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

MONDAY, MAY 27, 1946

Representation By Wealth?

Carrying to its logical absurdity an idea frequently implied by Central Canadian interests, a correspondent in a Toronto exchange comes forward with the suggestion that representation in Parliament should no longer be based on population, but on wealth. "The number should be based on the amount of money each Province contributes to the central government," and the B. N. A. Act amended accordingly.

If that were done, with the total membership of the House of Commons 245 as at present, Ontario would have 115 members instead of 82; Quebec, 83 instead of 65; British Columbia, 20 instead of 10. But the representation of the three prairie provinces combined would be reduced from 55 to 17, and that of the three Maritimes from 26 to 10. The Yukon would have none.

Just to cite these figures is to reject the proposal. But, as a western contemporary remarks, the principle back of such an idea is even more to be condemned than the manner in which the idea would work out. The principle is that wealth is more important than humanity, and that, in consequence, the provinces where the most wealth is located should have an overwhelming preponderance in the governing body. Nothing could be more foreign to democracy than that.

There is the further point that the taxable wealth of the great industrial provinces of Ontario and Quebec is derived in part from the industrial output of Central Canada, and which make a substantial contribution to the prosperity of the financial institutions which have headquarters in these two provinces.

Is This Our Unity?

Pointing the moral of the Canadian Legion convention at Quebec City last week, the Hamilton Spectator (Independent) makes the following sad but true reflections:

"First it confirmed what all sane people who weren't chasing votes always understood, that if there was one way to create a permanent cleavage in the Dominion it was to dodge the issue of a united Canada when the chips were down. Canada's Federal Government of the day dodged it exceedingly well. Now the chickens are coming home to roost.

"In the first place, the Legion refused to admit N. R. M. A. troops who bear that stigma through no fault of their own, as they were officially sanctioned and justified in their stand by the Government of the country. Even those who fought overseas come under this ban. So that is one bitter and permanent gulf created, not by the Legion, but by political cowardice in war-time.

"Then the Quebec delegation voted as a solid bloc at least three times in opposition to the general stand. This is merely a mild confirmation of what every honest Canadian admits; namely, that the two-army system created a two-army Canada, and that Quebec, which never had the issue honestly put up to it, was encouraged to form a bloc against the rest of Canada, and the rest of Canada forced to stand in-spirit anyway—in vigorous opposition to Quebec. Very profitable—for votes.

"Quebec, the N. R. M. A., and in the end the volunteer troops were thus all let down by this classic betrayal. On the principle that to glorify a cancer is to cure it, the refusal of Canada's Government to introduce a draft system which both the United States and England did without flinching for a split second, the politicians may have felt they won their point. If they did feel that way, they can now watch the unfolding of inevitable and sordid consequences. It will take high political courage and many long years to undo the deep injury that was done to the Canadian people in a day of great trial and peril."

Man Away From Home

Mr. Donald Ferguson Brown, the somewhat garrulous Liberal member of Parliament for Essex West (Ontario) got neatly told off in the House the other day by the only lady member, Mrs. Gladys Strum, Qu'Appelle (Saskatchewan). Here is the story, as taken from Hansard:

MR. BROWN: This is why I am opposed to the amendment submitted by the loyal opposition. Now, as to the un-loyal opposition—Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh. Some hon. MEMBERS: Or, or.

MR. BROWN: Is there some question about that? AN. HON. MEMBER: Certainly there is. MR. BROWN: Very well. I will pass that by and classify the CCF with the Conservatives. If they want to be associated I will call them also the loyal opposition, or we can have the CCF branch of the loyal opposition.

MRS. STRUM: On a point of order, the speaker is classifying two kinds of opposition or two kinds of "loyal" opposition. Am I correct in assuming we have an official opposition and then we have other hon. members in opposition? MR. BROWN: Bless your little heart, I would not do anything—

MRS. STRUM: Well, see that you don't then. MR. BROWN: Far be it from me to contradict a woman. I am married, too. MRS. STRUM: Well, you are not at home now.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Dominion Atlantic Railway, a Canadian Pacific subsidiary in Nova Scotia, will spend half a million dollars on improvements to its right-of-way and buildings this year.

More potatoes will be planted in Nova Scotia this year. Agriculture Department reports indicate 24,600 acres will be planted in potatoes, 2200 acres more than 1945.

