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

MONDAY, MARCH 4, 1940.

Prime Minister's Good Resolution

The adroit and astute Prime Minister intimates that he is going to keep a civil tongue in his head for the rest of the campaign. This is on the shrewd advice of some of his patronage advisers who have become fearful of being left out in the cold after the 20th inst. But could Mr. Mackenzie King say anything ruder, uglier, more uncharitable and uncalled for than he has already done? Actions speak louder than words, and Mr. King has scuttled the Ship of State, leaving the members afloat on the troubled waters of a general election. Could "Lord Haw-Haw" have said or done anything worse to rouse the resentment of all British-born true-blue loyalists? Then there was that assertion that no Liberal dare join in a National Government, and the cynical question—who are the leading Canadians Dr. Manion would ask to join in forming a National Government? As the Montreal Gazette, whose sympathy and support Mr. King is doing much to estrange, puts it, instead of challenging the possibility and practicability of a National Government, Mr. King should have been the first to suggest it and to endeavour to make it an accomplished fact. There are many more ways of being offensive besides using the spoken word, and the Prime Minister must have had his tongue in his cheek when he proclaimed that from henceforth he was going to be a good boy and refrain from "shooting his mouth" at his opponents.

Mr. Gardiner The Unreliable

A correspondent writes to the Gazette: In your report of Mr. J. G. Gardiner's speech at Wingham he says, "Those who wish to assist the farmer in hog production would be well to get the true facts and stay with them." Incidentally, if you will refer to Mr. Gardiner's statement in December last he is quoted as follows: "It is cheaper to produce hogs ready for the market in November than in May." At Wingham he stated: "The bonus will be given because it costs two cents a pound more to raise hogs in the summer than in the winter." Would it not be well for Mr. Gardiner to secure the correct information and thus save the criticism to which he objects. I wrote to him on the 20th of December last and pointed out this error, but he failed to acknowledge it, but it is this type of erroneous information which comes from the Minister of Agriculture which causes the farmer to hesitate, for he never knows just how long the market will last, especially if based on the theory which Mr. Gardiner first adopted and which he has now abandoned. As the Minister of Agriculture has been wrong on cheese, butter, apple pooling, and now on bacon, he cannot complain if he is criticized, nor that the farmer does not jump in to help him, when he will not ascertain the facts but rushes in heedlessly and with always incorrect information. We can raise hogs, and will do so, if we can be sure of buying feed throughout the year at the same price, without being raised because of our endeavors to supply the proper pork for the English market.

Eleven Lawyers In King Cabinet

How far the King Government's claim to be "representative" of the various classes of Canada is justified, may be gathered from the following analysis of the Liberal cabinet set up: Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council, Secretary of State for External Affairs—Lawyer, economist, author and civil servant. Government Leader in the Senate—Lawyer, financier. Minister of Justice—Lawyer. Minister of Finance—Lawyer. Minister of Public Works—Lawyer. Postmaster-General—Lawyer. Secretary of State (acting)—Lawyer. Minister of Pensions and National Health—Lawyer. Minister of National Revenue—Lawyer. Minister of Fisheries—Lawyer. Minister of Labour—Lawyer. Minister of National Defence—College Professor. Minister of Agriculture—School Teacher. Minister of Mines and Resources—School teacher, farmer and publisher. Minister of Trade and Commerce—School teacher and publisher. Minister of Transport—Financier, consulting engineer.

This is the cabinet that Prime Minister Mackenzie King wants the people to return to power—eleven lawyers out of a total ministry of 16 members. It's record has been not only one of inaction but one which has brought about disunity in the country by playing class against class, and race against race. Canada cannot afford to retain an administration such as at present is in power and effectively pursue her effort in the war.

