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

TUESDAY, MAY 6 1941

Oh, For A Leader!

Hon. Mr. Hanson hit the proverbial nail on
the head in Parliament yesterday when he said
that the crying need of this country is virile
leadership. To a nation at war such leadership is
absolutely essential. No one will contend that
Mr. Mackenzie King is capable of supplying it.

It was pathetic to see the outbursts of en-
thusiasm in Canada on the occasion of Mr.
Willkie's visit. Here was a man—a defeated
candidate for the Presidency of the United
States—who possessed that one thing—absolute
conviction in the cause in which Britain is fight-

A year ago, we had scarcely heard of Mr.
Willkie; and we have been hearing about Mr.
Mackenzie King for thirty years. Mr. King has
made many trips to the Old Country; he has at-
tended Empire Conferences and other gatherings
in the piping times of peace. We do not suggest
that he is now afraid to go overseas; but the
number of excuses he has been able to find for
staying at home—with occasional visits to
Washington—indicate plainly enough where his
interests and his inclinations lie.

A character in one of Kipling's stories is de-
scribed as having "too much cosmos in his ego."
Mr. King's ego simply does not allow him to
see the issues at stake in this titanic struggle
under way. It is not his fault; he is built that
way. But what a tragedy for Canada and the
Empire that we must look for leadership and
inspiration to this man, whose whole genius runs
counter to saying or doing anything that might
embarrass him politically.

Farm Problems And Ottawa

Last week in the House of Commons resolu-
tions calling for reform of the King Govern-
ment's agricultural policy were voted down by
Government members and supporters. The Govern-
ment, with its huge partisan majority, was
easily able to do this; but at what expense to
the farmers of this country?

During the lengthy debate which preceded
the voting, many complaints were voiced. It was
shown that farm problems in Eastern Canada
were becoming more and more serious, and
were receiving practically no attention from
Agriculture Minister Gardiner. One speaker,
Mr. Gordon Graydon, M. P. for Peel (Ontario)
cited statistics showing the disparity of prices
between farm products and other commodities.
He called attention to the fact that when Pres-
ident Roosevelt brought down his war appropria-
tion bill for seven billion dollars in March of this
year, farm commodities were placed second on the
list, so far as government expenditures were
concerned. Actually, Mr. Graydon maintained,
one dollar out of every five spent by the Roosevelt
administration is spent on the farmers in the
United States, as against "the magnificent sum
of one dollar out of every \$180 to the farmers of
Canada" allocated in the Ottawa appropriation
bill of \$1,450,000,000.

Another point made by the same speaker was
with regard to the parliamentary committee on

agriculture. In 1936 this committee sat to dis-
cuss farm implement prices. In 1937 a new,
special committee dealt with the same subject. In
1938 the committee sat for some considerable
time on a measure to amend the Canada Grain
Act. It sat again in 1939 to consider a further
amendment to the Grain Act and to consider a
bill dealing with stockyards, live stock and live
stock products. These were peacetime problems
which were by no means as serious as the prob-
lems that have since arisen in agricultural
industry owing to the war. Yet, since the last
general election in March, 1940, the Govern-
ment has not called together the committee on
agriculture, except for purposes of organization
and to elect a chairman. The sixty members of
the committee are presumably qualified for their
work; yet they have been given nothing to do.
They should, Mr. Graydon argued, be given an
opportunity not only of sitting, but of hearing
men representative of agriculture throughout
Canada, with a view to suggesting a plan to
remedy many of the difficulties facing agricul-
ture at the present time.

It is truly surprising, in view of Prime Min-
ister Mackenzie King's admission that farming
has become "a war casualty", to find such in-
difference prevailing at Ottawa with regard to
remedying conditions. With the exception of the
bonuses paid to wheat growers for the purpose
of limiting production, we have no national
agricultural policy. And who is to blame?

EDITORIAL NOTES

Has any one yet seen a copy of the City
Council annual report? The Board of Trade
seems no longer interested in civic public affairs.

Is it possible that the vice-president of the
Council, a Prince County man in Ottawa ad-
vocating war contracts for Charlottetown, or is it
not?

