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

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 1949

Folk Music Revival

It is interesting to note that at the Provincial Music Festival to be held on May 2-7, greater emphasis will be placed on folk music than in previous years, thus ensuring not only a wider popular appeal, but enhancing the cultural value of the Festival which has already made phenomenal progress as a communal enterprise.

Folk music is distinguished from so-called art music in that it is not an individual work, committed to paper at a particular time and fixed for ever in one unalterable form; rather it is "the product of a race and reflects feelings and tastes that are communal rather than personal; it is always in solution; its creation is never completed, while at every moment in its history it exists not in one form but in many."

The peculiar qualities of folk music are its naturalness, spontaneity and unconventionality. It is believed that the primitive ballad — the chief example of folk music — was not only communal in authorship but in performance as well, and that it was danced as well as sung.

We cannot, of course, turn back the clock and restore music or any other art to its primitive origins. But the current interest in folk music is due to something more important than antiquarian zeal. It is based on a growing appreciation of its artistic and educational value in a world where individualism has ceased to have much meaning and we are thinking more and more in terms of communal welfare.

All the great masters of music were folk song enthusiasts — their works are studded with gems of folk tunes, which they have lovingly polished and placed in priceless settings of their own. Of Bach's compositions, it is said that about three-quarters were built up on the popular hymn-tunes which he loved so well.

The Spiritual Note

A side of Mr. Churchill with which many of his admirers on this continent are not familiar was revealed in the great British war leader's address in Boston last week. This was his deep but seldom expressed religious convictions.

The Pact And The Nation

The House of Commons vote, approving in advance Canada's signature of the Atlantic Treaty, is rightly being interpreted as a significant step toward national unity on questions of foreign policy. All the major parties voted solidly for Canadian adherence to the pact.

Col. Drew traced the pact's origin to the persistently aggressive policy of the Soviet Union. There would be no need of the alliance, as he showed, if the Russian Government had respected the rights and freedoms of other countries. Instead, through violent action by Communist minorities, it has gained control of all Eastern Europe and partial control, yet undefined, of Asiatic lands.

ed. The alternative is a defensive union which can hope to keep the aggressor in check by promising him certain defeat if he attacks any one of them. The speaker warned that the treaty can become "as completely impotent as Locarno or Paris" if the nations fail to give it living reality, and forget the tragic lessons of the last half century.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Prince Edward Island Irish moss is again in demand.

The late Easter combines Spring fashions and Easter displays.

The busy season in town and country now begins.

Casualties to Islanders abroad have been numerous recently — all accidental and presumably preventable.

The General Assembly of the United Nations meeting at Lake Success today will deal with many problems. The most vital, however, concerns its own constitution and powers.

In War: Resolution.
In Defeat: Defiance.
In Victory: Magnanimity.
In Peace: Good Will.

The recent reasonable declarations by Communist spokesmen in this country, following a world-wide pattern, will certainly assist the passage of the Government's provision against subversive activities. Care should be taken, however, that the counter-measure does not lend itself to repression of other minority groups.

Ontario's Education Minister Dana Porter believes that, "In trying to give education to too many, we shall provide something in a diluted and superficial form" and further, "instead of distributing a recognized good to all who want it, we shall find that we are denying it to all."

The blessings of democracy are certainly most apparent in election years. Revenue Minister McCann has told the House of Commons that a farmer may employ his children in productive labour instead of outside help, and if they are paid cash, up to \$400., their wages may be deducted from his own income as an expense. For the year 1949, the limit would be \$500.

A floor price to support Canada's sagging honey market was proposed in the Commons by William Bryce (CCF—Selkirk). A beekeeper himself, he said Canada's honey farmers had a carry-over of 4,000,000 pounds in 1947, and then ran into a bumper crop of 40,000,000 pounds in 1948. The result was that honey prices fell from 25 to 30 cents a pound in 1947 to a current level of 17 cents.

New Mexican pinto beans were recommended as the training diet for entries in the Mando-Aquatic Canoe Derby at Minneapolis by Governor Thomas J. Mabry in response to Minnesota's Governor Luther Youngdahl's invitation to "send your best canoeists against ours" in the 450-mile Mississippi classic.

