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

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1942.

A Tribute to Sir Stafford

When Sir Stafford Cripps was expelled from the British Labour Party for advocating too advanced socialistic policies, he was aided and abetted by two colleagues who followed him "into the wilderness," viz. Mr. George Douglas Howard Cole, Reader in Economics, Oxford University, and author of a whole library on economic and social subjects, and Professor Harold J. Laski, Professor of Political Science in the University of London, and previously Lecturer in History at McGill University. The latter has been writing his views on his former colleague and his new appointment, and here is the gist of them: "Mr. Churchill acted handsomely and with wisdom (with reference to adverse criticism in the House of Commons and Press). He has not done enough, perhaps, to satisfy the tadpoles and Babus of the House of Commons; perhaps he never can whilst he remains himself Prime Minister.

"But he has done enough to convince the country of his anxiety to learn from misfortune. It does not need conviction about his resolution and courage. The important act in the drama is closed; the stage is set for the emergence of a new phase.

"It is not, I think, beyond the facts to say that, Mr. Churchill apart, the figure upon which the public will mostly fix its attention is Stafford Cripps. He has come back from Moscow with a great reputation; and he has come back free from party ties. In his early fifties, for 10 years an outstanding lawyer of his time, a debater of first class quality, a man of passionate conviction, eager and vivid, with something of Mr. Churchill's own dynamic quality, of the younger generation of politicians, no one has aroused the 'same emotions either of enthusiasm or of indignation.'

"He is a man without fear. He is unafraid to be himself. He has not been afraid to go out into the wilderness. He speaks his mind with cleansing forthrightness. He has the kind of ability which can never be ignored.

"Stafford Cripps has defects. He is never an easy member of a team. He has been content to work with second-rate colleagues whose affirmation he has often mistaken for confirmation. He has too rarely understood why Burke said that prudence is the first of the political virtues. He has had too little patience with the slow, fumbling instinct of the trade union movement. But he has the crusader's energy for getting things done.

"He has a swift simplicity of approach which makes him see big things in a big way. He gives the whole of himself to his cause; and he gives himself without counting the cost to his career. He is the Leader of the House of Commons today because the nation willed that Mr. Churchill put him there."

This is a handsome and sincere tribute from one who went out "into the wilderness" with Sir Stafford and knows the stuff of which he is made.

Hard to Follow

Of all the King Government's press supporters, the *Winnipeg Free Press* is probably the ablest and most consistent. Yet even the *Free Press* has had to cut some amusing capers in order to keep up with Premier King's gyrations on the conscription question.

At one stage, the Free Press was against either a general election, a referendum or a plebiscite, and argued that Parliament was vested with full powers to deal with the problem of recruiting. Later, when the Government produced the plebiscite scheme, it began to see merit in it, but it entered this caveat about the nature of the appeal to the people:

"Of course a referendum, if resorted to, will ask for a decision upon a definite problem, embodying a policy approved by the Government for which popular consent will be sought. Any other kind of referendum, under the circumstances now prevailing, would be open to strong and fatal objections. Consultation of the people in this instance should mean a definite reference to the people."

Now that the Government has formulated a plebiscite which does not begin to comply with this primary condition, the Free Press is lauding it as a wonderful device for preserving the national unity, and hurling buckets of abuse at anybody who suggests that it is a waste of time and money.

Come weal or woe for the cause of freedom, the ascendancy of the Liberal Party must be maintained!

Skyscrapers and Bombs

Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett, of New York, an architect who was prominently identified with the erection of Rockefeller Centre and the buildings at Chicago's Century of Progress Exhibition, believes that, if the bombing plane is to remain as a permanent instrument of warfare, a city with buildings no higher than four or five storeys would be safer and a better place in which to live than one filled with skyscrapers. He inclines to this view because history shows that no instrument of war devised by mankind has ever been discarded until a more terrifying weapon was produced to supersede it.

