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

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1946

A House Divided

It is apparent to all that there are serious internal divisions in the Liberal party, which are militating against the best interests of the province. Premier J. Walter Jones and Reconstruction Ministre Clarence Decatur Howe are at loggerheads, and to such an extent that an impasse has been reached in our reconstruction programme. It has been known for a considerable time that a lack of harmony prevailed, but it was assumed here that it was all the fault of the Federal authorities in ignoring the existence of the Provincial Government, and the set-up it had arranged for the discharge of the duties of a local reconstruction administration. The Opposition in the House could obtain no official information on the subject, even in the present session. Now it transpires from the exchange of letters and other disclosures made by the local Regional Reconstruction Council, and published in our yesterday's issue, there has been very considerable communication and correspondence between the Premier and Chairman Peter G. Clark, and of such a nature as to convict the former of having deliberately misled the House on the subject. It is not our intention meantime to discuss the merits of the dispute between Mr. Jones and Mr. Howe, that will have to wait fuller disclosures than now available, but we do feel, and most people will agree with us, that the Premier has placed himself in a most unenviable position, which he must get out of without delay, if he is to retain the confidence and the respect of the Legislature and public.

Mr. Churchill and the Newspapers

In his New York speech Mr. Churchill said he was "very glad to read in the newspapers" that Russia would be represented at the Security Council meeting this month. "There is an awful lot in the newspapers," he added in an aside, "and an awful lot that is very accurate in the newspapers."

Mr. Churchill, comments the *Ottawa Journal*, was making it clear that he is now a private person, that like the vast majority of people he depends upon the newspapers for his information, that he finds this information complete and accurate. With his background, journalistic and political, and his deep knowledge of international affairs, no one could detect sooner than he misleading or inaccurate reporting, distorted comment or dishonest interpretation. With that background Mr. Churchill pays to the free press a tribute which annihilates those who like to indulge in the cheap jibe that they "never believe anything they see in the newspapers."

"Mr. Churchill's confidence," adds the *Journal*, "in the newspapers seems to be shared very widely. It is not surprising that the circulation of practically all daily newspapers in North America climbed steadily during the war, despite the fact that they gave their news as received to radio corporations for immediate broadcasting. But it is especially noteworthy that this movement should continue unabated in the months of peace.

"This must indicate a new concern — a news consciousness — on the part of men and women everywhere with the grave problems which beset humanity even after the downfall of the Axis, and a general conviction that the newspapers in the main are honest, trustworthy, that there is in fact no other agency of sound and satisfactory public information."

Right Car Needed

"Why don't some of the auto makers produce a model that's properly fitted for a climate like Canada's?" This question was put forward the other day to the *Financial Post* by a prominent engineer, who also pointed out that the car makers have never hesitated about adding to the number of models, but that not one of all the scads of models was ever tailored particularly to a climate like Canada's.

Here are some of the items suggested by the engineer: A different cooling system to get rid of the split radiators and the long bother of antifreeze. Why not better interior heating systems—built-in and "engineered-in" heaters: defrosting and windshield wiping systems that do a complete job and wipers that will wash off mud. There could be better insulation of the body and better protection of runnnig gear, brakes, etc., against water, ice, grit, etc. Trunk and door design that would hold water, hence freeze up tight, is another of our engineer's requests. All this, says the engineer, would add little to cost and, he thinks, would find many eager Canadian buyers who get pretty tired of the winter pampering their present "hot weather" motels require.

To this the *Post* adds another suggestion—that some car designer is going to endear himself to millions when he turns out an interior that can be kept clean—not spotless, not necessarily tidy as a drawing room—just a little cleaner than a pig-sty. Present car interiors may be all right for the folk with chauffeurs and for those who can or will spend part of every day wiping and brushing and rooting into the almost-impossible-to-get-at places inside the body. But the rest will have garlands of purchase orders for the designers who do something for the driver, who, most of the time, does his own automobile "housework."

—EDITORIAL NOTES—

The new blood in the City Council is making itself felt.

* * * *

There is little chance of the Legislature closing this week-end, so many members showing a desire to speak on the Budget since the Finance Minister had so little to say on the subject.

* * * *

It is satisfactory to find action is now being taken with regard to the appointment of Provincial and Civic veterinarians and the upbuilding of a satisfactory Health of Animals Department in the Province.

