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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.

FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 1938

Paging Mr. McIntyre

Our local contemporary recently suggested that the tedious stops along the railway line from Sackville to Charlottetown are really advantageous to the tourist traffic, as they enable visitors to see more of the country.

Is there any excuse for the Government's neglect of that much traversed highway, the 48 Road from Charlottetown to Cardigan? Especially from Kelly's Corner on, it is in a deplorable condition.

He should have attended to this matter long ago, and done his chores before going off to Ottawa to address the Women's Liberal convention.

A Timely Topic

What To Tell A Graduate is the intriguing title of a recent editorial in the New York Times. Perhaps the article does not include all that graduates should be told, but it succeeds, in the compass of four short paragraphs, in saying a good deal.

"Nobody need envy the commencement orators during the busy month of June. They can warn this year's graduate against a number of things, but they can't promise him much at the moment.

"And yet, whatever the orators say or do not say, the graduate will probably be all right. He has already had some hard jolts and knows the world is not all strawberries and cream and senior singing.

"Moreover, though the world may not seem to be clamoring for his services now, it is surely going to need him. He will live anywhere from twenty to forty years longer than the orators and the generation they represent.

"A few decades more and he himself may be pulling at his gray whiskers and scratching his grizzled noll as he tries to find words of advice for a still newer generation. He won't be able to tell them much, but they will go on and do their work. It's a tough human race, and a persistent one, and over the hill, just the other side of the rainbow, lies Utopia.

A Political Gesture?

With an eye on the danger which the Liberal Government in Saskatchewan is confronting, says the Montreal Gazette, the Liberal Ministry at Ottawa announces that stock ownership in the Bank of Canada is to pass entirely into its hands. This is a victory for the C.C.F., which has been urging complete nationalization, but it is a triumph of no practical importance.

after he has voted. To the degree, if any, in which he is deluded into believing that the Central Bank will do more for him in the future than it has done in the past by reason of this change, and to the extent in which this belief impairs the Social Credit appeal, Saskatchewan and the rest of the Dominion may benefit; but the Government seems to be using a very doubtful weapon.

Costly Tariff Tinkering

The net result of Liberal tariff tinkering to date as reviewed the other day in the House of Commons by Mr. R. J. Deachman, Liberal M.P. for South Huron:

"In 1930, we had a one per cent sales tax, while in 1937 we had an eight per cent sales tax. In 1930 we had no excise tax, now we have a three per cent excise tax, in reality a tariff on that amount, upon all goods coming from foreign countries. In addition to that, we have a tariff which has reached heights never before approached in Canadian history. It is so high that I feel quite certain the Minister of Finance (Mr. Dunning) nor the Minister of Labor (Mr. Rogers) could by any possibility look over the top of it.

"We now have a tariff framed upon a new basis. Our customs tariff, which records the rates for the Dominion of Canada, is now distributed with blank pages here and there throughout the book. The object of the blank pages is to provide a place upon which one may write the real tariff, because the tariff schedules as it stands does not reveal the true situation. One must get the true rate from the customs branch by a special statement. Even then I venture to assert that if today I were to ask the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Hsley) the tariff on certain items of cotton goods from the United States he would have to tell me, 'Well, it is recorded in the book.'

"But one must then add three per cent to the tariff, and a further eight per cent sales tax, and then if one wishes to follow it through to the last he would be told that in addition section 36 of the Customs Act has to be considered, through which special values are imposed upon products coming from the United States. To a certain extent that valuation depends upon the humor of the man who makes the valuation, or, to go back to an old phrase, the rate of customs duty depends upon the length of the chancellor's boot."

Editorial Notes

George V was born this date, 1865.

It takes a delegation from the unemployed to get our representatives busy at Ottawa. Why should this be?

Mr. Mackenzie King and Mr. Dunning plus Mr. Gardiner got busy and nationalized the Bank of Canada in a frantic endeavour to offset Social Credit in the Saskatchewan election.

Mr. J. A. McLeod, President of the Bank of Nova Scotia has gone on a three month's trip to England. Before leaving he said improved world conditions were dependent upon recovery in the United States, and there the problem is the establishment of satisfactory relations between government and business.

Mr. J. A. Strong, Canadian Trade Commissioner at Buenos Aires, writes that on May 10 the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture issued a statement giving the third official estimate on grain production for the 1937-38 crop. Production of wheat is estimated at 184,582,000 bushels as compared with 248,899,000 bushels in 1936-37. Figures for other principal crops are as follows: flaxseed, 60,498,000 bushels (76,069,000 bushels); oats, 44,647,000 bushels (51,321,000 bushels); and barley, 23,569,000 bushels (29,835,000 bushels).