Skyscrapers are not necessary, anyway. When grouped, they cause congestion in the streets as their occupants enter or emerge from them at peak hours; they shut off light and air and become urban canyons which make heat waves hard to endure. Mr. Corbett used to admire the tall buildings and advocate their erection, but he has changed his mind with regard to them. Obviously, it would be easier in an air raid for people in a five-storey buiding to reach ground level or the street than for those in a fifty-storey building.

Buildings of the future may therefore weigh only about one-third of what they do now, and be of much lower height. Masonry, as it is now known, including brick, stone and cement, will not likely be used. Walls with a thickness of no more than three or four inches are felt to be ample for the new type of construction. Prefabricated and synthetic elements will replace the raw materials now so commonly employed. Buildings will be put up much quicker and be just as strong. If not over, the era of the skyscraper seems at least to be declining.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

It rained to some tune on the just and unjust alike Tuesday night and yesterday.

* * * *

The worst of Lent is that if we don't observe it Easter means nothing to us.

* * * *

Yes, March having come in as a lion, we may confidently look for the lamb.

* * * *

It would seem "Fifth Columnists" are busy in our midst doing all they can to discourage patriotism and encourage slackers.

* * * *

Victory Bond canvassers are not wearying in well doing—may the same be said of intending subscribers.

* * * *

Apart from the wealthy, the people of this great Dominion have three billion dollars in the Savings Banks. Couldn't a third of that be profitably invested in Victory Bonds?

* * * *

There are representatives from every province except Prince Edward Island on the $3,000,000 Canadian Army demonstration train travelling over the Dominion, we are told. Of course, our men must be on active service not in safety-first jobs.

* * * *

Time was when a great South Australian factory turned out popular makes of cars like sausages from a machine. Now it is ejecting anti-tank guns faster than anything in the United States.

* * * *

One hundred and eighty thousand pounds in loans has been guaranteed by the Commonwealth Government to 45 dairy factories to help to supply Britain with 40,000 tons of cheese a year. Most of the money will extend existing plant, much will convert butter factories to cheese production.

* * * *

Sir Stafford Cripps quit his large practice at the bar because, he said, he was tired of taking large sums of money from one capitalist to give it to another capitalist. Thereafter, (according to Time) he became even better known for his Christianity, vegetarianism (he was nicknamed "Christ and Carrots") and socialism. Like Winston Churchill he constantly foretold the war, attacked the appeasers, and favoured British-Russian alliance against Hitler.

* * * *

Unlike Prime Minister King, President Roosevelt rejects the idea of keeping the U. S. forces at home to defend the U. S. A. pointing out that then no aid could be sent to China; the south west Pacific would fall to the Japanese, who would then be able to launch large-scale attacks on the U. S. and Alaska; that Turkey, the Suez Canal, North and West Africa would fall to the Nazis; that the British and Russan efforts would be crippled. Such "foolish advice," he says, would result in a "turtle policy," whereas Washington Government "prefers to retain the eagle as it is —flying high and striking hard."

* * * *

Fredrick Anton Mesmer, Austrian physician, born this date 1733; gave his name to a theory of animal magnetism now commonly called mesmerism; induced usually by the subject fixing his eyes on some small object in such a position that there is a slight muscular strain in gazing at it, and passively allowing the hypnotizer to suggest to him the ideas of weariness of the limbs, heaviness of the eyes and sleep, the mesmeriser meantime passing his hands monotonously and slowly to or over the face; when the victim succumbs the mesmeriser makes him do whatever he commands him; posing as a magnician, Mesmer had great success in Paris for a long time but ultimately his theories were discredited, and relegated to the showmen of the music hall and country fairs.

