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

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Must All Stand Together

In renewing their demand for a Royal Commission on freight rates and rejecting the finding of the Board of Transport Commissioners imposing a flat 21 per cent rates increase, the seven dissenting Provincial Premiers have presented a strong case at Ottawa. They have placed the issue fairly and squarely where it belongs—in the lap of the King Government. It is essential now that they all stand firmly together, regardless of party politics which have invariably worked in the interests of the powerful Central Provinces. Liberal and Conservative, both parties have unfortunately been dominated by considerations of appeasement towards these Provinces which control such enormous blocs of votes. Our only hope of achieving results in this case is to fight for ourselves. Party lines mean nothing, solidarity as between the dissenting Maritime and Western Provinces everything. There can be little doubt about the issue if our leaders stick to their guns.

In the brief submitted to the Federal Cabinet on Tuesday, the essential point was thus stated:

"What we wish to ensure is that sound and proper principles be established as guides in all future deliberations of this nature. We find ourselves in this position now that if the judgment stands, if the Chairman's formula is unchallenged, then the railways may apply to the board for a further increase of 15% in freight rates (which in effect will be an increase of 18%) and that increase must be granted almost automatically. In the interests of our people we cannot allow a procedure of this sort to be accepted without protest. Exposed to the geographic and economic disadvantages under which we now suffer, we shrink from the thought of a 39% increase in freight rates over the rates prevailing in March of this year.

"Furthermore, the principles of the Board's judgment are of paramount importance not only in the matter of freight rates but in the whole field of rate-making by any public utility. We have here a considered judgment of the Board of Transport Commissioners for Canada, and the principles laid down in that judgment may well be—and indeed are quite likely to be—invoked and applied in applications by other public utility bodies affecting such services as telephones, street railways, power commissions, light companies, and the like."

It requires no prophet to foresee the baneful consequences to the Maritime Provinces resulting from such a precedent, and to this geographically handicapped Province in particular. Let our public men of all parties keep this in mind, and give their wholehearted support to our Provincial Premiers in the battle in which they are engaged. Other issues can bide their time.

Bailable Writs

Inquiry has been received by The Guardian from The Canadian Press as to how persons in this Province can be jailed on civil-suit charges under bailable writs. The following information has been obtained by way of explanation:

Although arrest for debt is supposed to be abolished in Prince Edward Island there are at least three processes which have almost the same effect. It is possible to have a debtor who owes as little as \$32 (the County Court Act reduces it to \$20) arrested and held as security. This can be done either before or after judgment by getting a judge's order which is obtainable on the affidavit of the creditor that the amount is owed and that there is good and probable cause for believing that the defendant, unless he is forthwith apprehended, is about to quit this Province.

Even the requirements of a judge's order and the affidavit as to the likelihood of the debtor leaving are dispensed with in certain cases, as where the debtor is a non-resident of the Island, the claim is for rates or taxes, or for damages for trespass, assault, criminal conversation, seduction, libel, slander or breach of promise of marriage.

In addition to the usual privileges of members of the Legislature, barristers, solicitors, court officials and witnesses attending a court a special privilege from arrest for debt is extended to married women.

Authority for these arrests in civil cases is found in the Bailable Proceedings Act of 1939 which repeals a series of ancient statutes, the most recent of which was passed in the year 1888.

Liberal Platforms

When it comes to constructing platforms, says the Ottawa Journal, "our Canadian Liberals are surpassed by none." The trouble is, in the Journal's opinion, that their skill in building the platforms is topped by their propensity to forget about them.

The Journal recalls a Liberal platform "away back in 1893, with Sir Wilfrid Laurier calling for 'free trade as they have it in England.'" "We all know what happened to that one," continues the Journal. "The Liberals took office in 1896, and instead of giving us 'free trade as they have it in England' they spent 15 years tacked costly in bed with Macdonald's national policy.

"Then there was 1919. At that convention, the one that gave us Mr. King, there was more talk about free trade, or about freer trade, at any rate. There was so much talk about it, and so much putting it on paper, that the witty Sam

Jacobs described what was done as 'free trade with the world, with a 50 per cent preference for England.' Again, we know what happened. Mr. King said the platform wasn't a platform at all, but only a 'chart', giving him comfortable leeway, and Mr. Fielding, enjoying the leeway, said platforms were only 'made to get on.'

"By the time a few years had passed, the 1919 platform was as dead as King Tut; and we doubt much whether Mr. Gordon Fogo, the man who is organizing this new convention, ever as much as saw it until they gave him his job. Indeed, we would go further and say that not one Liberal MP out of 20 in the present Parliament could quote a single line of it."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Governor-General in residence.

