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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1946

Exports To France

In view of the visit here this week of M. Paul Lorient, French Consul General, it is interesting to note that France is about to become one of Canada's largest export markets...

Shore Line Menace

As noted in press despatches, a very dangerous situation has arisen in the Bay of Fundy region as a result of the presence of stray explosives. During last week-end two youths—one from New Brunswick, the other from Nova Scotia—sustained serious injuries through picking up "live" ammunition washed up on the bay shores...

Peace Treaty With Italy

The deputies of the Council of Foreign Ministers, who have been meeting regularly in London since January 18, are at work on the draft of the peace treaty with Italy, and will in due course present their report to the Peace Conference of the twenty one United Nations, which is to meet in Paris in May.

The United Kingdom, United States, Russian and French Deputies have before them two documents which were submitted to the Council of Foreign Ministers last September. They are, firstly, a British draft, broadly drawn to serve as a basis for discussion, and secondly, a U. S. statement of the general principles to be observed in drafting the treaty.

Mr. Bracken, who took the Premiership of Manitoba when that province was all but down-and-out and brought it to a fair measure of prosperity, knows what he is talking about when he discusses Government management. Out west at Salmon Arm, he said: "If there are no opportunities for the veterans here the opportunities should be made or found elsewhere."

There is also the question of the future of

the Dodecanese Islands, which were under Italian control. The United Kingdom Government, for one, is definitely in favor of their allocation to Greece.

Bacon Output Declines

The extent of the drastic decline in hog production, which has been under way for more than a year in Canada, is revealed in the report of the Dominion Livestock Branch for 1945, which has just been published. A drop of 35 per cent in the bacon production of the Dominion has been recorded. Thus there has been a decrease of no less than 3,100,000 hog carcasses from the high mark of 8,766,330 established in 1944.

The reports indicate that for 11 months there was a loss in meat production of 475,000,000 pounds dressed weight of pork. Less than half of this deficiency was made up by gains in beef, calf, lamb and sheep carcasses dressed in the inspected parking plants.

As a result, Canada was barely able to ship Britain during the past calendar year the minimum amount of Wiltshire bacon promised under the contract. The required 450,000,000 pounds was exceeded by only a few tons, although Britain was willing and anxious to take all over the minimum that she could get from Canada. The bacon ration of Britons went short as a result of the decline in production.

It is gratifying, however, to note from the report of the Canadian Meat Board that the Dominion was able to send Britain during the past year 175,000,000 lbs. of other meats as well, mainly beef. This surpassed the contract which specified a minimum of 60,000,000 lbs. of beef, along with other meats.

Canned meats assumed new proportions in Canada's exports overseas with a total 104,250,000 lbs., principally of beef and offals. Slightly more than half of this went to UNRRA.

Study of the production angle shows that the producer preference as between cattle and hogs was more extreme in the west, where 41 per cent fewer hogs were raised and 41 per cent more cattle marketed. In the east, the number of hogs was down 24 per cent while cattle were up 24. But percentage change does not tell the whole story. The livestock production west of the Great Lakes remained ahead of that in the east by one million hogs and half a million head of cattle.

EDITORIAL NOTES

This is the month for snow again.

In view of the Civic election, every one should keep his own door-step clean.

According to what Prime Minister King prophesied, all our boys will be home by the end of next month; but Europe will once more be looked upon as a "has been" rather than a "prospect."

Nell Gwynne, English actress, born this date 1650; originally an orange seller, famed for her beauty and vivacity, and her comedy characterizations; became the favourite of Charles II, and the mother of the first Duke of St. Albans, of whom there have been twelve successors in direct line. In his diary Samuel Pepys refers to her at the age of fifteen as "Pretty, Witty Nell."

If the Prince Edward Island mortality rate from tuberculosis for the past five year period remained as high as it was ten years previously, one hundred and ninety-four more persons would have died from that disease. Over 12,000 persons have been X-rayed here by the Mobile X-ray unit. This is more than one-eighth of our population.

This, from Alan Thompson of the BBC, bears out what Lady Astor said about the unwanted luxury of newly laid eggs: "Before the war, I used to consider that the height of hospitality was to offer my guests a gin swizzle made with fresh limes, sent over by my sister from Trinidad. Now there are no limes and very little gin; but my visitors think they are being treated like Royalty if, instead of, say a Baccardi cocktail, I offer them a boiled egg."

