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

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1941

Britain's Parliament Speaks

The Axis powers will derive small comfort from the overwhelming vote of confidence given Prime Minister Churchill in the British House of Commons yesterday.

During the past two weeks Mr. Churchill's ministry has been under criticism; and the Prime Minister, notwithstanding his tremendous personal prestige, took the democratic course by asking for a vote of confidence from Parliament.

P. E. I. Farm Conditions

It has again devolved upon Hon. Mr. Hanson, the Opposition leader, to bring to the attention of the House of Commons the grievances of the farmers of this Province.

As the Opposition leader well said, this little Province, purely agricultural, is represented in the House by a Minister of the Crown, by "an eminent gentleman from the city of Montreal," and by two local members; yet the plight and problems of our farmers have never been given voice to during the past two sessions.

The fact that such a letter should have had to be written by a Liberal Premier of this Province to his party leader at Ottawa is surprising enough. Still more surprising is Mr. King's reply, which is a prime example of diplomatic "buck passing."

Further in the Hansard report, we find Dr. Grant asking Mr. Hanson: "What is the hon. member reading it (Premier Campbell's letter) for?" Mr. Hanson replied that it was to prove his case that Prince Edward Island had been shamefully neglected!

In his letter to Prime Minister Mackenzie King Premier Campbell says: "I find that there seems to be a considerable undercurrent of feeling among the farmers of this Province, which is kept under the surface only by their intense political sentiment."

had told the Campbell Government something. It must have been to that same class of farmers Premier Campbell referred when he said that this "undercurrent of feeling" took two forms, one being "the feeling of resentment at the Dominion Government's treatment of western wheat farmers as opposed to Maritime producers."

Premier Campbell's letter is strongly reminiscent of another famous epistle, written to Prime Minister Mackenzie King by Premier Saunders some years ago. At that time, this Province was so badly off under Liberal rule that unless financial relief came quickly, "we might as well hoist anchor and drift out to sea."

Mr. King's reply to Premier Campbell reflects the same irresponsible attitude of mind as did his reply to Premier Saunders ten years ago. It is entirely irrelevant and unconvincing.

Norway Stands Firm

Under the title, "Norway Does Not Yield," the Norwegian Legation in Washington has published the story of Norway's first year of war. It is an inspiring little book, even if a tragic one, because while it tells of the German treachery which conquered Norway it tells more about the spirit of resistance which shines brightly in most Norwegian breasts.

The book has an introduction by Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, former United States Minister to Norway: "No power on earth," she says, "can prevent the Norwegian democracy from rising again and re-establishing the good free life for all its people."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Here is a remarkable volte-face on the part of the Montreal Gazette: "If the provinces and municipalities are to get into this war to anything like the full extent of their responsibility they will not only have to stop over-taxing the people but will be obliged to institute very much more drastic economies than any that have been attempted up to now."

Mr. Ivor Brown, sometime of Balliol, essayist, editorial writer, dramatic critic, novelist, has pleased us with many accomplishments, (says New York Times) and not least by sound views on cheese. The great English cheeses are now but names for Americans and are becoming almost rarities at home.

But I, when I undress me, Each night upon my knees Will ask the Lord to bless me With apple pie and cheese.

Here are some suggestions for the treatment of snorers: Pinch the offender's nose and roll him on his side. Turn his palm upward to awake him. Gargle the throat with petroleum jelly; Cultivate nose breathing; Inhale fumes from a teaspoonful of best bay rum in a jug of hot water; Drink a glass of hot lemon or milk with two aspirins; Tie a handkerchief Easter-egg-wise under the chin to prevent jaw drooping open; Take a good quinine or iron tonic; Put feet in hot mustard or in soda water before retiring; Take half a teaspoonful of common salt in a tumbler of warm water, use half as gargle and half as nasal douche.

NOTES BY THE WAY

There's an item going the rounds of the press about a lighthouse on the coast of Scotland. It is a no lanterns of its own but a large mirror that picks up the powerful light from a lighthouse quite close and away and sends out a beam that can be seen for miles.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports that the cost of living in Canada has increased by less than five points since the outbreak of war. This indicates that the controls of the wartime prices and trade board are effective, and prevent the government from producing conditions as marked the last conflict, when the cost of living soared to unjustified levels in many instances.

Eastern newspapers who say that western farmers are to be paid for not growing wheat because we have too much wheat, conveniently forget that the government has already closed down their plants in 1929-32 and, in effect, were paid for not producing manufactured goods.

In making his first public address since the war broke out, Josef Stalin indulged in no wild rhetorical flights. He contented himself with a harmless dissertation on the need for a more effective movement, and it is doubtful if his words made the slightest impression, even on those gathered about him.

