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Speech From The Throne

It was R. L. Stevenson in one of his poems for children who declared:

"The world is so full of a number of things, I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings."

Like the world, the Speech from the Throne delivered at the opening of the Legislature yesterday is full of a number of things. Unfortunately some of them are outside the direct range of Provincial activities; others are in such a nebulous state that their inclusion in an address of this kind is evidence more of wishful thinking than of wise planning.

However, there are paragraphs of special interest and importance. A new Education Bill is to be presented, also an Assessment Bill to equalize valuations for educational purposes. There is to be extension of our forest nursery facilities, presumably with Federal aid. A Public Utility Bill will be introduced, also legislation to establish a Power Commission.

Among things which are being sought are wharf and harbor improvements and increased subsidies for direct steamship service with Newfoundland. Among things hoped for are increased public welfare services, improvements in the Wood Island ferry service and an auxiliary ferry at Borden. Among things deplored are the lack of accommodation at Falconwood Hospital and Infirmary (a far cry from the propaganda which defeated the MacMillan Government in 1935) and the fact (due chiefly to our transportation bottleneck) that Prince Edward Island last year was "the only province whose farm income declined."

The Speech contains no reference to our financial situation, which is strange in view of former Liberal "economy" cries. One statement which might well have been omitted is to the effect that work on the belated new car ferry "is proceeding with all possible speed in view of war conditions." This is pure political propaganda for the benefit of the King Government, and was apparently inserted for the sake of saving the face of our Federal Liberal members. Nobody believes such an alibi. It gives an air of insincerity to the Speech which is unfortunate.

Farm Cash Income

Here is something for our legislative solons to look into. It is from an official bulletin issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture: "Cash income from the sale of farm products reached a new high in 1944. The estimated returns totalled \$1,752 million, representing an increase of \$350 million, or 25 per cent over 1943, and \$1,029 million, or 143 per cent over 1939. Additional Government payments raise the total farm cash income to \$1,817 million for 1944 compared with \$1,434 million in 1943. Higher income in 1944 is reported for all provinces except Prince Edward Island."

What is the cause of this situation? The same cause, doubtless, which resulted in the loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars to our Island farmers in 1943—namely, inadequate transportation. As Premier Jones well said at the last session of the Legislature, "under the terms of Confederation, when something has happened to interrupt our communication for which the Dominion failed to make adequate provision, we have a claim against Canada for the loss sustained. The delay of even a day or two might bring up claims of thousands of dollars." The Premier went on to say that he believed this claim should be pressed strongly at Ottawa. It is to be hoped, in his speech today on the Draft Address, that he will be able to show some progress in this direction.

The Dominion bulletin above referred to goes on to say that the most notable increases in farm cash income occurred in the west in both grains and live stock. Saskatchewan recorded the largest increase. Substantial increases were recorded from Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec.

In view of the reduced stocks of grain on farms in the Prairie Provinces at the beginning of 1945, together with a prospective reduction in the marketing of hogs, it is probable, states the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, that cash income from the sale of farm products in 1945 will be somewhat lower. Except for hogs, some increase in the output of live stock and live stock products is indicated. There is not likely to be much change in prices in the coming year.

San Francisco Conference

The conference on world security, to be held in San Francisco on April 25, is tantamount to a preliminary gathering of the nations to discuss ways and means of forming a new and enduring League which this time must not be scuttled before it is launched, nor after it is launched. It will be left mainly to the "Big Three"—the powers chiefly concerned in the grim fight for democratic freedom—to say what the terms of peace will be; but other nations,

too, will be given the opportunity of contributing to the reorganization of human society on a more stable, just and enduring basis. The outlook is promising, for the atmosphere in which the delegates meet is one of unity and calm determination.

If the lessons of the past are not enough, what is happening in the world today is more than sufficient to sway the hearts and minds of those engaged in shaping international policies. The mere cost of the war, the actual cash cost, leaving out of account the toll of death and suffering, the grief and affliction entailed—has reached a total of more than three trillion dollars, for all belligerents, according to the calculation of the New York Times, which estimates that costs are increasing at the rate of about \$200,000,000,000 annually. Of this stupendous total the United States has spent about a fourth, Great Britain a tenth, Russia perhaps a hundredth and the Axis Powers three times that sum. To these costs must be added the losses incurred in the destruction of property, "scorched earth, broken careers and broken lives. No wonder the Times concludes its tabulation with the solemn warning that "we cannot permit the tragedy of a world war to occur again." The principle of world co-operation will surely get more than lip service after this appalling objective.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A good beginning has been made at the Legislature.

