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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1941.

"A Matter Of Life And Death"

Commenting on Hon. Mr. Howe's assurance of a "full and complete explanation" of the holdup in Canada's aircraft production the Halifax Chronicle (Liberal) says:

Nothing less will be adequate. Aircraft production was one of the vitally important activities on which the government was asked to act when war began. There is still greater need for aircraft today. And it is the more alarming to find production at such a low level now that the war is in its second year.

Mr. Howe admitted, on his return from Great Britain, that all was not well with Canada's aircraft production, especially where Federal Aircraft was concerned, but he declined to make any major change in the situation. He intimated rather, that he would strive for some improvement within the existing setup.

The statement which Mr. Hanson attempted to introduce in the House of Commons Thursday indicates why Federal Aircraft came so to the fore during recent weeks. It stems from a meeting of the acting minister of munitions and supply, at the close of last year, with representatives of aircraft manufacturers, to discuss the production of Avro-Anson bombers, which Federal Aircraft was supposed to produce.

The manufacturers, says Mr. Hanson, recommended that Federal Aircraft be dissolved. Moreover, says Mr. Hanson, the chairman of the War Requirements board and an aircraft executive from the United States took the same view.

Avro-Anson bombers which Federal Aircraft is supposed to produce, were designed originally as reconnaissance and training aircraft. With a relatively low top speed of only 188 miles per hour, a range of 1,000 miles, and able to carry a bomb load of 300 pounds, the Avro-Ansons were found to be unsatisfactory for military service.

They are rather easy to produce, however, and are excellent for training purposes. Their importance in the Canadian program is that they are vitally important in the Empire Air Training plan. Lack of them endangers that plan.

Complaints have centred for the most part around the direction of Federal Aircraft. Those in charge, it is contended, lack authority to act or to appoint competent technical executives. The real director of the activity is the minister of munitions and supply who has countless other activities to supervise. Aircraft production is a highly technical industry. The cry comes from many quarters to install more men of technical training and experience to responsible positions in the production program.

Canada has turned out some elementary trainer planes, such as Fleets and Tiger Moths, but has fallen down badly in the output of more advanced types of aircraft which are essential to the training of fighter and bomber pilots.

The whole problem is of such vital importance that Mr. Howe's statement will be awaited with intense interest. His statement demands the most exhaustive scrutiny by every member of Commons. Any member who fails to study the statement to discover present weaknesses and to point the way to improvement will be derelict in his duty.

This is not a political squabble, nor an oratorical contest. It is a matter of life and death.

"There'll Always Be An England"

According to a correspondent two hundred and forty years ago England faced a peril so like the present one that the remembrance of what she then survived may steady our belief that this too will be overcome. "The apparent danger of an invasion, briefly represented in a letter to a Minister of State, by a Kentish gentleman," was written in 1701, and contains this passage: "England is now the only nation in Europe, that hath any remains of substantial liberties; for arbitrary power, like a mighty deluge, has in a manner overspread the face of the whole earth, and is ready to break in upon us with an irresistible fury, unless we make ready to withstand it. Holland stands now exposed to military execution, and so do the counties of Kent and Surrey, who have forty or fifty thousand men ready to land upon them at a day or two's warning from Boulogne, Calais, Gravelin, Dunkirk, Newport, and Ostend; there is but a hair's breadth betwixt us and ruin." This passage may be found in the Harleian Miscellany, printed for John White, London, 1808, Vol. I, page 100.

Britain's War Bill

The most recent issue of the London Economist sets forth figures for Britain that are staggering in size. The deficit in the current fiscal year is estimated at £2,500 millions, and this figure will amount in the coming fiscal year to £3,400 millions.

Expenditure in Britain is estimated at £5,130 millions, and revenue, on the basis of existing taxes, only £1,700 millions. The gap between these two figures has to be met by new taxation or by systematic savings or by inflation.

The Canadian situation is not as acute as this, but it is obvious that the present war savings campaign in this country must go well over the top if we are not to face, in not too long a time, a situation in which we will have to decide in a hurry whether to take a wise or foolish course in war finance. The foolish way, of course, would be not to increase taxation and savings; it would be inflation. This is the last desperate resort.