The sale of \$4,000,000 Province of New Brunswick debentures to a Canadian syndicate headed by the Dominion Securities Corporation, Limited, and Bell, Gouinlock and Company, Limited, is announced. The bonds carry a coupon rate of three per cent, will mature March 1, 1964, and were sold at an overall cost to the province of 3.10 per cent. They replace an issue of a like amount, being the 3.3-4's due April 15, 1948, which is being called for redemption prior to maturity on April 15, this year.

William Holt, of BBC, writing from England says: "You in South Africa may find it hard to believe that we still round-up wild ponies in Britain and that we have a village in England where letters are still delivered on horseback and where the whole community have been riding more or less since childhood. It sounds more a story of the wild west. I've been to visit this village of Withypool on Exmoor in the south west corner of England, and mounted on Exmoor-bred 'John Gay'—the shepherd's pony—I had one of the most exciting rides in my life."

As regards the former Italian colonies, the principle that they shall be placed under trusteeship which they recommend as most suitable. The allocation of trusteeships to administering authorities does not lie within the provinces of the Deputies.

Notes By The Way

A fratricidal war has broken out between all people, the Baltimore Evening Sun and Harriet Lane, the Louisiana author, over the question of whose state possesses the better oyster. Mr. Lane refers to the Maryland oyster as "humble." The Sun retorts that whenever Louisiana oysters are any good, it is because they are transplanted from Maryland. Oysters are never indifferent eatings, never humble. It is merely that some are less regal than others, less delectable. The merest oyster is more to be admired than the finest anything else. What is to be gained by this? The proper course is to eat them both. It has been aptly said that "whatsoever hath been, there still will be room, and another rose." That's exactly the way it is with oysters. —St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Nearly 17,000 churches and ecclesiastical buildings suffered damage in Britain and Northern Ireland during the war. The War Damage Commission has worked out an equitable compensation scheme with a committee representing all the main religious denominations. The Church of England alone has 1,600 churches and 600,000 which will cost nearly £20,000,000. The committee working in close co-operation with the civil planning authorities.

A story I have always liked is the one Bill Jeffers, Union Pacific, tells on himself. He was a young assistant somewhere along the line and the engineer took him to task on him for something. "Bil, never be so busy you don't have time to think." A good many years ago, I was in a similar position. I was rushing here and there, doing this and that, and I was in an empty barrel. For days they conducted experiments, all without success. They could produce the sound, but they couldn't get the energy. Finally they solved the problem; they set up an empty barrel and allowed water to drip upon it. —From Canadian Business.

In the reconstruction days following the war between the States the Carpet-baggers who came into control in the South appointed many Negro judges. What this gentry lacked in legal lore they made up for in their earth-to-earth common sense. One Negro judge, finding a certain member of the own race guilty of killing another, sentenced him to a year and a half in the penitentiary for that. "Has you got seventeen dollars?" "Naw, no," was the reply. "You ain't got a cent." "Does anybody owe you money what has got money?" the judge demanded. "She" said the prisoner, "Jack Smith owes me mo' dan seventeen dollars." "Good, dan the judge. "I'll let you go, but you must get the prisoner an' arrest Jack Smith an' hold him in clost' finement till he pays de seventeen dollars." And the sheriff did and justice was done. —Wall Street Journal.

If rats and bugs have race memories which serve as their histories, the years which have just passed to us are a very interesting chapter in their history. To them it must almost seem as if human endeavor and their extermination. Sulfa, penicillin, DDT and other lethal mixtures have been poured upon them from the halls of science. Now the last word in rat removal has been announced in Baltimore. A drug with the name of "Rat-X" has been developed. It is a powder which is used to enhance the vitamin content of livestock feeds.

