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

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1945

To Be Disbanded

The famous Hart House String Quartet, which has been heard on at least two occasions in Charlottetown, is to be disbanded. The reason is that its leader, James Levey, first violinist, finds the vicissitudes of travel too great a burden, and under present circumstances he is irreplaceable. Of the original ensemble only the cellist Boris Hambourg has held his desk throughout the years.

The original group, founded by the Hon. and Mrs. Vincent Massey, comprised Geza de Kresz, 1st violin; Harry Adaskin, 2nd violin; Milton Blackstone, viola; and Mr. Hambourg, cello. This was the personnel of the Quartet when it first played here in Trinity Church. Ten years ago when Mr. de Kresz returned to his native Budapest, he was replaced by Mr. Levey. Mr. Adaskin retired some years ago and his place has since been held by Adolf Koldosky, now of Vancouver, and Henry Milligan. Mr. Blackstone (who will be remembered here for the many old violins he examined in his unavailing search for an original Stradivarius alleged to be somewhere in this Province) retired a little later and his successors have been Allard de Ridder, of Ottawa, and Cyril Clyde. The last appearance of the Quartet was at the Hart House, Toronto, this week, when it gave two valedictory concerts.

Music lovers throughout the continent will regret the passing of this splendid ensemble, which did more to popularize good chamber music than any other organization. One can think of many other things which we could better afford to discontinue.

Phony Applause For King

The Ottawa Journal has this revealing comment to make on a subject of recent interest: "Mr. King's meeting in Ottawa on Friday night had a quality of stage management which must have been disillusioning to the good party folks who attended."

"The Prime Minister was to speak at 10.30 and his speech was to be broadcast for a half-hour. Shortly before Mr. King's arrival a man took the platform and told the crowd how to applaud 'to make it sound good.' They must 'start the applause with a short, sharp burst, sustain the volume, and then cut it off abruptly. . . . show that you have plenty of enthusiasm." During the speech this man 'cued' the applause when it did not arise often enough or sharply enough to satisfy him. Our reporter explained the procedure: 'To bring it up, he swept his hands up from the floor and pushed them above his head. And to cut the applause, he flattened his hands in the manner of a college cheer leader ending a stunt.'

"It is well-known, of course, that this is the practice in commercial broadcasts where there is a 'studio audience'—nothing else could explain the wild bursts of applause which come from the radio so often to greet inane bits of humor. It is part of the elaborate ritual of radio advertising and nobody is fooled."

"But it is quite a different matter when synthetic applause and simulated enthusiasm become part of a national broadcast by a political leader. The object of it all, obviously, is to convince listeners across the country that the speaker is getting a terrific reception, that the audience can hardly restrain its feelings, and the party strategists think this may influence votes in Vancouver and Port Arthur and Charlottetown. The listener at his radio cannot see the applause-manipulator on the stage behind the speaker and he takes the cheering as genuine. At least he has in the past."

"There is something phony about this sort of a performance, and we trust it does not become the general practice in such broadcasts. It reduces the audience to a bit of stage-setting for the radio broadcast, and certainly it is not a development to encourage attendance at political meetings."

Germany's Murder Camps

The investigations so far carried out by the Allied forces in Europe indicate that 8,600,000 persons were exterminated in Hitler's murder camps. That is not the full score, since many of the acts of atrocity cannot be traced; further, almost every day brings to light new concentration camps which were the scenes of mass murders. The horrors of Oswiecim, Lublin, Lowow, Buchenwald, Nordhausen, Belsen, Oranienburg and Neuhaus have been revealed, and while it is estimated that at Oswiecim alone 4,000,000 were down to death, the figures in the cases of other camps may probably never be known.

Recent dispatches told of the brutalities inflicted upon airmen and parachutists in a camp in Austria. In another such camp in the same country, the six methods of killing used were starvation—not by placing the victims on an insufficient diet, but by putting them in a cell without either food or water; the second method was to place fifty or more, stripped naked, in a cell and spray them with gas; the third method was shooting; the fourth was exposure; the fifth, to place a prisoner under a hot water shower and then leave him outside until he froze to death; the sixth, to fling the prisoners into a cage containing starving dogs.

It is not surprising if some impatience is being shown over the slowness in instituting the proceedings by which the parties responsible for these abominations will be brought to trial. Justice, according to British custom, may not be hastened, but the danger in deferring this matter is that in course of time the tendency may be to forget it. That would already appear to be occurring, according to reports coming from some occupied cities where, despite the sentences imposed for infractions against the order, soldiers are fraternizing with the women—blood sisters of the murderers of their comrades-in-arms.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Old time dances are becoming the vogue again.

Tomorrow, political thanksgiving for success and defeat.

Bureaucrats are breathing a little more freely, though still longing for the 20th to come and go to relieve their natural anxiety.

They are all doing it now—first the U.S.A., then France, then Ontario, next Canada, and now Norway and Britain—appeals to the electorate for a new lease of parliamentary life after the European war.