A Classic

Judge Herbert O'Brien, of the Domestic Relations Court of New York, appeared before the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate at Washington, and delivered a fiery philippic against the Lease-Lend bill, which he declared would create "civil war" in New York City. Later Mayor La Guardia testified before the same committee, giving strong support to the bill. Thereupon Senator Bennett Champ Clark, rabid isolationist, asked the Mayor if it was not true that he had personally appointed Judge O'Brien to the Bench. Quick as a flash came Mr. La Guardia's retort: "Senator," he said, "I have made some excellent appointments in my time—and I think I'm good. But, Senator, when I make a mistake, it's a beaut."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Debert is some sink for Government funds.

Contributing to War Certificate funds means saving against a rainy day.

The best thrift is national thrift; the best investment national investment.

Feast of Saint Matthias. The disciple selected by the casting of lots for appointment to the apostleship in succession to Judas. Some critics identify him with Nathanael; a qualification for election was association with the apostles from the baptism of John till the Ascension.

Gasoline retailers in Cape Breton, who boosted prices a half cent last week have restored them to their previous levels. The restoration was in conformity with a ruling by Oil Controller G. R. Cottrelle, who ordered the increases wiped out pending an investigation. The prices had been increased after the Nova Scotia board of public utilities refused to sanction a one-cent rise in the authorized spread between wholesale and retail prices. Dealers in Halifax and vicinity also had jumped their rates but restored the lower schedules Saturday.

Our American cousins are not so smart as they claim to be, or they would not have fallen for a recent Nazi stunt. Over in Berlin they wanted to have some idea of the number of fans who listened into their broadcasts, so they offered to defray the wireless cost of those who would send briefly their opinion of the broadcasts. Immediately the fans thought it a good joke to take a rise out of them, and endless wireless messages were sent, till called off. Now the Nazi are satisfied that their Lord Haws-Haws do not waste their breath on desert air.

"The Forty-Ones have not been a very distinguished set of years, and leave plenty of room for the Annus Mirabilis" writes a British columnist. They produced a king in Edward VIII (who turned out quite differently from his father's expectations). They saw the execution of Stafford and the beginning of the civil war. And they marked a further stage in the matrimonial career of Henry VIII, in the divorce of Anne of Cleves, followed by the execution of Catherine Howard in the following year. Among military exploits, the Forty-Ones saw included the capture of Acre with the loss of only sixty-six British killed, the opposing Egyptian army losing 2,000 in killed and wounded, and 3,000 in prisoners.

Total wool production in Canada in 1940 was 18,127,000 pounds as compared with 17,846,000 in 1939. Shorn wool production amounted to 13,822,000 pounds, an increase of 253,000 pounds over the 1939 clip. An increase in the number of sheep shorn was responsible for the increase in shorn wool production. Cash income from the 1940 wool-clip is estimated at \$2,329,000, a gain of \$892,000 over cash income from the 1939 clip. Consumption of wool in Canada in 1940 amounted to 101,616,000 pounds, greasy basis, which is the highest figure in the last 10 years. Consumption in 1939 amounted to 64,900,000 pounds and for the five years, 1934 to 1938, averaged 61,958,000 pounds a year. The high level of consumption in 1940 resulted largely from Government orders for clothing for the armed services.

Inspector J. Fripps, late of this province has been on a gold hunt in Vancouver. Royal Canadian Mounted Police in a week-end raid found gold bars valued at approximately \$54,000 packed in trunks bearing the name of Leo E. Morland, New Zealand mining engineer arrested last Tuesday by United States Customs authorities on charges of attempting to smuggle \$55,000 worth of gold across the international boundary. It was learned today that trunks were seized Saturday in a west end rooming-house where Morland rented a room last November following his arrival from New Zealand. He has been held in Seattle since his arrest near Blaine, Wash., when customs officials found 57 gold bars hidden in his automobile. The dozen wooden trunks were packed tightly with technical books on mining subjects but when police ripped them apart they found the centre pages had been gouged out to make cavities in which the gold bars were concealed. Fifty-four bars were recovered. Inspector Fripps would not say whether action was planned against Morland.

Prime Minister King is so intimate with U.S.A. affairs that he considers it hardly worth while to have an Ambassador at Washington in the absence through illness of the present occupant of the position. He expressed himself amazed and pained that newspapers should criticize the Government for its alleged lethargy in the matter. To this the Gazette rejoins: "And yet, with this international relationship and contact of such paramount importance, Canada has not had at Washington a Minister capable of carrying an exceptional responsibility created by admittedly exceptional circumstances. Mr. King himself as head of the Department of External Affairs allowed this condition to go on. He is only now doing something to correct it, after one or two Canadian newspapers, discharging an extremely distasteful duty, brought the matter to the attention of the public. Mr. King says that he has been amazed and somewhat pained, but he is about to act, notwithstanding the pain and the amazement. He is probably less amazed than are the Canadian people, whose interests have been so flagrantly disregarded."

