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

SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1943

Timely Warnings

The tendency to wishful thinking has been given a new impetus by the truly encouraging war news of the past few months. Nothing could be more dangerous than to assume, because we are at last no longer losing the war, that victory is just around the corner. Prime Minister Churchill, President Roosevelt and others in authoritative positions have warned repeatedly against such easy assumptions. Sir Patrick Duff, who visited here over Dominion Day, made the same point when he said the enemy have two or three million men in Europe, armed to the teeth and fighting on inner lines of communication, and that the task of transporting armies and keeping them supplied over intervening seas will be gigantic. In yesterday's Guardian also appeared a statement by Defense Minister Ralston, reminding us that "Europe has still to be freed; we have still to match the fighting of Russia and we have to clean up the situation in the Far East." Two vital factors—superior air power and control over the U-boat menace, are beginning to tell in our favor; but it would be fatal to our own morale if we allowed these or any other considerations to gull us into thinking that either Germany or Japan can be beaten without costly and even staggering losses on our side.

Some Maritime History

Few rivers can be more fascinating in its geography, legend and history than the St. John River in New Brunswick. This is the conclusion one must come to after studying the illustrations and text of a volume just issued by The Tribune Press, Sackville, entitled "The River St. John." The work itself is not new; it is by the late Rev. William O. Raymond, LL.D., and first appeared in 1910; but it has been recently edited by Dr. J. C. Webster, C.M.G., of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, and now made available in a most attractive edition.

The historic period covered is from the coming of De Monts and Champlain to the establishment of New Brunswick as a Province. A succession of daring deeds, sufferings and romantic adventures enliven the pages. Of special interest is the almost forgotten story of how New France became New Holland. Jansz, then the headquarters of French power in Acadia, was stormed and captured by a Dutch force who immediately set about establishing a New Holland on the shores of eastern North America. Massachusetts traders had at first favored this Dutch conquest, but when they found that it did not work to their advantage they hastened, with the aid of the French, to drive out the Dutch.

The people of Massachusetts seem to have taken a hand very frequently in St. John River affairs. It was they, for instance, who caused Fort Frederick to be built at the mouth of the river "to overdraw the French and the Indians"; and, again, it was they who, during the Revolutionary War, caused it to be destroyed. From Massachusetts, too, came the members of the First Trading Company at St. John.

The book is a valuable addition to Maritime history, and is distinguished from some histories in that it is as readable as good fiction.

Sleeping Volcanoes

The National Geographic Society puts a damper on the fireside general who has been suggesting that volcanoes be brought into the war as active agents of destruction. The volcano enthusiasts imagine that if bombs were dropped into the craters they would belch forth streams of lava to engulf towns. In this they are mistaken. The Society states that, aside from all other considerations, volcanic eruptions simply cannot be made to order. The natural forces involved in an explosive type of eruption, "are so much greater than those caused by the discharge of a 16-inch gun compared with the bursting of a paper bag." In other words it would be wasting bombs to attempt to stir a volcano into action. Nature erupts in her own time, and no human can govern her activities when she is in a belligerent mood.

The Italians, an exchange recalls, have had visitations on many occasions from Vesuvius and Etna, in which many lives were lost and tremendous damage done to adjacent towns and countryside. It is not many years since the orange and lemon groves of Messina were destroyed. In 1892 there were destructive eruptions from Etna, with earthquake shocks. The big island of Java, in the Eastern Archipelago, is another center which has a sad volcanic history. In the 1880's it and neighboring isles were desolated by a series of violent outbreaks from most of the 45 volcanoes of the region. Beginning with Krakatoa, the craters cast up immense quantities of lava, ashes and rocks, the air being darkened for more than fifty miles. Mountains were split up, others were formed and some disap-

tures which caused immense tidal waves, villages being destroyed with all their human and animal life.

At least 35,000 people lost their lives. There were great atmospheric and oceanic disturbances for thousands of square miles and dust from the eruptions went half-way round the world. This was in 1883, not so very long ago.

In view of the possibilities it would seem to be advisable not to attempt to bring the forces of nature into the picture.

EDITORIAL NOTES

We are now enjoying the June moon and the kind of weather that accompanies it.

From now till September many storekeepers will have two Days of Rest per week—Sunday and Wednesday.

Quebec, founded by Samuel Champlain, French traveller, this date, 1608; remained a territory of France until 1759 when taken by the British under Wolfe, who, like the French leader Montcalm, fell during the action.

