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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.
MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1940.

Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving came to Canada around 1763, when the United Empire Loyalists, who had been fairly settled around Halifax by that time, decided to give thanks for the conclusion of peace and the ceding of Canada to Great Britain.

All Canada gave thanks together for the first time on March 18, 1822, the occasion being the restoration of the British throne to the Prince of Wales.

For a long time Canadian Thanksgiving was proclaimed to coincide with the American day but gradually Canadians began to feel the American day was too late in the year and too near to Christmas for proper celebration.

After the Great War, Canadians officially celebrated Thanksgiving on the Monday of the week of Armistice Day, November 11. In 1935, we went back to a Thursday Thanksgiving for a while, in response to appeals from those who felt that the spiritual side of the celebration was being ignored.

While there is legitimate exercise for the holiday spirit on Thanksgiving Day, its original meaning should not be lost sight of, particularly now that we are engaged in a titanic struggle in defense of Christian civilization.

The Protestant Orphanage

Heavy as are the demands on our taxpayers for essential war expenditures at this time, there are other aspects of a humanitarian nature which cannot be ignored. Among such is the appeal annually made by the Protestant Orphanage.

Military Training

Hope is expressed by the Globe and Mail that when Parliament meets the Government will sponsor a measure that will ensure adequate training for Canada's defense army.

Expectation that any extension of the training period will be sponsored by the Government, however, runs counter to the assurance recently given by Defense Minister RALSTON that the thirty-days period would not be exceeded.

exercises, outdoor life and regular camp routine will have the most beneficial effect upon them. It is also to be expected that many of these young men will, at the end of their period of compulsory training, decide to join the non-permanent militia or active service units.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Thanksgiving holiday.

Under the National Housing Act, 18 loans, aggregating \$97,834, have been granted to borrowers in this province up to Sept. 30.

Queen's County National Conservatives first job has been thrust upon them by the Campbell Government—in the West River District.

Total figures to the end of September show that Home Improvement Loans numbering 1,087 and aggregating \$262,497 have now been made for repairs and alterations to residential properties in this province under the plan.

Eamon de Valera, President and Minister of External Affairs of Eire, born this date, 1882. He was mainly responsible for the constitution of the Irish Free State which provides for the freedom of conscience and the free profession and practice of religion to each citizen.

Even wine has its criminal aspect where it may be purchased legally. Dr. E. R. Frankish, Ontario medico-legal expert, told an assize court jury in Toronto that three murders in Ontario in the past month involved the drinking of "jungle juice", cheap wine which "makes people do the most diabolical things."

No less important than direct war work, though it lacked glamor and romance, is the task of keeping important home services going, said Her Royal Highness Princess Alice when she addressed the luncheon meeting of the Women's Canadian Club in Montreal.

As a result of an investigation by War-Time Prices and Trade Board auditors it has been found that "continued payment by millers of any appreciable amount of the flour levy (processing tax) would mean that most mills in Canada would face an actual operating loss."

Back in Starnberg, Bavaria, Hitler has an ardent propagandist whose life is one long, vain regret. Before the war and since, this high-pressure salesman of Truth has been trying to get his mimeographed periodical "News From Germany" into Canada.

The ups and downs of politics. At one time the best-hated opponent of the Conservative Party, Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill has lived to be enthusiastically chosen its leader.

Great and Little Miquelon and the St. Pierre group of islands off the south coast of Newfoundland, which form the only French North Atlantic islands, are becoming of great strategic importance because of the collapse of France before the German attack.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The problem for Ireland is by no means simple. Eire is neutral. Legally it has the right to do what it likes. It has now complete military control over its own ports, and in late issues of your paper, references to the need of preserving the old times as sung in the churches many years ago. It may be interesting to you, and your correspondents, to know that at the Synod of the Maritime Province of the Presbyterian Church, just held at Summerside, that a committee, of which I was made convener, was appointed to select from The Old Choir, The Dulcimer, and other old church song books, all the best of the old tunes, and secure a figure on the cost of publishing the same for the use of the churches throughout Canada.

Hitler, they say, is saving petrol. His airplanes have only to come in late issues of your paper, references to the need of preserving the old times as sung in the churches many years ago.

German psychology being what it is, the drowning of children at sea is a thousand-fold here and there. The duty of humanity is clearer still. I must wipe this abomination from the face of the earth. Not until that has been accomplished will I permit my children and little children born to freedom breathe freely again of God's free air. — Montreal Star.

