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

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1940.

Momentous Battles

Not since the outbreak of the war has such stirring news been recorded as that which appears in today's despatches, relating as it does a series of epic exploits of the British Navy and Air Force along a thousand miles of Norwegian coast alone.
The struggle has been compared with the battle of Jutland in the last Great War, in which the German navy suffered a decisive defeat. But the forces engaged in the present naval, air and coastal conflict are of far greater magnitude. While the fighting is still in progress, it is wise to restrain one's optimism. Heavy losses have been incurred, and are inevitable in such a tremendous offensive as the Allies have launched. But from the fragmentary stories received there is already "every indication that Germany has lost enough tonnage to cripple her naval forces and render them impotent as a striking force for the rest of the war." This is amazing news, climaxing as it does the boastful assurances of the Nazi leaders that their sudden thrust into Denmark and Norway had checked the Allies' blockade measures. It is now evident that this move on Germany's part was anticipated, and that the conflict now in progress was the result of a concerted Allied plan of breaking the deadlock on the Western Front.
The Norwegian cities of Bergen and Narvik, reported to have been captured by British forces, are of great importance strategically. They are widely separated, Narvik lying far to the north is the chief centre of Norway's iron ore export.
The Allied attack seems to have been launched at every vital point, but chiefly in the heavily guarded Skaggerak, the waterway dividing the southern end of Norway from Denmark and leading directly both to Oslo, the Norwegian capital, and the Kattegat which in turn gives access to Copenhagen and to the straits leading into the Baltic. The heaviest concentration of German ships and mines is in these waters.
Events are moving with startling swiftness toward a climax which may determine the outcome of the war.

Norway The Pacifist

The Government of Norway, which has just been swept away by the Germans, was an All Labour pro-Communist one. It came into power on a Communistic-tinted and anti-military platform and, except for the indefinable character of the Russian Government and some Australian State governments, it was one of the most "Leftist" governments in the world. Like the other previous rather anti-military Scandinavian governments, the Norwegian Government was ultimately compelled to go in for rearmament and raised its national budget by some 50 per cent for the coming fiscal year to defray the cost. It, however, still proceeded cautiously and reluctantly, and lagged, even proportionately to population and resources, far behind Sweden. But it was apparently ahead of Denmark and what may prove decisive for the fighting morale of the population—it had been forced to drop the anti-military doctrine and adopted the hated military methods and fighting slogans hitherto attributed only to the "predatory capitalists." The turning point in the doctrine of conversion appeared to have come when even the proletarian government of Russia turned predatory and embarked on military conquest. As late as 1938 all efforts in Norway to stimulate rearmament were denounced by the dominant Labor Party as "Marxism." Now Norway has repeated what it sowed and is over-run by the enemy.

Wartime Price Advances

Noting that the wartime advance in Canadian wholesale prices has been about 15%, the current Monthly Review of the Bank of Nova Scotia states that this increase "is certainly no greater than was to be expected in view of the general upsurge in the markets for basic commodities, the 10% decline in the Canadian dollar, and the rapidity of the expansion in industrial output."
Today, indeed, the volume of production in Canada is even higher than at the recovery peak of 1937, while the price level is still somewhat lower. There is no indication of any inflationary trend, for, with due allowance for the decline in the exchange rate, prices in Canada are in line with those in the United States and in recent weeks have almost ceased to rise.
Referring to the price changes affecting the three leading basic industries, the Review observes that the prices of farm products have recorded a net gain of about 20% since last August and that the prices of forest products and non-ferrous metals have risen by about half as much. While agricultural prices have thus risen substantially, they are nevertheless still relatively depressed as compared with the prices obtained by the forest and mining industries. Prices of forest products, which did not suffer any serious decline in the recession following 1937, have advanced to a comparatively high level. In the case of non-ferrous metals, the increase in prices was probably limited by the contracts negotiated by the British Government with base metal producers. None the less, these contracts have provided an assured market for the bulk of the Canadian output at a reasonable price and, apart from the speculative extremes of late 1936 and 1937, the current level of the non-ferrous metal index is ap-

