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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 1940

Cabinet Changes

In the cabinet changes announced by Prime Minister Mackenzie King this week, chief interest centres on the appointment of Hon. Angus L. Macdonald, Premier of Nova Scotia, to head a new Department of National Defense for Naval Affairs.

Open to criticism is the fact that the Cabinet remains, as it was before, a purely partisan one. As the Conservative leader, Mr. Hanson, pointed out, Premier King, in spite of the emergency now confronting this country, is still thinking in terms of party power, of his own personal position and the stability of his own personal leadership.

In order partly to meet these objections the Prime Minister has invited leaders of the Opposition parties in the House of Commons to sit in as "associate members" of the war committee of the Cabinet. This offer Mr. Hanson says is one which he could not lightly refuse, yet which he could not accept without the gravest reflection.

One move in the direction of greater efficiency is the appointment of a government-owned company under Hon. C. A. Dunning to administer the munitions and explosives supply programme undertaken in Canada on behalf of the British Government.

Plowshares Into Swords

Many Canadian industries are changing over from peacetime products to the making of fighting equipment and war supplies of all kinds. An indication of how far this process can be carried is seen in a list drawn up by the United States Ordnance Department and published in Business Week.

The farm machinery industry can turn to gun carriages and combat wagons, shells and cartridge cases. The automobile industry can make airplanes, light combat tanks, tank engines, shells.

From electric elevators to recoil mechanism; inch anti-aircraft guns; from printing presses to gun-howitzer parts; from watches to mechanical time fuses; from radios to bomb fuses and parts; from steel products to shell forgings; from lawn-mowers to machining shrapnel; from locomotives to machining heavy shells; from office furniture to bomb containers; from vacuum cleaners to gas mask parts.

Admittedly, this movement is all in the wrong direction, and the hope is cherished more strongly than ever that the implements of peace will eventually replace those of war which create such unspeakable havoc. But that will only come when those who believe in humanity, freedom and justice can make those principles prevail.

Survey Of Refugee Homes

Details of the homes offered for refugees in each province are being forwarded to each Provincial government now, as the special surveys are being completed by hundreds of volunteer workers under the Voluntary Registration of Canadian Women. In making this announcement, Miss Margaret Hyndman, K.C., director of organization, stated that in addition to these special provincial surveys on registration, a set of cards containing the complete registration details were being sent "on loan" to Children's Aid headquarters in the provinces, as their authorities had stated that this was the most practical form in which they could make the best use of the information prepared by the V.R.C.W. In addition a set of cards is being returned to provincial headquarters of the V.R.C.W. and over 80,000 are now with the

Dominion Government in Ottawa. This survey on the thousands of homes throughout Canada offered for refugees has been made by a special volunteer staff of girls working in space provided by the University of Toronto, at the request of the Ontario Provincial government. In addition many thousands of business girls are still at work in space donated by their employers to complete the tabulation of the 250,000 questionnaires received. The number of details on each questionnaire—with a maximum possibility of 93—gives a preliminary picture of the home that is very valuable to those who are considering taking refugees. The number of homes offered free of charge is remarkably high throughout Canada.

One of the interesting developments of the voluntary work conducted through this nationwide registration of Canadian women is the volunteer offers for help of all sorts which are pouring into headquarters. Scores of teachers of French, Dutch, Swedish, have offered to donate their holidays this summer to teaching refugee children to speak and understand English. They have offered their time for use in any way in helping to adjust the children to Canadian life. Teachers in the psychological departments who are used to handling problems of child life have volunteered to do their part in helping to establish the children as happily as possible on Canadian soil.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Every Canadian should accept in some measure the responsibilities of host to the young guests war has sent us.

Italy's warning to the United States to keep out of the war recalls, says a contemporary, the jungle story of the ant who said to the elephant, "Look out who you're shoving."

Sir William Blackstone, whose "Commentaries" have formed the basis of nearly all modern works on law, born this date, 1723: "Mankind will not be reasoned out of the feelings of humanity."

Now that the \$7,000 for a plebiscite has been thrown to the winds, and nothing decided by the popular opinion of the electorate, we are exactly where we were in the matter of prohibition and its administration. It is up to the Attorney General solely, now as heretofore, to make the law effective.

