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

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, SEPT. 18, 1948

The Dundas Events

A fine example of community enterprise and co-operation is shown by the success of the King's County Plowing Match and Agriculture Fair Association, whose field day at Dundas takes place this year on September 22. The idea of reviving the old-time Island plowing matches was started eight years ago by the Central King's Carry on Canada Corps to raise funds for war services, and at the close of the war was organized in its present form. The movement was aided by a grant of $25 from the Provincial Government, plus donations from business concerns and individuals. Next year the Government grant was increased to $50, the following year to $200, and the fourth year to $500. The first prize list amounted to $160; at present it is over $900. The attendance at the matches has increased correspondingly — from about 500 the first year, to an estimated attendance last year of over 4,000.

The association now owns its own farm of 100 acres, to which new buildings have been added this year. It has bought and remodelled the Dundas court house and now has a completely furnished hall. A luncheon booth 50 feet in length, an ice cream booth, soft drinks booth and dancing booth have been provided. A bandstand has been erected this year. There are 150 feet of horse stalls, a machined track of 220 yards for sports, a machined horse show ring and provision for farm machinery and household appliance exhibits.

The original promoters of the scheme, still actively engaged in managing and developing it, include Messrs. Leslie Hunter, president, Joseph G. Campbell, M.L.A., vice-president, Albert Acorn, the present secretary, W. P. Creed, former secretary, and other prominent residents. Their success would not have been possible, however, but for the enthusiastic support of all sections of the community. Co-operation has been the key-note, and it is in evidence this year more than ever in the fine programme which the organization is offering. Better provision in the way of refreshments and in variety of events has been made, supplying a full day's outdoor entertainment which will doubtless draw visitors from all parts of the Province.

Mr. Mayhew's Visit

Our fishermen are entitled to take a bow in response to the complimentary reference contained in the monthly publication of the Federal Department of Fisheries with respect to the recent visit by the Minister, Hon. R. W. Mayhew, to this Province and New Brunswick. The object of Mr. Mayhew's visit, it is stated, was to obtain first-hand information on the problems of fishermen and others engaged in the fishing industry; it was his first trip to this part of Canada and he was able to visit some sixty fishing areas in the two Provinces.

"Delighted with the hospitality with which he was received," says the article, "Mr. Mayhew also was impressed by the alertness of the fishermen and the industry generally, and the fact that they were 'quality conscious.' The quality of the fish products Canada puts on the market is a matter of paramount importance. It promises well for the future of the fish trade when one finds people engaged on the production side so sensible of the importance of maintaining standards,' Mr. Mayhew said in a statement following his trip."

In reply, it can be said that our fishermen were impressed by the new Minister's evident desire to improve conditions in the industry, and to acquaint himself fully with their problems. It is to be hoped that he will revisit us more frequently than has been the custom with former Fisheries Ministers, and that he will make his department what it should be—one of the most important branches of administration in the Government.

Pertinent Questions

In connection with the appointment of Mr. L. B. Pearson, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, as a member of the King Cabinet, the *Ottawa Journal* poses this pertinent question: It can be argued in Mr. Pearson's case that his experience in the Department equips him for his new post as External Affairs Minister; that he is, because of his training, the best man for the job; that we should "cash in" on his training. But, isn't the answer to that simply that Mr. Pearson's experience would be available in any event—available as the department's Under-Secretary—to anyone appointed as Minister; and that, in point of fact, Mr. Pearson's new duties as a politician and Minister must subtract from his attention to External Affairs? As Under-Secretary of External Affairs Mr. Pearson could give all his time to his job. As a Minister, as a politician, he will have other things to attend to—he must inevitably fall into the ways and habits and techniques of an important member of a party. Cabinet Ministers, no matter what their training and temperament, have got to be politicians. Mr. Pearson's first chore as Minister will be to get himself elected.