Thumbs up: The City of London Common
Council has appropriated £3,000 to construct a
temporary roof and refurbish the Guildhall, the
civic palace burned out in the German incendiary
attack of Dec. 29, which destroyed a square mile
of the "City."

Lack of gasoline for automobiles and penury
of coal for railroad locomotives are revolutioniz-
ing modes of transportation in France. The
"push-bike" for one has come back into its own,
generally with the attachment of a trailer.

Around Perigueux youths have organized a
volunteer corps of cyclists who go out each day
to neighboring farms to bring back milk for the
city's children. In the Limoges district other
youths have revived the stagecoach in order to
insure communications with outlying parts.

According to the Bank of Montreal progress
crop reports, heavy snowfalls during the winter
prevented the frost from penetrating the ground
deeply here and the season generally is about two
weeks earlier than usual. Pastures show little evi-
dence of winter-kill and are in good condition.
Fruit trees are beginning to bud. There is
ample moisture in most districts and continued
warm weather would now be beneficial.

New Zealand prides herself on having the low-
est death rate in the world; an infant mortality
rate the lowest in the world; on having been the
first British country to give manhood suffrage
(1889) and female suffrage (1893) on having
had universal penny postage since 1901; on being
Britain's best per capita customer; and on being
the world's leading exporter of dairy produce,
mutton and lamb, and cross bed wool.

An automobile containing two high-ranking
German officers, stopped near the town of
Fornebu, the Norwegian Press Bureau relates.
One of the officers asked a Norwegian woman
passing by if she could tell them the way to the
airport. "May I reply in English?" she asked in
turn. At this the German growled with obvious
displeasure but finally agreed to receive informa-
tion in that language. Whereupon the woman
gave her answer: "I don't know."

The Toronto Industrial Commission announces
that machinery and equipment is being installed
in the National Steel Car Company's plant at
Malton, northwest of Toronto, to handle "a sub-
stantial order" for a new twin-engine bomber,
which might reach a total of \$18,000,000. Mr.
T. H. Bartley, Industrial Commission general
manager, said that the Malton plant had increased
employment within recent weeks to 2,200 per-
sons and the expansion is continuing. The plane
order for the National Steel Car plant is for the
Martin B-26, a twin-engine craft known as one
of the world's fastest bomber types, and the de-
sign on which the Malton plant is working from
incorporates improvements suggested by actual
combat in the present war, said Mr. Bartley. The
cost per plane excluding engines, instruments
and other fittings, is expected to be around \$90,000.

King Edward VII, The Peacemaker, died
this date 1910. He was a famous world and
especially continental traveller, making friends
with all sorts and conditions of rulers and states-
men. When Kaiser William assumed the Crown
and dropped his pilot, Bismark, trouble seemed
looming up between Britain and Germany. The
Kaiser was Edward's nephew, and nothing
daunted by the ominous indications, Uncle Ed-
ward went to Berlin and quietly straightened
matters out. That, unfortunately, was the first
German appeasement. Then Japan began to put
on airs because she licked Russia in the East,
and Edward immediately after his coronation
instigated the movement which led to the Anglo-
Japanese Alliance. Trouble loomed up with
France because of German aggression in Africa,
which seemed to have the tacit support of Brit-
ain. The King went to France, smiled, shook
hands, said nice things, with the result the Triple
entente with France and Russia was cemented
in 1904. His tact and diplomacy won the affec-
tion of his own people and the respect of for-
eign nations. Summed up King Edward was a
good sportsman, highly endowed with common
sense and savoir-faire, and a conscientious and
successful ruler.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The Legislature of North Car-
olina, in what is believed to be
the first action by any legisla-
tive body recommending the forma-
tion of world government, adopted
a resolution declaring "that all peo-
ples of the earth should now be
united in a commonwealth of na-
tions." — Vancouver Sun.

Dr. Bronson Ray, a brain surgeon
of considerable repute, was walking
in the park one afternoon when a
tree fell on a scooter ran into a
tree and sustained a pretty severe
scalp wound. Dr. Ray dispatched
one of the bystanders to call an
ambulance and was administering
first aid when a lad only a couple
of years older than the victim
pushed his way through the crowd.
"I'm a Boy Scout," he said to Dr.
Ray. "You go along, sir, and I'll
take over." — The New Yorker.