If you want a true revelation of the British Empire, this grim crisis, you will find it in this comment by a London writer: "Squadron Leader the Hon. Maxwell Aiken went to Buckingham Palace to receive his D.P.C. Here is a young man, a young man so young as to be obviously in the front line with a rich father and a great business in which he could play a part with an expectation of success."

Pro: positive of the manner in which New Zealand meat producers have striven to provide Great Britain with adequate supplies of essential necessities since the outbreak of war is provided in the annual report of the Meat Producers' Board. Under the stimulus of emergency, the record kill of 1938-39 has been exceeded by approximately 1,650,000 freight carcasses, in beef, mutton and lamb, production has been higher than in any previous season.

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The ups and downs of politics. At one time the best-hated opponent of the Conservative Party, Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill has lived to be enthusiastically chosen its leader. The Churchills, father, son, and grandson, naturally brilliant, have all been erratically independent and doggedly aggressive.

Great and Little Miquelon and the St. Pierre group of islands off the south coast of Newfoundland, which form the only French North Atlantic islands, are becoming of great strategic importance because of the collapse of France before the German attack.

It is becoming evident that the United States is not being in the least fed by the Nazi propaganda drive to picture Britain as the brutal blockader starving the peoples of Europe.

Aerodrome Construction

Commonwealth Air Training Plan

By J. A. WILSON, M.E.I.C. Controller of Civil Aviation

AIRPORTS IN CANADA ON OCTOBER 1st, 1940

The airport situation as it then existed, the total number of airports and aerodromes still undeveloped, but about which information was on record, was 153. A rough and ready classification of airports showed: (1) Airports of developed dimensions of 3000 ft. or more—37.

In the first two classes were the airports of the trans-Canada system and those in preparation for civil aviation. This had been built for the crisis came its construction was seen to be doubly justified. No project of more importance to National Defence had been undertaken since the World War.

The trans-Canada airports had been built as transport airports, that is, they were not all-way airfields as preferred by the Air Force, but built on landing strip principle, with a system of two or more landing strips, 500 ft. wide by 2000 ft. or more long are laid out on the field in the form of a triangle, "L" or "T" shape and rough grading only. This was the most economical development and fully met transport requirements.

Certain sections of the trans-Canada airway and its connections were not suitable for training purposes because of inaccessibility, climate, proximity to the international boundary, or the nature of the surrounding country. This applies particularly to Northern Ontario, Nova Scotia and the Rocky Mountains.

WASHINGTON, (CP) — Since 1935 the U. S. Department of Agriculture has restored to grass about 333,000 acres of the "south-western dust bowl" district.

The Poets' Corner

MOON OVER ENGLAND

Bright Moon, new victim of destroying hate, Unchanged years we welcomed you with prayer; We laid our songs upon your silver shrine.

Reprinted "Montreal Star" October 10th, 1940.

jurisdiction over St. Pierre if a change of ownership is to take place, Montreal Gazette. It is becoming evident that the United States is not being in the least fed by the Nazi propaganda drive to picture Britain as the brutal blockader starving the peoples of Europe.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

OLD CHURCH TIMES

(The following letter appeared in the Eastern Chronicle.)

Sir—I am much gratified to notice in late issues of your paper, references to the need of preserving the old times as sung in the churches many years ago. It may be interesting to you, and your correspondents, to know that at the Synod of the Maritime Province of the Presbyterian Church, just held at Summerside, that a committee, of which I was made convener, was appointed to select from The Old Choir, The Dulcimer, and other old church song books, all the best of the old tunes, and secure a figure on the cost of publishing the same for the use of the churches throughout Canada.

The list given in your last issue will be of great help to our committee. I trust that many others will submit their favorites during the coming weeks, so that when our committee confers it will have the choices of a wide circle of admirers and lovers of the ancient songs of Zion.

The committee does not contemplate the issuing of a large book, such as The Dulcimer, or The Old Choir, but has in mind a selection of possibly forty or fifty of the best, with the old words, tunes, and arrangements, so that the selection can be studied by modern choirs and sung as in the past, the book not to displace, but to supplement, the present Book of Psalms, or the hymnals of any church.

That, in brief, is the aim, and the order of the Synod, which has instructed its committee to have its cost figures ready, and its selections made for submission to the Synod meeting next year at St. John's, where sample tunes will be used at the opening service, and throughout the meeting.