* * * *

So far as the progress of the war goes, the Axis unfortunately is in a better position than ever to squeeze both Russia and India from east to west. Japan has not yet made war on Russia, but is jockeying herself into a position to do so to her best advantage. To off-set this Britain and the U. S. A. could join with China in a counter-pincer on the East Indies. This would have to be done, according to a well-informed authority, by building up a striking force in Australia sufficiently strong to work its way up through the Indies and make a juncture with the Chinese; it would have to be an Australian and a U. S. force, and would not be ready before April or May. In Europe, the United Nations could at the sametime put pincer pressure on Germany, provided sufficient reinforcements are available on the western front to correspond with the Russian pressure on the eastern border.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Accidentally tearing in two a Treasury note the other day (writes a correspondent), I took it to the bank and asked what they could do about it. It was all very simple—just a matter of sticking together the two pieces with stamp edging and signing it and the old note was exchanged for a brand-new one. But the bank manager mentioned that all such cases are not so simple. He recalled a recent instance of a man bringing in a badly torn note, of which some pieces were missing. For him the penalty was the filling up of a long list of questions. One of the most vital was "Where are the missing portions of the note?" To this he replied tersely: "Inside dog." Perhaps the authorities realized that after this succinct answer further inquiries were hopeless. At all events the explanation was accepted and the note promptly replaced. — Manchester Guardian.

It seems certain that by April Congress will have brought up to 150 billion dollars the war appropriations intended to carry on until July, 1945. All the gold mined in the world since the time of Columbus, even at $35 an ounce, would not supply one-third of that amount of money. If there were nine cities like New York and their real estate were sold at its assessed valuation, the receipts would not come to 150 billions. If all the real and personal property in the United States were sold at its taxable valuation the revenue would be just about what the United States plans to spend on the war in the next three years. The total amount of appropriations already made or in the legislative mill amount to about twice the national income in a prosperous year. — New York Sun.

Australian officials show wisdom by refusing to censor the radio reports of Mr. Cecil Brown, that candid commentator who has pointed out serious errors in the defence of Singapore. We can stand the truth, and be the better for it. Mr. Brown claims the earth was not scorched in the Malay Peninsula, that radio stations, steamers, warehouses of food, were left intact when the enemy came. A month ago, in Singapore itself, Mr. Brown was censored; but who will say now that that act helped in the fight for the great naval base? Let us squeeze every lesson we can from the Singapore struggle; that is the way forward for free men. To discuss the causes of the Singapore setback is now a first duty for all of us. What went wrong in the defence of the Malay Peninsula? Were the British too late in realizing that the natives were on their side, and needed to be armed? — just as people all over the world are on our side. if we would but know it and act accordingly. Truth is our ally. We want to know. — News York Post.

In my capacity as founder, president and sole member of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to English, I would reason mildly with the writer of an excellent article in the Times on Napoleon and Hitler regarding his commission of an all too common offence in the matter of the adverb "infinitely." "Russian resistance," he writes, "was infinitely greater in 1941 than in 1812." He illustrates this by saying that, both starting on June 22, Napoleon reached Mojaisk on September 9, Hitler not till the end of October. Infinity, therefore, boils down to roughly seven weeks. Some infinity. There are, I admit, cases where the use of "infinitely" is justified, or at any rate very nearly — to characterize the supersecrecy of some official communications, for instance. Here is one, a real case. An officer commanding a Home Guard platoon received in the latter part of December a familiar official buff envelope marked "Secret." Inside was a communication, also marked "Secret." It read: "For Distribution down to Platoon Commanders. Christmas 1941. To all volunteers of the — Home Guard. We at Zone Headquarters send our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. (Signed) ——,Zone Commander."—London Spectator.