As is their right, and our privilege to provide, Naval recruits are having a fine send off with a dance at the White Spot and an evening chicken picnic at Brighton Shore. When they say goodbye to "The Girl I Left Behind Me"—meaning mother, wife or sweetheart, or all of them, they will be played to the railway station by that promising musical organization, West Kent St. School Band.

Margarine is the chief competitor of butter in household use, and in London the announcement has been made by the Margarine Manufacturers Association that all margarine and compound cooking fat manufacturers in the United Kingdom have decided to pool their resources and operate as one company during the war. It was explained the plan would mean a big saving in manpower and transport. Margarine is not rationed at present but it may be later.

In all accounts of the arrival of British children reference is made by the reporters to the fact that they are well bred. "One trait of all the little war guests which was particularly noteworthy, says the Gazette reporter, was their extreme politeness. Even though several of them turned the tables on the reporter to ask embarrassing questions he could not answer, they never showed the least sign of discourtesy. They came from every walk of life, from rich families and from poor, but they were all gentlemanly, all appreciative, all in good spirits, and all "jolly glad to be in Canada."

"I appreciate that there are those so temperamentally constituted that they are happier working for someone else, but as a nation our progress is at an end if we become by and large a nation of hired men with the hired man's complex of safety and security first," Mr. Alfred C. Gaunt, president, Merrimac Mills, Boston, Mass., told the American Association of Independent Small Business Institute this month. "Only the venturesomeness and resourcefulness of large numbers of small independent business men can give the country the colour and strength of a great middle class of enterprising citizens. The preservation of the great independent middle class is the preservation of the nation."

Mr. Hemming's goat policy is obtaining support in England though it seemed to fall on deaf ears here. The fodder for cattle, so that the best dairy products may be secured, has been formulated after a vast amount of experimentation and is relatively costly. In Britain the prescribed fodder is hard to obtain just now and is so costly that the profits hardly sustain the most humble dairy farms, although the large ones, under governmental control, still continue to help feed the armed forces. In the circumstances it is suggested that the animal which sustained the army of Hannibal, the Carthaginian general, in his march through the Alps and down into Italy in the second century B. C., be acquired by every British household, rural, suburban and urban. The propagation of this sustaining animal might, it is also suggested, restore the balance of trade with Ireland, both North and South. This animal, the suggester in The Times of London says, is the "cow of poor people," otherwise, "vacca pauperis," otherwise "the hedgerow goat, that can get her living on brambles and furze and needs only a small ration of concentrates to keep her milk yield." "I have been experimenting with a herd of good moorland goats whose milk is remarkably sweet and rich and makes excellent butter. (An Anglo-Nubian in the herd will enrich the butter-fats). I am satisfied that two or three goats can be kept at negligible cost and provide milk, cream, butter and cheese for a family. There is no official red tape attached to the cottager's nanny and her butter is unrationed."

Two letters which appeared recently in a reputable U.S. newspaper are singled out today for special attention. The letters merit some prominence because they are brief, forcible, and to the point. One is signed by a young man, a student at the University of Toronto, and is in support of the British cause, despite the efforts of isolation, still has friends. The first letter is from the well known verse-writer, Bertie Braley who writes: To The New York Herald Tribune: The news that the President, by advice to the Attorney General, has stopped the sale of torpedoes to England is the occasion for the following: England fights alone. Against the Huns' attack, Her battle is our own. We stand by the back of BERTIE BRALEY. Bethlehem, Conn., June 15, 1940. The second letter is signed by initials which conceal the identity of the writer. It contains, however, indications that he is a man who states his ideas without loss of words. It reads: To the Christian Science Monitor: Measures short of means are being taken to squander water on the fire—Boston, R.E. Halifax Chronicle.