The "let-up" after the election has already set in. Instead of a return of overseas soldiers at the rate of 25,000 per week, it is now announced the rate will be less than half, viz., 9,000. Scarcity of shipping is given as the reason.

Here is up-to-dateness in Church accommodation. St. Columba's (Church of Scotland), Pont street, London, which was destroyed by enemy action, is to be rebuilt at a cost of \$750,000. It will have some novel features, including a lift for the benefit of elderly people, a restaurant and kitchens.

John Churchill, 1st Duke of Marlborough, British general, ancestor of Winston Churchill, born this date 1650; served in the reign of James, William, and Anne with great distinction both in Ireland and on the continent; his most brilliant victories were at Blenheim in 1704, Ramillies in 1706 and Oudenarde in 1708; he was fearless, upright and outright, and was active in warfare for forty years: "No soldier can fight unless he is properly fed on beef and beer."

We heard a great deal recently of various party slogans. But there is one slogan which every political party in Canada should adopt and to which all parties should strive to be loyal. This slogan is to be found in the words of Edmund Burke, the eminent statesman of the eighteenth century: "Let us conduct ourselves as patriots that we may not forget that we are also gentlemen."

Even if Mr. King or a Liberal regime does not survive June 20, the Senate will remain predominantly Liberal for some little time. Yet if the Senate follows the practice of recent years there will be little flouting of the will of the Commons. The practice, even under Mr. Meighen, the brainiest of all Senate leaders we have seen, has been to protest, to view with alarm, to warn and to deprecate, but never to bar the way for even what is considered ill-considered and hasty or even down-right harmful legislation. Perhaps the Senate knows history as well as anyone else and recalls that the House of Lords has become a board of review but not of veto. In theory, the Canadian Senate has more power.

Wheat combines started rolling this week in southern Oklahoma and with only a fraction of the golden crop out, harvest crews already have begun dumping wheat in the fields. In Kansas, centre of the wheat belt, the harvest isn't even under way. When it starts in a week or so, grainmen see even a more critical situation with a prospective crop of anywhere from 165,000,000 to 200,000,000 bushels to be added to already crowded elevators. The dumping was at El Dorado, Okla., Saturday, when four elevators turned away loaded wheat trucks because they couldn't store the grain and couldn't get rolling stock to move it out of terminal markets. Only 31 carsloads had been shipped from the area, one of Oklahoma's larger wheat-producing sections. Forty more carsloads were stored in vacant houses, barns and on the ground.

Premier George Drew is fast developing a reputation for expletive oratory reminiscent of the days of Ferguson and Shaw in this Province. For instance, Vancouver Sun-Times reports him thus: "Naming Hon. Ian Mackenzie 'a deliberate and contemptible liar,' Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King a 'weak and vacillating man who has failed us in peace and war' and dismissing the C. C. F. with the brief declaration that 'their goose is cooked,' Hon. George Drew, premier of Ontario, did some 'frank talking' to a Vancouver audience Wednesday night. His audience, enthusiastic throughout his one-hour and 45-minute talk, was a near-record for Vancouver. Sixteen hundred persons jammed the Lyric Theatre to capacity, while a crowd of equal size, listening to loud-speakers outside the building, packed sidewalks on both sides of Granville St., interfering with traffic. Premier Drew was able to gloat a little in the presence of an audience that gave him a tremendous ovation, frequently applauded throughout his lengthy address. Not only had he just come from a sensational political victory in his own province, but he had arrived only two days after Hon. Ian Mackenzie, campaigning in Vancouver-Centre, had challenged him to come and address a western audience."

A British writer has penned a short novel dealing with a group of English soldiers at El Alamein. He gives a vivid insight into war, as he writes in the preface: "How much of a battle can a soldier witness? If a man is of the ocean does he see? When the moment comes, the fierce moment of bloody contact, every man is alone in his own red mist with his own desperate enemy. The beautifully co-ordinated army breaks up for a few moments, into the atoms of which it is composed—into tiny, lonely life-histories." "A veteran of conflict will probably know how true that observation is.—Hamilton Spectator."

Notes By The Way At San Francisco

(By C.R. Blackburn, Canadian Press Staff Writer) In all the bitter debate of the United Nations security conference at San Francisco over the veto power to be exercised by the Big Five, little was heard of the veto power open to the "Little Six."

All positive peace-making efforts of the 11-nation Security Council must have the support of each of the Big Five who have permanent seats on the Council, and at least two of the six lesser powers who are to be elected members could gang up, if they chose, to defeat any proposal for peace enforcement that might come before the Council.

It is scarcely conceivable that such a situation would arise, but it is quite possible. The Big Five took the stand that it was equally inconceivable that any one of the Big Five would veto a peace-making proposal that had any merit at all. To do so would be to wreck the organization.

The Canadian delegation at one point reminded the committee that if a proposal to take measures to enforce peace were vetoed it would be the responsibility of the Security Council on general assembly, which, if it desired, could investigate and recommend enforcement action. While this recommendation would have no enforcement powers it could turn a powerful spotlight of public opinion on the members and on the attitude of the Security Council member who vetoed a proposal to intervene.