The probable U.S.A. wheat yield for 1938 is estimated at 14.9 bushels per harvested acre as compared with 14.6 bushels for 1937 and 14.5 bushels for the ten-year average. On the basis of a yield of 14.9 bushels per acre for the present year, production of winter wheat is estimated at 754,153,000 bushels, an increase of 69,051,000 bushels or 10 per cent over the 1937 production of 685,102,000 bushels and about 38.2 per cent over the 1927-36 average of 546,396,000 bushels.

The National Council of Women in Convention at Ottawa discussed the "flooding of Canadian news stands with magazines from the United States which feature sex and crime" and the sale of salacious literature in Canada, adopted a strong resolution requesting the federal Government to enforce section 13 of the Customs Tariff Act and provisions of the Criminal Code. The section of the code referring to salacious literature reads: "Everyone is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to two years' imprisonment, who knowingly makes, manufactures, sells or exposes for sale or to the public view any obscene books or any pictures, photographs, model or other object tending to corrupt morals." It is worthwhile recalling that the present Liberal Government is responsible for present conditions having removed the restrictions imposed by the Bennett Government.

Encyclopaedias had their beginning in China, the land that boasts that its peoples had gone the whole round of social inventions characteristic of the civilized estate when the Western peoples were still in a state of barbarism. In 1726 was printed at Peking, under the auspices of the scholarly Chinese Emperor, K'eng Hi, a work entitled the "Kin Ting Ku" sui tsih Ch'eng," in other words, "The Complete Thesaurus of Writings Ancient and Modern." It was the result of forty years' labor and is said to have filled more than five thousand volumes with maps, plans and illustrative designs, etc. We may be thankful that this effort was limited to a hundred copies, one of which, in 1878, was housed in the British Museum Library. This "leviathan" is the biggest of encyclopaedias, if not the first-born of the family. But, if history speaks true, for nearly two thousand years kindred compilations made their appearance in China.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Emily Post has just made everything clear in the use of language: "When the implication is unmistakable that a lady is intended, the word 'woman' is preferred, but when the word 'woman' implies that a lady might not be intended, then the word used is 'lady.' So if one is a lady, women should be used to denote her place in the species, and if she is a woman, then she must be called a lady to give her special status. Ah, yes.—Edmonton Journal.

When the owner of a factory dies, his heirs don't sell the machinery at auction and then try to find a buyer for the empty plant. They usually keep the factory going and divide the profits in kind of selling at a sacrifice and divide the proceeds. But when the owner of a farm dies, too often the farm, as a going concern, is broken up. The land is sold to the heirs and the heirs all lose.—Wallace's Farmer (U.S.)

Hitler may think he is like Napoleon, but the "Little Corporal" of a century ago is three up on the "Little Corporal" of the present day. Napoleon deserted his army four times, and Hitler has only deserted his men once.—to date. Napoleon got out when the going was too hot in Egypt, Moscow, and Waterloo. Hitler has only faced determined opposition once. That was the Munich incident when Hitler turned fall as soldiers returned to their homes to shoot.—Clark in Windsor Star.

Those who are contemplating a visit to the dentist may get some consolation from the practice of the natives of British Guiana, as reported by Dr. William Hall Holden, who has just returned after an exploration among the Wei, Wei, or so-called White Indians. According to Dr. Holden, the dental system of most of the savages is simple. They merely run a red-hot poker into the decayed tooth which explodes from the heat.—New York Times.

One hundred and two years ago, there being a surplus in the United States Treasury, President Andrew Jackson ordered the Treasury to distribute \$28,101,000 among the States. This was done and New York State received \$4,000,000. Since that time, the national surplus of 1838 has been resting undisturbed in a special fund, and the State Constitutional Convention, now meeting, has before it a proposal to give the Legislature power to spend the money. Well, maybe it's all right. But our idea would be that New York State should hang onto that fund—preserve it, perhaps, in a shrine of some sort as a rare historical relic. It is likely that a long, long time ago the State will get another cut from the United States Treasury surplus.—New York World-Telegram.

The London Country Council this week given a notable lead towards the improvement of conditions for nurses. At present the conditions for nurses are most of all from excessive hours of labor, which are unworkable when employed two shifts of nurses are employed in hospitals. The C.C.C. has proposed the benefit of a 9-hour fortnight, and will therefore involve the nurses in public institutions. The reform is bound to be costly, but it is abundantly necessary if standards of service are to be maintained and if satisfactory recruitment for the profession is to be ensured.—New Statesman and Nation (London).

One of the unique features of hot-spring cures in Japan is that patients, when visiting a watering place, rarely ever ask for their doctor's advice. This is because each and every spa has its own traditional method of bathing. The proprietor of a hot-spring inn that has a long history usually possesses the expert knowledge of what his water is good for, how the springs should be used externally or internally, to what sort of diet the patient should be put on. His advice and suggestions about bathing, born not so much of theory as of experience, are well worth taking when he would not have pin their faith on his advice and take the baths without any feeling of uneasiness.