The B.Sc. degrees won by P. W. C. graduates at McGill University, reported Saturday, indicate that the College is not altogether so derelict as some would have us believe.

City of Halifax and the Nova Scotia Light and Power Company have begun talks about a new transportation system for the city. Present street car lines are expected to be scrapped in favor of a system of trolley or motor buses.

All things to all men. Mr. Mackenzie King, who told the House of Commons he was going to England unwillingly, declared in London he was "eager" to begin his discussions with other Empire statesmen.

Surely Premier Jones must have been talking a little too freely to reporters at Ottawa about his disappointment over the Conference collapse. But when he announced here that he proposes to alter Daylight Saving Act next year, it would seem he has recovered from his chagrin.

John Calvin, Protestant Reformer, died this date 1564; after being ordained a priest of the Church, he withdrew and studied law at Orleans, and later a Brourges; he imbibed the doctrines of Reformation, and in 1539 published his Institutes of the Christian Religion; his influence increased year by year, though he was constantly engaged in warfare with the enemies of his new faith; Calvinism, in the extreme form which it assumed in the 17th century, has long been losing ground in Scotland and England, where the quarter-centenary was celebrated in 1909.

Arguing the social, political and economic advantages of Newfoundland entering into Confederation with Canada, a writer in the Corner Brook Western Star makes the following original point: "Instead of living in isolated hamlets where it takes from four to six weeks to get mail, there would be main highways and inter-town communication roads. . . . If I were a young man, instead of marrying a girl from my own village I would have an opportunity to see what the girls in other towns look like and avoid the calamity of marrying a blood relation." Certainly a prime optimist, and one who knows not Ottawa's "bottleneck."

Should war ribbons be worn on civvies? "We in Canada (says Saint John Telegraph-Journal) consider this a non-military question and in peacetime ribbons are carefully stored in safe places only to be brought into the public gaze when something special demands their display. Perhaps we are too modest in this respect, but we are proud of honors won by our fighting men just the same; and if wearing ribbons on civvies is favored by the former fighting men we are all for it, but we think ribbons represent far too much to be worn on working clothes where they are likely to become soiled and bedraggled."

The King, smoking a cigarette and wearing a checked suit and thick shoes, put his feet on the fence Saturday last with fellow-farmers from around the world when they discussed his cattle, pigs and sheep at the Royal Farm at Windsor. The 150 overseas visitors are in Britain for an international farmers' conference. The King described his Scotch Shorthorn herd from which champions have come for nearly 100 years and asked Jack Wesson of Regina about the Saskatchewan wheat crop and how much grain the Canadian west could provide this year. Both the King and Queen chatted in French with J. A. Marion of Montreal and Her Majesty told W. J. Parker of Winnipeg that she remembered the rainstorm which almost halted their Winnipeg program during the Royal Visit to Canada in 1939.

Any government that "becomes convinced that it will have to fight any other country at any time would be very foolish indeed" Maj.-Gen. G. Brock Chisholm of Ottawa, Deputy Minister of National Health and Welfare for Canada, told the National Conference of Social Work at Buffalo in a prepared address. "As long as children are brought up, on the unquestionable authority of their parents, to believe in the exclusive validity of whatever social, economic, financial, legal, ethical, educational or other customs happen to be approved by those particular parents, only rarely will any of them be able to develop beyond these local certainties to any real understanding of themselves or of other kinds of people. Surely it is recognizable . . . that the development of children who will make or destroy the world as they come to adulthood, is the most important problem of any generation. In the face of this fact we go on paying movie actors and actresses 200 and 300 times the salaries we pay teachers who are entrusted with the bringing up of our children."

Notes By The Way

You can't straighten out the other guy by hammering him—that only flattens him out.—Edmonton Journal. It is hard to say who is the more subservient the yes-man or the laugh-man of the studio audience.—Brandon Sun.

The Russian and the American people at heart are much alike. But the Russian people are not permitted to know that.—Washington Journal.

To be a good citizen you must be honest, obey the law and work hard. If that does not make you happy it will at least make you prosperous.—Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

It's all right for us over here in prospecting men to do without for the sake of others abroad. But it is fair for a husband to say, "Why the women of Holland haven't had a new dress for seven years?"—Christian Science Monitor.

