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By Mail in P.E.I., \$4.00 per year; \$2.50 for 6 months
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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1942

Delays Are Dangerous

There were no ifs or buts in the declaration of war policy by the Conservative party group which met in conference at Port Hope last week.

Almost five months ago and after prolonged hedging the Dominion government offered this country a plebiscite. The result was an overwhelming affirmative for an all-out war effort.

Our overseas forces have seen little actual fighting so far, but at any minute they may be called upon to lead the invasion of Europe.

The Prime Minister has intimated that when our overseas forces become engaged with the enemy we may have to fall back upon military conscription. It is not too late.

Canada in this war is just as menaced as either the United States or Great Britain. We have just as much at stake. If we ever hope to do our full part to defend our own way of life, then we must prepare to fight with no strings attached.

Relief Shipments Continue

The need for warm clothing in Britain, especially for child refugees from occupied countries and bombed-out Britons, has reached a critical point and thousands face severe suffering next winter.

Historic Parallels

In a recent article on the second front, which was reprinted in the London Times from the Russian army paper, Red Star, General Shilovsky, a member of the Russian general staff, recalled that in 1918, with the war, Germany kept 80 divisions in the east when she launched her great offensive with 62 divisions in the west.

In 1903, positions were approximately the reverse of today. The Germans had attacked on the west and the Russians, to force them to divide their forces, had struck in the east. This diversion slowed the German advance to the west, enabled the British to send large numbers of troops to Europe and stop the Germans at the Marne.

Referring to present times, he writes that General Ludendorff's last desperate bid for victory in 1918 had the impression of great strength. Their victories the Germans trumpeted to the whole world.

and will be beaten, although the cost will be heavy.

The Times concedes that the task ahead today is probably stiffer than at any moment in the first great war. With Japan and Italy on the opposite side, the alignment of forces is less favorable. But in the last war Russia was driven out of the war before the United States entered it.

EDITORIAL NOTES

During a political campaign an angry candidate strode into a newspaper office. "Look here," he cried. "You've been printing lies about me in your paper."

It is announced by the Canadian High Commissioner's office in London that the Dominion's fighting forces, enlisted voluntarily for service anywhere, now total 430,000. Of these the air force accounts for 110,000, the navy 30,000, and the army 290,000.

The Society of U. S. Restaurateurs has opened a campaign to urge diners to conserve food and to substitute oysters, plentiful this year, for meat when possible. A special bulletin suggests that menus carry the inscription: "Food will win the war—eat plenty, eat wisely, but without waste."

It has been intimated, in the House of Commons itself, (says Printed Word), that some young fellows are doing such valuable work in non-combatant activities that they should be praised for any disinclination they may have to join up.

It is refreshing to have a member of our Great Silent Service stick up for our way of life compared with that of the Germans and the Japs. Speaking in the British House of Commons recently Rear Admiral Beamish, M. P. declared: "A very great advertisement for our system, and the worst advertisement for the German system, is that we, an unprepared nation, have managed to stand up against the calculated might and the ferocity both of Germany and Japan."

Britain still leads in War as in Peace. Maj. Clement Attlee, Dominions secretary, said at Aberdeen, Scotland that in the provision of war materials "the old lion has done the lion's share of the work in these critical years."

The Duke of Wellington, Britain's best remembered general, died this date 1852; son of Lord Mornington, he joined the Army under the purchase system and passed through several regiments until at twenty-four he commanded the 33rd Foot, still known as the Duke of Wellington Regiment; was engaged in Continental wars under the Duke of York, then sent to India where he distinguished himself; recalled to command an expedition which had for its object the expulsion of the French from Lisbon, in which he succeeded; was then attached to Sir John Moore's Army in its operations against Napoleon; he conducted the defensive operations south of Waterloo, and on June 18, 1815, aided by Blucher's army, completely dispersed Napoleon's forces and occupied Paris; his later career was associated with politics, being Prime Minister in 1828; as a soldier Wellington's talents are best seen in his successful conduct of the Peninsula War; as a statesman he holds a high place for his moderation, his strong sense of duty, and his perfect integrity.

The 130th anniversary on Sept. 7, of the Battle of Borodino, turning point of the Napoleonic campaign in Russia, brought from military observers at Moscow the comment that the German invasion now will fail as dismally as the 1812 attack. Col. Nikolai Podorozhny wrote in Pravda that in many respects Napoleon did much better than Hitler is doing today. Napoleon, the colonel said, covered the distance from Wilno to Moscow in 80 days. Modern German strategists, he added, once said motorized equipment would overcome vast distances in Russia, and would enable the German invaders to move forward faster than the Russians could retreat. But the Germans, the writer said, have failed to confuse or run past Russian units. "Only wretched remnants of Napoleon's army recrossed the frontier," Podorozhny observed. "We have more possibilities for attaining victory than our forefathers had, but also our difficulties on the road to it are greater."