The Allies crossed the Marne this date 1918.

"Two fat geese. You pluck one, and I'll pluck t'other."

A citizen, who complained about auto speeding, found himself summoned and fined for the offence.

Newfoundlanders have their second try at deciding their political future today. They will have the good wishes of Canadians in hoping that a third attempt will not be necessary.

Air transport is more vital to the Island than to other provinces. Hauls that could be rapidly made by truck or bus elsewhere can here only be rapidly made by air.

Those who bewail the "Americanization" of Canada will probably object to our having two national conventions to select party leaders as another example of following proceedings South of the Border.

The views expressed at Tuesday's Queen's County Association annual meeting indicate that Island Progressive Conservatives are no longer to hide their light under a bushel. Publicity is recognized as an essential factor in any appeal to the electorate.

The day of the horse is about over in every field except racing. The boom in race-meets here should prove stimulating to breeders. It would be a pity to have the standard bred strain altogether give way to mechanization.

The American dollar shortage is largely responsible for the fact that fewer tourists have entered Nova Scotia so far this year. The Island is fortunate in being able to more than "keep its end up" in this respect.

Canada's aircraft industry received a deserved feather in its cap when the British Government decided to buy 4-engined North Stars built by Canadair for its overseas services. About 20 of these planes will be required "because of the need for planes that can be operated on an economic basis."

Canadian history reveals that the building of this great country was largely by means of railways. Our railways have always been essentially political tools and must be employed as such if we are not to disintegrate into sections, each with its own outside contacts but not integrated with the rest of the country.

In the United States the lowly private will no longer be at the bottom of the military hierarchy. A new rank, "recruit" is to be under that of private as of August 1st. It is the first and crucial step. Who knows what exalted rank will be denoted by "private" in future armies?

It will come as a shock to many people that arrest for debt is still possible on the Island. Obsolete in most British countries, it is still available here on the order of a judge. If the debtor is unfortunate enough to be a non-resident not even a judge's order is necessary for his incarceration.

Here is something really funny. The Guardian representative at Summerside rang up the Court House jail to have his report about the arrest of two Mounties confirmed by the Sheriff. The phone was answered by one of the imprisoned Mounties, who told our correspondent he could not be allowed to talk to the Sheriff!

A coal vendor has been sent to jail for a month in Montreal on conviction for short-weight to customers. Recorder Irene Legarde told him: "I want people like you, who give short weight on coal, to remember me." The accused had sold a load of coal 150 pounds under the regular weight.

The scientists, members of the Atomic Scientists Association Council, have given up hope of international control of the atom while the cold war continues between Russia and the Western Allies. "Seeing no hope of an early agreement regarding the atomic bomb and other weapons of mass destruction, it (the council) believes that the solution can now be sought only through the constant promotion of all measures designed to make war less likely, and to reach a settlement between east and west."

Beef sales in Montreal have fallen sharply during the past two weeks, yet the retail price in that period has somehow managed to increase as high as 12 cents a pound. The increase also takes place at a time when stocks in packing-houses and elsewhere are nearly double those of last year. The price increases appear to originate with the wholesalers and retailers because no big changes have been seen on the two Montreal livestock markets during the past week.

Notes By The Way

The man who invented the chocolate bar is dead. It is doubtful if he ever thought it would cost as much, tax included, as it does today.—Brookville Recorder-Times.

Because it is thought that children are not themselves afraid of dentists but become frightened by fears of their parents, mothers will be barred from Newcastle-on-Tyne's new dental college.—Fredrickton Gleaner.

In taking a backward glance at recent rain-making experiments in the Prince Albert district, which apparently were successful, and at subsequent downpours, it seems safe to say that all Ma Nature ever really needed was a nudge of reminder. If the rains of the past few days have demonstrated what the old girl can do when her competitive instincts are aroused, then the next challenge facing science will be to find a way of turning off the tap.—Prince Albert Herald.

Philadelphia is taking a more and more serious view of the dangers of smoking in public places. About a year ago it forbade smoking in retail stores of a certain type. Previously it had put the ban on smoking in public vehicles. When the store rule was imposed there was a strong feeling that other places of public assemblage should be included. Now there is an ordinance in council to include theatres, moving picture houses, and places where indoor sports are staged.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

No one can be arrested in the Isle of Man merely for being drunk—but they are going to change the law now. At the Manx Assizes, Deemster Johnson dismissed a charge brought against a member of the crew of a trawler of escaping from a cell in the police station. The Deemster upheld the contention of counsel that under Manx law a man could not be arrested for mere drunkenness and therefore the defendant was at liberty to leave the station. Charges against the skipper and a fireman for rescuing him were withdrawn.—London Daily Mail.