It is hoped that there will be many to help as above indicated. I am Sir, etc.

FRANK BAIRD, Convener of Committee.

England Today

(Gerald W. Johnson in The Baltimore Sun)

Goggle-eyed Americans, unable to credit their own senses as they watch the Battle of Britain, must turn to a long-dead Englishman for anything approaching appropriate comment: "God of battles, was ever a battle like this in the world before?"

Outnumbered, outgunned, their backs against the wall and with not a friend left in the wide world, the British have miraculously cast aside age and decrepitude, have set the clock back 300 years, and have suddenly become again the young and vibrant nation, the young and vibrant nation, that were in the time of Elizabeth, when they stopped Philip of Spain just where Hitler seems about to stall now.

Their cause, I think, is just, but whether that be true or not, their fight is magnificent. In the beginning the scales seemed hopelessly against them. In the matter of machines and weapons, the scales undoubtedly were, and still are, weighed against them, but into the side of the balance holding their scanty equipment they flung the weight of English manhood, which will lead them to better things. This is not mere evangelism. It is no mere attempt to simulate a revival of emotional zeal for re-

This demands tribute, regardless of the issue at stake. Were the British fighting for the worst cause in the world, instead of for their own land and their own friends, still the splendor of their fight would extort tribute even from those who hope they will lose. Contemplating the yellow Channel, men once more can believe, as they had not really believed for years, in the Black Prince, in Henry V., in Drake and Frobenius, in Clive and Wellington. One might almost say that for this past week whenever a young Englishman has died, an old hero has suddenly become

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COULDN'T SLEEP COULDN'T WORK

What a relief to settle down to a real night's rest, and awake fully refreshed, ready for the day! I had been tortured by fretful nights—tossing, turning—never comfortable. Half awake day after day, driving body and mind to work when they needed rest. "Try Dodd's Kidney Pills," I was told. "It may be your kidneys." I'm glad I followed his advice as now I'm sleeping like a top—thanks to Dodd's Kidney Pills!

rigorous practices of holy pharisees, making. He is proposing patiently and laboriously to restore in the hearts and minds of his people, not merely recognition, but a deep appreciation of the ancient truths upon which the Christian faith was founded.

The rapid growth in the practice of psychiatry and neurology indicates more than anything else the chronic state of our civilization, no ultimate purpose toward which their energies may be directed.

And because there is no longer much faith, there is inevitably much fear, and this combination of fear, uncertainty and lack of definite purpose has robbed the people of their peace of mind, and substituted a neurotic instability for that serenity in which alone wisdom takes root and flourishes.

While men are overseas defending the citadel of our civilization, the clergy, purging that citadel of the half-truths, the tawdry and worthless ideals, the false ambitions and the disillusion which litter its streets. They should help a faltering and groping people to recapture the spiritual values which have eluded them.

Maybe, after all, there is something substantial in the old dream. Maybe our realism is not so realistic after all. Maybe there is something more than empty rhetoric in Pro patria mori.

This new suggestion of the soundness of an old faith the men of England have given all the world. It is a gift that cancels many a debt.

A Bishop's Example

(Toronto Globe and Mail) In a remarkable sermon to his congregation in St. Paul's Anglican Church last Sunday, the Right Rev. R. J. Renison struck a note which we verily believe should awaken a responsive echo from the clergy of all denominations in the Dominion.

Bishop Renison announced that he proposed henceforth to expand the eternal truths, and avoid discourses on current events, in his pulpit. Admittedly it is a great temptation for the clergy to fill the pew of their churches by giving popular lectures on topic of general interest. But surely it is true that much of the unrest in the world today and the eagerness with which people in different lands have succumbed to the blandishments of dictators are due to the fact that the religion of their fathers has been emptied of its spiritual content and the Church has become more of a social function than a religious force.

Nazism, fascism, communism—each of them has presented an ideal and provided a form of service through which people can express their devotion to it. The ideal may be cheap and of little lasting worth, the philosophy propounded for the purpose of rationalizing the ideal may be faulty and the objectives toward which these new state religions are striving by the people may be offensive in the sight of God. Nevertheless, these pagan religions have won converts, because they supplied something which was lacking in the spiritual diet of the people.

Bishop Renison has, we believe, charted for himself and for those to whom he ministers a course which will lead them to better things. This is not mere evangelism. It is no mere attempt to simulate a revival of emotional zeal for re-

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