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The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink
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Labor's Contribution

Labor Day—which is one of the few holidays officially observed in wartime—falls on Monday next. It is a timely occasion on which to remind ourselves of the tremendous contribution which labour, on the farm as well as in the shop and factory, has made to the war.

Labor will rightly demand a share in the fruits of victory as well as in the privilege and duty of serving Canada in wartime. These fruits will be in the nature of better social and economic legislation, to which practically all political parties subscribe, and which are already far advanced in some countries.

Proportional Representation

Canadian leaders of political factions and of public opinion have so far given little noticeable consideration to the electoral system by which provincial legislatures and the Federal House of Commons are elected, though recent provincial elections have demonstrated that the present relative majority system gives very distorted and unfair results.

In Quebec, it is claimed, fifty of the ninety candidates elected were elected by minority votes—thus wasting the majority of votes in these constituencies. The Union Nationale elected 33,189 fewer votes than the Liberals elected 10 more members.

Under the present electoral system, no political party can say in advance whether it will be helped or harmed by an election. Judged by their apathy, all have a childlike belief that it may help them. It is a gamble which does not need to be taken by any political party if the electoral system is the modern, equitable, proportional representation system with the single transferable vote in multi-member constituencies.

Jews For Lorries

Mr. Henry Wickham Steed, L.L.D., former Editor of The Times, London, makes a remarkable revelation in BBC London Letter of a recent German attempt to bargain with Britain for the sale of Hungarian Jews for British motor lorries, when the Germans occupied Hungary.

Last March, he writes, Hitler gave the order for 750,000 Jews in Hungary to be exterminated as the Jews in Poland had been. With Hungarian complicity, 400,000 of them were rounded up and "liquidated" by the end of June. The younger ones were sent to forced labour in Germany, the older people sent to be gassed or otherwise destroyed in the vast slaughter houses the Germans had installed in Poland.

Then, said Mr. Steed, a prominent Hungarian Jew, escorted by a German official, was despatched to Turkey with an offer of British officials there. The "offer" was that the Germans would spare the lives of the remaining 350,000 Hungarian Jews, or let them migrate, provided the British would supply Germany with ten thousand army lorries and other war material.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow a day of Prayer throughout the British Commonwealth of Nations.

Monday, Labour Day holiday; the next will be Monday, Oct. 9, Thanksgiving.

The Bank of Canada announces an issue of Dominion of Canada deposit certificates amounting to \$57,100,000, dated Aug. 29, 1944, due Feb. 27, 1945, has been sold to the chartered banks at par. The certificates will bear interest at the rate of three-quarters of one per cent per annum. This is to replace a similar loan due last Tuesday.

In his "War Review," General Sir Walter Kirke tells this one: "Blast acts in strange ways, and I trust I shall not be thought unsympathetic by those less fortunate than myself when I say that in a village near me a small chicken had all its feathers blown off, with the exception of two in the tail. The owner put it in his pocket and took it down to the factory where one of the girls in her dinner hour knitted it a pullover complete with yellow wound stripe, and it is now a proud bird."

People just must have their newspapers or be counted dead. Ten European countries are represented in the Underground Press Exhibition sponsored by the Printing Trades Federation at the Scottish Corporation Hall in Petter Lane, London. The most astonishing fact that emerges is that 112 daily papers are published on the continent by staffs all the time in peril of their lives. In addition there are numerous news-letters and fly-sheets, proving that it is the printed word that counts.

Mr. John Grierson, National Film Commissioner, on returning from a visit to Britain, gave an interview in which he said the British were too optimistic to suit him, or the Russians whose views he favours. He particularly said that he was alarmed to see that the British believed that the Allies would soon be in Paris. That was on August 16th, 1944. After seeing some of Mr. Grierson's propaganda films, we can only say, remarks "The Printed Word", he is not a very good military commentator either.

Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England, died this date, 1658; he, it has been said, was greater than his work; a Puritan, who suddenly achieved power to establish the Kingdom of God on earth, he was statesman enough to attempt to do so in only small measure. "Subtly may deceive you, integrity never will." - "A few honest men are better than numbers." - "Vain men will speak well of him that does ill." - "Paint me as I am. If you leave out the scars and wrinkles, I will not pay you a shilling."