Pear-shaped pigs are being designed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists. On their backs they are to be mounted a porker that is long and thin but with big hips to give more and less than Thomas Richard Henry wrote in The Toronto Telegram. Also being developed are eggs with harder shells, and a new breed of knockout drops for chiggers and roaches.

Some of the gentlemen of the press who are writing the older days and the all but forgotten habits and practices of another generation might wish to read the copy of Thomas Richard Henry's article in The Toronto Telegram. Also being developed are eggs with harder shells, and a new breed of knockout drops for chiggers and roaches.

We are not convinced that a Government prize would encourage better writing in Canada. We have seen no sign that the Governor General's prize has done so. The Pulitzer Prizes in the U.S.A. have often been awarded for work which was not of particularly high standard. . . . Though we oppose any attempt to foster the arts in Canada we doubt if Senator Duggan's plan for the award of the expected results. Of course, if the Government wanted to give money to the writers of the country, it could always stop taxing their earnings on its present unenlightened plan.—Peterborough Examiner.

One hundred and thirty-six years ago a British soldier and his wife and five children, while on a journey from Ireland, took shelter in a gravel pit near Douglas, Douglas, the night the overhanging bank of the pit caved in and the entire family was buried. . . . The discovery of the bones of a man, which describes the soldier and his wife as ministers, was effected by the late Rev. J. G. Macdonald, M.P. in 1871. Two members of Glasgow Galloway Association have now discovered the bones of a man and other than the prototype of "Wandering Willie" in Sir Walter Scott's novel. The bones were buried in a grave and a tablet recording the facts was dedicated.—London Times.

Even in this age of feminism, in which outstanding women are no longer a novelty, it would be difficult indeed to find a woman whose innate talents exceed those of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the late President of the United States. . . . Mrs. Roosevelt could not have helped being prominent, in that her husband's position, which she has held since his death, is one of the most important in the world. . . . But such is not the rule. Many great men have risen to world prominence, only to be forgotten by the next generation. . . . Who can name the wife of any former president who achieved anything but the status of Mrs. Roosevelt?—Toronto Globe.

Official fatalities usually savour of the formal, but there was something almost of a family circle atmosphere at the coronial inquest on the American Ambassador. That was due mainly to Mr. Bevin himself, who presided over the proceedings. . . . "You can now smoke your own cigarettes" the guests were told at the end of the admirable, simple and intimate speech in which he proposed the toast of the evening. . . . The note required on such an occasion. His reminiscences of war-time companionship in the trenches were touching and the Ambassador and I parted in Grosvenor Square; he walked into his flat and I went to my home. . . . The note required on such an occasion. His reminiscences of war-time companionship in the trenches were touching and the Ambassador and I parted in Grosvenor Square; he walked into his flat and I went to my home.

From Philadelphia comes a report by Charles Cooley, a laundry driver whose pay never exceeded \$25 a week, discovered after the death of his wife, Sara. . . . In the thirty-seven years of their married life she had managed to save \$25,547.25. . . . When they were married in 1897 they agreed that she should handle the money. He did his part by simply turning over to her the money he received. . . . There was nothing miserably about their scale of living. They bought and raised their own chickens and eggs in Germantown with a rose garden in the rear. If they did not have a new automobile every few years they did acquire a Model T which still is in good working order. . . . They visited their native Ireland. Mrs. Cooley, as her husband proudly testified, was "a good manager." She looked to no outside agency to benevolent government to protect her and her Charlie from want. Through good times and bad in spells of inflation and deflation, she made the family budget balance, always with the item of savings included. . . . Philadelphia, which has come much to flourish that great exponent of thrift, Benjamin Franklin, could do worse than credit a motto to Mrs. Cooley.—New York Sun.

Occupation of Germany The British Record

(United Kingdom Information) In handing over control in Germany to Air Chief Marshal Sir Sir Douglas Field Marshal Montgomery said: "We have built up a Control Commission worthy of our country, which has successfully overcome many problems and is marching forward with confidence. What has been the Control Commission's achievement in the year that passed since Germany surrendered? Following the immediate task of clearing up the concentration camps and the problem of repatriating their victims and foreign workers. Eight hundred camps were established for displaced persons, of whom over one and a half million were repatriated by September. U.N.R.R. gradually took over this responsibility. Some four hundred thousand displaced persons remaining in the zone are housed in camps with medical, educational and other amenities. They have gradually been able to return to their homes. They have rations higher than in the zone before they had been on the German population. Akin to this problem has been the evacuation of German civilians displaced by various war causes. Operation "Swallow", now proceeding, brings German civilians to the British zone. The total influx into the British zone has been estimated at 1,000,000. The formation of local pre-war population in the zone of two million.