But the sixty-four dollar question posed by the *Journal* is this: Suppose, a year hence, the Conservatives come to office, and that, being human, they decide that Mr. Pearson's easy change from civil servant to Cabinet Minister, plus Mr. King's statement that the civil service should be regarded as "the stepping stone to the Ministry," suggests that some of Mr. Pearson's former associates in the service were also potential Liberal politicians. What then? In such circumstances, might not the new Conservative Government decide that the thing to do was to get rid of such officials, to make (from its standpoint) some desirable changes? When one begins to tamper with the continuity of the permanent service, so vital to our system of good government, a lot of undesirable things can happen.

For The Blind

It may come as a surprise to many of our readers to learn that more than fourteen thousand Canadian citizens live and work and find what happiness they can in a world of drab and unending darkness. They cannot see.

These men, women and children are victims of a cruel stroke of fortune, but they have the same right as every citizen to normal, full and useful lives. It is the responsibility and the privilege of more fortunate Canadians to see that they have every chance to achieve it.

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind affords every person of compassion and good will an opportunity to help those without sight to help themselves. All contributions to the support of the Institute go directly into the work of training and caring for the blind.

Today is Tag Day in Charlottetown for this worthy cause. A generous response is requested.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

Tag Day for the Blind.

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Quebec capitulated this date 1759.

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Tomorrow unveiling cenotaph at Cornwall.

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Tomorrow, 17th Sunday after Trinity or 18th after Pentecost.

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Tomorrow is to be celebrated as Battle of Britain Sunday when "so many" will remember their debt to "so few."

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The General Electric Company has managed to produce several different types of snow using different vapors, according to an exchange. The chances are that all of them would stick to a shovel anyway.

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At least one member of Britain's Labour Government is living up to his party's name. George Thomas, M.P. (Cardiff) has worked his way to Pugwash, N.S., on a lumber ship and intends to return the same way.

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As individuals, Canadians seem to be active in their aid to Britain. Canada ranked third in number of parcels sent to the United Kingdom last year being topped only by the United States and Australia.

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The latest thing in air transport gets back to a principle used by the ancient Romans. A jet-propelled helicopter powered by a pulse-jet engine mounted on each wing tip amounts to a re-discovery of a pre-Christian steam engine consisting of a revolving boiler with bent jets discharging steam at right angles to its axis.

* * * *

During the war Englishmen, not in arms, declared they had to go shirtless because of lack of the raw material. Shirt manufacturers here are now frightening us with that bogey. Yet every mail from the Old Country bombards us with letters and circulars urging us to patronize Ulster products to relieve the dollar shortage.

* * * *

The Conservatives at Algoma have decided, for patriotic reasons, not to oppose the election of the Hon. L. B. Pearson at the forthcoming by-election. This is really a self-sacrificing action on their part, as there was every prospect of their candidate, a local man, being elected in a three or four cornered contest which seems inevitable.

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On the freight rates question Ottawa seems bent on following the policy of "too little and too late." A Royal Commission to investigate "some aspects" of national transportation is not going to satisfy anybody, it being obviously an attempt to escape from a dilemma. Isn't it just like the Prime Minister who dealt with the thorny issue of conscription by ignoring it!

* * * *

The profoundest sympathy is extended to the bereaved relatives of the three Islanders who lost their lives in a boating accident in Gibson's Lake, N.B. These young men left their native province to make a livelihood elsewhere due to lack of opportunities at home. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, they were swept to their doom, leaving their relatives and friends to mourn their sudden passing.

* * * *

Leonard Euler, eminent Swiss mathematician, pupil of Bernouille, died this date 1781; was appointed professor of mathematics at Petrograd, and later, at the invitation of Frederick the Great, became professor at Berlin. In 1766 he returned to his former position at Petrograd where he died. His name is perpetuated in various mathematical formulas. He chiefly worked at problems left by Newton. Wrote *Theory of Planetary Motion*, etc.

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It may be interesting and flattering to our souls to bear in mind that among the outstanding personalities at the forthcoming Imperial Parliamentary Conference in London promise to be two Canadians, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King, Q.M., etc., who has ruled as Prime Minister longer than any other statesman in history; and Hon. J. Walter Jones, B.Sc.A., Premier of Prince Edward Island who, in an emergency, put the interests of the farmer-producers ahead of those of the trade unions, and survived the shock, though denounced by Union officialdom at Ottawa, Washington and London.

