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

SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1943

Some Tariff History

A little knowledge, the poet says, is a dangerous thing. The local Liberal organ joins lustily, but perhaps unwisely, with Major Strange in his criticism of Canada for raising its tariffs in 1930.

Who did that? Our contemporary seems to think it was the Bennett Government. Its better informed readers will recall that Prime Minister Mackenzie King was in power then, as now, and that it was Finance Minister Dunning who brought down the budget of 1930.

Canada's Racial Elements

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics gives a survey of the distribution of Canadians by races as shown in the census of 1941. The figures released by the Bureau show that half the people of Canada are of British origin, that is, have some or are descended from those who have come from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; that the ratio of those of French origin is 1 in 3, while Canadians of other European descent are in the ratio of 1 to 6.

Here are the percentages as shown in the latest census returns: From British Isles 49.7 per cent as compared with 51.9 in 1921; French Canadians 30.3 per cent as compared with 28.2 ten years ago; other European races 17.8 per cent against 17.6 in 1931. Asiatics show a decline in ratio, these races now constituting .6 of the population as compared with .8 ten years ago.

It is interesting to note that there is a larger element of British origin in Prince Edward Island, where it stands at 82.8 per cent, than in any other province. Nova Scotia's proportion is 77 per cent, Ontario's 72.1, British Columbia's 69.9, New Brunswick's 60.5, Alberta's 50.2, Manitoba's 49.4, Saskatchewan's 44.4, Quebec's 13.6. In the province of Quebec people of French origin constitute 80.9 per cent of the total population. In the other provinces French Canadians range from 35.8 per cent in New Brunswick to 2.7 per cent in British Columbia.

"A Little Madness"

The numerologists are at it again—predicting the end of the war this year. This time, strange to say, it is the Russian numerologists who are tossing figures around. That the supposedly hardened followers of Stalin have taken to numerology comes as something of a shock.

Here is how they work their prediction out: The French revolution started in 1789, and the Bolsheviks were firmly entrenched in power in 1918. Subtract one from the other and the difference is 129. Napoleon became emperor in 1804 and Hitler seized power in 1933. Subtract again and the answer is 129. Napoleon began his Russian campaign in 1812. Add 129 and the answer is 1941, when Hitler invaded Russia. Now add the key number, 129, to the year Napoleon was defeated in Russia, 1814, and the answer is 1943, and the conclusion is that Hitler is going to get himself licked this year.

It could be that this time the numerologists are right. With their brethren the astrologers, they have been predicting defeat for Hitler every year since the war began. Thus if they keep on predicting the chances are they'll hit it right one of these years.

The intriguing thing about this bit of mathematic manipulation, says the Winnipeg Free Press, is not the prediction, but the figures. Seldom before have we seen so much falsification of history in so short a paragraph.

The French revolution did occur in 1789. But the Bolsheviks came to power in Russia on November 7, 1917. By December, Lenin and Trotsky were firmly in the saddle and negotiating for peace with Germany. True, the process of consolidation of control went on longer. It went on, indeed, until 1920, when Kolchak was captured and executed. For the Russians to choose 1918 to compare with 1789 makes no sense. If the subtraction has to be, it should be 1798 from 1917. The answer thus is 128,

not 129.

It is true that Napoleon was crowned Emperor of France in 1804. But he ruled France long before that. He became pro-consul in the coup d'etat of 1799, and a couple of years later was elected to the office for life. The significant year in Napoleon's life was 1799, not 1804. Hitler gathered in a number of titles after 1933, but 1933 was his year. So let's subtract 1799 from 1933 and we get 134.

It is also true that Hitler marched into Russia in 1941 and that Napoleon marched into Russia in 1812. But Napoleon was not defeated in Russia in 1814. He took his licking there in 1812. By 1813 he was well back into Germany where the Russians helped to give him some more lumps, and by 1814 he was back across the Rhine.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Your Income Tax must be paid by Wednesday, or else—?

Tomorrow the last Sunday in June, and the three previous ones were wet.

Tomorrow is the anniversary of the birth of that greatest of Irish leaders, Charles Stewart Parnell. Wonder what he would have thought of his present day successor's stalemated election?

B.B.C. has officially advised France to "be ready" for an invasion. As a footnote it was advised that the central forces of French resistance "must be well prepared and ready to act at any moment henceforth."