Our Potatoes And N. B.'S

More and more attention is being given to the potato industry in New Brunswick, which is striving to make that province the potato centre, just as Ontario endeavoured to do in the case of the silver fox industry. They have a live organization in the Associated Potato Growers'

and Shippers of New Brunswick, and at a recent meeting a determined effort was made to prevent the importation from over the border of culls and low grade potatoes for the production of starch and allied products. A resolution was adopted to this effect, which pointed out further that the importation of low grade potatoes would increase disease in the potato industry and endanger the seed stock; that the importation of such low grade stock would depress the price of native low grade stock; that the native growers are receiving less for this type of stock than Maine growers and any increase in prices of starch products should be passed on to New Brunswick growers. The resolution also stated that any concession to cull and low grade potatoes from a foreign market should be reciprocal to the extent that exports to that country should be allowed at a countervailing rate. Another resolution dealt with the Cuban trade agreement. This pointed out that in the negotiations with the Cuban government for a new treaty the Canadian government should make provision to regain the former export market to Cuba for table stock. This request has been urged by the council for the past three years, but the Mackenzie King Government has done nothing in the matter.

A third resolution dealt with the South American market. This pointed out that there has been a great development of markets in South America for Canadian seed potatoes; that these southern countries have been anxious to extend their trade with Canada and consequently the Canadian government was urged to facilitate trade between the north and south particularly in potatoes and other Canadian exportable stock. Still another resolution dealt with the matter of the British embargo on Canadian potatoes. It was felt that the Canadian government should endeavor to have this embargo removed, as there was no proof that Canadian stock was any more disease affected than that of Ireland or Holland which have now the practical monopoly of the British import market.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A new week for renewed political endeavours. Yes, this is still Lent, but how many actually realize it—thanks to Mr. Mackenzie King. The farmers' only hope is the return of a National Government. Mr. Mackenzie King is grasping at straws—the straws that show how the wind blows. Dr. Gus MacDonald has got the late member for Kings on toast—and Dr. Grant does not like it. Governor Sir Arthur F. Richards, K.C.M.G., of Jamaica, has decided voluntarily to forego 10 per cent of his salary as long as war continues. His contribution will amount to £550 (about \$2,200) a year. Who follows in his train? As indicative of the type of men offering themselves in support of National Government, it may be mentioned that the celebrated surgeon, the Hon. Dr. Herbert A. Bruce, former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, has accepted nomination for Toronto-Parkdale constituency. Likewise in Nova Scotia, the Hon. Percy C. Black, leader of the Opposition in the local legislature has been nominated National Government candidate for Cumberland.

William Willett, Father of Daylight Saving, died this date, 1915. He agitated for many years to advance the clock an hour in the summer months, but was not successful till the exigencies of war in 1916 compelled the change in Britain and subsequently throughout the civilized world. In that year summer time was legalized from May 22 to Sept. 30; in 1917 it was fixed from April 8 to Sept. 17; in 1918 from March 24 to Sept. 29; in 1920 from March 28 to Sept. 27. For the current year the date has been fixed from February 11 to Sept. 29. Object—to secure a working day more closely approximating to the hours of daylight.

Mr. King "the surrealist" suggested the British boys be trained in Canadian Air schools, when there were no such schools in existence, and offered to train 59 British boys a year as pilots and this when British needed 2,500 a year. The senior member of the Empire had been refused a chance to prepare for war, Dr. Manion told a radio audience, "I am sure he would not have refused Americans the right to train their naval men here if for some reason they could not be trained in American waters," said Dr. Manion. Isn't that so?

Our evening contemporary on Saturday republished a contributed article from the Montreal Gazette, suppressing the name of the writer, and implying that the opinions expressed were those of the Editor—unethical and unprofessional, to say the least of it. The writer is Mr. Wm. Robert Givens, former publisher and editor of the Kingston Standard who submerged his Conservative paper in the Liberal Whig in 1926 under the title of Whig-Standard, and became President of the Company till 1931 when he retired to live in St. Petersburg, Florida. The Whig-Standard is Liberal in politics and the mouthpiece of the present Minister of Defence, Mr. Rogers.