On the afternoon of the Clydeide "Blitz" (telephones a reader) a friend of mine lost thirty shillings. He reported his loss to the police. Next day, to his amazement, the police informed him that the money had been found and handed in by a workman. This workman had had his home destroyed in the raid.

It is to be hoped Canadians generally read and will remember what President Roosevelt said the other day to people in the United States who allow their "feelings" to go up or down according as the war news of the day may happen to be without regard to the boom-slump temperament is more or less common, there are very large limits within which the emotions are or can be under control.

Forty-two foot bombing planes with fuelage of vital plastic are being built at the Buffalo, New York. For many months Canada has been investigating the merits of various plastic and experimental have been carried on in the production of air-planes from the waste products of B.C. wood and plastic industries. Describing the Atwood process, the Vancouver Province said: "Between two layers of this woven wood is a foundation of excelsior fused together with thermo-plastic material. The two sections when completed are so strong that one may hit the outer surface (which might be a wing) with a stout blow with a hammer without damage or leaving a mark. An automobile may run over a cylinder of the new material without damaging it. It is so strong that pressure tanks may be constructed from it."

Myself have seen three brought down at night within the past two or three months. One of these we followed with the lights after we'd hit him, and he seemed to be breaking to pieces in the sky as though tracer bullets were coming off him all over his body. One day this month we sank one and crippled another within a quarter of an hour, and the heaviest finished off the crippled one. Something ought to be said about the sea-chlight men. Our night fighters shouldn't do anything without them at night, and they're always on the job. One night our lights got a plane that was coming from the west, and the chaps were holding him till we had him in range. While they were doing that another plane came in from the east and dropped a bomb within 50 yards of the light. It didn't half whistle down. But the men on the lights never worried; they held Jerry, because they knew we were waiting for them. They often drop stuff around us of course. One night they came after us about fifteen times; but in spite of all the stuff they've dropped they haven't done a bit of damage. In fact, they sometimes do us a bit of good. Once when one of their mines came drifting down, we popped it off with a Lewis gun. There was a lot of fish about when that went off—we got a conger 6 foot long—that kept the Sergeants' Mess going "whoop" day. One night they dropped a lot of those Mo'otov bread-basket things, and some of the little ones went into the sand and didn't go off. When I was in the morning all the rest of them were asleep; I'd brought on the little bombs with me, and I put it into the stove: "That'll sizzle in a bit," I said to myself and, by Dutchess now, it didn't half shift the chaps out of bed. When Jerry comes by day he's often too high for us unless he's mine-laying. But one chap did catch the hop. It was a dewy sort of day, pretty thick. He dropped a couple, but he was too high; then he went south a bit, dropped another couple and came back flying very low. We were all waiting, and we were so sure we were going to get him, we held our fire till he was too damn close; then we missed him. Very annoying it was for us with our record. There's a lot of back-chat between us and the heavies, and the coast defence chaps will have a pot at anything they see; they believe shooting first and arguing after. When Surmer comes they'll be firing at the butter-fies. I'd like to say this. I've told you how we hold our fire till the last minute; if we had one misfire doing that, we should be meat for him. But we've never had one faulty round in all our engagements.

Hold Fire Till The Huns Are Over

(A Sergeant in an Anti-Aircraft Battery Writes in the London Listener.)

We have our own method with our searchlights. We hold our fire until Jerry's quite close and then snap them on, so it blinds him, and we get in three or four bursts with the Lewis and Bofors before he has time to do anything. By this method we've spotted as many as eighteen targets a night, some of them three or four planes at a time.

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SENATE AID FOR FREE FRENCH LONDON (CP) — Eleven ambulance ambulances of the 26th have been presented to the Free French forces in East Africa by the British American Ambulance Association.

Senate isolationists who demand that England state her peace terms do so with a quiet visible leer; they ask the impossible of her and she is not to be deceived. It is as if they said: "These men, who did their bit to destroy security in the post-World War world by destroying the League of Nations, should suddenly display a curious, furtive concern with the nature of the peace to come in Europe. They never cared before. They do not care now. They find, in 'peace terms', a handy device for one who sympathizes with the English cause can ask England to hand down a detailed blueprint for the future of Europe. The very concept of a democratic world (and of democracy as a goal) is opposed to such an advance formulation." — New York Post.

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NOW THAT APRIL'S THERE

Oh, to be in England now that April's there! Words like these a poet wrote, but Hitler doesn't care. For cowslips or for violets, for meadows wet with rain—And yet he'd be in England now, as April comes again.