Federal Parliament meets next Monday, and will barely have a month to transact all its business before its lease of life expires.

Workers in Royal Ordnance Factories throughout Great Britain have contributed over \$90,000 in pennies to the Red Cross Penny-Week Fund.

Admiral John Byng of the British Navy, executed this date 1757; he was sent by the Admiralty with a small fleet to relieve Minorca, which the French had attacked, and withdrew without fighting a battle, in consequence of which Fort St. Philip surrendered; Byng was tried by Court Martial, convicted and shot, as Voltaire put it, "pour encourager les autres."

German gasoline production has been reduced by R. A. F., R.C.A.F., and U.S.A.A.F. and the Russian advance to less than 20 per cent of the rate at which it was running before the air offensive against oil began last April. This has limited German mobility on all fronts, not only in the west but also on the Italian front and in defense against the Russian offensive.

There will be general regret felt throughout the province, and in the City especially, at the death of Archdeacon Kaymond. He was a sincere Christian, holding in his convictions against the strongest opposition on any question at issue, abjuring compromises, and sticking to his opinions even at the cost of friendships. In his own Communion he will be missed here by many who esteemed him greatly, and were sorry when he removed to Toronto.

Canadian housewives after the war will be increasing users of dried and dehydrated foods, but they will not return to the use of as much sugar and sweetening in foods as they use before. Sugar was rationed, says Miss Laura C. Pepper, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. There will be a change in the attitude toward proper cooking of foods, Miss Pepper believes, because "out of the services will come a host of trained personnel experienced in food work, dietitians, chefs, bakers and cooks who have been responsible for cooking foods for maximum enjoyment and nourishment."

A new headlamp which goes far towards solving the problems of night-motoring has been produced by an English firm. The beam has a flat top with a very definite cut-off level. Direct dazzle is completely eliminated at ordinary eye level, and the beam itself is in perfect focus, giving not only a distant view of the roadway ahead, but a sharply defined picture of the road sides. The range of the lamp is stated to be well over 1,000 feet, and it is further claimed that the special lens employed makes falling rain or snow invisible to the driver.

The March Monthly Letter of the Royal Bank concludes: "The Combined Food Board, in which Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States have sunk their individualities in an effort to see that allied countries receive their fair share of the food resources of all, provides a working basis and experience upon which plans may be made for equitable international distribution of the world's food in peace years. At war's end there will be the problem of relieving hunger by the supply of energy foods; there will be a transition stage, with enough food to satisfy hunger. After these periods there must be tackled the task of ensuring enough of the right kind of food for everyone on a continuous basis. When we reach that stage, the world will be setting its hand to a great task never before attempted. It will tax all energies of mind and will, involving an improvement in the dietary habits of millions of people and an elevation of international trade to heights never before attained. Internally, Canada will face the demand of accumulated savings and the desire of millions of individuals to maintain the higher living standards established during the war. Canadians have lived exceedingly well during the past few years, and they will not wish to abandon these gains. Indeed, one of the great endeavours of health authorities on all levels of government should be to maintain and extend the gains that have been made."

Notes By The Way

"All frills will be eliminated from this year's feminine bathing suits," look like making a virtue of necessity, as there is practically nothing left for attaching frills to anyway.—Ottawa Citizen.

The only difference between 1918 and 1945 so far as the war in Europe is concerned, is that Hitler is taking longer than the Kaiser to make up his mind.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Professor Sir Alexander Fleming, discoverer of penicillin, told the Royal Institute of Public Health that when penicillin goes on the market for general use it may be put into toothpaste and lipstick of any type.—Fredericton Gazette.

There is less need to look for new worlds to conquer than there is for population and developing the parts of Canada situated well within the temperate zone. What points would there be to placing settlers in remote North, when there are not enough people in the areas already long since settled?—Brandon Free-Press.

De Gaulle is reported to be chagrined because he was not at Yalta, but pleased because he is to participate in the Moscow conference. He is like the man who was invited to the wedding, but who got the reception that the bride is cut.—From Chicago Daily News.

The Nazis' barbarous treatment of the Jews is found in the figures compiled by the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee in Moscow which show that the Jewish population of Russia and Polish cities was reduced from a total of 400,000 to 3,122 during the Russian occupation. Less than one per cent of the Jews in those crime centres survived under the Nazi rule.—Ottawa Citizen.

