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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1938

Nazi Christmas

The extent to which the National Socialist regime in Germany does not want any other God than Germany itself may be judged by the instructions issued from Berlin on how Christmas must be celebrated.

The latter fact, suggests the Montreal Gazette, may help to explain Adolf Hitler's manifest grudge against the Christian religion and the Nazi insistence that Yuletide in Germany shall be given what is claimed to be its ancient traditional character in the people's rejoicings.

The Thinning Ranks

Armistice celebrations last month recall to The Legionary that few of the supreme commanders who directed the campaigns of the Great War are alive today—20 years from the conclusion of hostilities.

None of the three commanders of the Canadian Corps is alive today. Sir E. A. H. Alderson, Lord Byng of Vimy, Sir Arthur W. Currie, have died within the last five years.

The situation is little different in Germany. Marshal von Hindenburg died in 1933, and General Eric Ludendorff, Hindenburg's right-hand man, was buried at Munich only a few months ago.

A Timely Appeal

The appeal for national unity and concord, sounded jointly by Hon. Dr. Manion, Conservative leader, and his predecessor Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett at a recent function in Montreal, has been received with nation-wide approval.

It is a great misfortune for Canada that leaders of the present Federal administration are so vociferous in preaching party unity instead of taking the lead in making more effective the national and economic unity of Canada.

An Expensive Luxury

Expressing alarm at the increase in the number of surgical operations performed throughout the country, Dr. J. J. Golub, director of the Hospital for Joint Diseases, suggests the establishment in New York of "regional consultation" boards to consider the cases of persons who have been advised to submit to surgical operations.

abling more accurate diagnosis and improved surgical techniques. There are other and disturbing causes: 1, unethical practices and the lure of larger fees; 2, the urge to operate; 3, haste to operate upon non-emergent conditions; 4, the surgeon's personality traits.

Editorial Notes

Not a green Christmas after all — which, means warmer houses and warmer hearts.

Laurence Oliphant, British author, who wrote on the China and Japanese problem a hundred years ago, died this date, 1888.

The roads, provided there be no drifting, should be good for both wheels and sleighs from now on.

Students will be all home by tonight, so keep the home fires burning and the Christmas lights aglow.

Now is the time for citizens individually as well as City Council as a body, to employ as many as possible in snow shovelling.

And don't forget this is the last call for Santa Pals. He who hesitates loses a sure and certain blessing from appreciative though unidentified recipients.

Pity the poor store clerks, who have been at it late and early all week, by shopping as early in the day as possible.

The Gideons have at last discovered that others than Commercial travellers may need Bibles, so have increased their generosity and patronage to jails and hospitals.

All city and country churches are observing Christmas Day in some form or other this year, falling as it does on a Sunday. There should be big congregations in acknowledgement and appreciation of the many boons and blessings conferred on this exceptionally well-favoured land during the year and years that have passed.

That is a signal and significant victory for the Chamberlain Government in Kinross and West Perthshire, where a Conservative farmer defeated the learned and much travelled Duchess of Atholl, running as an Independent with the endorsement and support of Liberals, Labor and disgruntled Tories like Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill.

Andree, "the miracle worker of Clairfont," a village in Southern France, is about to be tried for practicing medicine without a license. Her surname is Maurel, and, although only 15 years of age, she is reputed to have "cured" 12,000 persons—all of them since April of the present year.

Farmer rejection of New Deal marketing controls for next year's burley and dark type tobacco crops led many members of the United States Congress to predict that the present farm law would be changed. The tobacco marketing quotas were rejected in voting conducted among the growers.

It seems hardly possible that any girl would marry a man who made her sign an agreement to a provisional engagement, yet such a case was disclosed in the London Divorce Court the other day. In granting a decree nisi to Mrs. Mabel Davies Justice Langton commented on the "tor-tuous mind" of her husband, adding it was not easy to imagine that any man would have been so mean-souled as to ask the girl to whom he was engaged to sign such a document of courtship on probation as had been presented in evidence.

Premier Aberhart is an expensive luxury to the people of Alberta. In the pre-Aberhart year of 1934-35 the per capita taxes were \$6.46 and in the year 1937-38 they were \$11.25, or an increase of exactly 74.18 per cent.