The last living link with Lewis Carroll's immortal story "Alice in Wonderland" has gone with the death, just reported of Mrs. Mary Probert of Bures, Suffolk, at the age of 89. The original of Sir John Tennel's drawing of Alice for the book, Mrs. Probert was the daughter of the late Canon Badcock of Ripon, and it was in Ripon that Mr. Carroll saw her photograph in a store in 1864.

Thomas Hobbes, English philosopher, born this date 1588. His fame rests on his political philosophy. The idea of his great book Leviathan was affected by the civil strife of his time. The Leviathan he conceived as a great monster made up of mass human beings. While he anticipated later thinkers in believing that government was for the benefit of the people as a whole, he believed that the civil powers residing in the people are absolute, and that no internal organizations which might conflict with it should be allowed to exist.

Fifty boys will see their dream of a lifetime come true when they sail from Liverpool on July 26 for Montreal, the first step in a tour of several Eastern Canadian cities. The visit has been arranged through the generosity of Mr. Garfield Weston, M.P. of the Weston food companies, who four years ago expressed a wish to provide a free visit to Canada for British boys drawn from all walks of life.

MY COUSIN LOONEY, (HE'S THE SCHOLARLY TYPE), CONCERNING SUMMER OCCUPATION, SAYS "TEACHERS ARE NOT, CANNOT BE, INERT!"
FOR INSTANCE THERE'S WILTON WHACKBRAT WHO WORKS ON A FARM—HE KEEPS THINKING OF ROSCO THUMP, WHO'LL SPEND...
AND CONSIDER POOR AGATHA DIMBRIGHT AS SHE BONES UP DURING THE SUMMER SO SHE CAN LOOK INTELLIGENT AT LEAST, SHOULD ONE OF...
HER QUIZ KIDS POP AT HER SOME QUESTION LIKE "HOW MANY ISOTOPES IN A CALLOPE?"
AND THEN TOO...
THERE ARE A NUMBER WHO LIKE TO EAT REGULARLY, AND MAYBE WEAR CLOTHES!
WHICH IS PARTICULARLY SUITED TO MOVIE PERSONALITIES, CARTOONISTS, INDUSTRIAL TYCOONS AND SUCH.

- Notes By The Way -
Would there be less talking if there were fewer fools; or would there be fewer fools if people talked less?—Guelph Mercury.
The famous British Company of Shakespeare players from Stratford-on-Avon are likely to tour North America. It is proposed that the visit should be arranged immediately after the end of this year's season. Plans envisage a one-month tour of Canada followed by a six weeks' tour in the United States. There would be a four weeks' season in New York with a program of three plays. The visit to the USA will be made under the auspices of the New York Theatre Guild. Arrangements are still subject to final approval by authorities concerned, but it is not anticipated any obstacles should arise. — UK Information Office.
Word that an all-water transportation service between Montreal and Vancouver will start around the end of April is welcome news in this port. Up until the end of 1940 ships travelling via the Panama Canal brought us a wide variety of goods from the East and carried our lumber and canned salmon back with them. But the war brought the canal traffic to a standstill. Now it is proposed to inaugurate a monthly service between Montreal and Vancouver with vessels of Al Canadian registry. The approximate transit time will be 28 days. If the canal trade can be developed into a healthy, competitive traffic Vancouver will benefit tremendously. — Vancouver Province.
The breeze from the strait still seems to carry the chill touch of mainland mountains on which the snow lies low. The willow, with its catkins now pollen-gilded, still seems to be a false prophet of the season. But the breath of Spring is stirring on the water and on the bank. Where the richer soil of a neglected garden spills from a crumbling wall to the bank's grey clay, violets are blooming. New green lifts above the weathered leaves of last year's growth and there rise the blue flowers. A fresh perfume and delicacy of form lend elegance to the first robust flash of Spring imparted by the crocuses. And in the brush the red currant seems to flush with the exertions of the wax for full unfurling between cluster blooms and the unfolding foliage. — Victoria Times.
We are indebted to Dr. C. A. Harris, London's medical health officer, for bringing up the matter of unnecessary noises in the city, especially that horrible and incessant din of automobile horns at weddings. Dr. Harris told the Board of Health that citizens' nerves are frayed and fretted by a vast aggregation of noises that do not bear distinctly. But it is the tooting of automobile horns at weddings which he protests most strenuously. We do not wish to cheat newly-married couples of any brief huzzahs or plaudits they can wring from an observant, popular, but it is a wretched noise, at best, and as far as most of us are concerned, quite uncalled for. There must be the tooting of an automobile horn in connection with weddings let us have it in celebration of the diamond jubilee. That there would be something to toast about—and it would not occur frequently. — London Free Press