The story of firefighting in the neighborhood of Chapleau has been an interesting one especially to those who are far removed from the Northern Ontario scene. To big city residents there is glamor in the details of the fight—stenographers arising at five in the morning to help feed 80 to 100 hungry fire fighters, returning to their office work for the day, and going back to the Forestry base for further kitchen work until ten o'clock in the evening. In the description of busy aircraft flying groceries, equipment and personnel to the scene of the forest fire fighting, outsiders feel the spirit of adventure.—Fort William Times Journal.

Sir Harry Lauder, who will be 79 in August, is going to Hollywood to play in a film based on his own career. After years of negotiation the contract was completed in Glasgow by William Morris, the American agent. From his home in Lanarkshire, Sir Harry said he had made one stipulation—"that the film must be in color, so that they can capture the glories of Scotland." Asked about the fees, his reply was: "I'll need a double-size sporrans to bring back the dollars." Still kilted, still strong of voice, still jealous of his carefully cherished reputation for Scottish monetary caution, Sir Harry spends most of his time now at Lauder House, Strathaven, where his companion is his niece Greta.—London Daily Graphic.

In the picturesque and colorful ceremony of the "blessing of the fleet" at Carriquet, near New Brunswick's northeast tip, the very old and the very new were mingled in a solemnly impressive manner. The custom itself is very old, having been brought over from Europe with the earliest settlers, and dating back far beyond those pioneer days to Biblical times. It originated from the miracle described in the fifth chapter of St. Luke, when Jesus stood by the lake of Gennesaret and bade Simon launch his fishing boat and let down his nets. Simon answered that he and his companions had toiled all the night and had taken nothing; but as he complied, and the consequent tearing harvest of fish strained the nets to the breaking point and almost caused two ships to sink.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

Productivity per man-hour—or lack of productivity per man-hour—is the greatest problem facing industry. Some may say that, working hours are too few. This would be only a minor problem, and perhaps no problem at all, if the post-war workers in general were as productive as pre-war workers in general. Motor-car speedometers have gauges to register 100, 110 or 120 miles per hour. Railway trains go faster than before but sit longer at stations. The airplane can travel faster than sound. In every industry using machinery, new devices enable that machinery to produce more goods and better goods. Man is learning to run faster, swim faster, jump higher, and broaden, and sking on gentle slopes is passing. In the realm of sport and recreation there is keen competition to do more, do it oftener and do it better. In the matter of work—and work alone—man wants to do less per hour on a forty-hour week than he did per hour on a forty-eight-hour week. fifty-six-hour week, or to go back half-a-century, sixty-hour week.—Printed Word.

Notes From Another Island

By "Amazon"

LONDON, England.—The old tale that Englishmen never speak to each other unless and until they have been properly introduced is not quite as true as it used to be, perhaps. You notice this as much as anywhere in the scores of little quick-service cafes dotted about the business centres of most of our big cities, where working people can get a good, cheap lunch in the short break they have from their offices, shops, warehouses and so on.

Inside, the tables are always crammed close together so as to get as many people as possible seated, and there is little privacy for personal conversations. Yet no one seems to mind at all. Two-party chats become three-or-four party discussion groups when the folks across the table join in uninvited. It's not that they are being ill-mannered; it's simply that what couldn't help overhearing what was being said, and it seemed more agreeable to join in openly rather than sit silent and make an embarrassed pretence at not hearing at all.

Besides, one finds that one's table neighbours are often able to make a helpful contribution to the subject being discussed. Like the tubby man from the Ministry of Information, who turned out to be a regular bureau of unofficial information of his own about where to go to buy suits and shirts cheap. Just about the only thing he didn't know was the latest cricket score, and we got that from a chap who had brought his portable radio with him to lunch so that he could listen to the broadcast commentaries. Everyone wanted to sit at his table!

Then there was the barrow boy (one of the happy gang who sell goods—usually fruit and vegetables—from carts which they push around the streets) who enquired on the tricks of his trade and gave us a few words of advice about when and what not to buy from him and his fellows so as not to get swindled. For the barrow boys have a reputation for not giving exactly the best value for money; their goods look good but more than there's a catch in it.

And the racing man who gave us details of his own particular fancies in the afternoon's race meeting. We checked up later. He must have lost money if he backed his fancy!

As I write, there is some pretty serious business going on with the Russians over Berlin. Maybe by the time these words appear in print the tension will have died down, the crisis will have passed, and the details will be history. All the same, it is interesting to record the reactions of those Englishmen who can drag their eyes away from the sporting pages.