precipately higher than in recent years.
The wartime increase in the price level has brought a somewhat better state of balance between the prices of farm products and those of manufactured goods, i.e. the terms of trade between the country and the city have improved. The farm price index which is now at 70 (1926-100) is about 15% lower than that of manufactured goods, whereas last August it was 20% lower. "This is a welcome improvement," says the Review, "but it is less than might have been expected in the light of the experience of earlier periods of rising prices." In part, the explanation is fairly simple: the advance in farm prices was limited by the world-wide abundance of foodstuff supplies, and especially of wheat, and also by the careful buying policies of the Allied Governments.
In part, however, the explanation lies on the other side—in the suddenness and extent of the advance of prices of manufactured goods which by February were 12% higher than before the war. Perhaps the leading reason for this was the substantial increase in raw material costs and the advance was hastened by the general protective buying wave at the beginning of the war. An additional influence was to be found in the fact that a number of the manufacturing industries were approaching capacity operations shortly after the outbreak of war, and with the continued receipt of new orders prices were advanced readily.

New Brunswick "In The Red"

The financial position of New Brunswick is so critical that four Canadian Banks and a financial expert are in conference to see if they can find a way out. The story is that one of the last acts of the Dysart Government was to meet \$800,000 which fell due on March 2. There was no money for the purpose, and the Banks refused to provide it. This was taken care of "temporarily," \$100,000 being paid out of sinking fund and the balance carried over as a "refund." When he discovered the situation on current account and that there was a deficit of \$875,000 Hon. J. J. Hayes Doone the new Secretary Treasurer refused to carry on and tendered his resignation which was not accepted, and he was persuaded to continue in office with the assistance of Mr. James C. Thompson, a Montreal chartered accountant. The Montreal man is a former special auditor for Alberta and from 1937 to 1939 was director of the public accounts inquiry of the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial relations. Bank representatives who met the government were: T. B. Weatherbe, Montreal, manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce; T. H. Atkinson, Montreal, supervisor of the Royal Bank of Canada; B. C. Gardner, Montreal, assistant general manager of the Bank of Montreal, and H. L. Enman, Saint John, supervisor of the Bank of Nova Scotia.
Indications are that no public announcement of Mr. Thompson's findings will be made immediately, although Mr. Doone may incorporate in his budget speech some of the revelations contained in his report.

EDITORIAL NOTES

This libel is from Janus of The Spectator: "What's the meaning of this rush of Scotsmen into the airforce?" "Oh, didn't you know? They heard Walter Elliot say in a broadcast that every cloud has a silver lining."
Are the Government and the medical doctors as a body, in the liquor racket? We have reason to believe that 10,000 scripts were issued and "honoured" in one month, while in three months last summer no fewer than 25,000 scripts were "honoured"! Pity the "poor" sick.
To what are we coming to when a department of the government dares to tell the Legislature that too much work would be entailed supplying answers to questions by a member of the Legislature? This is the natural sequel to the Premier allowing the officials to run the government. Bureaucracy rules supreme.

We have been drawing attention to the criminality of piling up debts and indulging in borrowings by the Government, and now we see the folly nearer at hand than in Newfoundland. Premier Dysart hastened to a safe seat in the County Court bench, leaving his successors and the Banks to shoulder the consequences of his financial folly as head of the Government.

A countryman, whose concern as to the weather has been revived by the absence of general forecasts, said that "There will be a new moon Saturday. We have had two white frosts on Thursday and Friday, so we shall certainly have rain at the week end." The general belief that the moon affects the weather is as widespread as the conviction that a pig killed in the waning moon will give indifferent meat. The experts unite in saying that almost every local theory is without justification; St. Swithin's, the changing moon's influence, the fore-knowledge of inland-moving gulls, the curse of the three ice saints, the budding of ash and oak; the country prophet is left only with his warning of the red sun in the morning; and that is as old as Genesis. Yet some of us will continue to associate both birds and the moon with coming weather.