Servicemen like to have pictures of their families in familiar home surroundings rather than against the formal studio background. Every branch of the Y. M. C. A., in base towns or even mobile canteens, is acting as an order office to supply such pictures. The men make their applications, which are forwarded to London headquarters. Then a corps of 1,500 amateur photographers goes into action. They are volunteers who joined this scheme and, in their spare time, visit the homes of servicemen to take snapshots. Even General Montgomery has taken advantage of the plan. One of the amateur photographers visited his son's school and, at Montgomery's request, forwarded the latest snapshot of the boy.

No steps have yet been taken to train an all-Canadian fleet air arm, a naval officer states commenting on a report from Kingston, Ont., that a flying school near there was to be used for such a purpose. Canadians are training at Kingston, Pensacola, Fla., and other Royal Navy fleet air stations, but on completion of their courses they will enter the Royal Navy and not the R. C. N. It is possible some might find their way to the flight decks of the two R. N. flattops whose sea-crews are all-Canadian. "Our fleet air arm development has gone no further than the blueprint," said the official. "However, when we furnished sea crews for the two R. N. light carriers we were looking to the day when we would have flattops of our own."

Plans for re-establishment of returned men are first class, says "The Letter-Review"—but what we want now is to put them into practical effect. The objection to this at Ottawa is that the personnel to do this is not yet available, but that is nonsense. There are plenty of men available to direct re-establishment, among those who have been already discharged. It looks suspiciously as though the Government machine at Ottawa was trying to keep the whole re-establishment scheme on ice, until it can be used to furnish employment for present civilian staffs. After all, re-establishment is for the fighting men—not for those who did not fight—and that should go for all appointments in connection with re-establishment, as well as for the actual efforts to re-establish veterans.

Dr. T. F. Donnelly, Liberal M. P. from Saskatchewan, boasting of how well the Government has treated Western farmers, states that, when the Canadian Government sells wheat to Britain at 75 cents per bushel, and pays Canadian farmers \$1.25 per bushel, the remaining 50 cents per bushel is taken out of Mutual Aid Appropriations. The Government should issue a statement on this point. If Dr. Donnelly is right, then a considerable amount of the money which we have been inclined to boast that we give to our Allies, for the common purposes of the War, is not being used for this purpose at all, but is being paid to Western wheat growers. The question is not important—as far as the money is concerned, but surely we cannot allow this country to be placed in the false position of boasting that it is contributing more to our Allies than it is actually doing.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the expression of views on questions of public interest. Contributions should be sent to the editor of this column.

POST-WAR PLANS AND PROHIBITION

Not long ago, the public was warned to keep their optimism in check, and to bear in mind that a long, hard struggle lay ahead of us before victory could be won. Today, due to the valor and heroism of our Allied armies, even the supreme commanders speak openly, in very optimistic terms, of the approaching victory.

It must be a tremendous struggle to bring oneself back to a world of concrete reality, where routine work and routine play go on as always. To men who have seen man's most diabolical instruments and burning everything human and humane in the path of their conquest, the quiet and stillness of this part of the world must be nerve wracking.

When the history of this war is written it will be found that British regulars were by long odds the least credited and the most continuously in action of any Western nation. The same gallant band that fought back to Dunkerque sought in Tunisia, in Sicily, in Italy, and one suspects without cease in the capital in the thick of it in France. Once in a while their regimental names come to the surface but not often and then only to say that they had been there. What "there" involved is the part that history can supply, and should—certainly—celebrate.

T. HARRY MORRIS, West Royals.

Is It Lip Service?

We hear much from preachers as to lip service in prayer. When the Provincial Legislature opens or prorogues Divine Providence is invoked on practically all occasions. Next Sunday has been proclaimed a National Day of Prayer by His Majesty, the King and we would naturally expect that His Majesty's Government in the Province would make a pronouncement through the press asking for the observance of this day.

When our Premier can take time out to express his views as to the ministers and others in the Provincial Government, it is unfortunate that he and the other members of his Government should spare a minute to endorse after the election, the Most Gracious Sovereign in connection with the National Day of Prayer.

Notes By The Way

We are all marking time and waiting for the day of victory and then we are to be told that the wife of a private and the wife of a General stand on common ground.

When Churchill said Britons would fight in the fields and in the streets, Hitler laughed. He didn't know it would be in the fields, in the beaches, fields and streets.—Windsor Star.

In the U. S., an unusual feature of the political campaign is that the names of the vice-presidential candidates have been forgotten before the election.

Victory optimist: A person who lolls in a veranda glider, dreaming of post-war luxuries, in contrast to an American soldier, climbing out of an army glider on an invasion beach.—Buffalo Courier-Express.