The farmyard holds a friendly welcome as day ends. The countryman, in from repairing a broken fence or cutting timber in the wood-lot, is reassured by his cluster of buildings. After the bareness of the fields, the barns and sheds have a comforting quality to the north. The trees of the windbreak show their stark skeletal beauty beneath the darkening sky. Patiently, like a horse in the rain, they wait for spring. Pattering steers move deliberately about their feedlot. Their shaggy coats give them a Celtic flavor, reminiscent of cattle on a harsh Scottish isle. The stock of straw nooks huge behind them. Inside the barn, where the farmer stops to see that all is well, the warmth from animals envelopes him. The dusty smell of rich clover hay, the sharp aroma of silage bespeak the homegrown plenty of the place. At the chicken house, activities are still in full swing. For the lights have gone on with sundown. Chickens scratch in the bright straw litter and warily watch the visitor. Near the house, newly sawed firewood is piled haphazardly. The kitchen range and the hot air furnace will be well supplied. South warming light shines out from the old-fashioned windows. Following the farmer is lulled by thoughts of the pleasant release when he removes his heavy boots. He anticipates the aroma of new pork and fried apples which he knows await him. Evening is the kindest part of the day—minuscule star-jour-

We See Ourselves

[The following letters appearing recently in the Hamilton (Ont.) Spectator are in reply to letters previously published criticizing conditions in Prince Edward Island. The headings are as they appeared in the Spectator on the dates mentioned.]

A Toast to P.E.I. and a Real One, Too

(Jan. 24) To the Editor: Here's to the fertile fields of the Island burdened with crops of potatoes, turnips and mangolds or oats, barley and peas; and here's to the sunny seas about the Island thronged with cod, haddock, mackerel or clams, and trout and quonag. May they long continue to reap Canada's cornucopia!

Here's to the glittering streams and estuaries of the Island where Isaac Walton from near and far foregathered and toil, not in vain, their sports with the trout. Many a young firm whilped those waters during the war, to such an extent that in the lapse of four years the numbers of trout were greatly reduced. But the boys were welcome!

Here's to the splendid public square in the capital city of Charlottetown, with its market building, its handsome library and art gallery, its court house, its post office and, above all, its historic shrine of Confederation, the provincial Parliament building. I was simply moved as I approached the front entrance and passed over the well-worn threshold, but when I stepped into the beautiful chamber of the House, I was overcome.

Here's to the neat little country churches where rest-faced and well-behaved children attend their Sunday school and where later in the day the elders, quiet, respectable and God-fearing, to enjoy a service of worship to the Giver of all good things. If the sermon be dull for this sinner, he finds plenty of interest in a choir of healthy, vigorous-looking and prettier ladies, of whom the straddlers are surprisingly streamlined by daily toil.

Many of the Islanders have never been off their Island, but how they love it! The tourist goes to the Island to enjoy the summer and loves it, too. They are such nice people he can't help himself.

Boils Down to There Being No Place Like Home

(Jan. 25) To the Editor: No doubt you are buried under a flurry of protest letters since the change of opinions on the Island's merits in your editorial pages. I am an Islander now for the summer and discharged serviceman, hailing from "impeccable" Ontario. I was stationed in Charlottetown for 15 months during the war, and now have returned here to work as a civilian after my discharge in the month of May.

In my opinion, the attitudes expressed on both sides are wrong. P.E.I. is no perfect paradise, nor is Ontario a congenial place for profiteers and bootleggers. I see it as a land of quiet, friendly and hard-working folk. True, as in any time or place prohibition has been attempted, thirsting individuals can always find a way to get their whistles through the loopholes, or concoct some searing potion from their own recipe. But the biggest encouragement for the children, was the price offered by, and constant demand of the boys who were in the service during the war, and who were higher than the Island's price for 15 months during the war, and who were higher than the Island's price for 15 months during the war, and who were higher than the Island's price for 15 months during the war.

Recreational facilities are poor here in P.E.I. I would like to see one who is used to Toronto, or Montreal, Ottawa or Winnipeg, or any other large city, to see the large centre here in Charlottetown, population under 15,000. Summerside has less to offer, a town of 5,000 with its one theatre and bowling alleys owned by the same man. (P.S. Islanders are entertaining much against my will, and caution for another theatre in this town.) This, coupled with the feeling of isolation a winter visitor has, prompts boys to use vitriolic phrases about the place.