The time-honored custom of say-
ing it with flowers still prevails in
the party one afternoon when a
lad boy on a scooter ran into a
tree and sustained a pretty severe
scalp wound. Dr. Ray dispatched
one of the bystanders to call an
ambulance and was administering
first aid when a lad only a couple
of years older than the victim
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"I'm a Boy Scout," he said to Dr.
Ray. "You go along, sir, and I'll
take over." — The New Yorker.

While the "Soldiers of the Soil"
program should be a useful help
in some districts, the Federal Gov-
ernment should see that skilled
labor is made available to the
"mixed" farms. Skilled farm work-
ers in all military units should be
encouraged to work on seed-
ing until the corn is harvested and
the roots are in. Ottawa plans to
call up more than 100,000 men of
21 this summer, but no farmer's
son or ex-serviceman should be
included in this call. The
economic theory of our national
life is correct, particularly so in the
time of war. Nowhere is skilled
labor more necessary than on the
farm. — London Free Press.

New York City is getting ready
to launch a fish drive to popularize
the use of fish on Tuesday
as well as on Friday. Its
commissioner of markets points out
that of all the big ocean fishing
ports, New York is the one that
consumes the most fish per capita
ratio. He is making plans for
"Bargain Tuesday Fish Days",
through which he hopes to intro-
duce the sea to the city. For the
first time recognized place on the
New Yorker's weekly diet. Along
the waterfronts in Boston and Glouces-
ter, where no fish is needed, it is
wished that sea food values there'll
be a source of success for this drive. —
Boston Post.

After Dunkirk, the world mar-
velled at Britain's ability to gather
its spiritual forces and translate
its determination into material
terms. Today, in spite of incessant
bombardment, the British are show-
ing back blow for blow with in-
creasing strength. The British are
a resilient as well as tough people.
They have suffered a severe set-
back, but it was not a defeat. They
must have been somewhat disheart-
ened in advance. In sending an army
into Greece they proved their will-
ingness to take risks. They are now
giving another opportunity to prove
their ability to pocket a loss and
keep going. — Baltimore Sun.

There is one test that every man
can put to himself, if he wants to
discover whether he is doing his
bit in the ranks of the civilians of
Canada. The test has been very
concisely expressed by Errol Flynn
when he said: "No one has a right
to be better off out of this war."
Nearly all words of one syllable,
but full of meaning. If every one
looked up his records, those who
discovered that the war had made
them better off should promptly
place the increase at the disposal
of the nation, who are entitled to
benefit any individual but to
permit the individual to remain an
individual and not become a cog in
a Nazi machine. — Fort Worth
Times-Journal.

In England at the present time
all ordinary building is suspended.
Precisely the other houses being
constructed are those needed for
war workers and agricultural
workers who have been moved to
places where no houses are avail-
able. A bulletin has been issued by
the British Stationery Office this
week which shows how building
design is being modified in the
experience gained from the war.
The most conspicuous of the
changes, the sloping roof of slates
or tiles, supported by timber raft-
ers, has been abandoned in favor
of a concrete roof which is flat, or
nearly flat. The concrete roof is
thick enough to withstand an in-
cendiary bomb. — Irish Independent.

The last of the early London edi-
tors has passed away in the person
of James D. Clark. He started his
newspaper career on the London
Free Press and was a contemporary
of the late J. Lambert Payne. Later
he was for nine years editor of the
London Free Press. Clark then went
to Ottawa where they had distin-
guished careers in the Civil Service.
Mr. Payne went to Ottawa first as
secretary to Sir John Carling,
while Mr. Clark was secretary to
Hon. David Mills, when he was
Minister of Justice. Later Mr.
Payne became secretary to Sir
Richard Cartwright and was ap-
pointed secretary of the Railway
Department. Mr. Clark was secre-
tary to both Sir Charles Fitzpatrick
and Sir Alan B. Aylesworth. For
many years Mr. Clark was registrar
of the Department of Justice. —
London Free Press.

