreign language literature in Canada.

Prof. Kirkconnell tells of the varied human ingredients that history has poured into the huge mixing bowl of Canada's national life in a moving declaration that "Canadian unity—warm, effective, vital — is the key to our entire future."

He describes very briefly 25 different groups, from Anglo-Canadians down the alphabetical list to Ukrainian Canadians.

Peculiarly interesting at a time when there is danger of war with Japan is his reference to Canadian-born people of Asiatic origin:

"In Canada, especially on the West Coast, we have 23,000 Japanese, 46,000 Chinese and a few hundred Hindus. Our Japanese show a lower crime rate (1931 census) than any other group in Canada. Their young people recently won first place for comedy in the Greater Vancouver Young People's Drama Festival, and Miss Aki Hyodo has captured for two years in succession the Best Actress trophy donated by Percy Gomery. In spite of restrictions in the franchise, the younger generation in particular thinks of itself as Canadian, has excelled in our Canadian schools, and is today warmly supporting Canada in its time of need."

He writes: A very important conclusion for us here in Canada is that none of our national groups from Europe is really alien to the rest of us. All, by nature, are just as kind, just as honest, just as capable of serving and suffering, as any of the others. It is one of the darkest crimes of our modern world that some evil-hearted men have sought to preach that one nationality (they would falsely say 'race') is superior to others, and is entitled, because of that superiority, to insult and enslave and exterminate others.

"It is important that we, even here in Canada, should be careful never to assume that our fellow Canadians, of any origin, are by nature unworthy of our sympathy, respect, and good will. A few in all groups, even the English and the French, have been taught by evil propagandists to have hate in their hearts; but the great majority of all Canadians are honest, loyal folk, ready and willing to contribute much to our united national life."

Unity does not, however, necessarily mean uniformity. A country in which all people spoke the same language, attended the same church, and had the same opinions on all important subjects would be in sorry danger of developing sleeping sickness.

On the other hand, the necessity for adjusting antagonistic points of view in the open forum of democratic discussion is the surest guarantee of progressive and intelligent national policies....

The Poets' Corner

ICARUS

Here fell the daring Icarus in his prime,
He who was brave enough to scale the skies;
And here bereft of plume his body lies,
Leaving the valiant envious of that climb.

O rare performance of a soul sublime,
That with small loss such great advantage buys!
Happy mishap! fraught with so rich a prize,
That bids the vanquished triumph over time.

So new a path his youth did not dismay,
His wings but not his noble heart said nay;
He had the glorious sun for funeral pyre;

He died upon a high adventure bent;
The sea his grave, his goal the firmament,
Great is the tomb, but greater the desire.

—Maurice Baring.

Axis And Haywire

(New Glasgow Evening News)

What holds the Axis together?

Is it hope of loot? Is it sheer overawing of Italy and Japan by the superior force of Germany? Is it desperation born of the thought of "What if we lose?" Is it a vast mutual international inferiority complex?

Maybe it is simplier than any of these. Maybe it is just haywire.

Recent publicity efforts of the Axis powers suggest that the strain of the past 10 years has been too much, and that the much-vaunted ingenuity of Axis propaganda has exhausted itself and gone completely haywire.

If there is anything that superrace and its super-by-courtesy hangers-on must never do, it is to appear ridiculous. Yet if anything could be more ridiculous than some of the recent efforts of Signor Gayda and the pupils of Dr. Goebbels, it would be hard to find it.

The Italian government-controlled newspapers are all sympathetic with the thought that the United States by its conduct is risking war. It is deeply concerned by the thought that American boys may be asked to continue military training for more than a year. For a country which was pitchforked into war by a single leader and without the ghost of a reason a country whose every male child is from the age of five subjected to rigorous military training all of his life, such comments are so ridiculous as to result only in a long horse-laugh.

The crocodile tears of a Berlin paper, which charges that President Roosevelt is circumventing the rights of Congress, are equally ludicrous. It is hilarious for a country which threw its own Congress completely out of the window eight years ago to take this stand in relation to an incident in which every American child of seven knows that the President has put the issue squarely up to Congress.