* * * *

Interest in the proceedings of the Legislature will be greatly stimulated by the publication of the hitherto officially suppressed correspondence between Mr. Peter G. Clark, chairman of the Regional Reconstruction Council, and Premier J. Walter Jones.

* * * *

Halifax is following the example of Quebec in favouring the sale of beer and wine by the glass for consumption on the premises—hotels, restaurants and beer parlours. *The Letter-Review* says that province has proved the sanest in Canada in avoiding hasty, ill-digested legislation such as Prohibition proved in the other eight provinces.

* * * *

Sir Anthony van Dyck, Flemish portrait and historical painter, born this date 1599; his style is in the main that of Rubens but more refined; among his religious paintings are *The Crucifixion, St. Sebastian, The Mystic Marriage of Joseph,* and *The Elevation of the Cross;* his portraits include *Philip le Roy, Mary Louise of Tassis, James I, Charles I, Sir George Villiers,* and *Lady Mary Ruthven.*

* * * *

A Sydney man tried to add to a birth notice, "Mother, son, father quite well," but the newspaper rejected the announcement because the reference to father was "not proper." Said the man: "It is a poor show for father. Fathers have friends who like to know how they are bearing up. Surely they deserve some consideration at such a trying time."

* * * *

It will be seen elsewhere in this issue that the F. G. Spencer Company Limited are about to invest in new up-to-date theatres in Amherst, N. S., and Campbellton, N. B. Inquiry regarding the projected new theatre here elicits the information that after their purchase of the property adjoining the Capitol, a new Government regulation made it impractical to disturb the present tenants. When the property is finally available erection of the new theatre will be proceeded with.

* * * *

The demand for Canadian canned fish has increased in the months since the war ended. Notwithstanding the fact that additional sources are coming into production, according to official advice the supply in sight falls far short of the demand. The canned fish programme has accordingly been planned to distribute available supplies as equitably as possible. It is expected that Canadian production during the period from July 1, 1945, to June 30, 1946, will be about 161.4 million pounds, 28.4 of this on the East Coast and 133 on the West Coast.

* * * *

It is cold comfort to our farmers to be told that because the returned veterans have had experience of life off the farm they cannot be very well induced to return to it. If our production is to be maintained help is absolutely necessary, and this cannot be obtained at the old rate of pay and conditions of labour. To insure a fairly reasonable supply, farmers must be guaranteed a minimum price for all their produce on which they may be able to base remuneration which will tend to retain existing help and attract additions to the farm. There is no more satisfactory way of making a living than by farming—providing the element of slavery is removed from it.

* * * *

Discussing "Nutritional Science in Canada", in the new publication *The Canadian Scientist,* Dr. David L. Thomson, professor of biochemistry in the McGill University, has this to say: "We are thus forced to admit that mild degrees of nutritional deficiency are common in our midst. It has long been a major preoccupation of the science to seek for physiological or chemical tests which might identify individuals in need of dietary supplements; but so far the results have been extremely disappointing, the special tests as applied to fairly healthy persons have proved unreliable (so also are ordinary physical examinations) or at least show little correlation with the diets actually consumed by the persons tested. On the other hand it is not hard to see reasons for the occurrence of deficiencies. Habit and ignorance play their part, but the dominant factors must be economic. It is characteristic of modern urban civilization that costs in handling and risks of spoilage are the great determinants of food prices (thus canned evaporated milk is cheaper than fluid milk, despite the extra processing), hence the foods which cost least per thousand calories are those which have been manufactured and refined into non-perishable forms, such as ordinary white flour, sugar, macaroni, or lard, and these will be automatically preferred by the poor. Unfortunately the manufacturing processes involved commonly rob the food of much of its mineral or vitamin content, either because the process antedates modern nutritional knowledge, or because these nutrients are in themselves threats to the food's stability."

Notes By The Way

Radar is being used to gauge the speed of a man falling from an airplane in the stratosphere. We should imagine that would be of minimum concern to the person involved. — Windsor Star.

It's a strange thing that there are some people in Canada, some of them born here or who have become Canadian citizens, who are far more loyal to another country than to the Dominion. —Niagara Falls Review.

Regina's city council proposes a traffic bye-law calculated to curb jaywalking on the downtown streets. According to the proposed law anyone caught jaywalking would be ticketed by a policeman and could pay a fine of 50 cents without appearing in court.—Amherst News.