NOTES BY THE WAY

There will be those who will say again that the president has gone too far that public opinion will not be kind on in that radical step. That is probably true. It will be ahead of him. There are plenty of indications that he is continuing his deliberate policy of stirring public opinion up ahead of him, that what he has done now is exactly what the bulk of the American people have been wanting him to do for months past. — Windsor Star.

Q. In the dictatorialships of Germany and Italy, with especial reference to Germany, is there not room for wholesale graft since there need be no accounting to the people by politicians? Is there actually any graft in government, local state and national? P. B. SHAW, Assistant Professor of Economics, De Paul University. A.—There is graft on a local state national, and international scale beyond the wildest dreams of the worst grafters. America has ever seen or known. On the whole, petty graft is under fairly good control. Grand juries are virtual watchdogs, and, although, however, exist on a scale we have never imagined in this country. — Wallace R. Deuel, former British Correspondent in the Chicago Daily News.

India's already impressive contribution of the Allied war effort is steadily expanding both in volume and diversity. Her geographical and industrial position, and her most important economic function is to act as supply centre for all points of consequence from Egypt and the Persian Gulf to the East Indies. India's economic contribution was the last and in the present war shows two vital differences. India has better prepared to meet calls upon her than any other country. Her inadequate economic equipment and it was not until 1937 that the organization of the D'Arzagan of British Airman Gollishaw of Nanaimo, British Columbia, who was one of the six greatest pilots of the Great War, in which he brought down sixty enemy planes.

It is not surprising that a Canadian airman who took third place only to Bishop and Barker in respect to the number of German enemy planes destroyed should now be in command of the British air squadrons in the Western Desert, which are combining with the land and sea forces against the Italians. This brilliant Canadian ace was an air pioneer. He has fought in the air over Germany, France, Holland, Belgium, Russia, Persia, Mesopotamia, Palestine, Egypt, and Libya and has richly earned the sash and the Victoria Cross. His air career began at the age of 18 with a polar expedition into the Antarctic after he had spent his boyhood in an atmosphere of ship hunting and fishing that gave him a yearning for adventure. He sailed with Scott on a celebrated dash to the South Pole and upon the outbreak of the Great War joined the British forces, and shortly thereafter proved his mettle as one of the outstanding air fighters of the Empire.

With your consent, I will continue in a later issue to outline other services. I am, Sir, etc. HUMANITARIAN. Shaw's Love Letters (New York Herald Tribune) For all her acumen and her occasional brilliance, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, whose will has just been made public in London, was guilty of a fundamental misconception of what really makes a love letter. Her will suggests that "The Love Letters of Bernard Shaw to Mrs. Patrick Campbell" be published. Shaw himself says that "forty-five years ago every day I wrote love letters to Mrs. Patrick Campbell, which probably is not much of an overstatement. Shaw then puts his finger on the crux of the whole matter by saying that the letters were "innocent."

Of course they were. Writing "love letters" in those far-off times was, among most of the literati, more than a polite form of prose exercise. This pastime was indulged in by some of the greatest minds and it did no one much harm. But can most of that full time be spent in the service of love letters? Somehow they would ring hollow. The genuine article, a many a semi-inarticulate soul knows, is rarely a graceful thing. Its phrases may be disjointed; it may grope pathetically to say the right thing. It may be a bit of an essay. But it has something greater than that: it is a feeling. With that quality it is a love letter; without it, merely words.

Among the innumerable bomb stores going round I select this one, if the best, particularly because it will do me by the employer in whose works it actually happened. A German airplane had been brought down while in the area. It was decided to display it in aid of the Spitfire Fund. A canvas awning was placed around it. On the morning of the day when the exhibition was to be opened two of the workmen decided to have a free view and crept under the canvas. A foreman saw them and asked what they were doing. "Oh," they said "having a preview as it were." They went on to say that it was an excellent show. They particularly liked the bomb, and realized that it was really placed by the Messerschmidt. "What are you talking about?" asked the foreman. "There's no bomb here," he said. "The men stuck to their point, until the foreman in alarm investigated. There was a bomb. It had fallen during the night and lay, unexploded by the plane. — London New Statesman.