Prime Minister King says that the Union Jack is the flag of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland and could be flown in any part of the Empire; and that the Red Ensign with the Canadian coat-of-arms has been in general use for 70 years and is considered distinctively Canadian. This is not the time, he claims for Parliament to discuss the question of a separate flag.

The enthusiastic meeting here last evening to give an informal reception to the Hon. John Bracken shows conclusively that the people at large are anxious to have practical leadership in the great Conservative party with a view to its restoration to power at the first opportunity. Mr. Bracken is a practical man with a genius for organization and leadership, and everybody is impressed with his pleasing personality and evident sincerity. He has the true and best interests of Canada at heart.

Constantine Brown, writing in the Washington Evening Star, says the Japanese navy's North Pacific patrol has captured a number of merchant ships flying the Soviet flag on the route between the United States and Siberian ports. As a result relations between Tokyo and Moscow have become more strained. There has been no comment on the report in government quarters. Some observers said, however, that the seizure of the ships was possible, since they understood the German government has been pressing Japan to halt the flow of lend-lease supplies to Russia over the North Pacific lanes.

William Thomson, the first Baron Kelvin, physicist, born this date, 1824; after a brilliant university career at Glasgow, Cambridge and Paris, at twenty-two years of age was appointed professor of natural philosophy at Glasgow University, a position he held for 22 years; his work covered every branch of physical science, and he published over 300 original papers; a full list of his inventions would cover several columns; made submarine telegraphy a possibility; invented practically all of the instruments used by electrical engineers for measurements; invented sounding apparatus, pressure gauge, tide-predictor, as well as improvements in the mariner's compass.

Mr. Winston Churchill on behalf of the British Government, has accepted, as a gift to the nation from Sir Courtauld Thomson, through the National Trust, Dorneywood, Buckinghamshire, the house and the contents, together with an endowment fund for its maintenance and over 200 acres of land, adjoining Burnham Beeches. One of the objects of the gift is to provide an additional official country residence where Ministers of the Crown will be able to entertain, without expense to the nation, overseas and other visitors, or to hold semi-official or informal conferences. On the occasion of the formal presentation of Dorneywood to the National Trust Mr. Churchill sent a letter expressing his high appreciation of Sir Courtauld Thomson's generosity. He wrote:—"I have no doubt that posterity will greatly applaud your munificent and far-sighted gift."

U.S.A. is to follow Russia's pre-war policy of developing its resources. A five-year-plan for increasing food production by an amount sufficient to feed 10,000,000 persons for one year is proposed by Interior Secretary Harold Ickes. The Senate appropriations committee released a letter from Ickes to Agriculture Secretary Claude Wickard, suggesting the progressive expansion of food production "as a maximum contribution to the world food pool, for meeting the most pressing deficiencies, to help feed civilian populations and the United Nations armed forces at home and abroad in the years 1943 to 1947." "It contemplates," he wrote, "increased production aggregating in the five years 1,500,000,000 pounds of meat, 1,750,000,000 pounds of fish, 11,000,000,000 pounds of milk, almost 1,000,000,000 pounds of beans, and more than 100,000,000 bushels of potatoes. These commodities are not offered as a balanced diet by themselves, and their translation into over-all caloric value (enough for 10,000,000 persons for a year) is indicative only of the scope of the program." Mr. Ickes said he had asked subdivisions of his department for reports on what they could contribute to the war food program.

Notes By The Way

Hermann Goering's Luftwaffe is like the grey mare, 'ain't what she used to be. —Vancouver Sun.

Mussolini says Italy will "fight to a finish" in the Balkans. Duce counts to 10 he is probably up to round 8 by this time. —Ottawa Citizen.

In Lille, an audacious little street arab stopped a German officer to ask him the time. The Nation relates: "Twenty minutes to twelve," the German answered politely. "Okay," said the boy, "if it's twenty minutes to twelve, then at twelve sharp you can go jump in the lake." After which the Nazi at his heels, rounding a corner too sharply, the German ran into a gendarme. "That bugger told me that it was twelve sharp I could go jump in the lake," he panted. The gendarme calmly studied his watch. "Well, what's your rush?" he said. "You should have twenty minutes." —Exchange.