Dr. E. S. Archibald, director of the Dominion Experimental Farms, recently drew attention to the fact that in the middle of our discussions, disquisitions, laws, myths and conferences, said he: "I cannot too strongly emphasize the fact that, next to our own health, the health of the soils of Canada will continue to govern our food production. Legislation and government will not do it."—London Free Press.

Miss Mae West went back to Broadway from Hollywood as the author and star of a costume play about Imperial Russia. Its title was "Catherine Was Great." According to the critics, Catherine may have been, but the play wasn't. Even so, Miss West may take heart for her place in history is secure. Inflated like jacks will surely continue to bear her name when the names of the critics who panned her are long forgotten.—Calgary Albertan.

A convention of hay fever sufferers was held recently at Saull Ste. Marie, Mich. It was attended by approximately 200 members of the Ca-Choo Club. The report is that they talked over their net hatching with particular reference to remedies for the relief and cure of hay fever. Delegates to this convention of "mild" sufferers represented 3,450,000 of the afflicted in the United States, according to a national health survey.—Sarnia Canadian Observer.

Child endowment is paid to children in Australia under 16, and latest figures show that there is one family in two. Endowed children number 1,181,600, of which 12,688 are eleven, 230 of ten, 724 of nine, and the majority of families have only two. Endowed children number 919,557 and the annual cost is \$1,953,271. Although there is no direct evidence, government officials believe that many eligible parents do not claim endowment, possibly because they consider it charity.—Australian News Letter.

One of the latest refinements in Truthful Joe's war of nerves is re-

ATTENTION FARMERS REGARDING HELP

Through arrangements made with the National Selective Service and the Military Authorities, at Ottawa, we are in a position to offer to the farmers of this Province, the services of 150 members of the Pictou Highlanders, under the Detailed Farm Duty Plan. The rate of pay is Three Dollars (\$3.00) per day, wet days and Sundays excluded.

A number of these men have already arrived and have been placed with the different farmers who have made application in advance for their services.

Further arrivals of these men will depend upon the number of applications received. Therefore, in order that there may be no delay in furnishing this help when needed, it is important that farmers requiring help now, or at a later date, advise this office immediately the number of men required and the approximate date they will require them.

Please phone your requirements (collect).

The Dominion-Provincial Farm Labour Bureau

ported to be leafless, in quite good shape. The Dominion-Provincial Farm Labour Bureau is about to be laid here at Dumbarton, Oka's famous oak. English oak is the best for the American market. The land on Dumbarton Oaks was originally granted to the great Earl of Mar, and was owned by Queen Anne of England in 1700. Those who have a sense of the continuity of history will well remember how in Queen Anne's reign young Jack Churchill, the ancestor of Winston Churchill, rose to fame as the great Duke of Marlborough. Dumbarton Oaks estate, in fact, was granted in America before the battle of Blenheim where the Duke really broke the power of King Louis XIV, the French tyrant who had his heel on the neck of Europe. Now his direct descendant, Winston Churchill, who has led the civilized nations again in breaking the power of a worse tyranny, is sending Britons to Dumbarton Oaks to work with Americans and Russians and Chinese.—Cher Blossum in Winnipeg Free Press.

N. B. Results

(St. John Telegraph Journal) Twenty-four years ago a general election was held in New Brunswick. Like the general election this week it was a three-cornered contest. The third party called itself the United Farmers. A home-grown movement, it blossomed in rural sections of New Brunswick, had a brief existence, quickly faded from the scene. It is interesting to compare what happened in the United Farmers' first place the U.F. succeeded in winning seven seats in the legislature, whereas the C.C.F. took none. In Carleton County the U.F. candidates headed the polls with 4,496 votes, 3,107 votes and 2,498 votes. The lowest man, with 2,498 votes, was 260 ahead of his nearest opponent, Monday, in Carleton County, the U.F. candidates got 2,997 votes, 2,965 votes and 2,387 votes; three Liberals got 2,311 votes, 2,392 votes and 2,490 votes; and three C.C.F. candidates got 363 votes, 340 votes and 345 votes; an insignificant fraction of the ballot cast. Monday, upwards of 15,000 persons who voted, only about 1,400 voted C.C.F. Twenty years ago, in York, of 10,000 who cast their ballots, in Charlotte, twenty years ago one U.F. candidate was elected, with 3,664 votes. The only other U.F. candidate, although not elected, trailed a successful Liberal candidate.

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