The Poet's Corner
SONNET ON BLUE
Blue! 'Tis the life of heaven,—the domain
Of Cynthia,—the wide palace of the sun,—
The tent of Hesperus and all his train—
Of clouds, gold, grey and dun.
Blue! 'Tis the life of waters—ocean
And all its vassal streams: pools numberless
May rage, and foam, and fret, but never can
Subdue if not to dark-blue native-ness.
Blue! gentle cousin of the forest green,
Married to green in all the sweetest flowers,
Forget-me-not—the blue-bell—and, that queen
Of secrecy, the violet: what strange powers
Hast thou, as a mere shadow! But how great
When in an Eye thou art alive with fate!

Old Charlottetown
(And P. E. I.)
THE FANNING PROPERTY
Lieutenant Governor Fanning during his term of office (1786-1805) occupied the whole block bounded by Great George, Sydney, Prince and Richmond Streets. His residence was on the south side, just in the rear of the building later owned by the Rev. Dr. Heartz. The coach house was on the site later occupied by the Bank of Nova Scotia (now Provincial Government tax offices). This building was for some years used as a City flour and meal market. The balance of the block was private grounds, garden and orchard. The dwelling house was destroyed by fire in 1850. Some time after the land was put on the market for sale, and the whole block was bought by John C. Binns for \$3,000 Island currency. A few days later Mr. Binns sold it to Henry Hassard at an advance of \$600. Mr. Hassard subsequently divided it up into building lots and sold it off.

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Lenten Meditations
The Times, London
NEWNESS OF LIFE
"The year's at the spring," said Browning, and in eight lines had reached the conclusion that "All's right with the world." Does his poem mean anything, apart from the fact that in spring-time man attains nature, and hence takes a more rosy view of his hopes and prospects? Or is it not one more example of the "pathetic fallacy," whereby man sees in nature the reflection of his own feelings?
Browning goes perhaps too far when he sees in the spring a reason for a firmer faith in God. For, to be frank, it is vain to attach to the spring any greater ultimate significance than attaches to the decay of autumn or the deathlike grip of winter. All the seasons play their part and if they are allowed to speak at all, they must all speak.

There everlasting spring abides
And never-withering flowers."
To the Christian, therefore, the spring does express an essential aspect of God's character. As he looks out on the spring flowers, he can say, with a deeper meaning than the Psalmist knew, "Thou sendest forth Thy spirit, they are created: and Thou renewest the face of the earth." For to him the Spirit of God is always the spirit of renewal and creativeness.
Man needs new hope badly enough, and cannot ignore any possible source of new confidence and vitality. But to find such confidence in the return of spring alone is to risk its loss with the coming of the autumn. Those who find faith in God through the Christian revelation may find both spring and autumn to be sacraments of His presence.

RAINBOW BRIDGE
The Rainbow Bridge which spans the gorge between Niagara Falls, Ont., and Niagara Falls, N.Y., has an overall length of 1,450 feet, including the steel arch of 960 feet.

The Age-Old Story
The Lord your God is He that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.
FAVOR MOUSTACHES
BURTON, Somersetshire, England — (CP) — When women's health insurance undertakings would considerably surpass the estimates. We may be certain that in Canada the reports at the end of the fiscal year for the various kinds of assistance will contain figures well beyond those expected and it must not be forgotten that the social aid program is not yet of the size which it is proposed to make it.
In addition to the enormous costs which will result from certain proposals, we must think of the great upset they will cause in the constitutional order at a time when our country, like the rest of the world, has essentially need of tranquillity and calm to complete the stabilization of its economy. — La Presse, Montreal.
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