"Rail Men Worry Lost Diesel Fuel" Coal-Burning Engines Into Diesel—Railmen do thousands of miles of middle-aged and silver-haired adolescents to whom the motive hauling of a car, although on a train of 70 miles an hour still brings one of life's greatest thrills.—Christian Science Monitor.

A newly invented British pipe-cleaning machine was recently used to scrape a 26-mile pipe. This work normally took 65 men 12 days, at a cost of 20 cents a yard, says the Population Bulletin.—Times-Journal. The machine accomplished the whole in 18 hours and cost only 12 cents a yard, employing eight men, at an approximate cost of two cents a yard.

The news from the entertainment world grows stranger and stranger. Read, for instance, that New York's Gilbert and Sullivan, the duo of charming operetta H. M. S. Pinafore in which the music will be a new one by George Kaufman. The extremely able writer of comedies we deny the name of S. E. Keadles was a partner for Sir Arthur Sullivan in the late Sir William Gilbert. What have you? A mess, we predict.—Peterborough Examiner.

The dimness of moving picture theatres is the cause of awkward accidents at times. A woman in a cinema at Great Britain slipped a troublesome cough and asked her husband to pass her a bottle of cough syrup. She took the bottle, but promptly missed the wrong bottle.—Hamilton Spectator.

An amateur show, "Meet the Navy," which has only seven professionals among its 115 performers, is taking place in the week at the London Hippodrome. Since it was sent over by the Royal Canadian Navy three weeks ago it has become London's most popular of musical. Although Londoners had never heard before of any of its friends, it has been booked until the end of the run, and I could not get a stall under ten minutes. The show has been booked for nine weeks but the management think it could easily run for more than a year.—London Express.

The field of child care is one of the most difficult in the world to forecast the future. What effect are family allowances going to have on present conditions after the war?—the disruption of family life during the war? We do not know what the population of the world will be in the future. Perhaps we are a little clearer on our thinking about the normal child under age needs the individual love and attention that he gets from a foster mother and father—that we, all of us, need to use all the psychology and psychology we have in understanding the individual child and his problems before we undertake to plan his life for him.—From the Council of Social Agencies Newsletter.

Lance-Corporal Donovan Errey, of Wallaceburg, is a prisoner of war in Germany. He is a young fellow who turned his skill to good purpose when he fashioned from scraps of metal and other material no fewer than twenty-eight artificial limbs for fellow captives in his camp. He can see a take pride in what he did, and it is to be hoped that his country recognizes him when the appropriate time comes.—Hamilton Spectator.

Family allowances, free education and nurseries and nursery schools to give mothers more rest and nurseries are important reforms which British women want to see instituted if they are to have more children. The British Women's Association says. The association made public the results of a questionnaire sent to 20,000 women. Wives in the lowest income group said fear of war was just as much a deterrent to having children as the fear of war as only 29 per cent important and voted for free education as the strongest incentive to larger families. The association said the women questioned would have four children instead of an average of one child if such reforms were put into effect.—From Edmonton Journal.

King's Extra Ear

(Financial Post) When the Canadian delegation gets to San Francisco for the United Nations "Peace Conference" there will be one man whose name will remain far in the background. It will be his job, as it has been in the past, to listen and having listened he will pass along what he learns to Prime Minister King. Whether the Canadian attends the conference or remains at his desk in the East Block. That man is Major-General Maurice Pope, personal advisor to the Prime Minister on military matters.

For a long time, Gen. Pope has been one of the "extra" ears of the Prime Minister. He is in on most big conferences and it is no secret around Parliament Hill that his judgment is rated high by Mr. King. When in Washington as he built up a reputation as a man who said little and knew much. During that sojourn, he made many friends, who will also be at San Francisco.

General Pope is to Prime Minister King's right hand. William D. Leahy is to President Roosevelt, and what Lt.-Gen. Sir Harold Ismay is to Prime Minister Churchill. He is strictly a "behind-the-scenes" operator.

Fifty-five years old, he hails from Riviere du Loup, and is a descendant of two of this Dominion's most distinguished families, the Leahys and the Papes. His father, Sir Joseph Pope was private secretary and biographer of Sir John A. Macdonald. Later on he became Canada's first secretary of state for external affairs, the job now held by Norman Macdonald. One grandfather was William Henry Pope of F.R.I. a "Father of Confederation" and the other was Sir Henri T. Taschereau, chief justice of Quebec.