Political complications in the Mediterranean are not smoothing the way for the Allies just now. The constitutional outburst in Egypt is curiously coincident with the German push back through Libya. A number of things seem too well timed to be wholly incidental. Young King Farouk of Egypt has all through the war been suspect in his adherence to the alliance with Britain, but has been restrained by the firm support given the Allies by the prime minister he has now dismissed. Italian influence has always been acceptable in Egyptian palace circles. It has never been eradicated and seems to have gained much the upper hand of late. Any constitutional crisis which would now range the young King and his supporters against the dismissed premier and those in support of the British alliance, would be of much concern to the British. For as they battle against the advance by the Germans in Libya, they would be uncertain of their position in Egypt at their rear. The timing of events bears the hall mark of Axis planning, General Rommel gets reinforcements to crush back the British in Libya and reaches near to the Egyptian border again. Goering and Mussolini meet as it becomes known that large-scale concentrations of bombers and airborne troops in Greece and Crete are ready to strike at Alexandria and the Suez. The enemy has intensified his submarine warfare in the eastern Mediterranean lessening the effectiveness of the British fleet there. — Winnipeg Free Press.

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.

HUGE ORDER FOR CANADIAN BEANS

Sir,—Britain has ordered ten thousand long tons of Canadian beans. The orders are being distributed by Ottawa throughout the Dominion. Are our Island farmers receiving their full share?

I am, Sir, etc.
H. K. S. HEMMING.

THE FERTILIZER GRANT

Sir:—Our friend Mr. R. A. Profitt in this morning's issue of your paper states that "I notice in your paper a report of a recent meeting of the Charlottetown Board of Trade in which R. E. Mutch questions my statement that the Federation of Agriculture was consulted regarding the nature of the fertilizer bonus."

I have read carefully, as I generally do, each issue of your paper, and I fail to find credited to me any words that can be construed to mean what Mr. Profitt states was in the copy he saw. Will he be good enough to supply the exact wording in his special copy. I might add that nothing was further from my thoughts than to question his statement, because I was without information on the subject.

As a matter of fact, the question was raised by Mr. Boulter when reporting to the Board of Trade on the result of his recent trip to Ottawa; he advised that the Board's resolution requesting that the farmer be permitted to use, if found desirable, a portion of the bonused fertilizer for his potato crop was not in accordance with the Government plan. He went on to state that the Government had decided that potatoes should not be included, and it was he, not the writer, who questioned the statement in Mr. Profitt's letter of the 23rd February that the Federation of Agriculture had been consulted; and when the chairman Mr. Ainsworth and the writer pointed out the fact that mangles and turnips had been added in the crop on which the bonus fertilizer might be used, we were perhaps accepting Mr. Profitt's statement. It was then that Mr. Boulter stated that he would investigate the matter.

The object behind the action of the Board of Trade was to assist the farmer on a small acreage of poor land, and without sufficient livestock to supply the manure needed to bring his land into production. The bonus, we were told, applies to only five tons of fertilizer to each farmer and cannot therefore have a very great bearing on the total potato production of the Province.

The resolution originally passed by the Board was on information supplied by two men who were present at the meeting, and who have had perhaps more to do with the agricultural development of the Province than any two other individuals, and the Board who co-operated with them felt they were taking the right course, and certainly had no thought of stirring up anything in the way of controversy.

I am, Sir, etc.,
R. E. MUTCH

The Principle Admitted

(New Glasgow Evening News)

The conscription with no limitations farce at Ottawa continues, with the comedians in the House playing to twelve million Canadians.

Mr. King occupied the stage in the latest laugh. Cornered on the question about Canadian trainees being needed in United States or Alaska to repel invasion of this continent, he admitted he would immediately send them under the War Measures Act and later have his action ratified by Parliament.

That this would also be a violation of his pledge not to have compulsory service in the army other than the defence of Canadian boundaries is obvious.

Obvious, too, is the fact that sending Canadian troops to United States or Alaska in case of invasion is plainly sensible. We have to fight the enemy where we find him and we would rather fight him before he gets to our boundaries.

But if Mr. King can violate his promise as far as Alaska and United States is concerned, then why spend a million and a half dollars, much paper, quantities of energy and waste the time of Parliament on this plebiscite.

Once the principle of sending troops (conscripted or otherwise) outside the boundaries is admitted in one case, why deny it to other cases?

