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

MONDAY, JULY 5, 1943

A Good Friend

The late Hon. Dr. Manion did not have the opportunity of serving us as Prime Minister of Canada, but during his tenure of office as Minister of Railways in the Bennett Government he proved a good friend to Prince Edward Island.

Enforcing Price Ceilings

The necessity of maintaining price ceilings in wartime is pretty generally admitted. There is, however, such a thing as carrying things to extremes, as in the case cited by Hon. R. B. Hanson in the House of Commons last week.

Britain's Food Plan

Great Britain has succeeded in many ways in showing the rest of the world how some things should be done in wartime, but its outstanding success on the home front is its strict control in the wholesale handling of food.

British methods to Washington. Mr. Harriman specifically mentioned the monopoly buying of foods and the sale of essential commodities by official or supervised agencies.

That is the tent-like structure of food regulations and the controlled system of distribution. The supply is provided in advance by the lion's share of the government's subsidy money going for milk, meat, potatoes, eggs, bread and sugar.

There is no chance taken in protecting the price that will be charged to the public. The minister of food controls everything in the food line that is necessary to the life of the people. He buys everything and sells everything, too, through an organization that divides Britain into nineteen areas, each with a divisional food office.

-EDITORIAL NOTES-

Ontario is to have its Provincial election the 4th of next month.

Henceforth Field Marshal Wavell will be known as Lord Wavell, Viceroy of India.

There is now no pro-Axis country in the west, since the Vichy High Commissioner of Martinique has capitulated.

In Ceylon there are 324 rural schools where, besides the ordinary school subjects, the children are taught practical agriculture, housebuilding and carpentry.

Having been sustained on a non-confidence vote by a majority of only one, Prime Minister Curtin of Australia has decided to appeal to the country in a general election on August 21.

By the use of Methane, a by-product of sewage purification, the West Middlesex Drainage Board (England) has been able to save 1,207,000 gallons of fuel oil and 2,800 gallons of petrol in a year.

The death of the Rt. Hon. Dr. Manion came as a shock to all who knew him and their name is legion. A most versatile, entertaining and lovable personality, his was not the type of political leadership that he could not hide his intentions and opinions behind a screen of cultivated indifference to mislead different sections of the country, and his leadership suffered the consequences.

George Henry Borrow, English author and philologist, born this date 1803; of an unsettled nature, he did not remain long in any occupation, and having spent a wandering life, he acquired a wide knowledge of humanity; being practically self-educated, his method of expression is distinctly individual; his leading works are "The Bible in Spain", "Lavengro", "The Romyan Rye" and "Wild Wales"; his most important philological work is "Romano Lavo Lit"; "These gentlemen are invariably saying all they can in dispraise of their native land; and it is my opinion, grounded upon experience, that an individual who is capable of such baseness would not hesitate at the perpetration of any villainy, for next to the love of God, the love of country is the best preventive of crime."

Men actually behind the scenes know more, and make more authoritative declarations than even the best informed commentator or arm-chair critic. This is what the Prime Minister of Australia even after the North African victory, has to say: "Australia faces a lengthy struggle—a struggle that in its very nature now must last longer than the struggle for Europe. The great augmentation of our resources for the destruction of Japan, in association with the United Nations, cannot come to us until Hitler has been defeated. I say that to you coldly in the manner that a university professor would make a statement of fact. The attrition of war for us is to be a prolonged attrition without interruption, day after day, week after week. It may last two or three more years. That is why duty must be the watchword for the Australian nation."

Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Dowding (now a baron), victor in the Battle of Britain through his command of R.A.F. fighter squadrons in 1940, has published in the Sunday Pictorial a series of messages he claims to have received through a medium from fliers who died while serving under him. "I am sure that our war dead live on," Sir Hugh declared. "I have read messages from them." The medium on "the other side" was a Colonel Gascoigne who died a few years ago. According to Sir Hugh, the fliers' messages were transmitted through Gascoigne to his daughter. She gives this account of how she received them: "I had investigated the possibilities of survival and communication for many years, and satisfied myself that we did in fact 'go on' beyond this life. The next thing to study was the method of communication, and this I found was only safe and reliable when a strong bond of love existed between the communicator and the writer—when the medium has entirely selfless motives and a desire to render service. I sat at a table with pencil in my hand, and soon found that it began to scrawling like a child's handwriting. It was obvious that someone was anxious to communicate, but somehow I felt powerless to help them. However, with a little patience it swiftly became legible and articulate. Without any doubt the words written with my pencil were the words of people beyond the grave." The messages transmitted through Colonel Gascoigne's daughter might not have attracted any more attention than countless thousands of spiritualist messages. But the conviction of the brilliant and recently honored Air Chief Marshal that they are genuine has led to their publication in the popular press. This constitutes an historic advance of the spiritualist faith.

Notes By The Way

Our Professor Enaykile, writes L. H. R. in The New York Times, is deeply concerned over the disappearance of pipe-smokers from the market. Trading from tobacco stores to tobacco store, seeking in vain for just one more package of them because grim-visaged war cracks down in dead earnest, he has worn out his full 1943 quota of shoes. And when, as a last resort, he raids Mrs. Enaykile's wardrobe for a substitute, he is told in short, sharp words that there is a scarcity of hairpins, too.