Among dictators Dr. Salazar, virtual ruler of Portugal, is certainly the most unassuming and probably the most efficient. In twelve years he has raised his country from economic insolvency to a financial stability without rival on the continent of Europe, and with his new Portuguese Conversion Loan—converting into an internal loan an external debt of some \$27,000,000—he fittingly celebrated at the end of last month the twelfth anniversary of his assumption of office as Minister of Finance. But it is not only in financial matters that he has given new life to the nation; he has worked constantly, and with equal success, to promote social reforms to raise the level of poverty and to teach his countrymen the virtues of industry and self-sacrifice, reas-

NOTES BY THE WAY

Long ago German newspapers told their readers that the French had scrapped the Eiffel tower for its metal. Now they have had to publish official photographs showing German soldiers on the tower. The editors will probably explain that Puchner based his article on a lower rebuilt to serve as a background for the boys' snapshots. — Toronto Star.

This is a story that may have been left over from the last war, or maybe the incident really happened in both wars. It's about a young lady who turned in to the British War Relief Society a knitted sweater she had knitted, and requested more wool. The woman at the supply desk handed her several hanks of navy blue wool, but the girl wouldn't accept it. The last sweater I knitted was blue," she said. "Do you suppose I want people to think I'm still working on it!" — New Yorker.

If we heed England to preserve her fleet we gain time for defense. Having reached this conclusion it becomes criminally careless not to do so. We can secure the status of the non-belligerent status without securing the benefits of it to Britain and thus to ourselves. This is the moment. It is a short moment. We can secure the status of the defensive screen of the British fleet by adopting at once a definite program of all aid to England short of war, which we cannot yet fight, but which we must be ready to fight. This should be communicated to Britain. In similar circumstances a Fascist leader would not hesitate to do what must be done. Our democracy now tests itself. — N. Y. Post.

Three rousing British cheers for the Cree tribes! Never the best of circumstances financially these redmen have turned back their annual treaty money to the country's treasury. They are now earning a living by fishing and hunting. Immune from conscription in the last year, the Indians nevertheless enlisted in large numbers. Many of them were in the front lines for the duration of this newer scrap. To the entire nation they've set a heart-warming example of patriotism and self-sacrifice. — Harrison in Windsor Star.

One after the other the Dominions came forward with unstinted offers. From the House of Commons can powerful additional help come to influence decisively the first great clash of arms between Germany and Britain. But if the British Empire and Commonwealth are to move forward with the House of Commons last week was that imposing fact. — Christian Science Monitor.

The French people themselves will have to judge, some day, of the peace armistice terms imposed upon them at Campagne and Rome. They will have many reasons to wonder whether these fearful punishments are lighter or heavier than if their Government had continued the fight from colonial or foreign soil. A vestige of independence may be left to France, but it will be a mockery. French territory may remain unoccupied by German or Italian troops, but it may well become a hollow shell in which the only recrimination can rage unchecked, as it did during the horrors of the Paris Commune in 1871. The only real independence that is left to France is the security of the French people. — New York Times.

Hart Massey, son of the High Commissioner, and former cox of the Oxford crew which was defeated in last year's boat race, received his commission in the Royal Canadian Air Force before Christmas. He is now flying solo, and is now flying in a liaison capacity at the London headquarters. His brother, Lionel Massey, is serving with the British Army. A story of the university boat race which was featured in the paper was now leaked out. It seems that the Oxford crew had installed in their boat an electric buzzer, by which the cox, pressing rhythmically with his foot, could give the correct time to stroke. Unfortunately, the mechanism of the buzzer went wrong, and it buzzed most of the way from Putney to Mortlake. The effect on the crew was devastating. — Windsor Star.

MANCHESTER, England. — (CP) — One shot killed two soldiers at Stanton Hill here. They were being sent to the front, a sergeant when a bullet was discharged penetrating both their heads.

TRAINING TRAGEDY

ing their pride in a great historic past... Among traditions for which he retains the highest respect is that of the ancient Anglo-Portuguese alliance. — London Truth.

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Antic-Chatter-Bug

(Christian Science Monitor)

One item the censor omitted to strike out of the daily budget of news is that clubs are forming in England, in high and low society, for the purpose of discouraging chatter. Southampton organized Anti-Chatter Bug Week with anti-gossip sermons preached in the churches, and banners displayed in public places to warn people against scattering scraps of news which might be of aid to the enemy.