Such was the magic of a dying rattle that people who needed shoes whether they needed them or not. The result was an unprecedented stampede to the shoe stores before No. 17 expired. These were some of the attendant phenomena: A Brooklyn woman bit the hand of a guard who would not let her bargain with the shoes she needed. A store had to close entirely for a few hours to let their gasping salesmen recuperate. Women on Third Avenue ran through the streets in shoes that they ruined their old ones by storming through wet concrete. A salesman in Thirty-fourth street dragged women fighting to be waited on first by saving their own. I get sick at the sight of blood. —New York Herald Tribune.

Resin plastic bonded and impregnated plywood is being used in ever increasing quantities on many planes in the United States. Lawrence Ottiger, president of the U. S. Plywood Corporation, says: "The synthetic resin completely modifies the behavior of the wood. By their use a piece of oak can be so softened as to be tied into a knot and then made to split completely in half. The movement of expansion and contraction can be minimized below that of any of the metals and is not affected by moisture. It has increased as to make wood suitable for gears or bearings. In the form of plywood, as it is used in the Mosquito, it makes possible the use of stress-free compound curves. This, today, is the most modern of all materials, and one of the most promising." —Exchange.

Nine Japanese power barges sunk at Milne Bay, Papua, have been raised and are being towed to the beach in 35 to 75 feet of water. A drive fast they were raised off the sea bed with the use of air strapping or demolition charges. The barges were towed to the beach in a cradle under each barge suspended between two pontoons. Then the pontoons were towed to the shore by a cable and worked inshore. Then an army truck was anchored between two cococonut palms and the power winch heaved the barges up to the beach. The engines were reconditioned and the barges again sail the blue island waters, but in the opposite direction. —Australian Press Union.

Just at the present time there is an acute shortage of sweeps, and those who are left to carry on are having a very busy time. From early morning to often late in the evening the sweepers are at work. Generally their difficulties are appreciated, but not always. At Turnbridge Wells the other day the sweepers were up to their eyes in a large establishment, and the lady of the house at once complained that he had dislocated the routine, and he kept the servants waiting. The sweep, who is somewhat of a wag, endured as much of the diatribe as he could until at length he said to the lady: "I am a chimney, ma'am?" "No," was the reply. "Well, now is your chance?" he replied, at the same time walking out. —Brighton Argus.

There is to be a six-week summer session at a School of Alcohol Studies in Yale University the first formal school of its kind in the academic history of the United States. "The prevention of alcoholism and its effects are hampered by the lack of community leaders who have a broad scientific understanding of the problem of alcohol," the school prospectus states. "The aim of the school is to educate such leaders by giving them thorough grounding in scientific knowledge about these problems." The school will open July 18 and continue through August 18, under the direction of Dr. E. J. Jellinek, well-known authority in the field of alcohol studies. He will be assisted by an advisory staff and a faculty of authorities on the legal, medical, social and educational aspects of alcohol problems. Approximately seventy-five students from all over the country are expected to enroll. —Exchange.

Life in this fantastic atmosphere seems like opera bouffe for about four days. It is impossible to come out of one of the telephone boxes in the hall without a bearded stranger coming out of the other. Of course, he may be telephoning to his aunt. If you telephone from the room the line goes dead at intervals. That may be simply the vagary of the Portuguese telephone system. I used to lay little traps in my room, the corner of one newspaper against a certain letter of the title of another. If it went out, it was invariably moved. Of course, it might have been the chambermaid. If you eat a meal—a gargantuan, shameful one—big enough to feed a regiment, make Goering gulp—people will come and stand in the doorway and scan you unashamedly through their dark glasses while they wait. They say that this altogether exceptional hotel has one table in the corner of the restaurant permanently wired with a microphone, and that the agents of any foreign government who are eager to overhear the conversation of the agents of another foreign government can hear a few hundred escudos to the right quarter, have them shown by the head waiter to that table and listen in to the perfect luxury of the other part of the building. Anthony Gibbs in London Sunday Chronicle.

Labor authorities in Britain report the British victories in Africa had had tonic effect on factory production.

Endeavour, Sask., Gets A New Postmaster

(Ottawa Journal) Endeavour is a small community in the riding of Mackenzie-Saskatchewan; its size is indicated by the fact that its post office has a total gross revenue of about \$100 per month.

In April of last year Endeavour had to have a new postmaster, and the district inspector appointed Mr. Dugald Patrick Sinclair, a returned soldier in a temporary capacity, and advised the Department in Ottawa of his action.