Labor Minister Mitchell, on request, amplified for the Commons his proposal to move Western workers to Ontario for temporary chores. He announced that the minister would begin with 500 men, eventually reach 1,000. All will be back on the Prairies for the harvest, of a certain kind. Then the minister went on to say: "I hope we shall have completed arrangements for the time to farm labor within the next 10 days, as the work is needed in Ontario now." How high is up? —Toronto Globe and Mail.

Though books also are among the highly priced desiderata of the moment, they do not reach such exorbitant prices for antique furniture. Ordinary furniture is another story, and that story is told in an official warning to dealers who are to be kept in mind by the hand prices. Nearly 4,000 was given at Sotheby's for Old English silver; and at Christie's been bidding like mad for a pair of silver chairs for a total of £7,166 brought by a collection in which Chippendale was prominent. Single prices were surpassed by the £68 for an English drinking glass of the 17th century, which set up a new auction record. London Times.

Hugh Dalton, president of the British Board of Trade, who regulates English clothing coupons, has embarked upon a crusade to liberate men's necks and save cloth at the same time. There is no scariness about the matter, but the out collars and ties; personally, he would have no qualms about going collarless to Parliament. Particularly in the winter, when the wind is fiercer, women are most comfortable and healthier for not muffling their necks, and men would do well to follow the example. No such drastic style change has been advocated for on high in this country, but the W. P. B. did decree that men's sweaters must be made to six colors, eliminating baby blue and baby pink. —New York Herald Tribune.

Engineers now plot on chart how often thunderbolts are likely to strike the earth. The American Electric Engineers' Association, in a report in a joint paper presented before the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, says that the earth anticipates the approximate number of lightning strokes that will bombard power lines. It turns out that every fifty miles of power line will be hit by lightning at an average of fifty times every year. Each stroke will have twenty and twenty-five miles of power line earthward. Forewarned, power line designers can erect defences to prevent lightning strokes from starting up trouble in transmission systems and disrupting electrical service in vital war industries. —Exchange.

Dr. Louise Stanley is making sure that the food we ship abroad is not only nourishing, but tempting to foreign palates. For the American Magazine, for ten years chief of the Agriculture Department's bureau of home economics, Dr. Stanley's new job is to advise the United States Government what menus to serve to our millions of allies. She has had to learn the favorite dishes of the whole world. For the Russians she recommended a dehydrated borscht from the U. S. and a buckwheat mixture that melts into kasha. She okayed oats for Russia, but vetoed them for Africa, where natives look on oats as an evil omen. She okayed omelets for the global market lists. Dr. Stanley also does her own shopping and cooking. —Exchange.

Pedestrians on the roads and highways of the province often cause motorists a near-panic by their abrupt and unexplained swerving whether slow or speedy. The rule for persons walking on the right side of the road is to walk towards and away from the traffic, but either side of the road. Then there is no danger of being overtaken by traffic from behind. But if all these pedestrians always walked on the left side of the road there would be an accident on every turn involving them. It is the rule of the road in some sections and a common-sense method and worthy of universal adoption. —Chatham News.

One interesting thing Victory gardeners are learning this year is that the most efficient destroyers of their pests are their natural enemies and natural friends, some creatures that seek to destroy the plants, and others that destroy the destroyers, says Pathfinder. Among their friends which devour insect pests are birds, snakes, frogs, toads, cats and birds-eating insects. Ladybugs, for instance, are good friends, for they feed on pestiferous aphids and eggs of leaf-eating insects. But of all these gardeners' allies, scientists say that the toad is the most efficient. Bats and birds cannot be counted on, because they are not so reliable. But the toad can be easily introduced to the garden, if he is not there already; he is a home-loving body, and he is friendly and confident disposition. The toad, the familiar bufo vulgaris, which is found all over the world, except in Australia, lives on insects and such small pests almost exclusively. Its stomach, the scientists say, filled and emptied four times a day—and the creature is largely stomach. It has been figured that loads are worth \$19.88 a year for the garden. The toad is a creature of cutworms alone, based on the estimate that one cutworm can cause one cent's damage a year. This cutworm's "body" is a very valuable animal—if it can be kept busy eating cutworms.

More than 2,000 worn-out tires had to be replaced daily during the British Army's advance in North Africa. It was disclosed at a Selva exhibition in London.

Technique Of Skip Bombing

(Aubrey F. Roberts in the Vancouver Province) "There's nothing mysterious about 'skip bombing,' one of the new developments of the war in the Pacific. Anyone who has dipped a flat saucer across the surface of the water knows how it is done. A few months ago a Flying Fortress swooped down almost to water level in Rabaul harbor and sent two bombs skidding across the surface to crash into the side of a Japanese freighter. It was the first laboratory test of skip bombing in the south Pacific. By the time the tail of the Flying Fortress had cleared the freighter, the ship was being pelted with bombs. The test had been successful.