What a trying age this would have been for "Sally Gamp" or "Mrs. Bardell"! The idle card slipped quietly into offenders' hands, inscribed, "Don't you think gossip may be dangerous?" would have made Mrs. Gamp cry immediately. "And I feel for those who has their feelings tried; but I am not a Rooshian or a Prooshian, and consequently cannot suffer spies to be set over me!" The card has its merits, nevertheless, in peace and war, but that form of self-control which silences all gossip, defined in the dictionary as "baseless rumor," makes a valuable contribution to society, in any country, at any time.

Why We Need A National Government

(The Canadian Countryman)

It is becoming increasingly evident that we need a national government in Canada. When Great Britain entered the war the Conservative Government was in power, but it did not take that Government very long after the war had reached its final stage to forget about politics and call on the help and assistance of other parties.

We were looking over Hansard the other day to see what they had done for the House of Commons. What struck us in turning the pages was the amount of time wasted in political bickering. Premier King has complained about the Government of the House in passing certain important measures. What else does he expect when his Government and the Opposition are playing politics in the same old way? We have a national government it is inevitable and there will be jockeying for political advantage. That is only human nature. Neither Mr. King, nor the Conservative Government, nor the rank and file of the Liberal party, nor the Conservative leaders and their followers are super-men. So long as parliament is composed of the Government and His Majesty's Loyal Opposition our politicians in and out of the House of Commons are not going to put forward the maximum effort in carrying on the work of the House.

When Napoleon Threatened (Manchester Guardian) The parachute threat has aroused forebodings which remind one of the fears that overtook London when Napoleon assembled a huge fleet at Boulogne in 1803. On April 25 of that year instructions were issued by the government for the city's defence, and "Napoleon raid precautions" were a recognizable feature of today's A.R.P. Streets were to be patrolled. Each street had a bell at its centre to sound the alarm. Fire engines were to be at proper stations. A special corps of men was to guard waterworks. Boats were to be taken from the Surrey side of the Thames to the Middlesex side in case of enemy landings.

Instructions No. 12 said that no quarter was to be given to the enemy when found in transports or gunboats. The cellars of London were to be searched for the Fifth Column men of the day. Elaborate preparations were also made to evacuate residents on the English coasts to inland situations. Very short notice was given of the time for departure and householders kept everything in readiness. In the following copy of an evacuation permit which was issued in Paris of Kent it appears that the evacuees were notified only one hour in advance of the starting time. Here are the instructions: TICKET NO.— You and your children belong to Cart No. — Station No. — As from, therefore, the Alarm is given do you Pack your Blankets, and a change of Cloths for yourself and Children, in the Coverlid of your Bed, and fix upon

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"Analogous Emolument"

(London Listener)

"Who is it does the wording of Army forms?" John Hilton asked the other day. "Who is it sticks all these long words in, which simple words would do? I'm looking at Army Form O.1700. It's the first form the budding soldier fills up, and before he signs it he must be sure he's read the bit at the bottom." What it says is: "For this purpose the expression 'pay' means the rate of pay to which the soldier is entitled and any proficiency pay or analogous emolument." "Analogous emolument! It's moved an ex-soldier clerk of my acquaintance to humor. He is mixed up in it because he has to hand the forms out and explain them. He says he can see lots of parents scratching their head over the news that Albert's got an 'analogous emolument' and wondering whether if he should get home on leave, they ought to make a wire cage for it in the garden or borrow an extra large frying pan." "But there's nothing to be done. Lurking somewhere in Whitehall are men with massive minds who use words like that just as you or I would use 'pass the mustard' and naturally they put them on the forms; so we've all got to learn them or else make mistakes. Why, I've just been told of a mother in the Midlands who was in great distress because her boy, she said, had been promoted for checking the drill-sergeant. 'Promoted!' the neighbors said. 'Yes,' she said, 'they've made him a court-martial!'"

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WHERE TO GO - WHAT TO SEE Montreal, the St. Maurice Valley, Outaouais City, Laurentians Park, Lac St-Jean and Chicoutimi, Charlevoix-Saguenay, Eastern Townships, Gaspe and Lower St. Lawrence, Adiridi and Temiscouingue.

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