While a city cannot be regarded as the insurer of the safety of the pedestrians upon the streets under its control, it is incumbent upon the municipality to provide for the safety of persons who make use of its sidewalks. Mr. Justice McDougall declared in Montreal Superior Court, when he condemned the city to pay Mr. Charles Mallette \$438 for injuries which the latter's wife suffered when she slipped and fell on Hochelaga street, March 5, 1939. The court found that it was "illusory for the defendant to contend, if not by averment at least by one of its witnesses, that the degree of care which it is obligated to give its sidewalks is to be measured by the funds available in the city treasury, and the defendant's liability limited to occasions when such funds are available for street maintenance."

NOTES BY THE WAY

It is said that several motorists who have been involved in accidents recently when their automobiles skidded on icy streets crashed into a post office. The post office has set up the claim that the corporation of the city of Peterborough is responsible for the damages caused. Surely it has not got level streets when the motorists are to be held accountable if they fail to make winter driving fool-proof. The vagaries of winter weather set up conditions that no municipal government could reasonably be expected to cope with and we imagine that claims for damages would have little chance to succeed. — Peterborough Examiner.

It has been frequently suggested that the time has arrived for Canada, to have one of her own people as the occupant of Rideau Hall, and no doubt there are many Canadians well fitted to assume such a position as an Australian has assumed there at Canberra. There is however very little likelihood of the Canadian origin of the Governor-General being disturbed at this time when it is more important than ever that there shall be for the closest ties between the United Kingdom and Canada and between the Dominion of Wales and the Dominion. There is scant possibility of the identity of the new Governor-General being revealed before the general election. Whichever he may be, will have a most difficult time following the gentleman who has just passed to his rest and whose efforts over a short period of time did a great deal to create the prestige and add to the popularity of the office which he occupied with such universal acceptability. — Exchange.

Of course, Germany cannot allow to the opinion she has advanced to the citizens the importance she denies to those of individual Germans. It is impossible, says Goebbels, to draw a line between public opinion and the opinion of the State, by German logic, and his senior doctrine because German logic does not admit the American theory that the State has no right to any opinion until the opinions of a majority of its members have been expressed in definite form. Under our theory, it is quite possible for us to admit that ten per cent, or twenty-five per cent, or forty-nine per cent of the population may be in one opinion and the United States without committing the German Government to an attitude of hostility toward us. But under the German theory, if any American says publicly an unkind word about Germany, and is not punished for doing so, that word must be construed as official opinion. — Baltimore Sun.

According to the "National Zeitung", Mr. Churchill possesses three castles with pools that accommodate "40,000 fishes" which no one is allowed to catch; only the owner may have access to his ponds watching his fish, from which the German writer draws the moral that it must be a great consolation to the First Lord of the Admiralty to have one of these ponds watching his fish. The writer on the "National Zeitung" responds in view of the whole story in order to justify the concluding moral. It seems that a private for the moral is hardly worth drawing. However, as a piece of sheer fantasy it seems better tempered than many German inventions. But why not have dressed it up a bit more and made Mr. Churchill editor-in-chief of our old friend the "British Pond-keeper and Aquarist", with which is incorporated the "National Review"? But perhaps the "National Zeitung" writer, having thought up the remarkable picture of the First Lord wading in his own water, and in the meantime his forty thousands fish, felt that he had done enough for one day and knocked off for the rest and refreshment. — Manchester Guardian.

The new Minister for War must have been singularly unobservant if he is indeed "unaware," as he declared in Parliament on Tuesday, of any cases in which Army instructors have instructed hotels and restaurant keepers to restrict their premises to officers. The newspapers both of England and of Scotland have lately furnished instances in which the restriction of premises has been practised. In most of these the licensee, when questioned by interested civilians, has replied that he was intending if he did not mind the restriction, that he would be put out of bounds by the military authority; and in one case it is alleged that an individual officer demanded that a private should leave a restaurant which in civilian life he had been in the habit of using. The discrimination was never justifiable, but it was more tolerable in times when it was a social convenience largely arrived at by the choice of the men themselves. Now, when conscription cuts clear across the whole structure of the country and the means of travel as the manners of the private may be no different from those of his colonel, it is quite intolerable. — Manchester Guardian.