The bomber flew so low that the bombs did not have to point down as they sped on their way. They skimmed the surface of the water and found their mark in the side of the freighter. Having passed the first test, the Flying Fortress returned to launch three bombs against a Japanese cruiser. Two of them took effect and the cruiser heeled over and sank slowly. The Japs peppered the Flying Fortress with anti-aircraft fire. Rabaul—and that is plenty—but the bomber escaped without serious damage. The surface-level attack at high speed makes even a bomber a difficult target for the ack-ack batteries, but the danger increases when the plane climbs after the attack. Skip bombing soon caught on. An old bulk off Moresby harbor became a shooting gallery where experiments in the new technique were conducted with various types of planes and bombs. These experiments proved that the low level attack was very accurate especially in thick weather. The bombs may skip across the water and crash into the side of the ship or they may land on deck like a depth charge. Sometimes the skip bomber will become an exploding bomb on the other side. Skip bombing soon caught on. An old bulk off Moresby harbor became a shooting gallery where experiments in the new technique were conducted with various types of planes and bombs. These experiments proved that the low level attack was very accurate especially in thick weather. The bombs may skip across the water and crash into the side of the ship or they may land on deck like a depth charge. Sometimes the skip bomber will become an exploding bomb on the other side.

Allies Boost Pacific Forces

SAN FRANCISCO, July 2.—(AP)—Navy Secretary Frank Knox said today "much more" in ships, planes and submarines "is now on the way to the Pacific" to intensify the unending battle against the Japanese. "We are exerting major effort in the Pacific, and this effort will be increased and intensified as time goes on," he said in an address at a Chamber of Commerce luncheon. "It is certainly true there have been occasions when we have lacked the men and the material that we felt we needed. There were times in the past when we simply did not have available the men, the ships and the planes that we wanted to send to the Pacific area. But the day of shortages is nearing an end. The Navy Secretary, here on a tour of west coast war plants and military installations, said that during the year with satisfaction, the Navy accepted the rate of approximately 20,000 a year. This figure, as good as it is, he said, may be expected to go still higher in the next six months. Knox said it would be "fatal to accept our accomplishments of the past year with satisfaction" for on the day our progress is equal to our desires, "on that day we will begin to lose the war."

Churchill's Eloquence

(Gilbert Norwood in the University of Toronto Quarterly) "What other statesman in our day is so impregnated with the majesty, the reason, the inspiration of world history? Churchill sees and reveals the perspective of our human situation, now by so many ignored, though it is hence that he draws so much of that spiritual power which he braces them also to endurance and valor. The most charming instance of all occurs in his description of the (first) meeting with President Roosevelt. Many accomplished speakers might have given us this: "We had a church parade on Sunday in our Atlantic bay. The President came on to the quarter-deck of the Prince of Wales, where there were mingled together many hundreds of American and British sailors and marines. The sun shone bright and warm while we all sang the old hymns which are our common heritage and which we learned as children in our homes." How many would have added what follows? "Under the first order in council, which also provides that no employ-er may release a longshoreman at Halifax without permission of Selective Service, conscientious objectors and men found unfit for compulsory military training may be directed by selective service to leave their present job and accept employment as longshoremen."

More Sugar, Coffee?

WASHINGTON, July 2.—(AP)—President Roosevelt foresaw today the possibility of lifting rationing restrictions on sugar and coffee. In his message to Congress today he proposed the commodity credit corporation bill. The President said: "With the improvement in the war against the submarine we may even be able soon to remove sugar and possibly later coffee from the ration list."

Would Welcome Earldis

(Midland Free Press Herald) "All we know about modern 'hot' music as we hear it on the radio is supposed to be music nothing can beat the monotonous, ear-offending, inharmonious tripe offered by the swing bands. We were beginning to get a glimmering of what it is all about, but when the first order in council was issued, the youngsters of today are undoubtedly as fine a lot as ever we had in the world. It is a streak of insanity in them, or else it is in us oldsters. Under the first order in council, the meaningless, intermittent grunts which whines, aided by utterly purposeless staccato accompaniments on reed instruments by artists who are allergic to true pitch. Says the Times-Review: "Long, long ago we had hoped and supposed that the weird modern music was now desired, none was heard — one simply stayed away from those places. Today it is next to impossible to keep one's ears inviolate. In almost every restaurant or other place open to the public for eating or relaxation, a blaring radio, or even more blaring juke box, holds forth rending the air with incomprehensible blaring. "Sometimes we think nature was remiss in equipping only the eyes with lids. Imagine what a godsend earldis would be!"

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The Post's Corner

FROM: TUNISIAN VICTORY Here once stood Carthage. Here in the realm of Tunis Was the homeland of Hannibal, Hasdrubal, Hamilcar Barca, Here from the blue lagoons The Punic galleys went to scourge the Mediterranean. Here among the ancient hills The Carthaginian legions fought Century after century Against Agathocles, Regulus Scipio the ruins of Carthage Julius Caesar Dreamed of new glories After the fratricide butchery of Thapsus. Here under African skies Resounds the eloquence Of Tertullian, Cyprian, and Augustine. And here the brutality of Gen. The ruthlessness of Hassan, Wrought final desolation. —Watson Kirkconnell. Written for the Writers' War Committee.

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