ISLAND BOYS WIN NATIONAL HONOURS FOR LIVESTOCK JUDGING ABILITIES.

Old Charlottetown
(And P. E. I.)

INDIAN MISSION, LENNOX ISLAND

The first record we have of Lennox Island as the seat of an Indian Mission is in a letter from Monseigneur Plessis, then titular Bishop of Canathe and coadjutor of Quebec. It is dated Quebec, 24 June, 1801, and is addressed to the Abbe de Calone, then missionary in Charlottetown. He says:

"Your excellent project of taking upon yourself the spiritual care of the Magdalen Islands, Malpec, and the Indians, whom you hope to collect and settle upon Lennox Island, cannot but meet with the approbation, indeed I may say, the applause and admiration, of your superiors. These Indians are probably the decendants of the pupils of the late M. Maillard, one of the most virtuous and hardworking missionaries that we have had in Canada. Doubtless the sooner you carry your design into execution, the better. From the idea I have formed of your talents, I do not think that at the age of sixty the study of Micmac will be beyond you."

When Mgr. Plessis, then Bishop of Quebec, visited Prince Edward Island in July, 1812, he made mention in his diary of the Indians of Lennox Island, who came over to Malpec (Malpeque) to receive the sacraments, and who for confession, addressed themselves to the Abbe Painchaud, as he spoke their language.

The Bishop left Rev. Jean Louis Beaubein on Prince Edward Island to minister to the Acadians there, and it would appear that the Indians also were in his care, for a letter from the Bishop dated "St. Marguerite de la Grange, 10 Aout, 1812" reads as follows:

"Sir: The Indians who are scattered over the coasts of Pictou and Mirigonish, having no lands and consequently no fixed dwelling, it would appear well for you to instruct and confess them in your mission. In order to regulate them, and not overwork yourself, you will exact from them that each communicant and head of family shall pay you half a dollar yearly: and also you must insist that they do not come to look for you at all times, and in all places, but only on Lennox Island — you arranging with them the time you will be there each year.

"You may also until further orders confess and communicate those who come to you from Newfoundland, but send back to M. Lajointel those of Cape Breton and to M. Pichard those of Pomket and to M. Gagnon those of Richebucto. In the meantime apply yourself to the study of the Micmac language, give your whole heart to it. The longer I live, the more I feel how necessary it is for the Salvation of these poor people that we should know their language. They are everywhere set aside, which would not be the case if we understood Micmac and could speak with them in their own tongue."

The first church of Lennox Island was a log chapel which the Indians built for themselves. The existing church, dedicated to St. Anne, was framed by John Dixon of Kildare Capes in 1838. It measures 60 by 40 ft. and is ornamented by a tower and spire. The altar is profusely decorated with gilding; above the tabernacle is a picture of the Ascension and on the gospel side an oil painting of St. Anne. The church appears to have been completed interiorly in 1842, for in the register of that year is the following entry: "This is to certify that John Wallace agrees to finish the Indian Chapel in as near as possible the same manner as Cascumpec Chapel for the sum of eighteen pounds cash. The sum of ten pounds to be paid when the gallery is finished."

Between the little graveyard and the church is an enclosure containing a large wooden cross representing a Calvary. Here, upon the Feast of St. Anne and the two following days, the Indians come to pray, and here they frequently leave a simple votive offering.

The Mission of St. Anne was first served by the Abbe de Calonne, then by Father McEachern, and later by the Abbe Beaubien and the Abbe Cecile. Upon the departure for Quebec of the latter, it in common with the other western missions was given to the Rev. B. D. MacDonald. From him it passed in 1842 to the care of Rev. James MacDonald. In 1843 the mission on the island was held by Rev. P. McIntyre; in 1866 by Rev. James MacDonald; in 1837 by Rev. A. J. Trudel; in 1876 by Rev. M. J. MacMillan; in 1878 by Rev. Angus MacDonald and from 1880 up to the present time by Rev. Laughlin MacDonald.