The voting formula which the Canadians said should be enough to influence any Big Five member against willful defiance of the world's rights.

The Canadian argument was a long way toward composing the differences and ending the dispute about the proposed veto formula of the delegations of the voting formula demanded by the Big Five as the price of their support of the new organization.

The voting formula will require unanimity of the Big Five on all ballots in the League Security Council on action to preserve peace.

The veto would be inapplicable only to the proposed veto formula, and to which one of the great powers was a party and hence would be barred from voting.

The Australian amendment was killed Tuesday night after a hectic session, and the Big Five on the other hand, were determined to which one of the great powers was a party and hence would be barred from voting.

At Wednesday's meeting, Hume Wragg, associate secretary for external affairs, speaking for the Canadian delegation, attempted to raise the technical point that the proposed formula for ratification of the charter to the Security Council might be complicated under certain circumstances.

He noted that to carry a motion to amend the charter would require the supporting votes of seven members, including all the Big Five, who have permanent seats on the Security Council. For some reason there were five absentees from the meeting, and the motion was precluded from voting on a proposed investigation because they were parties to the dispute.

He proposed that the clause be altered to provide that a motion could be carried with the support of two-thirds of those present and voting, including the members of the Big Five present and voting. Wragg's proposal was lost in the bigger issue of getting the veto problem out of the way and the Canadians had to be content with getting their observations on record.

A knotty problem remains to be solved that of providing for amendments to the constitution of the new world league. The discussion will centre about the proposed procedure for the national assembly to be held within five to 10 years after the constitution comes into force, to revise and amend it where considered advisable.

In Washington, Senate officials reported that President Truman assumed the conference was broken up by June 20 and planned to submit the charter to the Senate by June 25 with a request for ratification by July 1. However, it looked today as if the Conference might last beyond June 20.

Hopkins and Davies

(By Kirke L. Simpson, Associated Press News Analyst) Aside from his own immediate family, the late President Roosevelt on the death of President Roosevelt, perhaps the most important step in international affairs President Truman assumed was his selection of Harry Hopkins and Joseph E. Davies as his emissaries respectively to Premier Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill leading up to the next "Big Three" meeting.

He could have found no two men better qualified to reassure Moscow and London that Mr. Roosevelt's passing means no change whatever in American purposes for war and peace. Both had been too long and too intimately associated with the inner circle of Roosevelt policy making for their new assignments to have any meaning in Russian or British eyes.

With Mr. Hopkins' return from Moscow the President announced that the time, the place and presumably the agenda for his first meeting with his Russian and British colleagues are fixed. For security reasons the where and when are not to be revealed until after the meeting in Russian or British eyes.

The composition of that staff is interesting. With State Secretary Acheson and former War Mobilization Director James B. Connelley, Messrs. Hopkins and Davies also to go if their health permits, it appears weighted for discussions of post-war problems in Europe, or for implementation of the world peace organization taking shape in

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How Long Can Japan Hold Out

(Sydney Post-Record) While it is quite improbable that Japan will continue to fight all beaten to her knees, it is very important to estimate how long the war in the Orient would last if she should imitate Germany's sudden resistance.

Although the bombing by American Super-fortresses of Japan's oldest and biggest aircraft industry has been fatally effective, it is known that for years before the war the Japanese were building small aircraft factories in places so dispersed and hidden that they have been able to keep on producing aircraft even in the face of this bombing on a scale considerably higher than when the war began. On the other hand, it is to be remembered that Japanese fighters and bombers are far below western standards, while Japan's air personnel is greatly outclassed by that of the United States and Great Britain.

Continuance in the war does not, however, hinge on aerial fighting. Her great weakness is transportation. In this regard Japan is much more vulnerable than Germany ever was. In place of the dense railroad net which the Germans had at their disposal at home and throughout Europe, Japan has only a little more than one-fourth the railroad mileage at home for approximately the same size of population, with the main burden being carried by easily interrupted coastal trunk lines. And her railroad communications on the Asiatic continent are few and far between and easily cut. For these reasons much of her transportation has been by water, and American submarines and airplanes have already so disrupted her transportation lines and destroyed her shipping that she is now virtually under blockade. Of the 6,400,000 tons of shipping which Japan is believed to have owned or captured at the outbreak of the war, 4,500,000 have been sunk by American submarines and Japanese

THE DOCT'S CORNER

IN A SUMMER WOOD Do you remember how in that deep wood The little brook came slipping sliding down From pool to pool? And how the hemlocks stood Aloof from this our world? And even at noon There was no sound of wind, no call of bird Nor insect murmur in that waiting air. Now the brook, no other voice Save water singing for no mortal ear. It was a music older than the old Dim stones or fallen trunks with lichen bossed. And we sat listening to the peace of it. And I said, 'Pity that the words are lost.' Yet knowing all the while that Words better for not having any sound. —T. Morris Longstreth in the New York Herald Tribune.

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