Some people have sensed the tenseness of the situation to the period just before September, 1938. I think there's a difference.

Then, everyone knew that the ultimatum had gone out and that if a certain thing happened—Germany invaded Poland—then war would result. It was all clear, that way, and people only had to watch for it to happen. Consequently, the more it looked like happening, the more serious everyone became. It's not clear like that now. Anything might happen, and one thing might lead to another. On the other hand, nothing at all might come of it. So, it seems to me, the ordinary Englishman is doing what comes naturally, and leaving it to the politicians. He is vaguely uneasy about the whole thing, but that is not to say he is unduly worried. Most of us have seen too many crises come and go that we don't panic easily and go that way. And Mr. and Mrs. John Bull feel that if things get really serious, well, they'll know about it soon enough.

You hear jokes about "getting the old uniform out of the bottom drawer again" but few think it is really as bad as that. Or, maybe, we don't want to—there are often rather good things when we are not in the mood for them.

Peace In Palestine

(By Gordon Waterfield)

What hopes are there that the truce agreed to between the Arabs and Jews, on the basis of the British resolution adopted by the United Nations Security Council will lead to a final settlement of the Palestine problem? If hopes are based on the statements which continue to be issued by both sides, there can be little optimism. Arab leaders still insist there can be no peace in Palestine while the Jews continue to claim a Zionist State in a land where the majority of the population is Arab; the Zionists insist there is already such a State and that it has come to stay.

The hard facts of the situation may, however, force a compromise between the two sides. The United States has come to stay. The United Nations will not sit back and watch the six Arab States try to push the Jews into the sea. So far it is not true to say, though it is said repeatedly in the U. S. A., that the Arab Governments have been the aggressors. The Zionists have overstepped the boundaries outlined in the United Nations partition plan to a greater extent than have the Arabs.

The Palestine battle cannot be fought out as an isolated incident for too many nations are interested in this area because of its strategic importance and because it is potentially the world's greatest oil producing area.



The Poet's Corner

FARMER

His face is a copper coin that Time has dented With fingers of ice, with breath of scorching fire; Yet down through seasons mild and blossom-scented He has pursued the course of his desire. Rough are Time's hands upon his flesh and spirit. But something in his face makes townmen stand And envy him, and all he must inherit. His pride and wonder in his hard-earned land. Unconquerable and brave, he proudly shakes A fist at Fate, and then starts in again. Seeing beyond the rows the narrow breaks A wide and golden ocean of ripe grain. While in his eyes a look of serene weather Affirms that he and peace walk close together.

—Pauline Havard in the New York Times.

LIGHTNING STARTS FIRE

GRAND FALLS, N.B., July 21.—(CP)—Loss estimated at \$8,000 occurred here today when fire, caused by lightning, destroyed a large barn owned by Alfred LeClerc. The loss included hay, fuel wood, three calves, two pigs and poultry. The barn was recently repaired and painted.

OPEN 30TH AIRFIELD

DALECARLIA, Sweden.—(CP)—Sweden's 30th airfield will be opened shortly for traffic in Orsa township here. The township decided to build the airstrip 10 years ago but was forced to stop during the war. The government constructed an emergency strip which was enlarged.

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FISHERY RESERVES

At the time of the granting of the townships of the Island to various persons in 1767, certain reservations were made. One of these was a strip 500 feet in width round the shores of the Island reserved for fishery purposes. Presumably it was supposed that a vigorous fishing industry would spring up along the Island coasts. As a fact these reservations were practically useless for the purpose for which they were retained. The shores of the Island, being indented with numerous harbours and "runs" which were much better adapted for fishery purposes than the reservation along the coast, afforded all the facilities necessary for the prosecution of the fisheries, and the reservations became, or always were, of little or no use. They were gradually taken possession of by the tenants or owners of adjoining lands and merged into their holdings.

Moreover, while the fishing industry has always been and still is very important, and might readily be made more so, the people of the Island have not given the attention to it which has been given by the residents on the sea coasts and harbours of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. The reason for this is a very simple one. The soil of Prince Edward Island is a fertile soil, much more responsive to the labour of the husbandman than is the soil of the neighboring provinces, consequently its people are attracted to agriculture rather than to fishing.

To settle any complications that might arise the Land Commission in 1861 recommended that where the original grants passed the entire fee of the township, reserving an easement over the five hundred feet, the lands covered by such reserve should henceforth be held by the owner freed from the easement. "The Commissioners therefore, reported and awarded the reservations for fishery purposes contained in the original grants of the townships of Prince Edward Island, abutting on the seashore, be abandoned."

—Warburton's History.