NOTES BY THE WAY

The final accounting of the New York Fair portraying the world of tomorrow shows a deficit of \$14,021,432. O. K. posterity, take it away—Victoria Daily Times.

No more pleasure driving is allowed in Great Britain. Theoretically the same condition applies here. In it is one of the most graphic illustrations of the difference between actuality and theory.—Windsor Star.

Nazis in Canadian internment camps have their wet canteen, a swimming pool, good meals, deck chairs and a radio. One "bat-man" assigned to look after the comforts of every five prisoners. But we might offend somebody if we inquired whether Canadian prisoners in the hands of the enemy are being treated as well.—Windsor Star.

It speaks well for the careful manner in which Canadian railways have operated and the attention paid to their roadbeds and equipment that the period of exceptionally heavy traffic through which they are passing is marked by so few serious accidents. This is the more remarkable when it is recognized that many of the men now engaged in railway work may be classed as "green hands".—Brookville Recorder and Times.

What is the danger of inaction? That Russia, without our active aid, may be knocked down or even knocked out and the 200 German divisions would then be switched from east to west. Those 200 divisions represent about 3,000,000 men. If we do not plunge with our might into the Battle of Europe, it is a two-fold risk: (1) Can the Germans invade this island? Perhaps they can. It is a chance we must never overlook. But they will get an idea of our strength if Russia is destroyed as a combatant Power. (2) Can we make a footing on the Continent of Europe? Probably we can, but the probability will be less by 4,000,000 men if Russia is destroyed as the main strength of the German army. There is in the prospect of the British public.—Daily Express (London).

The next ten years will be very eventful ones in the history of the new party (C. C. F.) We certainly cannot expect the disappearance from the political arena. We do predict a very considerable modification of its ideas, a growing realization of what is practicable, and an increasing skill in the manipulation of the electorate. But it will not remove injustice and inhumanity from Canada, and if ever get into power it will probably not even try to.—Toronto Saturday Night.

After 15 years of parish visiting in farm houses, ranch houses and city homes, there have been certain bookcases I have come across and what I have found in them. Most of the time, of course, it has been books favoring the application of housewife, with no love of literature, has decided to make a china cabinet out of the solitary report forced a debate. He lost of the feverish outpourings of Ka-h-len Norris, and the strong-man's report of Zane Grey. The most noticeable feature of the contents of bookcases is their imperviousness to change. For though there are proposed changes, they are not adopted. He as a member of the divorce committee could not accept the decision of the majority in that certain case, presented a minority report forced a debate. He lost of course, but he brought a little nearer the time when Parliament will refuse to devote hours to business that belongs to the courts.—Ottawa Journal.

Gandhi chose the worst possible time for his ultimatum to Great Britain, with its great open revolt if not accepted and all because he hoped England would be so anxious for India's help that she would accept it. The ultimatum means chaos, perhaps civil war in India, unless Britain acts quickly and effectively to hold the country together. The very thing Japan's cynical Prime Minister, General Tojo, was calling for recently when he said "Japan would not hesitate to cooperate with India and help her in carrying through her wishes" for immediate independence. But no matter what Gandhi and his followers do, they remain a base for United Nations operations against Japan and for preventing a union of German and Japanese forces. That is why Great Britain is making ready to deal speedily with Gandhi and his followers. They are only a comparatively small group.—Providence Journal.

German radio stations are busy these days. Denouncing, reviling, and that isn't a bad thing at all. There are several rumors that the Germans are busy denying and denouncing the very thing they are doing. Field Marshal Erwin Rommel is ill or has been wounded in a plane crash denouncing the very thing they are doing. The Germans are denouncing reports that German tank crews on the eastern front are unable to locate their own vehicles to assure their fighting to the last. The Germans are also denying and denouncing reports that cooking fats are being produced from the corpses of air raid victims in German cities. The rumor-mongering business apparently takes up a lot of time on German radio stations. Maybe the rumors are false. Maybe they are of British origin. In that case the German deniers and denouncers are doing these things.

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SIR SAMUEL LEONARD TILLEY (1818 - 1895)

One of the Fathers of Confederation, was born in Gagetown, N.B. Starting as clerk in a drug store, he left business in 1853. From 1860 to 1865 he was Premier of the Province and was prominent in organizing the conference on the union of the Maritime Provinces which widened into a discussion of Canadian Federation. He held various portfolios in the Dominion Cabinet and was Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick from 1875 to 1878 and again from 1885 to 1893.

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The British favor. By branding the rumors loudly as false, they are calling them to the attention of the German people. Maybe—just maybe—the people will get an idea.—Buffalo Courier-Express.