The hairbrush has been driven
out of the barber shop of St. John's.
The State Board of Health fears
that it has been spreading the ter-
rible dandruff germ. And so signa-
ture and seal have been affixed to
the matrix of banishment. The
passing of the hairbrush from the
barber shop dwarf the historical
importance of the disappearance of
the old-fashioned personal shaving
mug—the shaving mug with all its
artistic embellishments of flowers,
fire engines, clipper ships, lodge
emblems and undecipherable mono-
grams. The morning and evening
shave may be expected to be pro-
portionately doleful, the walling like
that of a non-stop banishment. The
decreed will be called harsh and cruel.
Only in one quarter would the prop-
erly shaved man be welcomed, and
cheered—in the woodshed. — St.
Louis Post-Dispatch.

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR

"The day has passed when
Pan-Americanism was a theory
and an ideal. Today it is
a fact a bulwark in the de-
fense of our hemisphere, and
a conception which coincides
significantly with the nation-
al purposes of Canada, which
so resolutely and so unreserv-
edly is giving its wealth, both
human and material, for the
conception of the Pan-American
'Co-operative Peace' was
founded." — J. Pierrepont Mott,
United States Minister to
Canada.

The Island Of Crete

(Exchange)

Having over-run the mainland
of Greece, the Germans are about
to launch an attack on Crete,
which was seized by the British
last fall and is now the seat of
the Greek Government. Such at
least is the threat that comes from Ber-
lin. Discussing the chances of such
an invasion, Kirke L. Simpson, As-
sociated Press staff writer, has this
to say: "Crete is so important to British
strength in the Eastern Mediter-
anean that its preparation for de-
fence must be given a first con-
sideration. Not even the exigencies
of the Balkan campaign could have
induced the London authorities or
the British Middle East Command
to overlook the strategic values of
Crete. There have been eyewitness
accounts of British efforts to turn
the island into an eastern equiv-
alent of Gibraltar.

A Nazi attempt to take Crete by
invasion might be staged as a dress
rehearsal for a similar attack on
the United Kingdom. Yet the risk
of reprisals would be serious. It
seems likely that, for the present,
Nazi threats in the direc-
tion of Crete may be designed to
screen new blows elsewhere, poss-
ibly in the Sicilian Straits to rein-
force the Axis drive on "the
Libyan-Egyptian border."

Crete is one of the most interest-
ing islands in the Mediterranean.
Both for the important part it so
often played in ancient times, and
for the monuments it preserves of
the earliest developments of West-
ern Civilization, of which it may
be described as one of the most
picturesque cradles. For the im-
migrations of civilized man from
Egypt to Europe are believed to
have made Crete a stopping place
and crossed from there to the Con-
tinent.

Surpassed in size only by Sicily,
Sardinia and Cyprus, Crete is the
fourth-largest island in the Medi-
terranean. It is about 60 miles
long and 110 miles from the
nearest point of Asia Minor. Its
extreme length is 130 miles, its
greatest width about 35 miles, and
its area 3,320 square miles. It is
therefore approximately one and
a half times the size of Prince Ed-
ward Island, but its population of
385,427, as estimated in the census
of 1926, is almost equal to that of

The Poet's Corner

ENGLAND STANDS ALONE

"England stands alone; without
an ally." — A German newspaper.
"She stands alone; ally nor friend
has she."
Salth Europe of our England — her
who bore
Drake, Blake, and Nelson — War-
rior-Queen who wore
Light's conquering glove that
strikes the conquered free.
Alone! — from Canada comes o'er
the sea,
And from that English coast with
swords for toys—
The old-world cry Europe hath
heard of yore
From Dover cliffs: "Ready, aye
ready we!"
"Europe," saith England, "hath for-
got my boys!"
Forgot how tall, in yonder golden
zone
'Neath Austral skies, my youngest
born have grown
(Bearers of bayonets now and
swords for toys)—
Forgot mid-boles thunder—harm-
less noise—
The sons with whom old England
stands alone!"
—Theodore Watts-Dunton

How Are Your Eyes?