The truth of the world situation today is in great danger even though our coasts are not immediately imperilled. We should be training men to fight anywhere the need arises to beat the enemies who endanger us; we should be utilizing all our other resources in a similar manner. This is an all-out war and we cannot afford to fight it on a limited basis in industry, finance or manpower.

The Poets' Corner

REVEILLE

Wake: the silver dusk returning
Up the beach of darkness brims,
And the ship of sunrise burning
Strands upon the eastern rims.

Wake: the vaulted shadow shatters,
Trampled to the floor it spanned,
And the tent of night in tatters
Straws the sky-pavilioned land.

Up, lad, up, 'tis late for lying:
Hear the drums of morning play;
Hark, the empty highways crying
"Who'll beyond the hills away?"

Towns and countries woo together,
Forelands beacon, belfries call;
Never land that trod on leather
Lived to feast his heart with all.

Up lad: thews that lie and cumber
Sunlit pallets never thrive;
Morns abed and daylight slumber
Were not meant for man alive.

Clay lies still, but blood's a rover;
Breath's a ware that will not keep.
Up, lad: when the journey's over
There'll be time enough to sleep.

—A. E. Housman.

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A Thought A Day For A People At War

"For every man, woman and child first things must come first. And the first and foremost requirement now is the winning of this war." — Dr. James Bryant Conant, president of Harvard University.

Doldrum Days

(Ottawa Journal)

These are doldrum days, all right. Even for the Senate. That distinguished body met on Tuesday for the first time since January 20. The session took 16 minutes, and except for the Speaker's announcement of the Secret Session here is the complete and uncensored Hansard report of proceedings:

Right Hon. Mr. Dandurand: "Honorable Senators, I had intended to make reference at this time to the sudden demise in the last adjournment period of one of our esteemed colleagues, the Hon. George Gordon, but I received a letter from a friend of his, who could not be present this evening, asking that any such references be postponed to our next sitting. I have, therefore, agreed not to make any remarks about the late Senator until the 10th March."

Right Hon. Mr. Dandurand: "Honorable Senators, when last month I moved adjournment until today I expected that the discussion on the Address in the Commons would be comparatively short and that some legislation would come to us for attention by this time. But, whereas we passed the Address in 48 hours, the House of Commons disposed of it only after a month's debate. In consequence of this, and taking cognizance of the time which will probably be required for the Commons to send us some legislation, I move that when the Senate adjourns this evening it stand adjourned until Tuesday evening, March 10, at 8 o'clock."

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned.

Well—there is a doldrum day for you. It seems that the difference between the Senate and the House of Commons is that the Senate adjourns when it has nothing to do.

No Dan McGrew?

(Ottawa Journal)

Somebody's always taking the joy out of life; some sadist, calling himself a realist, stripping us of fond illusions. Robert Service turns up in Hollywood to tell us that there was never such a person as Dan McGrew, and that consequently no one shot "Dangerous Dan" that night in a Yukon saloon, because Dan had got fresh with a "lady known as Lou".

Service says he just made Dan up in his mind. More, Service says there was nothing to the story of "The Cremation of Sam McGee", that either McGee hadn't felt the cold as much as Service wrote he did, or wasn't around to feel it.

We wish Service had kept quiet, especially after all these years. Because millions of us liked Dangerous Dan and felt sorry for McGee because he couldn't take it, and had a sneaking regard for "Lou"; and not a few of the old-timers had been in the saloon that night (it was clearly a big place) when Dan was mowed down by the distracted stranger who a few minutes before had been playing the piano hauntingly.

But this is the sort of world we live in. There are even people now who say they don't believe in ghosts. They will fall for "secret remedies" any day, or perhaps for a Spanish Lottery, or a rain-maker or even Social Credit, but tell them about fairies or the ghosts of pirates on the seacoasts or about the banshee, and they'll curl up their noses superior like.