Divorce bills usually go through Parliament without delay or discussion. Each petition for divorce is the subject of hearing by a standing Senate committee and it is voted favorably on the application of the committee's recommendation in the ordinary course, is accepted by the Senate as a whole, passed into law by the House of Commons. It is when a Senator or Member kicks against this placid routine that the report forced a debate. He lost of course, but he brought a little nearer the time when Parliament will refuse to devote hours to business that belongs to the courts.—Ottawa Journal.

Ottawa Maligned

(Eastern Chronicle) A recent visitor to Ottawa who asked his opinion of that city, said that it could be likened to an insane asylum with the inmates in charge. The population has more than doubled and the official life would drive you to distraction. He said it has been that way due to the newness of much of that same official life, and it would be kinder for visitors to keep away and let them work out to the best advantage their multitude of duties that are thrust upon them. All these officials are aiming at the same target to help Canada win the war, and in the process to make Ottawa a city of chaos, purposes and run haywire. However there are times when the actions are unaccountable. One that strikes us as foolish is with regard to those tubes that hold tooth paste and shaving cream. If some blatant jackass starts again to lecture the people over the radio about those tubes, some one is going to scream. Why in the name of common sense don't they stop these tubes at the source? Instead, they permit them being shipped as individual containers all over Canada. How how to have the people return them, for the tin is valuable. We would not be a sane nation to seize the valuable tin and tell the manufacturers of those proprietary mixtures to find some other container. They are only a comparatively recent introduction. The content is not essential but the tin in the container is essential. Then stop all the public blather about them, forbid their use and take over the tin at once for war purposes.

Back To The Land

(Hamilton Spectator) There seems to be considerable diversity of opinion among the learned, as there certainly is among plain folk with no pretensions to special knowledge, as to when it is likely to happen when peace has once again been restored to this chaotic world. The lofty opinions expressed by Dr. Adams, a professor in an American university, are in a class by themselves. We are going back to "great-great-grandma's" days, according to him—and even earlier; to the very beginning, in fact, when Adam delved and Eve span. Poverty will be complete and general. There will be no more motorcars or radios or washing-machines or refrigerators. Men will have to build their own residences, utilizing "the raw materials they can find in nature" for the purpose, making their own tools from skins and plants. The professor, in the fervency of his advocacy of compulsory agricultural instruction in the schools, "as overdone it. He would have boys taught carpentry, forging and anning, and girls spinning, weaving and sewing, as the only way to "keep the wolf from the door" and remaining independent of the "outside world" on one's own little patch of land. Few will take Dr. Elias' doleful predictions seriously. The United Nations are fighting for the preservation of civilization and decent standards of life. When the fight is won—as won it will be—there is little chance that the ideal will be permitted to disappear. Poor as the nations and individuals may be, ways will be found of maintaining industry and trading. In his presidential address to the Canadian Political Science Association, which has been reprinted in the Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science, Professor Humphrey Mitchell, of McMaster University, dealt with the question of post-war monetary reconstruction. He spoke of the fatal mistakes perpetrated after the last Great War, observing: "How in the world, flow in the name of all that is possible or impossible, are we going to pay for this war? We have no paid for the first, and this one is going to cost far more." Which is pessimistic enough, in all conscience. As for the cost, President Roosevelt told us last night that the United States would spend one hundred billion dollars in the course of 1943 alone. But Professor Mitchell does not anticipate that industrial activity is going to cease as a consequence of the war. On the contrary, he points out that it must be paid for by the toll of men and women laboriously building up what has been cast down, and so "create the new wealth which in time swallows up the debts of the past." In his "improved processes, by more scientific management of industry, by new machines and new techniques, by new materials, greater factories and bigger ships, by air services and great new highways. But before these new projects are undertaken, there is the necessity for repairing the damage caused. John Stuart Mill is quoted: "An enemy lays waste a country by fire and sword and destroys or carries away nearly all the movable wealth existing in it; all the inhabitants are ruined, and yet, in a few years after, everything is much as it was before. There is nothing at all wonderful in the matter. What the enemy destroyed would have been destroyed in a little time by the inhabitants themselves; the wealth which they so rapidly reproduce would have needed to be reproduced and would have been reproduced in any case, and why? In as short a time." Professor Mitchell reminds readers that restoring costs money, and asks where this money is coming from. Rejecting the discredited method of inflation by the issue of floods of paper money, of which such tragic examples were furnished after the last Great War, he suggests, since there is not enough gold for the purpose, the solution to the perplexing problem of what to use for "hard" money is to be found in the

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monetization of silver and the establishment of a "universal bi-metallic standard," with emphasis on the universal. Whether that expedient, or "managed currency," or whatever it may be, will find favour when the time comes, it should not be forgotten that experts to discover some effective means of getting the wheels of industry turning as they are now turning for destruction. The lessons of the last war, at any rate, will surely not be forgotten or ignored when these vitally important questions have to be decided.

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