The Poet's Corner

NIGHTINGALES Beautiful music is the mountains when ye come. And bright in the fruitful valleys the streams wherewith ye learn your song: Where are those starry woods? O might I wander there! Among the flowers, which in that bloom the year long! Nay, barren are those mountains and open the streams: Our song is the voice of desire, that haunts our dreams. A throb of the heart, whose pining visions dim, forbid den hopes profound. No dying cadence nor long sigh can sound the yearning.

Alone, alone in the raptured ear of me, As night is withdrawn, From these sweet-springing meads and bursting bosoms of May, Dream while the innumerable choir of day, Welcome the dawn. —Robert Bridges.

where they are obliged to stay. Some go away bearing grudges, and some seek relief unbending themselves to the wide world via the press. A personal finding was that in adapting myself to their quiet, friendly ways, I soon came to feel myself one of them (Dog-gone if I didn't even find in love with a pretty Islander and marry her).

Islanders are quietly but fiercely patriotic in their loyalty. It is true, but are not inclined to boast about it and are quick to admit to the merits of the other provinces in this Dominion of ours.

I'd say it all boils down to "there's no place like home, and I don't want to play in your yard," whether you're from Winona, Oneida, New York City, U.S.A., or Kikwit, Belgian Congo, let the other guy think as he may.

Summerside, P. E. I.

Garden of Gulf As One Islander Sees It

(Jan. 26) To the Editor: In reply to W. Wilkovecky, J. Thompson and R. Fraser's letters which appeared recently.

I wonder if they would appreciate an Islander's viewpoint on the matter? Or maybe because the things I am going to say are so plain, because had you joined ever, here on the Island we believe in sticking up for our rights, and sticking to the truth, and that's far from what these "veterans" did, especially J. Thompson.

"First of all, we didn't ask you to come here. I know, right away, you will say: "We were posted here because I am left to be wondering why you ever joined up, you thought you would have to leave Ontario. It certainly wasn't patriotism, because had you joined for that you would have served anywhere (even Ontario) without complaining. So I am left to believe that it was nothing more than the thought of having a good time and the thrill of sporting a uniform."

Next, the Island "screech." I am honest enough to admit that there is considerable "screech" on the Island; too much, in fact. But now, with the air station greatly reduced here in Summerside, we have hopes that it will soon fade out, and with the new Prohibition law we are confident that "screech" will be abolished completely.

As for housing difficulties, J. Thompson greatly exaggerated his opinion of that. I have lived here all during the war (before that in Manitoba) and I have yet to see a situation such as he describes, where a family of six to ten live in a two to three-roomed "hotel." And if this is true, it is merely because the service personnel have taken up all the available living accommodations, accommodations that some of them have never had the privilege of living in before, and will probably never have again.

Mount Pleasant is a very poor location for an air base, but why blame it on the Islanders? We did not choose the site. I have been an Islander now for five years and have loved every minute of it. Soon I'll be leaving for Manitoba, where a family of six to ten live in a two to three-roomed "hotel." And if this is true, it is merely because the service personnel have taken up all the available living accommodations, accommodations that some of them have never had the privilege of living in before, and will probably never have again.

PAULA STONE, Summerside, P. E. I.

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By Ken Reynolds



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THE 2 MACS

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province, and all in all, Ontario people as a rule are a bunch of "snobs," whereas on Prince Edward Island you can meet a person on the street and speak to him without being afraid of being insulted, or ignored.

I feel confident that if any one of you boys should find occasion to give us Islanders the pleasure of your company again you will find very little "screech," a playground for the children, homes with only four to five occupants, no horse and bugles, as described by J. Thompson, but some 1946 models (after the people of Ontario get their share) and last but not least a cordial welcome, in spite of the untruths you have been publishing, and believe me that's more than one will get in Ontario. I know because I've had the misfortune to be there for a while. In other words, we will have become re-established now that most of the Air Force has departed and some of our own boys are home.

PAULA STONE, Summerside, P. E. I.

ACTRESS LOSES JEWELRY

NEW YORK, Jan. 26 (AP)—Martha Raye, radio and screen star, today reported to police theft of 16 pieces of jewelry she valued at \$10,000 to \$15,000. Miss Raye told police the articles were taken from her hotel suite.

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