During the depression—a very few years in the life of a nation—the population of the United States increased to the extent of the entire population of Canada. Yet may say that that proves nothing, in view of the present volume of unemployed in our country. But as I said before, four or five years is a short time in the life of a nation. Look further back, can't you see, as so many of our economic doctrinaires do, the past few years as a base for any kind of so-called business calculation. Take, for instance, the enormous population growth of the world during the greatest era of human advancement in history—the thirty-odd years of the industrial revolution—and then one can gather some appreciation of the remarkable absorptive power of the prevailing system of economics which we are told has utterly failed to function.—The Financier.

If a man enjoys his work, and he is physically and mentally equal to doing it efficiently, there are very good reasons why he should go on working. And these reasons are valid in the case of men who are so single-minded that their work is also their hobby. But for the most part, and for the vast majority of men, the reason for their going on working is that they have no other means of recreation and amusement so readily available in so many different forms, the average man, if he is not a workaholic, will retire at sixty if he were able to continue living in modest comfort. The old conception of the man as being broken down by the introduction into offices and factories of machines that can do as much work in a day as a man could do in a week has become in many ways less satisfying to the individual than it used to be. Craftsmanship has decayed, and one cannot expect to take so much pride and pleasure in operating a machine that manufactures a wide unit as his grandfather did in making his job himself by hand.—Glasgow Herald.

As we have said here before, the prospects for recovery in the second half of this year appear to be pretty good.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

GARDENS FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Sir.—A news item under the above heading will, I fear, leave an incorrect impression in the minds of the people of Charlottetown. It is true that on the first day there were only five applicants for gardens in the Lawson enclosure. Since then, however, that number has been trebled, and there are quite a number of individual gardens being worked upon in other parts of the City, some of them making an excellent start.

The above figures, however, are admittedly disappointing and in seeking an explanation one wonders whether the City relief system has not deprived our unemployed of a desire to assist themselves. There were about 600 Charlottetown families on relief last winter and from one to two hundred others, the breadwinners of which were unemployed, and not even five per cent of these people have taken advantage of the offer being made to them of a good sized lot, ploughed and harrowed, together with the gift of manure, fertilizer, seeds, including certified potatoes, cabbage and tomato plants and insecticides, along with the necessary tools to those who have not had previous gardening experience.

The fact that a man is at work during the day should not prevent him from his family from attending to a garden in their evenings and other spare time, particularly as employment with most of these people is not continuous. In the City of Amherst, N. S., where the population is only 40% of that of Charlottetown, free gardens are being worked in the City for four years and this year 40% of them are being cultivated. It would seem to me that, when applying for relief money next winter, one of the first questions to be asked would be "Did you cultivate a garden last summer? If not, why not?" I am, Sir, etc., H. K. S. HEMMING.

LAW MAKERS AND LAW BREAKERS

Sir.—In a recent issue of the Pioneer there appeared an item that attracted my attention re seed grain distribution and violation of the law, perjury and so forth. I would like to know what constitutes a case of perjury in the Government's eye, but it is a good sign to know that the Government is going to back up one of its laws.

Several good citizens of this district who ordered oats through the Government, which stated they had no more, were told that the grain was for seed purposes only, but a J.P. man specially appointed for the purpose went no farther as they were in need of some feed for their horses as badly as seed. The only plain shows that no man who knew what had his hand in making it, and the humane side was entirely left out. Poor people who lost their crop and had to buy most of their feed for cash were forced to mortgage their homes for a few bushels of seed, whether they could get it into the ground or not. This would be all right if everything was run on the same basis and everybody appointed was living up to the oath of office. If they did as the appointees in the Minister's home town there would be nobody sworn, as all from our district got their grain without making every day. These decisions know what happened to a man we know of who was living up to the oath of office as road foreman and was told to sign a statement in forms without the necessary oath or stand for privilege from anyone.

This man did not please the Minister or his colleague, and we are told, four of the community and had to be dismissed from office, notwithstanding a petition signed by 90% of the voters in a recognized Liberal poll and though he had the best roads in the western section of the Island. Although a very wet low section he did not have one place this spring where cars would get stuck. Now this man got in wrong with the representatives of the Second District when he would not have anything to do with the placing of an unnecessary government tube to possibly retain a couple of votes for his party.

Now I would like to know just the kind of oath the Government ministers take. It would appear that it must be to do the people in this case the unjust use of Government funds in the proposed placing of the Government tube referred to above. I will conclude by asking whether is the party bound? I am, Sir, etc., NEIL BOUTLER.

Glenwood O'Leary R.R.