The Department, instead of commencing the appointment, wrote Mr. Ross Barrie, who comes into the picture because he was the Liberal candidate in Mackenzie at the last election (being defeated by Mr. A. M. Nicholson, C. C. P.). Mr. Barrie did not approve of the Sinclair appointment and nominated instead Mr. Nelson R. McGregor, who was duly appointed on August 8.

But before Mr. McGregor had time to take over the office the Liberal Association in Mackenzie held a meeting and recommended that Mr. Oscar Clementson get the job. They took up the matter with the district superintendent, and Mr. Barrie, with the Postmaster General, and as a result Mr. McGregor resigned on August 12. Mr. Clementson got the appointment on August 31.

When that was not the end. On September 26 Mr. Peterson declined the position. Mr. Barrie was consulted again, but he had no more nominations. On November 27 the Canadian Legion telegraphed the Postmaster General urging that the Sinclair appointment—Mr. Sinclair having been doing "a splendid job" all this time—be made permanent. On December 18 Mr. Sinclair was appointed, on January 7 Mr. Ross Barrie was formally advised of this and the file was closed. As tabled in the House of Commons the other day it was opened nearly nine months earlier.

Mr. Nicholson, reviewing the case in the House, urged the Postmaster General to reconsider the system which puts postal appointments under political patronage. "A defeated candidate," he said, "causes all this trouble in the community. It has affected the war savings campaign and the Victory Loan campaign. The people judge the administration by what they see in their own back yard."

It is, of course, a completely fantastic idea, and nobody possibly could defend it with a straight face—bad enough when the patronage is in the hands of a sitting member of Parliament, but even worse when he is no more than a defeated candidate and quite without official status.

National Income

(Sydney Post Record) When Hon. John Bracken, Progressive Conservative leader, told a Sydney speech last week that Canada's national income had more than doubled in 4 years—that it had risen from less than 4 billion dollars in 1938 to over 8 billion in 1942—many of his hearers were astonished, and some of them inquired as to the source of the figures. But the fact is that Mr. Bracken's official record is correct. That is the net value of all the commodities produced and all the services it rendered during the first 10 months of 1942. These statistics are taken from the Official Handbook published by the Department of Trade and Commerce at Ottawa, but unfortunately definite figures cannot be obtained for the period since June 1942, when certain restrictions were placed on the publication of national records relating to industry and commerce.

It is, however, not difficult to see that, if the national income was \$7,500,000,000 for the first 10 months of 1942, it must have risen to at least 9 billion dollars for the whole of that year. The 1942 record is still in the making, but if it shows an expansion comparable to that of the last three years—a ratio of 40 per cent per annum—this year's national income will be not less than 12 billion dollars, and may exceed that peak by several billion dollars.

Such are the revolutionizing effects of almost 4 years of war on Canada's national income. The people of this country are creating wealth by production and through services, which may be stated in an aggregate national income of over 12 billion dollars. This is 3 1/2 times what it was in 1938, nearly 5 times what it was in 1937, when the First Great War was at its stage now reached in World War II. That such an income can be maintained in post-war years is extremely unlikely. Nevertheless Canada has certainly struck a new stride, and is headed for the greatest wealth-producing era of its history.

GETS D. F. C. GRADUATED IN SUMMERSIDE (Ottawa Journal) Air Force Headquarters Monday night announced awards of the Distinguished Flying Cross to P.O. J. G. Wright, of 18 Torney Street, Ottawa, and the Distinguished Flying Medal to Sgt. J. P. G. Blanchet, of 86 St. Charles Street, Three Rivers, Que. Both are serving overseas with the R.C.A.F.



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The Proprietor's Corner JUST SUCH A RETROSPECT The props assist the house until the house is built. And then the props withdraw—And adequate, erect, The house supports itself; Ceasing to recollect The sager and the carpenter. Just such a retrospect Hath the perfected life. A past of plank and nail And slowness—run the scaffolds drop— Affirming it a soul. —Emily Dickinson.

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RATIONING SAVED SHIPS' BILLIONS LIVERPOOL, June 23—(CP)—Clothes rationing, which is two years old, has saved Great Britain 500,000 tons of shipping and more than \$2,700,000,000 expenditure on clothes, as well as releasing thousands of workers for war factories. The British Board of Trade estimates that the average clothing expenses of a family of four has fallen to \$46 a year from \$135 in peacetime.

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