And then, of course, there's the hateful tribe of "debunkers"; the people who write books to show us that Wolfe never recited Grey's Elegy that night before he attacked Quebec, and that Patrick Henry never exclaimed "give me liberty or give me death", and that George Washington never chopped down a cherry tree, and so on. They are all pests. It's a pity to see Robert Service joining them, throwing doubt on the careers of two men who had become great Canadians. And Service did it in Hollywood, of all places.

If this sort of thing keeps up, something will have to be done about it. For the next thing know they'll be telling us that th was no Nick Carter, that Fr Merriwell never hit that home in the last half of the ninth inn with two men out and no one bases, that nobody called Ca ever was at the bat at Mudv and that Jesse James and Younger boys never had existe There ought to be a law.

Victory can only be won by the united efforts of all our people.
We on the home front dare do no less than lend our money to the limit for the united support of those on the battle front and—

Buy the new

VICTORY BONDS

The Pure Milk Co., Ltd.

Tax on Consumers of Tobacc

The Health Tax Act, 1941

Effective as on and after the first day of March, 1942, a t of ten percent on all tobacco, with the exception of chewi tobacco, will be payable by all persons consuming or purchasing t same.

The Act requires that all Vendors of tobacco, in any fo must be in possession of a License authorizing them to sell tobac and the tax of ten percent on the value of all tobacco sold must collected by them at time of each retail sale.

Section 3 (Sub-section 3) of the Statute provides that "I wholesale vendor shall sell any tobacco in the Province for resale the Province to a person who is not a vendor duly licensed under t Part."

Receipts for delivery to purchasers, showing amount of t paid, will be supplied to Retail Vendors.

The minimum tax is 1c. In arriving at the tax, figure to t nearest half-cent; one-half or anything over the one-half cent considered as a cent. Anything less is to be omitted.

As an example:—On a 12c purchase, ten percent is 1-2, or o and one-fifth cents. As the fraction is less than one-half, t fraction is omitted and the tax becomes 1c.

On a 25c purchase, ten percent is 2.5 or 2 1-2c which calls f 3c to be paid.

Application forms for Wholesale and Retail Vendors License with any further information required, may be obtained from a c on Mr. F. J. E. Wright, Court House Building, Summerside, or communicating with the Supervisor of Taxation, Provincial Buil ing, Charlottetown.

ALL VENDORS OF TOBACCO ARE URGED TO MAKE APPL CATION FOR A LICENSE WITHOUT DELAY. NO FEE CHARGED FOR LICENSE.

C. J. STEWART,
COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH TA

Charlottetown,
Prince Edward Island,
February 24, 1942.

CIVIC TAX APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeal ha appointed Friday, March 13th at 9.30 A. M. in the Cit Court Room in the City Building as the time and place fo hearing all appeals from Civic valuations and assessment Dated February 28th, 1942.

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City of Charlottetow

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A delicately perfumed preparation which restores, strengthens and beautifies the hair.

It will restore gray hair to its original color, prevents Dandruff and stops falling hair.

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When old friends meet they usually produce their favorite Tobacco. In P. E. I. this is very often

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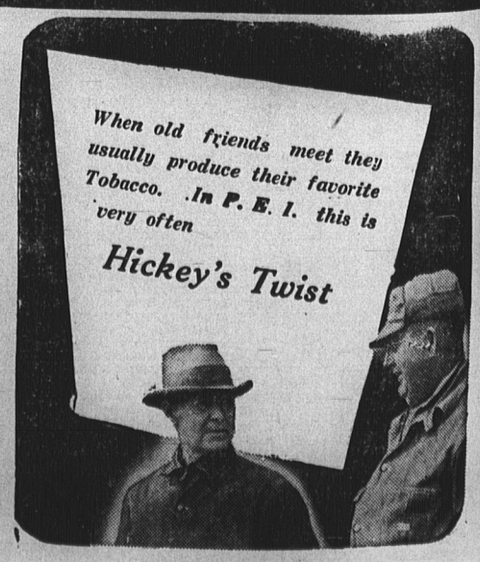

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