Somehow one had always the impression that Eilihu Root was one of the class of politicians to which Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. W. S. Fielding belonged, brilliant but poor. Not so however. He left an estate of almost three million dollars, or \$2,801,130, to be correct. The executors, who are his two sons receive \$575,042 each. The trustees of Hamilton College have received their \$200,000 legacy, and bequest of \$5,000 each have been paid to the Beta Chapter of the Sigma Phi Society in Hamilton College, the Century Association, Kirkland Town Library Association, and the Presbyterian (Stone) Church in the village of Clinton, N.Y. Other public bequests of \$1,000 each have been paid to the Oneida Historical Society, the Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church in the village of Vernon, the Roosevelt Memorial Association, the State Charities Aid Society, the New York Association for the Blind, American Federation of Arts, Law Institute. The document also shows that sixteen individuals received sums totalling \$66,700.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Recent surveys of automobile fatalities have shown that the great majority of accidents are caused by a small minority of drivers, many of them previous offenders. In other words, your average driver is not a pretty safe driver, while, relatively, a small number of drivers contribute danger and death to the highways. —Guelph Mercury.

Mayor Morrison of Hamilton addressed a banquet of Boy Scouts, and said he had never known of a Scout who appeared in court. That same claim has been made before, and while it does not in any way describe the Boy Scout movement it is worth repeating in an age when youth and crime are becoming miserably linked together. —Peterborough Examiner.

April in England again with all the old familiar smells and sounds and scents and colors, but of something more that no poet has yet harnessed and which no painter has depicted and no artist has captured in his brush, as if these people had taken Spring for their own and long ago perfected it. April in England and it is worth repeating in an age when youth and crime are becoming miserably linked together. —Vancouver Sun.

Lloyd's Medal for saving life, first issued in 1840, depends on the act of receiving from the marine goddess Leucothea a scarf (kredentz) with the words (Odysee v. 334).
This magic girdle round thy bosom bind
Live on and cast thy anchors to the wind!
The Royal Navy has drawn upon it for the purpose of not a few of its ships, and the medals are given for many technical services. We are not, however, in the ideal name for the medal, but the girdle now being fitted to our ships? —From a Letter to London Times.

One of the holes that will have to be plugged in foreign exchange control is the bootlegging of tin cans. People can buy Canadian money in Detroit or any American city at a much lower rate than the charge stipulated by the Government. If a Canadian dollar can be bought for 85 cents or so in some quarters money can be made by manipulating funds so that American money is sent to the regular channels and then used to buy Canadian funds through irregular channels. A profit can be shown on the transaction. It is difficult to know how to regulate the bootlegging of tin cans, but the selling of exchange is going on. It is not always easy to use large sums without being discovered, but in small amounts it is not so easy to check on the transactions. As the war goes on Canadians can expect many pronouncements by which the rules will be drawn tighter and tighter. That is part of the so-called economic front. —W. L. Clark, in Windsor Star.

Police have tried various methods of coping with the menace of the hit-and-run driver and by far the most effective has been the use of one which has been adopted by several cities in the United States. A civic ordinance requires that every garage which gets a repairing job to do must suggest a collision of some kind, however small, immediately must report to the police. If they have an unusual case on their hands, their hands the police go at once to him to give an account of his movements at the time of the accident. Garage owners are forbidden to fix the car and let it go until the police give them authority to do so. Some cities, even with large ones, claim they have eliminated the hit-and-run driver by this system. Drivers who have had collision accidents and a clear conscience go themselves to the police. In fact, if a driver does not do so, cast a suspicious eye on himself, if there is any outstanding case unsolved. —Stratford Beacon-Herald.

A vast number of curious customs have sprung up during the last few years in the lower reaches of cafe society. More often than not, it seems, a couple will announce their engagement before becoming divorced from their legal mates. Meteor in this odd social set, think nothing of announcing that they are going to marry so and so, willy-nilly, instead of shyly saying, "I'm afraid you'll have to ask the lady." And as for the parents of the intended bride, that obviously is an outworn relic of old times. Therefore it comes as a shock, though a fresh and welcome one—to read that the future of a glamorous 16-year-old show-girl, discussing her reported betrothal to a 40-year-old glamorous Broadway character (which betrothal had been made public by the aforesaid glamorous Broadway character in a New York night club), had this to say: "I want to know when kind of my daughter is marrying. Let her come here (California) and talk to me. How execrably old-fashioned!" —New York Herald Tribune.