The Dairy Products Board has prohibited the manufacture of skim-milk cheese in Ontario and Quebec on and after July 1. Cheese must not be made from "milk from which any cream has been removed," or from "milk to which skim-milk has been added." Canada has agreed to supply Britain with 150,000,000 pounds of whole-milk Cheddar cheese by March 31, 1944, and the purpose of the Board's order is to see that as much as possible is available from the two provinces which produce more than 90 per cent of the cheese for Britain.

Rev. C. J. Richard, parish curate at Rogersville, N.B., became the first Catholic priest and the second clergyman to join the ranks of the 19th (R) Army Tank Regiment recently. He was one of 95 in that vicinity to join the unit in the recent drive for recruits in the Reserve Army. The 95 Rogersville recruits also include Dr. O. F. Comeau, a veteran of the First Great War. The first recruit in the district for the regiment was enlisted in May of this year. Rev. J. H. Freestone, pastor of the Wesley Memorial Church in Moncton, joined the unit a short while ago as a trooper.

The distribution of the population by sex in 1941 census showed that of the 6,230,568 single persons in Canada, 53.3 were males, a figure almost identical with that of 1931. Divorced persons in Canada at the 1941 census were in numbers almost double those enumerated as divorced in 1931, increasing from 7,441 to 14,032, although they constituted but 0.1 per cent of the total population in 1941. Most divorced persons, the Bureau said, lived in urban localities. Persons married but permanently separated for domestic reasons numbered 80,137, almost three-fourths of whom live in urban areas.

In an informative article on Canada's wartime wool industry, the Boston Herald considers the development of the wool industry, laying the foundation for post-war production sufficient for all Canada's requirements. It says: "The total yardage now being produced in Canada for military and civilian is approximately equal to the total yardage used for civilian purposes in pre-war years including both imported cloth and domestic production. In other words, the Canadian mills have demonstrated they could supply practically the entire post-war Canadian market for cloth, so that after the war there should be no necessity for Canada to import other than a negligible amount of cloth." This is a remarkable tribute and testimony coming as it does from the centre of the United States wool trade.

Sir Charles Patrick Duff, K.C.B., C.V.O., C.B., who, with Lady Duff, visited us this week, is one of the distinguished staff of the permanent British Civil Service, who, after graduating from Oxford, entered the Board of Trade by open competition; he served in the last Great War in Gallipoli, France and Mesopotamia, was wounded, and twice mentioned in despatches. Returning to his Civil Service duties, he was private secretary to successive Presidents of the Board of Trade, likewise private secretary to successive Prime Ministers, including Lord Baldwin and Rt. Hon. J. Ramsay MacDonald, father of the High Commissioner he now serves as deputy; is a recognized authority on international trade, and has as recreation, tennis and golf.

Why doesn't Russia declare war on Japan? Simply because she wants to protect her Siberian border while occupied with the Nazi on the west. It is now agreed by all who have studied the problem that while a war of attrition can be waged in the islands of the Pacific, the defeat of Japan must be brought about from the mainland of Asia and of North America. From China in the south and from Alaska in the north. But there is no way into China except by starting from British India, by air transport at the present time and then by the reconquest of Burma, Thailand and Indo-China. And there could be no way to Japan from the north if it were not that Russia, while fighting Hitler in Europe, is strong enough to hold securely Siberia. For Japan can be weakened, but Japan cannot be crushed, from Hawaii, Guadalcanal, or Australia. Therefore, since the Philippines were lost, the possibility of an offensive war against Japan has depended on reinforcing Russia in Europe, so that she would not lose Siberia by withdrawing her forces and upon making certain that the British position in the Middle East at the back door of India was a secure source of military power. Some have wished to reduce the lend-lease shipments to Russia and the British Middle East in order to intensify the war against Japan. They have failed to see that if Russia had been beaten at Stalingrad and in the Caucasus, and if Rommel had got Alexandria and Suez, we should have lost China, India, and Siberia irreparably, and with them the means for defeating the rest of the world.

Notes By The Way

No doubt Hitler bit the corner off another rug when he heard that Lampedusa surrendered to a fellow named Cohen—Vancouver Province.