But it would be wise not to attach too much importance to the armament orders currently being placed in this country. There may be enough of them to provide an important stimulus to business activity and employment, but they cannot in themselves create real prosperity. They have not done so in Britain, where their volume has been very much greater than anything likely to be experienced here. When Britain's building boom slumped, general trade declined, despite enormous orders for armaments of all kinds placed in this country. What is happening in Britain seems to confirm the lesson we have already had from the United States, that government spending is of little avail when general business activity has definitely taken a downward trend. The conditions responsible for that downturn must be reversed before sustained recovery is possible.—Saturday Night.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE DWARFS

Design or chance makes others wife, But nature did this match contrive; Give might as well as Adam fled, As she denied her little bed To him, for whom Heaven seemed to frame. And measure out this only dame. Thrice happy is that humble pair, Over whose heads those arrows fly. Of sad distrust and jealousy, Secured in as high extreme. As if the world held none but them. To him the fairest nymphs do show Like moving mountains topped with snow. And every man a Polyphemus Doth to his Galatea seem; None may presume her faith to prove. He professes death who professes love. Ah! Chloris, that kind nature thus From all the world had severed us, Creating 'or ourselves us two, As love has me for only you. —Edmund Waller (1608-87).

GOT HIM BY HEAD

(By The Canadian Press) MELBOURNE—It might be a good idea if Harry Wilson, 22, turned over a burglar poked his head into Wilson's window and he applied a headlock which held until police arrived.

BACK TO NIGHTGOWNS

(By The Canadian Press) AUCKLAND, N. Z.—It isn't that men patients at Auckland Hospital are going 'sissy' but they're wearing women's nightgowns, the laundry being unable to handle the required quantity of pajamas.

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That Body of Yours By James W. Barton, M.D.

THE BODY, LIKE A MACHINE NEEDS TO BE CHECKED OVER

During the war one of the most experienced and careful fliers began to make poor landings. An examination showed that he had infected tonsils the poison from which circulating in his blood interfered with his eyesight. Within a few days after the removal of the tonsils, his landings were faultless.

Drs. Ferec and Rand in The Archives of Ophthalmology state: "It seems strange that so much care is taken to see that the plane is in perfect condition before a flight is undertaken and so little attention given to the condition of the aviator. While it is true that a human being cannot be treated as a machine, it is known that he is subject to many disturbances from day to day that render him unfit for services which require supernormal fitness and proficiency and involve responsibility for human life and safety. It seems only reasonable, therefore, that the fitness of the aviator as well as the fitness of the plane he operates should be tested before each flight is undertaken."

I believe that most of us will agree that when the safety of the aviator himself and of the passengers who are entrusting their lives to him can, humanly speaking, be to a great extent assured, by a physical examination of the aviator before the time and cost are not worth any consideration. However, you and I are not aviators but we drive motor cars, and have home, social, and business decisions to make every day. These decisions require clearness of thought and fairness of judgment. You can thus see that our physical condition every day of our lives.

Therefore, just as an aviator should have a physical check-up, so should every one of us be checked over once or twice a year. An examination of our teeth, including X-ray every two or three years (often as we grow older), and a check-up of nose, throat, hearing, heart, bloodvessels, lungs, kidneys and weight, with correction of any defects, again humanly speaking, can give up insurance for our daily responsibilities.

While the body is more wonderful than a machine, and Nature is very generous to us despite our carelessness and neglect, nevertheless the annual or semi-annual physical examination is a great investment.

The Poets' Corner

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Omnibus Bill (Halifax Chronicle)

Legal minds, both lay and professional, in the House of Commons will have a field day with the new "omnibus bill" for amendments to the Criminal Code which has just been introduced by the minister of justice, the Hon. Mr. Lapointe. Mr. Lapointe's bill deals with a wide variety of subjects and includes a number of proposals for important changes in the code. It would seem to offer an abundance of material for argument and discussion.

It is interesting to see the bill reflects a growing consciousness that something must be done to take the wear and tear of the highway slaughter is to grow less and less. It is as well to emphasize once again that a good law is not enough. It must be supported by a general willingness on the part of the public to observe that law and must be further supported by active enforcement of its provisions without fear of penalties.

One amendment would make failure to stop after an accident prima facie evidence of intent to escape liability and would also increase the penalties for such an offence. This is aimed directly at the hit-and-run driver, one of the most deplorable curses of modern times. It is unlikely that this amendment has been stimulated by a series of hit-and-run tragedies in Ontario this year which have shocked the Central Provinces.

Another amendment would make reckless driving an offence, whether or not an accident occurs or damage results. Penalties would range as high as two years imprisonment and \$1000 fine or both on conviction in any of the higher courts. This is a good one. There is no place on the highway for the reckless driver and it is necessary to curb his reckless, and in some cases, deliberate, before an accident occurs. After the accident may be too late. A province can only legislate for its own boundaries but another proposed amendment to the Criminal Code would make it possible for magistrates and judges to cancel such licences, effective all over Canada. This too seems to be a reasonable move.

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