Following graduation from McGill as a civil engineer, Maurice Pope met the Canadian Pacific Railway. In 1914 he went overseas with the Engineers, won the Military Cross and was mentioned in dispatches. After the war he remained in the army and graduated from the Imperial Staff College in 1920. In 1922 and the Imperial Defense College in 1927. In 1931 and 1932 he was attached to the British War Office.

To Pope goes a good deal of credit that this country was not unprepared at the outbreak of this war in such matters as censorship, wartime security matters and similar related subjects. For some 18 months prior to the start of this war, Pope was secretary of six secret interdepartmental committees planning for eventualities. When war did come, he served as director of intelligence, soon went overseas to the British War Office and Canada's overseas army. In 1941 he was promoted to assistant chief of the general staff and Canadian Army member of the Canadian-U.S. Defense Board. In 1942 he went to Washington as representative of the Canadian War Cabinet where his job was liaison with the Combined British and American Chiefs of Staff Committee.

True Fairy Tale

(Winnipeg Free Press) The love affair between young Abraham Lincoln and Ann Rutledge long ago became part of the folklore of the United States. Now, as a result of historical research it is seen to have the added advantage of truth.

When William A. Herndon, Lincoln's law partner, first told the story of Anne, he generally disbelieved. His tale was that in the village of New Salem Anne was engaged to another man when she met the young lawyer. The only great passion of his life Lincoln wooed this lovely girl and his suit prospered. But, torn between her new affection for Lincoln and her engagement to John McHenry, she never left the village. Anne sickened. On August 10, 1836, Lincoln was admitted to her sickroom and the two were left alone. He did not see Anne again, for two weeks later she died.

According to Herndon, Lincoln was so torn by grief that his friends feared for his reason and watched him carefully lest he take his own life. He did not dare to carry a pocket-knife for a long time, knowing that he might use it to kill himself. This story, first told nineteen

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The Poet's Corner

THE IMAGE
Din the light in your face; be passionless in the room.
Snuffed are the tapers, and bitterly hang on the flowerless air.
See: and this is the image of her they will lay in the tomb;
Clear and waxen, and cooled in the mass of her hair.

Quiet the tears in your voice: feel gently, finger for finger
In love, then see how life is the image, but lifelessly fashioned.
And sightless, calm, unloving. Who is the Artist? Linger
And ponder whether his fitted his sister impassioned.
—Richard Hughes.

Then a few weeks ago Jay Monaghan, editor of the Illinois State Historical Library, began to study the faded pages of the Menard Axis, a long forgotten newspaper published by John Hill, son of the same John Hill with whom Lincoln had boarded soon after Anne's death. This paper had circulated among the people who, in her youth, had known both Anne and Abe, and any mistake in this connection would have been quickly detected by them.

Suddenly in reading the issue of February 15, 1862, Monaghan's eyes popped and his jaws dropped. For the New York Times records, Monaghan had discovered a long sketch by Editor Hill of his friend and neighbor Lincoln and therein is recorded the whole story of Anne and Abe.

"Dissease came upon this lovely beauty," Hill wrote, "and she sickened and died. The youth had wrapped his heart with hers and this was more than he could bear. He saw her to her grave and as the cold coils fell upon the coffin he sincerely wished that he, too, had been enclosed with it. Melancholy came upon him; he was changed and sad. His friends detected a strange conduct and a flighty imagination. They placed him under guard for fear of his committing suicide."

When this was printed Lincoln was alive. Neither he nor his friends denied the story. The chief students of his history now accept it as true. The folklore turns out to be fact.

Quoting Mr. Hepburn

(Globe and Mail) Premier Drew let Mr. Hepburn's own words speak for him. Two statements from the Liberal Leader's past were enough. The Premier quoted Mr. Hepburn as follows: "We want men at the helm who have vision, statesmanship, and all those qualities which we so badly lack today. Canada needs a man for eight years, and I know the calibre of the man."

At a later date Mr. Hepburn again spoke of Mr. King in these words: "Mackenzie King has not done his duty by this country, and he never will. It is not in him. I sat with him at Ottawa for eight years and that is the reason I know."



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This War—Four Years Ago

By The Canadian Press MARCH 14, 1941—Eleven hundred killed in two night raids on Glasgow and the Clyde area.

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