Buffalo hide coats and buffalo steak for eastern Canadians from Ontario buffalo. This is what's envisioned by the Ontario Department of Game and Fisheries for the future. And it means a means a pipe dream. Recently, a herd of 25 buffalo brought in from one of the Crown game preserves in Alberta was released in a 35,000-acre corner near Burwa, Ontario. The animals were purchased on a barter basis. Ontario abounded in black bass but it had no buffalo. With Alberta it was vice versa. The Ontario plan to increase the variety of game animals in the province. The program was started in November, 1932, when, with the cooperation of the National Parks Service of the Federal Department of the Interior a carload of 25 elk was shipped from Wainwright, Alberta, and released in the Pembroke Crown game preserve. The elk were not only west of Ottawa. — By Ralph Barnes in the C.I.I. Oval.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion of questions of interest. The CharloTTetown Guardian will necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

THE FARMER PREJUDICED

Sir:—In your news-columns the other day I observed a most encouraging item, in the course of which J. C. McLean advised the members of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, in his presidential address, that "The plain fact is that the interests of industry and of agriculture are one and the same," and that "the conviction that it was in the interests of the nation to seek by every means to bring about genuine and confident co-operation between agriculture and industry." Fine! But your financial contemporary (The Times) in Montreal, in dealing with the more national viewpoint for the Chamber of Commerce and its members, also points out that of Canada's population, 45 per cent rural and 55 per cent is urban, while agricultural production of \$690,000,000 in 1936 compares with manufacturing production of \$1,290,000,000, and quotes Mr. McLean thus: "Agriculture still is, and for a long time seems destined to remain, the basic industry of Canada." Statistically revealing! But, for the attention of all those Canadians (urban and rural) who desire to bring about a more genuine relationship between "the interests of industry and of agriculture" I submit the following amazing assertion from so authoritative a source as the premier of Manitoba (Hon. John Bracken), on the same rural-urban theme: "One-third of the population of Canada is associated with agriculture, but it receives only one-twelfth of the national income." How can there be built "genuine and confident co-operation" against an uneconomic back-drop of that kind? I am, Sir, etc., AGRICULTURIST

FARM REHABILITATION

Sir:—There appears to be an unfortunate and fairly widespread misunderstanding regarding the purposes and aims of the Farm Rehabilitation plan. Even so distinguished a farmer as Mr. R. A. Profit in his important address as president of the Central Farmers' Institute, referred to farm rehabilitation as the placing of young men upon the many abandoned farms of this Island and quite correctly regarded such work as a commendable utility. It would indeed call for a full measure of the pioneer spirit of our forefathers, on the part of any young man who might be placed on one of these deserted farms. As a rule the buildings have either entirely fallen away or are beyond repair and the ground is entirely out-of-date in design. The land in many cases was unimproved, before abandonment and as a rule is covered over with second-growth trees. Some day these farms, for the sake of the Province, must be brought back to life, but it would call for a formidable expenditure of money upon work planned on a wholesale scale in anticipation of a well-considered system of colonization.

Such an undertaking as the above was not conceived of under the rehabilitation plan that was laid before the Government last year ago. There was nothing new in the main idea, for it consisted simply of adapting the details of an identical scheme in the United States, conceived of and worked to a successful finish by the Metropolitan Life Assurance Company of the United States over a period of several years. This Company finding itself in possession of two hundred million acres of land in different states of the Union, which mortgages were in default of payment, decided to take the foreclosure proceedings had become a threatening necessity, decided to follow the humane and common-sense plan of assisting the mortgagees to rejuvenate their farms on modern lines.