Two countries which have openly avowed their intention to put an end to "decadent democracies" shed crocodile tears over the rights of democratic citizens and the functioning of freely democratic legislative bodies! It is to laugh.

The object of the propaganda services of totalitarian countries is not to make other people laugh. When the telegraph wires in the lands of the barbed wire go haywire, it is time to look for short circuits.

Ferry Tolls In Cape Breton

(Sydney Post Record)

For many years now the motorists of Cape Breton have been paying ferry tolls uncomplainingly, considering themselves lucky to get, after many representations, an excellent service in some sections of the Island, notably at Port Hawksbury and Ross' ferry, and a fairly satisfactory one in the less travelled areas of Cape Breton. Considering the high tolls which have been charged by the Government-operated ferries, the financial return to the Government must have been more than adequate, more than sufficient to pay for the boats many times over. The time has come for the Government to operate these ferries as a public service, and not on a profit basis. After all, the motorists pays enough into the Provincial Treasury every year to expect some kind of service in return. Not that they expect free ferry service, although even this should not be far beyond the realm of possibility. But they have every right to expect a revision of ferry tolls to bring them down to a more reasonable basis. At present ferry charges at Port Hawkesbury are one dollar per car, or two dollars return. The distance across the Strait of Canso is about one mile. It is interesting to compare ferry tolls charged at Canso and at the new Dominion-subsidized Northumberland Strait service from Caribou, N. S., to Wood Islands, Prince Edward Island. The distance between these latter two points is fourteen miles, and the charge per car is two dollars one way, three dollars return.

At Ross' Ferry, where the water distance from point to point is about three-quarters of a mile, and at Big Bras d'Or a slightly shorter trip, the charge is fifty cents. At Englishtown, a distance of about a hundred yards, the charge is the same. For any motorist who makes extensive use of these ferries, the practice becomes pretty expensive in the run of a season. If the Department of Highways could see its way clear to initiating lower charges on the ferries of Cape Breton, it would be a highly popular move, and one which would not necessarily necessitate operation at a loss.

Too Bad Hitler Does Not Smoke

(New York Sun)

Any wife who has watched her husband in the throes of giving up smoking can imagine what it must be like when a whole nation's tobacco ration is curtailed. France is the latest of the conquered countries to undergo this deprivation: henceforth, instead of popping into the nearest 'debit de tabac' for a packet of "blues", an ounce of "gris" or a "patte d'elephant", the French addict must register with the tobacconist nearest his home to receive, on certain days in the week and subject to availability of supplies, a measured quantity which somehow must be made to last until next time.

The same sort of thing has happened wherever the shadow of war has fallen. In England it is now a breach of etiquette to accept a proffered cigarette. The Dutch no longer get their fat Javanese cigars. Germans stuff their porcelain pipes with toasted hay and other substitutes. Italians, despite their arduous conquest of Greese, are compelled to do without their Macedonian cigarettes. The black and powerful tobacco that used to delight the Spaniard is now but a memory. At any time this enforced abstention from the solace of tobacco would be a trial, but in times such as these, when there are so many other hardships to bear, it is calamitous to lose the one thing that might make the suffering bearable.

"When all things were made, none was made better than this", said Kingsley; "to be a lone man's companion, a bachelor's friend, a hungry man's food, a sad man's cordial, a wakeful man's sleep, and a chilly man's fire". In 1864, when the Civil War was at its darkest, Lincoln telegraphed to Grant: "Hold on with a bulldog grip, and chew and smoke as much as possible". Tobacco is essential to the winning of wars, but also to the keeping of peace, as our red men, the weed's discoverers, so well knew. It is undoubtedly because that Austrian fellow doesn't smoke that he feels it imperative to set the torch to civilization.

THE OTHER MAN

LONDON — (CP) — Heard in Tottenham Police Court: "The only other man in the house was my trousered daughter."

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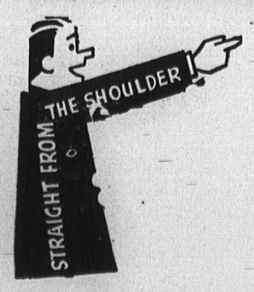

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