Sir — You publish a picture of the Admiralty Board Room. At the side of it is a comment that nobody knows the origin of the half-circle cut in the end of it. Legend says it was to accommodate a corpulent Parliamentary Secretary; but it is a legend. Forgive me, but there is no more legend. The circle was cut for my uncle, George Ward Hunt (who appears, curiously enough, in the same issue as a member of Dunsraell's Cabinet of 1877). He was the father of the present Admiral Sir Thomas Hunt, K.C.B., and brother to my mother. She often told me, and of the table. He weighed 24 stone, and was successively First Lord of the Admiralty and Chancellor of the Exchequer. When he kissed hands Queen Victoria made one of her rare jokes, and said, "You will add weight to our counsels." I have known of the table all my life, and Admiral Sturdee used to say to me, "We can't get Ward Hunt's table, but it is a true legend, though not true of a Parliamentary Secretary, but of the First Lord of some 80 years ago—Walter Carey, Earl-Downe. —Buckley Water Carey in London Sunday Times.

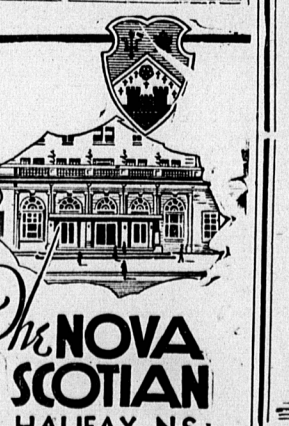
Province Hailed As "Most Exemplary"

"Bookman" in The Winnipeg Free Press
The smallest territorial province in Canada, Prince Edward Island, has been hailed in some respects the most exemplary of our nine provinces. Its discoverer, Jacques Cartier (1534) named it Isle St. Jean. The native Indians had a poetic name, Abegweit, meaning "lying like a leaf on the water"; and for long, "Garden of the Gulf" has been linked with "The Island," as those abroad who were born there name it in conversation. A little book, "Tales of Abegweit," by B. Brimmer, will give you every one of the Island's place-names with origins and meanings. Its history is well known through many writers including Archibald Harry and Malcolm Macquenn (in "Skye Finneers").

Here comes a book on "The Selkirk Settlers and the Church: Built at Belfast." (Presbyterian Publications, Toronto). The author, Ada MacLeod Putnam, has written the history of St. John's Church for the Selkirk. The Selkirk gave the land—and also an interesting sketch of the settlement. Her book will be welcomed by those who have a personal connection with P. E. Island. Her motto suits the Church on the hill: "Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth is Mount Zion." Her Selkirk Settlers are the same type of Scots as those of the Red River. The frontispiece is a plan of the Selkirk, and there are portraits of full page of nine successive ministers, but none of the first, though there is one of his wife.

One of Selkirk's men went back to Scotland and told his countrymen that P. E. Island was an earthly paradise, everything there that was needed to build homes; also that the Indians were Christians and that "a bear hunt was the best sport in the world." Such a successful agent was he, that Selkirk gave him 200 acres for himself, but he gave the colony 87,000 acres. The life of these pioneers is described in the current honorary type of Scot, "How are you Sandy?" "Oh, I can't complain, Sandy not too uplified. Or, "Fine weather, Don't you say, it might be worse, but it won't last. Praise was sparse lest it spoil the young; "You'll never be like your grandmother."
They faced all the pioneering hardships with steady industry and courage, men and women, notably the women, to whom Mrs. Putnam has done justice. They earned it down by the sea as they did at the Red River. Education for their children was an immediate concern, the schoolmaster was a meagre salary migrated here and there in the scattered community, living in the homes, a week at a time, teaching his pupils reading, writing and arithmetic, a small fee charged for each child. "He did that thoroughly, accompanied with general applications of the birch rod," being spiritually minded. The pioneers were parents of large, healthy, happy young families that provided all their gamey themselves—singing, fiddling, dancing, story-telling.