There is a school of thought which declares that bombing and air warfare cannot alone win a war. It is a bold claim to make because the most that can be said is that no war has yet been won by air, for the simple reason that no one has yet tried to win it by air-power alone. Some day a new genius in war may try it and confound the prophets. But this we can see already. Bombing and air mastery have become decisive factors on land and sea. Every battle demonstrates its growing power. The Air Force goes ahead and softens the enemy's advance. It spreads its wings over the ground force and protects it from the worst effects of such attack as paralyzing the communications, the cutting of the lines, the destruction of the command posts, the destruction of the command posts, the destruction of the command posts.

From time to time bishops have complained that their official houses are far too large for their needs. In fact, many of the numerous rooms have had to be closed, and that generally these are the more expensive ones. Dr. Garbett, Archbishop of York, has now tackled the problem as it relates to himself, and, under this arrangement, the commissioners have taken over the endowments and property of the See of York. Dr. Garbett will receive £500,000 as salary instead of 9,000 pounds, and will be allowed a maximum of £900,000 for the year. He will continue to live at Bishopthorpe, his official house outside the city of York, but as soon as possible after the war the premises will be divided and modernized. One portion of it will continue to be his home, the other may be turned into a rectory, or a small college of clergy. All this is a bold step; bishops employed in the past have had convenient palaces may find hopes of relief in it.—Manchester Guardian.

If you're kicking about the weather, be thankful, at least, that it isn't raining bombs in this country.—Winnipeg Tribune.

A journalist connaisseur of voluptuous prose has called "Mandarin" by the Chinese, the Chinese of the Orient, which in our opinion is about like calling Winston Churchill "the lotus blossom of Downing Street."—Peterborough Examiner.

Ere's Eamon De Valera is again harping on an old string. Plugging for revival of the use of Gaelic, he says that for an Irishman to speak English is to betray his race. Gaelic has its place, and if the Irish want to revive it and thus contribute to the confusion of tongues and nations that is their responsibility. But any psychologist can tell that Mr. De Valera and Co. are suffering from an inferiority complex.—Winnipeg Tribune.

Few of our lovers of Renaissance and Baroque have studied Malta's architecture on the spot, and there are few available. No expert collections available. No expert profit and loss account of the artistic damage has appeared, so that interest in this subject, the reconstruction necessary in Malta's towns and villages is harder to arouse than it should be. Yet we know gives ground for hope. The damage is seldom caused by fire and is perhaps more easily repaired. The gutted houses, the ruined buildings at home. It is not as a rule reckoned in whole streets and areas, and the buildings are not unduly vulnerable to blast. Some buildings no doubt are hopeless wrecks. Yet it is told, which we know we have myself seen to possess great architectural merit and exquisite detail. The buildings, which are little if at all harmed. I am told that the lovely old city of Valletta, the city of the knights, in all possible cases and they may well be many, scaffolding and loving care would be better than the demolition of a building beyond those voted by Parliament, are needed. If Malta calls for it, the money is available. It will be a great help. — Mr. B. D. G. Little in London Times.

So far the war has had little effect on the teaching of geography in American high schools and colleges. The subject is being taught in the wrong direction, says Dan Styles in Harper's Magazine. The setting up of preflight courses in many schools has stimulated a side interest in geography and has introduced educators to the so-called "new geography." The subject is being taught in the wrong direction, says Dan Styles in Harper's Magazine. The setting up of preflight courses in many schools has stimulated a side interest in geography and has introduced educators to the so-called "new geography." The subject is being taught in the wrong direction, says Dan Styles in Harper's Magazine.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

A PROTEST FROM O'LEARY

Mr. Peters, President of the Progressive Conservative Association, had made arrangements with Mr. McWilliams, managing director of the O'Leary Hall Company, for the use of the lower part of the hall for the occasion. Apparently they had not reckoned with Mr. Cecil Dennis, who has the hall for motion pictures on Saturday nights, or with his father, Mr. W. H. Dennis, Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Dennis, Jr., informed the committee in charge of arrangements that he had a monopoly of the hall from early Saturday morning until the show was over, that the door was locked and that he was going to stay locked until it was time to start the pictures. Mr. Dennis, Senior, informed the committee that he would lock the door of the lower hall to keep out intruders. Apparently they thought Mr. Bracken would be going on a Wild West Show.