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of strain — headaches, sore
eyes or dizziness — consult a
specialist.
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What Of Weygand

(Sydney Post Record)
If as Mr. Churchill and Mr. King
say the war is about to extend to
many fronts, North Africa becomes
a strategic position and Gen. Max-
ime Weygand a key commander.
Only recently Weygand told an
American newspaperman that while
he would make no predictions as to
who would win the war, the con-
flict had reached a "decisive stage."
What measure of armies does this
Vichy-French general command
then?

The armies he has trained are
manned by many types, speaking
many languages and having many
religions. There is the force in
Syria—now almost within sound of
Nazi planes—and his armies in
Tunisia. He has trained them all.
In his army of Syria he has Mos-
lems, Hindus, Buddhists, Parsees,
Jews and Christians. All owe a sort
of personal allegiance to Weygand,
even if they have shown themselves
uncertain about the distinction be-
tween "Free France and Vichy
France."

In North Africa the general has
highly-trained and belligerent
blacks from Senegal, as savages in
the country in which they live. He
has some units of the old Foreign
Legion, his Camel Corps and the
Cherkesk Cavalry. Weygand has
trained these men for 20 years
and his personal experience of
North Africa is second to none. No
one knows better than he how to
make the desert serve the needs of
a military force, how to make it a
death trap for the inexperienced in-
vader.

Against the efficiency of these
armies must be placed the power
of Nazi "bomber" divisions which
might be available in Syria and in
North Africa even as they have been
in Libya, and the Luftwaffe. What
could these troops do against such
mechanized forces? It is not likely
Weygand's units are equipped with
either tanks or planes, in any num-
bers, so that opposed to Nazi or
British units of the latest type they
would not be formidable. Against
less efficient armies they would be
dangerous.

As for Weygand himself, his op-
inions are concealed. He has stated
he would permit no invasion of
former French African colonies,
that Bizerta, the port of Tunisia,
should not be available to Germany.
Perhaps he means that. Perhaps
he could successfully defend his
stamping ground. In the meantime
he waits under the African sun,
watching the ebb and flow of the
war and estimating France's pros-
pects.

New Brunswick. Over three quar-
ters of the people are Orthodox
Christians, almost all of the re-
minder being Moslems. Both Mos-
lems and Christians are of Greek
origin and speak the Greek lan-
guage.
Being traversed by several ranges
of high mountains, which rise
sharply from the coast on its north
eastern and western sides, Crete
has admirable natural defences,
which have been supplemented by
the strong fortifications construct-
ed by the British in the Eastern Com-
mand during the past three or four
months. That it will be attacked
frequently by air is as certain as
that it will prove as hard a nut for
the Axis bombers to crack as they
have so often found Malta to be. If
the British and Greeks can hold
Crete till the end of the war, it
will give them one of the strongest
vantage-points in the Eastern Med-
iterranean. The naval weakness of
the Axis powers would seem to in-
crease its against effective invasion
for at least some time to come. It
is likely to remain in British hands
as long as the Royal Navy retains
control of the Eastern Mediterr-
anean.

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Highways Closed To Motor Vehicles

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motor vehicle traffic, except in such cases where the total
weight of vehicle and load does not exceed 5,000 pounds.

Anyone driving on provincial highways contrary to
this order shall be duly prosecuted.
Dated the 24th day of April, A. D. 1941.
By order,
O. W. CAMPBELL,
Acting Clerk of the Executive Council.

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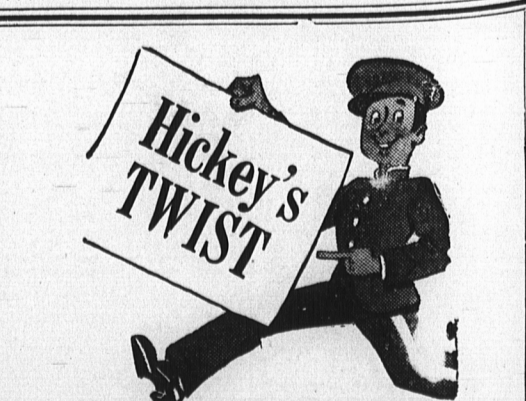
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