An interesting sketch is of Dr. Angus MacAulay, who gave the scattered Belfast community their first regular, public church services. At his own expense he built a chapel. He had come out with the colonists as a medical doctor, but though never ordained, he had been an army chaplain. In this capacity of physician and spiritual teacher, he had a wide influence far beyond the settlement. For one thing, he knew the Gaelic, which no minister in the island knew. When a preacher and pastor had been sent out from Scotland, Dr. MacAulay was sought for the local parliament. A document, signed over one hundred years ago, has been discovered, which was an appreciation of the services of Dr. MacAulay sent by the simple men of the island to the Governor of the Island.
The original St. John's Church was built in 1824, and opened without any sort of ceremony. The people built it slowly with their own willing hands, and the architectural design was by the same man who built that fine old colonial building, Government House in Charlottetown. The tower and spire as shown in the frontispiece described in the text, were added in 1880. There is a single page in Mrs. Putnam's history of Settlers and Church in Belfast.



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LOST LOVE

His eyes are quickened so with grief,
He can watch a grass or leaf
Every instant grow; he can
Clearly through a flint wall see,
Or watch the startled spirit flee
From the throat of a dead man;
Across two countries he can hear,
And catch your words before you
The weak
Clamor rings in his sad ear;
And noise so slight it would surpass
Creedence—drinking sound of grass,
Worm-talk, clashing jaws of moths
Chumbling tiny holes in cloth;
The groan of ants who undertake
Gigantic loads for honor's sake,
Their sinesw creak, their breath
comes thin;
Whir of spiders when they spin,
And minute, whispering, mumbling
signs
Of idling grubs and flies.
This man is quickened so with grief,
He wanders god-like or like thief
Inside and out, below and above,
Without relief seeking lost love.
—Robert Graves.

Nazi Financial Sleight-Of-Hand

(Genevieve Tabouis in "The New Republic")
On last January 29, Hitler decided to accept Schacht's famous plan which no dictator in history has ever dared to apply to his country. By means of rationing cards, purchases of all Germans, of whatever class, have been standardized. Goering on the advice of a committee of the Workers' Front and the Ministry of Economics, then fixed the supplementary expenditures which all categories of citizens may make (provided they are justifiable), such as special expenses occasioned by marriages, funerals, etc.
It was decreed that all salaries should be unchanged for the duration of the war, but that any excess over what is necessary for "standardized purchases" shall not be paid to any salaried worker. The difference is to be credited to the workers in a national savings bank which will issue in return "credit bonds payable after the war." Holders of such bonds can exchange them for government debentures but, during the war, they cannot obtain the smallest sum over and above what is necessary for "standardized purchases." The new German law decrees that "after the conclusion of peace and according to the rate of payment of war reparations by the vanquished countries," the bonds will be redeemed. These salary "credits" constitute an enormous sum for the Reich, and it is on the basis of them that Hitler plans to calculate war indemnities.
These innovations are to be enforced immediately by the Finance Minister and the Minister of Economy. The Propaganda Bureau received the order to interpret these measures as "voluntary donations" of the community, in accordance with the great principle of National Socialism: "You, citizen

"WORN OUT" AND WORRIED

Dragging around each day, unable to do housework—cranky with the children—feeling miserable. Blaming it on "nerves" when the kidneys may be out of order. When kidneys fail the system clogs with impurities. Headaches—backache, frequently follow. DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS help clear the system, giving nature a chance to restore health and energy. Easy to take. Safe. 116
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PRICE PER BOX 50 CENTS.

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10c Per Fig Straight



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The Boys Depend on the "Y"
The "Y" Depends on YOU!

bank which will issue in return "credit bonds payable after the war." Holders of such bonds can exchange them for government debentures but, during the war, they cannot obtain the smallest sum over and above what is necessary for "standardized purchases." The new German law decrees that "after the conclusion of peace and according to the rate of payment of war reparations by the vanquished countries," the bonds will be redeemed. These salary "credits" constitute an enormous sum for the Reich, and it is on the basis of them that Hitler plans to calculate war indemnities.
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