Disposing of half a million tons of explosives. The dismantling of the German forces has proceeded by the "Barleycorn" release half a million for last year's harvest. Operation "Coalscuttle" then proceeded to clear up the mines. By early this year demobilization of all three services in the zone was almost complete. Except for some two hundred thousand and war prisoners retained for essential labour, German war material has been destroyed. The latest phase is the destruction of all war stocks in the zone. The formation of local pre-war population in the zone of two million.

War criminals have been systematically brought to trial on the basis of a plan agreed by the Allies. The major trial at Nuremberg has been paralleled in the British zone by the trial of other criminals, such as for the Belsen atrocities and for crimes against the British people. The formation of local pre-war population in the zone of two million.

Schooling for all children—Education has shown remarkable progress. Despite the lack of suitable school buildings and the need for careful vetting of teachers and damage to buildings by February over twelve thousand schools are open. The British zone has received some schooling. There are twenty-three teachers' training colleges and twenty-two thousand democratic youth groups. Pro-Nazi text books have been replaced, new books written and approved for newspapers. Strikes are not allowed to settle among themselves. The formation of local pre-war population in the zone of two million.

Nearly one million tons of food supplies. On the economic side, the greatest problem has been food. The British zone is importing food from the zone of two million. The formation of local pre-war population in the zone of two million.

The British Red Cross has over five hundred doctors mobilized. The formation of local pre-war population in the zone of two million.

When You Feel "Tired" All the Time. The formation of local pre-war population in the zone of two million.

The Mummy What Myth

(BBC Overseas Short Wave Service) From time to time, we read of claims that wheat grains and other seeds recovered from ancient tombs have been planted, and in spite of great antiquity have grown to produce fine healthy plants.

These stories are usually put out in perfectly good faith. A few years ago an Englishman of unimpeachable honesty brought home from Egypt some seeds which were undoubtedly genuine; it was quite certain that they were several thousand years old. The gentleman had these seeds planted in his garden, and to the amazement of those "in the know" they produced a very fine crop of plants, indistinguishable from modern varieties. Of course, investigation followed, however, it was found that the gentleman's gardener thinking it most unlikely that the poor-looking seeds he had brought home from Egypt would produce much of a show, had planted modern seeds in the garden. . . . The formation of local pre-war population in the zone of two million.

What, then are the actual facts as regards the longevity of seeds? The formation of local pre-war population in the zone of two million.

Perhaps one of the most interesting tests which has been done on the length of life of seeds or spores was a little experiment carried back when Tutankhamen's tomb was discovered. It occurred to some that there had been a case of a tomb which had definitely not been opened for over 3,000 years. . . . The formation of local pre-war population in the zone of two million.

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During microbes living on in the tombs of the Pharaohs. It might have been more exciting had the wheat grain germinated to a living plant or the bacteriological spore to an active culture, but science only recognizes one kind of romance, that of truth. It was Thomas Huxley who said "A tragedy is a beautiful theory killed by a fact" and unfortunately such tragedies have to happen every day in the world of science.

Unique Preparation For Atom Bomb Test

(Associated Press) One of the greatest biological tests in medical history will be made by the United States Navy this summer in the Bikini Atoll atomic bombings. The purpose is to learn not only how to treat future injuries from atomic burns, blasts and X-rays, but also whether there may be long-delayed effects in the form of cancer. There will be insects in packages of grain because insects are sensitive to changes in heredity from too much exposure to radio-active rays.

There will be 150 special white mice, with inherited weakness for cancer, to study whether the mice will be more susceptible to X-rays and neutrons can activate malignant growth. There will be 2,000 white rats, 200 pigs and 200 goats, distributed over 22 ships to determine the effects of the bomb on personnel. The purpose is to learn not only how to treat future injuries from atomic burns, blasts and X-rays, but also whether there may be long-delayed effects in the form of cancer.

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