There is a vast amount of business awaiting the farm implement companies as soon as the farmers get in better position to purchase what they need. There is an immense accumulation of western requirements. But the present position of the farms and farm implements is anything but favorable, and the Massey-Harris Company has shown some consideration of this fact by its

NOTES BY THE WAY

If Anthony Edna had been a German, a Russian or an Italian instead of an Englishman he wouldn't be here. He would be in a concentration camp. For that's what happens in dictatorships to those who differ.—New York World-Telegram.

The editor was looking for the latest developments in the most recent political bust to come in the House of Commons supporting Mr. King during several years before he was pitched into provincial politics. But Mr. King did not get his measure.

There may be plenty of beautiful girls in the South. There undoubtedly are, but those people who live in the South or who go down there each winter, miss the kind of state-manship that appealed to Heppburn. As for rough and tumble, coarse and irresponsible speech, Ontario's legislature beat that.

During the voting on the first Monday in December the town of Waterloo had a ballot which asked the electors to choose which of three dates they favored for holding the provincial election.

Criticism is being directed at the names given to the aircraft of the "national fleet" writes our Air Correspondent. It is argued that the machines should be named after famous pilots and aviators, rather than as present, when names without any true aeronautical association are selected.

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Has it occurred to the Dominion Government that some good might be done by prohibiting the importation or manufacture of pistols and revolvers except by permit to permit certain specified purposes? There would, admittedly, be some smuggling and some "bootlegging" done, but those things are inevitable in any official and strict inspection of manufacturing plants would keep breaches of the law to a minimum.

It is a great misfortune for Canada that leaders of the present Federal administration are so vociferous in preaching party unity instead of taking the lead in making more effective the national and economic unity of Canada.

The King-Heppburn Rumpus

(New Glasgow Evening News)
What a man sows he reaps if the worms do not beat him to it. So the men who made Mitch Heppburn Premier of Ontario should have known the kind of Premier he would be.

reduction of prices. If all the companies do the same, there will be encouragement to the farmers to supply the needs as far as they are able. Because grain-growing is the main feature of western agriculture, this has been a big market for farm implements. And by the improvements in their implements the companies have done something of real value to the farmers.—Winnipeg Free Press.

Fundamentals Of Silver Fox Ranching

(By G. Ennis Smith)
Superintendent, Dominion Experimental Fox Ranch, Summerside

Silver fox ranching is solely of Canadian origin, not only did Canadians create it but also developed it to a stage where it was recognized as a staple industry. The Dominion Department of Agriculture is deeply concerned regarding the position Canadian silver fox breeders find themselves in today, more particularly as Canada's premier position in the Silver Fox Industry is being questioned.

The Dominion Department of Agriculture ascertained that the quality of silver fox fur from a breeding standpoint was dependent upon the strength of the fur, the breeding results. This result was obtained without the slightest hint or assistance from fox breeders in general, in fact the great majority were antagonistic and took the attitude that strong fur was too coarse.

Two of Mr. King's cabinet ministers, Mr. Howe and Mr. Rogers, were recently commissioned to travel out to Port Arthur and there discuss the matter with Heppburn, the man on whose behalf a few months ago they wore out several pairs of shoes and burned up many gallons of oil in the car.

While I have no doubt that the two missionaries pronounced Mitch to be a political scapgoat guilty of the foul crime of conspiring with a man named Dussan, I am sure that the Prime Minister, Crown of the head of Mr. Mackenzie King.

One thing about Mitch he calls a spade a spade. And he says right out that he will oppose Mr. King because Mr. King has completely failed to give Canada constructive leadership. That is his offence. That is why he is charged with "conspiracy."

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The letters and queries do not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

REPLY TO REV. MR. STAVERT

Sir:—We shall be obliged if you will publish the following letter which was sent to the Rev. R. H. Stavert with regard to his recent reference to an Orange function, reportedly made at the Temperance Federation meeting.

The Poet's Corner

No century has changed one so deathless story;
Or hushed one holy song;
Forevermore pale shepherds bathed in glory
Vision the angel throng.

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