The human conviction that the world is going to the dogs would soon become a fact were it not for the enterprise and initiative of the young. They spring up with fresher vision, give to human relations a different turn, and the world moves forward once more in the path of human progress. And it has long been so.—Victoria Colonist.

When the nylon scramble was the sole topic of the hour, a week or two ago, we met a woman who insists she has worn the same pair of stockings for 10 years. "Every winter," she explained, "I knit new tops for them, and you'd be surprised how much wear you can get out of a pair of stockings that way." We would. And we would be even more greatly surprised on hearing that even a single other woman was following her example. —Huron Expositor.

The nation's synthetic rubber output rose from 6,000 tons in 1941 to almost 700,000 tons last year, the Rubber Manufacturers Association discloses. Chief of the synthetic types produced was the Government's general purpose synthetic, GR-S. Natural rubber consumption shrank from 775,000 tons in 1941 to 105,406 tons in 1945. Price of GR-S established at the opening of the synthetic program, 50 cents a pound, prevailed until April, 1943. At the end of 1945 it was selling at 18 1-2 cents a pound.—Wall Street Journal.

Two incidents in one day reveal the almost incredible casualness with which people handle money. A man in Chicago was robbed of $14,000 off his person. He said he used to keep the money in the house, and became nervous and decided to carry it with him. A Toronto man lost his club bag through a mixup in luggage, and was very worried until he got it back, with $2,600 in cash inside. We always try to be sympathetic with those who sustain serious losses, but sometimes it is very difficult.—Windsor Star.

In this day and age, the city housewife may not have a churn around, but she probably has "something just as good"—an electric mixer. And, so it is said, some of the town ladies are making butter easily and efficiently by using their electric mixing machines in lieu of old-style churns. Husbands, we imagine, will not be recklessly inquisitive as to how they do it so long as there is butter for the morning toast. Like "rolling your own," churning your own butter in these times of rationing is a saving grace. —Stratford Beacon-Herald.

If the Scots profess to enjoy eating haggis, if they wish to speak Gaelic, if they want to show their sometimes spindly legs below the kilt and if they delight in the so-called music of the pipes, we suppose they ought to be allowed to exhibit such vagaries. But it will nevertheless prove an everlasting puzzle to a great many other people why, even when they are several generations removed from Scotland, a country which many of them may never even have seen, they should wish to harbor such strange customs and preferences. —Brockville Recorder and Times.

"How cruel we can be!" was the comment of a North Country stipendiary magistrate when fining a doz owner £10 for cruelty, relates The Edinburgh Scotsman. He had tied a piece of tarred twine round the neck of a puppy, and as the animal grew the twine caused a wound that encircled the neck. The prosecuting solicitor and a veterinary surgeon stated that the practice was "not uncommon," and was done in the belief that it would prevent distemper. This barbarous survival of the Dark Ages has, of course, no virtue whatever, and apart from the great physical suffering occasioned, it lowers a puppy's resistance to any form of disease.

The story of the invention of the cavity magnetron—the most important scientific invention of the war—was told in London for the first time recently. It is the cavity magnetron which was to a great extent instrumental in virtually winning the war before the atomic bomb was used. It is a tiny instrument about the size of an ink bottle in which electrons are whirled around, producing a series of vibrations and hence waves, somewhat on the analogy of a siren. With it the inventor, an English professor, J. T. Randall, was able in 1940 to produce short radio waves with an intensity 1,000 times greater than had ever been available before. Introduction of the magnetron led to a revolution as great as the invention of radar itself. It had an essential part in winning the Battle of the Atlantic, in the bombing of the German war machine and a score of other major Allied victories.—Fort William Times-Journal.

At the age of 80 the death of the Maharajah of Cochin State, in Southern India, has been announced, after a reign of two years. His successor will also be an elderly gentleman, because in Cochin, as in the neighboring state of Travancore, the matriarchal system prevails, and it is not a son of the ruler who succeeds, but the eldest member of the royal house whose mother is a princess. Another peculiarity of this small house is that the princes, in addition to their somewhat lengthy Indian names, are given numbers, starting afresh with each century so that it is quite in order to greet one of them with "Good morning, Mr. 52nd Prince." The princes are no great burden on the Exchequer as they seek various employments in the legal and political departments in order to augment the civil list allotted to them, which in some cases is as low as thirty shillings a month. — Manchester Guardian.