On Oct. 10, 1844, the Indians of the island resolved to build a presbytery and promised to pay to Peter and Francis Bernard the sums attached to their respective names; one-half to be paid on the 1st April, the other half on St. Anne's Day. The presbytery was completed and is the abode of the priest during his semi-annual visits. Mr. Arsenault, who teaches a government school on the island, habitually resides in it.

The Indians have quite a large sum of money in the bank and keep their bank book "turn about". A few years ago they waited on the Bishop, and set before His Lordship the fact that all the other parishes were building new churches and they wished to do the same. His Lordship succeeded in calming their architectural ambitions, but the fire is only smouldering and will break out again.

—From an unpublished manuscript, 1895, by the late Father Burke (Rev. Dr. Alfred E. Burke), at that time secretary to Bishop McIntyre.

Most Popular Hymn

A recent poll of favorite hymns taken by the London Daily Express shows that the most popular hymn in that country is "Abide With Me." In the second place comes "Lead Kindly Light," and tying with it, "The Day Thou Gavest, Lord, Is Ended." The fourth choice is "O God Our Help in Ages Past," while for sixth place there was another tie in "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" and "Praise My Soul." There was a great liking shown for the sailors hymn, "Eternal Father, Strong to Save," which came in eighth place and for "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross."

On this continent, says an exchange, it is probable that "Nearer My God to Thee" would have stood high had a poll been taken of favorite hymns. Only recently this hymn has appeared as the subject of dispute. Some have said that when the White Star liner Titanic went down on April 15, 1912, the band played this hymn. Hanson Baldwin, writing of the disaster in Harper's Magazine refers to the playing of "Nearer My God to Thee." But Mark Sullivan in "Our Times" writes that while the ship's band at first played lively airs, just before the end it broke into the Episcopal hymn "Autumn" composed by Francis Hippolyte Barthelmon, (Bordeaux, 1741 — London 1808), with its significant lines,

"Hold me up, mighty waters,
Keep my eye on things above."

Thirty-five years have passed since one of the most terrible disasters ever to take place at sea, with the loss of 1,517 persons. But today the passage of time has somewhat assuaged the grief and shock, and the anger felt that the ship carried lifeboats for but half her passengers. Instead, we are concerned over the hymn played as the vessel settled beneath the waves.

The Poet's Corner

A POET'S POSTSCRIPT

I wonder if, long years from now
When I no more shall walk this earth
Some stranger with a puzzled brow
Will scan these lines of little worth?

When I am dust and lost in Time
Will brooding eyes unborn as yet
Bend over this too fragile rhyme
That Night may claim and men forget?

For dawn will flush their self-same sky
And rose and lilac scent the air
As lark and robin wake—and I
Who loved them once will not be there.

So when to Silence I've returned
And played my faltering singer's part,
Can one too fleeting flame that burned
So long ago, touch any heart?

Can notes from wires resigned to rust,
Can rows of words across a page,
Still bloom and blow above the dust
That marks man's mortal heritage?

Will some young girl, still quick with youth,
When I am earth and crumbling bone,
Awaken to some whispered truth
From lips beneath a lichened stone?

And will some youth of other years
From time-worn leaves he bends above
Discern some longing touched with tears,
Some relic of remembered love?

For we who once knew life was sweet,
And, being quick, gave little thought
To ghosts beneath our careless feet,
Are through the grey years soon forgot.

Yet we who went into the Night
And watched the lamps of Time go out
Must hunger for some friendly light
Along those corridors of Doubt;

And knowing all things pass away,
Still seek some torch beyond the tomb,
Some ember where the ashes lay,
Some little candle in the gloom.

So I, who found this singing brief,
And long the silence at the end,
Leave music like a falling leaf
To lie beside you, Unknown Friend.

—Arthur Stringer in Saturday Night

The Age-Old Story

He hath given meat unto them that fear Him; He will ever be mindful of His covenant.

- Notes By The Way -

A writer says "good-night" means it's time to go home in England, and come into my parlor in Ireland. Here it means we've just bought and paid for the groceries. — Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.

Charges made by Toronto bankers that the handwriting of most students of that city's collegiate institutes is atrocious has drawn the retort that the writing of many bank managers is illegible, too. Their initials, however, mean much at times. — Amherst News.