The upper part of the hall is used mostly for socials and small gatherings, has a limited seating capacity and would be totally inadequate for the purpose of the reception to Mr. Bracken or similar meetings. But no other place was available. Result—confusion in general. A large number of the audience were compelled to wait for many minutes when they saw conditions within. Mr. Bracken did manage to obtain a seat, but some of his party were not so fortunate. The party included Dr. McMillan, Major May, who served in the last war. Mr. J. D. Dalton, a former president of O'Leary, Mr. D. F. McNeill, who has four or more sons in the present war, and Mr. J. A. McPhee, who served in the last war and who, with a number of his family is serving in the present war. Mr. D. B. MacDonald, Bedeque, who had one son, a pilot officer killed in this war and has another son now serving overseas as a pilot and Mr. Heath Strong, a former Speaker of the Legislature.

Meanwhile 250 chairs remained vacant in the lower Hall under lock and key and meanwhile Mr. Dennis, Senior, monopolized a seat in the upper hall. An address of welcome to Mr. Bracken was withheld as such an address under the conditions would be an insult. Such conduct seems to be inexplicable. Mr. Dennis would have had ample time to arrange for the Travel Bureau and Miss Gillis of the Canada Film Board had they been consulted.

Why such a discourteous and discreditable incident was allowed to happen seems to be the secret of the matter. No other member of the Liberal party is in any way implicated. We are putting forth too much strength to smash Hitler, let us not neglect to smash Hitlerism on the home front.

Excuse me for the length of this, my first letter, to the press. Thanking you for space, I am, Sir, etc.
G. M. MATTHEWS
O'Leary, June 30, 1943

LETTER FROM DR. GRANT

Sir—A Guardian editorial note of June 18th reads as follows: "The attempt to deprive us of our second train service is a piece of gross neglect and disregard at Ottawa. They don't care, and we have no representative there whom we can appeal to." I am Sir, etc. Why such a discourteous and discreditable incident was allowed to happen seems to be the secret of the matter. No other member of the Liberal party is in any way implicated. We are putting forth too much strength to smash Hitler, let us not neglect to smash Hitlerism on the home front.

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C. C. F. Setback

(Calgary Herald)
The C. C. F. party has received a severe and unexpected reverse in the Manitoba Provincial election in Killarney. This is largely a rural riding and the electors decided by an emphatic majority to stay with the Coalition Government set up by Premier Bracken several years ago. C. C. F. leaders were confident of victory and brought some of their big vocal guns from their duties in the House of Commons to stomp the riding.

The Killarney result is a very definite indication that this socialist third party with its policy of discouragement of individual initiative and official control of everything has not won the support of the Western farmers. It is a sign that the latter are not prepared to turn over their destinies to a group of theorists. Practical farmers should have no great difficulty in visualizing what a C. C. F. Administration would do if it carried out the party policies. They would be controlled by Government boards who would establish prices and impose regulations on their activities. Consumers, too, can easily foresee the consequences of an economy in which all the present wartime controls would be expanded ad lib. For the C. C. F. proposes to take over complete control of all marketing of farm products.

Verbosity

(Ottawa Journal)
Not only Canada, but the whole civilized world, today seems awash with wasted words. There is a floundering in a sea of unnecessary sentences, with facts submerged beneath needless verbiage. At times



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had not already "seen the light" turned Liberal, and the politically bankrupt Party to which the Guardian still clings, has been obliged to change its name a couple of times and has had at least six Leaders within the last eight years. Volumes could be written on this subject but space must be left for the "last word" of the Editor. If, however, he desires to know what part the Member for King's play-acted in the election, he should service, surely it is as fair to say that the Canadian National is operated and controlled by the railway management, as it was for my predecessor to say the same thing when our railway services were being scuttled and when nothing was done about it.

I am, Sir, etc.
THOMAS V. GRANT,
M.P. for King's.
OTTAWA, Ont.,
June 28th, 1943.

Certainly Dr. Grant is an "aggressive personality" to which he would assert himself more in Parliament. (Ed. G.)

Opening of Canadian National's new CENTRAL STATION MONTREAL

After Midnight July 14, all through main line trains of Canadian National Railways now using Bonaventure Station (with the exception of certain local trains which will temporarily continue to and from Bonaventure Station), will arrive at and depart from Canadian National's new Central Station, Montreal. This will also include trains of connecting or associated lines, Central Vermont Railway and Rutland Railroad.

Canadian National's new Central Terminal is most conveniently situated, with direct access to the shopping, hotel and business districts, and to street car services; and is within two minutes of the other principal railway terminals.

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