Spain

The United Kingdom Government has replied to the second French note regarding the possibility of bringing the question of the Franco Regime before the Security Council. It is understood in London that the United Kingdom Government has informed the French Government that it maintains its view that the procedure suggested by the French Government would be inexpedient.

The French Government mooted the idea of bringing the Spanish situation before the Security Council some weeks ago in a note to Britain, the United States and Russia. Strongly pressed by Left Wing opinion, which is the majority of French public opinion, the French Government contended that some tangible steps should be taken to bring home to the Franco Government the disadvantages of its pertinacity in clinging to power. According to this French view, verbal condemnations by the Allied Governments, such as the statement on Spain by the Governments of France, the United Kingdom and the United States, published on the 5th March, are insufficient.

In the second note received in London a week ago, the French Government, according to indications from Paris, amplified its proposal, explaining that the case which could be put to the Security Council is that the maintenance of the present Spanish Regime is a threat to international peace and security.

The French Government, it is reported, argue that the disclosures contained in the American White Book, of Franco's commitment to Hitler and Mussolini, justify the classification of Franco's Spain among the Axis satellites and that the Yalta declaration on liberated Europe is applicable to Spain. In that declaration by the United Kingdom, the United States and Russian Governments, to which France later adhered, all the signatories agreed to assist "the peoples of the former Axis satellites in Europe to solve by Democratic means their pressing political and economic problems" including "the creation of democratic institutions of their own choice".

The French Government is further reported to have submitted that the United Kingdom, United States and French Governments by their public declarations, including that of the 5th March, have demonstrated that Spain under Franco is not entitled to membership of the United Nations Organization, which is limited to "peace loving states".

The French Government, therefore, considers that the Security Council is entitled to deal with the Spanish situation and to consider practical measures for ending that situation.

London commentators understand that the United Kingdom Government, while entirely at one with the French Government as to the goal to be aimed at, namely the speediest possible substitution by peaceful means of a representative Democratic Spanish Government for Franco's Government, does not favour the means which the French Government suggests for achieving that goal.

As regards the possible reference of the Spanish question to the Security Council, the operative clause is Paragraph Seven, Article Two of the Charter, which states "nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state, or shall require the members to submit such matters to settlement under the present Charter; but this principle shall not prejudice the application of enforcement measures under Chapter Seven".

In the United Kingdom view, it is more than doubtful whether there would be a majority on the Security Council to consider that the Spanish situation constitutes a threat to peace, which would be the sole condition in which enforcement measures, such as economic sanctions, would apply. In that case, the Security Council could be held to be debarred from intervention.

In any event, London commentators understand that the United Kingdom Government is of the opinion that a dangerous precedent would be created if a country were, so as to speak, to be placed on trial before the Security Council because its form of Government is objectionable to other countries.

But above all, on general grounds the United Kingdom Government does not believe that action by the Security Council, if taken as proposed, would produce the desired result. On the contrary, it might rally around Franco a considerable body of Spanish opinion which is at present inimical to him, and Franco instead of becoming more pliant would be rendered more adamant. In addition, economic sanctions might engender economic chaos and lead to civil disorders inside Spain.

At the same time, the United Kingdom Government is second to none in its desire to see Franco disappear from the Spanish political scene and favours continued diplomatic consultation with the French and United States Governments on the subject. Holding as it does that Franco's departure and a consequent return to representative Decocratic Government in Spain are matters of Spanish domestic concern and that the passage from dictatorship to parliamentarianism should be achieved peacefully, above all without the recurrence of civil war, the United Kingdom Government rather looks to the pressure of Spanish opinion inside and outside Spain as affording a lever for dislodging Franco. To this end the impact of world opinion and of the flowing tide of events should contribute.

HERRING STILL MISSING

DIGBY, N.S., March 20 —(CP) —Many of the 60 herring fishing fleet from Grand Manan, N.B., have left for home following the disappearance of the fish from the Annapolis Basin. Last week five of the fleet netted rich hauls and additional boats arrived here to join them.

Monday the fish disappeared and after waiting yesterday in hope the herring would return in large schools, the majority of the fleet departed.

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QUICKIES By Ken Reynolds

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