It is reported that Devil's Island, notorious French Guiana island prison, is passing into extinction. Now if we could persuade Russia to do the same with Siberia, also a notorious land of prisons, the world would be much better off. —Sault Ste. Marie Star.

Spreading out the tourist season beyond its present rather limited confines would mean much to the industry and to the country. There are now plenty of tourists during the summer season and too few of them at other times of the year. Anything, therefore, that may be done to persuade our neighbors that June, September or October are just as good months for visits to Canada as July or August —in some respects even better months —will be of great benefit to this country, which already profits so materially from this great influx of visitors and could profit even more. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

Shiftiness never pays. One lie leads to another, till the victim of this vicious tendency becomes discredited and shunned. The important thing is to be scrupulous in small matters as well as great; holding nothing too trivial to be dealt with otherwise than in the spirit of sincerity, honesty and fair dealing. Reliability is one of the chief assets which anyone can posess; it should be cultivated by the young as a priceless attribute in all human relationships. Never compromise with the truth. —Hamilton Spectator.

It is obviously well and good that a government and such members of its military staff who are more or less responsible should be subjected to question and criticism, regardless of the effect such procedure might have upon the nation's contribution toward the defeat of the common enemy. At the same time, now that Lord Mountbatten has accepted full responsibility for the technique involved in the launching of the Dieppe raid, and has said from the wealth of his experience and intimate knowledge that if he were placed in a similar position again he would do the same, surely any further discussion of this matter should be dropped. —Victoria Times.

The Los Angeles common council wants to stop skywriting. One councilman said: "The sky is the only unpolluted item of nature we have left." We, of Milwaukee, who have also seen a good deal of skywriting, will be disposed to say that the important problem is to clear the lower atmosphere of smoke poured from chimneys. We suggest to the gentlemen of Los Angeles —and more positively to officialdom in Milwaukee —to look at the lower rather than the higher sky levels as they contemplate the smoke evil. If American cities once get the first 500 feet, let us say, of their atmosphere freed from pollution, they can see whether there is any need to deal with skywriters. — Milwaukee Journal.

Would-be political leaders are plentiful enough —but how about the crop of followers? — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

The last veteran family is out of the old Hotel Vancouver. Possession could today be handed over to the purchasers of the property, but for one circumstance. A government department, the National Employment Service, is still there, the only tenant. Since the old hotel was sold to Eatons, National Employment Service has known it would have to find new quarters. Yet this government department, which should have shown a shining example to the hundreds of individuals inhabiting the ancient rooms, has made no engagement to move. Eatons have been anxious to get possession and presumably would begin work of demolition this Autumn. Until they get unhampered possession, however, Eatons do not assume liability for taxes and other charges which amount to several thousand dollars per month. The taxpayers of Canada will have to pay a considerable penalty for the belated failure of National Employment to move itself out. — Vancouver Sun.

Mrs. Mihai Raica, wife of the Romanian ambassador to the United States, is peeved at Newport, R. I., socialites for barring her family from swanky playgrounds because of its ideological affiliations. She has called them impolite and "virtually uncivilized," and hopes to have a good time in California instead. Few persons will be disposed to waste time in defence of Newport's socialities, but there is more to this matter than their selectivity. It also shows that the upper crust of the Communist states of Europe not only have a hankering for the more exclusive haunts of capitalist society, but the cash to pay their way. The "new democracy" appears to be a pretty good thing —for the inner circle. —Windsor Star.

You know him. He lives in every rural neighborhood and in every city block. Often he is a competent, industrious, thrifty person. His place is well kept. When not at work he usually may be found at home. He pays his taxes but he does not vote. He attends church but he does not work in it. He goes to lodge but he will not hold office. His children go to school but he will not take part in school meetings. He enjoy the beauty of his town but he will not belong to the horticultural society. He believes in world brotherhood but he does nothing to promote it. He minds that little part of his own business which lies within his own fences, but let something go wrong or displease him in the town business, which is everybody's business, and he will squeal like a pig under a gate. —Brandon Sun.

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