They placed the whole matter in the hands of a most capable man, Mr. Glen Rogers, and he in turn employed sub-managers in the different states with supervisors, taking charge of the work. Through the action was made of each farm and a report placed in Mr. Rogers' hands stating the actual minimum requirements in the way of acreage and better livestock, improved farm implements, repairs to buildings, seed of the best quality, an analysis of the soil and the financing of the first year's fertilizer. With the above information in hand, and an agreement placed before him in which in consideration of the providing of the above necessities, purchased for him at the lowest possible wholesale cost, he had to undertake to subject himself to the supervision and advice of skilled farmers of the highest order provided by the Assurance Company, all of them graduates of Agricultural Colleges, men of long farming experience and of a fair and kindly spirit.

At first the offer was not accepted by all but when they saw the marvelous results of the system, it became not a case of acceptance but rather of begging to be included as beneficiaries of the scheme. So successful have the results been that in many cases the farmers have been able in a few years to pay off not only the old mortgages but the additional sums loaned to them. The money was loaned at the lowest possible rate of interest on a 25-year repayment basis. Unlike this Province many of the farmers were subjected to drought years and part of the agreement stated that no interest payments would be expected in such years. The plan has worked out to be an immense success and there is no reason in common sense why it should not be applied to this Province, always provided that it is not hampered by the pernicious spoils system. That would kill the whole idea just as it injures our Governmental system. The undertaking is one that naturally adapts itself to the oversight of an honorary commission by whom a general manager and supervisors would be employed. I am sure that Mr. Profit would

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The Health League Of Canada

TORONTO, March 1. — Ontario's Department of Health is actively co-operating in Canada's war effort in several directions. To date it has distributed 15,000 ounces of typhoid vaccine to immunize soldiers and has examined 3,000 specimens sent in by the military authorities. The department has also arranged for admission of soldier patients to both sanatorium and mental hospitals. These facts were announced in the Legislature by Hon. Harold A. Kirby, Minister of Health, who pointed out that in addition to wartime measures, continued attention was being given to safeguarding civilian health. Mr. Kirby made the important revelation that in hospitals where insulin treatment was being given for particular forms of insanity, 45 per cent of those whose mental illness was of less than 18 months standing made complete recovery. The Department of Health is distributing a leaflet on vaccination. The Minister predicted that, unless the younger generation is protected, this Province would suffer some day from a smallpox epidemic. Ontario has 50 per cent less cases of diphtheria in 1939 than in the year before. The substantial reductions in the amount of typhoid fever and undulant fever, Mr. Kirby declared, were proof that the Ontario Government's pasteurization policy was bearing good fruit.

The Poet's Corner

FROM "UNVANQUISHED" My life will not be broken— That shall never be; No one shall have the power To do such a thing to me. I could not betray life so. Could not deny My rich inheritance of beauty's store; In heartbreak at the loss of you I cannot blind My eyes to sunsets, and the forms Of flowers, or fail to find Rapture in winds, and flash of swallow's wings.

be the last man on this Island to withhold the granting of aid to the many farmers who, unlike himself, are suffering hardships from a lack of capita and in many cases lack of a proper knowledge of modern agricultural methods. The question may naturally be asked to what extent these untoward conditions prevail in Prince Edward Island and to that question one naturally hesitates to make a reply. Some idea however may be obtained from a statement made by our Lieutenant-Governor, Hon. B. W. LePage at a public meeting in Charlottetown in January, 1939, on which

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occasion he represented the Minister of Agriculture, owing to Mr. Dennis LePage's inability to attend the meeting. He then stated: "In my opinion 50 per cent of the farmers of this Island are annually going 'in the red' and a further 25 per cent are not making a decent living." Mr. LePage was at that time president of the Legislative Council, there were many men in the room well-posted on farming conditions, but no one criticized Mr. LePage's statement and I have heard others who place the percentage of second and third-class farms as high as 85 per cent. If such is the case there is certainly need for farm rehabilitation. I am, Sir, etc., H. K. S. HEMMING

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