He gazes out from Calais and casts a hungry eye On shining coasts of Dover, chalk-white against the sky; On island walls of England, which rise to hold her free. And there's a look on Hitler's face that is not good to see.

For his glance dreams no daffodils which took the winds of March; His heart is not in Surrey lanes, nor greening with the larch. It's death he waits in English fields where April sets the plow. It's blood he sees in April streams where he in England now.

The April that is England, a Hitler may not know. The April of the young and free who scorn a galled foe. The heads of gold, the eyes of blue, the hearts that beat to dare—These flowers now on English earth and keep it April there.

—Adin Ballou in the New York Herald Tribune.

Windsors Shop While Curious Pound Windows

By AMY PORTER Associated Press Fashion Editor

NEW YORK, May 7. (AP)—The Duchess of Windsor has four new dresses, and the first important additions to her wardrobe since she and the Duke—who is governor of the Bahamas—left Paris almost a year ago. She said when she bought them, "These should carry me through the summer."

And they should, because they selected to meet all the clothes requirements in the simple life the Duchess now leads in Nassau. A white shantung suit, a formal evening dress, two sheer cotton evening frocks—a simple summer wardrobe.

The Duke and Duchess smiled at all the fuss and sat down to look at clothes while women on the street outside pounded the plate glass windows with their rings, begging for admission.

"Not For Me" The Duchess was eager to see everything, because, she said, "This is the first collection I've seen since I left Paris." She looked at the new sloped shoulder, but protested, "They're not for me. I don't like them. I like some padding in the shoulder, but not enough to make me look like Jack Dempsey." She said, "I never wear full skirts except in evening things."

The Duke admired a red-and-white candy-striped jersey evening costume bordered in sequins. His lady agreed. "It's divine, but my wardrobe isn't large enough to justify buying anything so conspicuous."

The salesgirl brought out hats. "I'll try them on if it'll make you happy," said the Duchess, "but you know I never wear anything but beanie."

The four costumes she finally settled on would serve as the basis for almost any woman's summer wardrobe.

Favorite Fabric A cool summer suit, Shantung, because it is one of her favorite fabrics. White, because white is cool. The single-breasted jacket ends just at the hips. The Duchess realizes that her small stature wears size 10—makes long jackets unbecomingly to her.

The formal day dress is of a strawberry-printed white crepe, with a high neckline, three-quarter length sleeves. Puffy bishop-sleeve cuffs and tiny collar are of embroidered organdie.

One evening dress, of sheer white embroidered with red silk dots, has short sleeves and a high neck finished with a bow. The other, of white organdie printed with blue flowers is more elaborately trimmed with scrolls of blue lace and a sash of narrow blue velvet ribbon.

All four costumes are typically Duchess of Windsor—simple in line, with feminine detail. She'll have matching beanie made up for the two day costumes, and wear them as always, pinned back of her pompadour with two beautiful diamond clips.

Seven radio stations, specially equipped for aviation traffic, have been erected in the Netherlands Indies.

Post-War Settlement

(Winnipeg Free Press)

The seriousness of the unemployment problem to be met after the war, was impressed upon the federation of Mayors at their Ottawa conference by Mr. Justice T. C. Davis, now acting as associate deputy Minister of the War Service Department. The length of the slump when peace comes will depend on what kind of peace it is and upon any general action taken to improve economic conditions throughout the world.

But the immediate effect of the demobilization of the men on active service and the loss of employment of large numbers engaged in war industries will loom as a high problem. We are now arriving at the time when the full manpower of the country is taken up. That process will go suddenly into reverse when the last shot is fired, and there will have to be well-laid plans for providing employment. There cannot be any large dependence on the dole.

The matter is now being neglected as some way think capable interdepartmental committee at Ottawa was appointed by the Government some time ago to study the whole problem and to consider many specific questions. In addition, the Government announced on April 10 the appointment of an important outside advisory committee, headed by Principal F. C. James, of McGill and including Tom Moore, Principal R. C. Wallace of Queen's, Mr. J. E. McLean, president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, and Dr. Edouard Montpetit of the University of Montreal. Hon. Ian Mackenzie, Minister of Pensions, said that this committee was asked to deal with demobilization and re-establishment and to advise the Government on the facilities required to meet the problem of re-employment. This apparently means the larger planning.

The situation will be helped to some extent by the war savings plan which will probably accumulate a total of several hundred millions of dollars and will do much to tide the workers over the depression period; and by the unemployment insurance scheme now being set up, and in connection with which there will be a much more efficient, national employment service.

But a great deal will be needed beyond that, in providing employment on development works and in putting men to work. It is well that the Dominion and Provincial governments are beginning to study and plan.

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