Gen. Robert E. Wood seems in danger of being caught in a cross-fire. Testifying in Washington, the acting national chairman of the America First Committee came in conflict with both economics and grammar. He was discussing the extent of British assets in this country and thought they had been greatly undervalued. Conveying this thought, he reported to have uttered the following phrase: "Without throwing any aspersions, it looks like our British friends are holding on to our Postponing for the moment comment on this turn of speech — which presumably is now permanently imbedded in the records of the government, for copy-right of the title as well as the misinformation of such as may ensue in the future — we will quote authority as to the correctness of the witness's statement of facts. Writing to Senator Byrnes, member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Herbert E. Gaslow, Acting Secretary of the Treasury, informed him that Gen. Wood's statement was "completely incorrect." He added that every available source of funds had been fully accounted for. The terms in which Gen. Wood expressed his suspicion seem equally without support. Fowler's "Modern English Usage" a standard work, speaks rather severely of "the most flagrant and easily recognizable misuse of 'like'." It adds that the practice is generally condemned as vulgar and severely, but handsomely concedes that "examples may be found in many recent writers of standing." It is

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.

PUBLIC HEALTH CONDITIONS

Sir—As I said in a recent letter on this subject, I would point out the terrible conditions existing in families caused by prolonged illness or death of the bread-winner. Why this constitutes an injustice is because the Dominion and Province now provide the following services, each of which I will briefly analyze. But all affected by these services please note that it is only because I consider them justice that I will analyze them to prove that the subject here discussed is an INJUSTICE.

Service No. 1—Pensions for war veterans. All the comment necessary on this service is that the amount to be paid is determined by the extent of disability.

Service No. 2—Pensions for the blind. This service is similar to No. 1 in that it is treated as a permanent disability.

Service No. 3—Old age pension. This service is provided for needy aged citizens. Its provisions are similar to Services No. 1 and 2, in that a citizen need not be utterly destitute to receive its benefits; that is, if the applicant is partially able to provide, he may receive the necessary balance for adequate provision. And, if I am not mistaken, he may receive full benefit while he has a certain amount which I believe to be \$300.00. In other words, if an aged citizen has not more than \$300.00 worth of property or cash, but is unable to provide any part of his livelihood without using that amount, then he is considered eligible for the full amount considered necessary to provide the necessities of life so that he may retain this given amount of \$300.00 for burial expenses.

Service No. 4—Infirmary. This is an institution maintained by the province where needy, homeless and infirm citizens may be cared for and receive all the necessities of life.

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Shaw's Love Letters

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Say to Your Grocer I Want BRAHMIN ORANGE PEKOE TEA You will enjoy its superior quality

Canadian Braains In Libya

Canadian braains are helping to deprive Mussolini of his African empire. Despatches from the headquarters of the British forces in Libya state that the destruction of nearly 500 Italian airplanes on the ground was one of the chief reasons for the success of Britain's African campaign, and the exponent of this "destroy-em-on-the-ground" warfare is Air Commodore Raymond Gollishaw of Nanaimo, British Columbia, who was one of the six greatest pilots of the Great War, in which he brought down sixty enemy planes.

It is not surprising that a Canadian airman who took third place only to Bishop and Barker in respect to the number of German enemy planes destroyed should now be in command of the British air squadrons in the Western Desert, which are combining with the land and sea forces against the Italians. This brilliant Canadian ace was an air pioneer. He has fought in the air over Germany, France, Holland, Belgium, Russia, Persia, Mesopotamia, Palestine, Egypt, and Libya and has richly earned the sash and the Victoria Cross. His air career began at the age of 18 with a polar expedition into the Antarctic after he had spent his boyhood in an atmosphere of ship hunting and fishing that gave him a yearning for adventure. He sailed with Scott on a celebrated dash to the South Pole and upon the outbreak of the Great War joined the British forces, and shortly thereafter proved his mettle as one of the outstanding air fighters of the Empire.

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Forces Of Freedom

(Winnipeg Free Press) J. B. Prie they made a very timely comment upon the news

Brighten Your Home WITH EDISON MAZDA Lamps

SCOTT'S EMULSION CONTAINS VITAMINS A and D The Best Way to take COD LIVER OIL 59¢ AND 98¢

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MAC'S SPECIAL RX. 315 Cod Liver Oil Extract with Cresote and Galacol Compound. A real tonic for coughs, colds and grippe. It is better than an ordinary cough medicine for it reaches the seat of the trouble, relieves the cough and supplies continual treatment to build up the system, to withstand future attack. A splendid blood and body building tonic for both young and old who take it regularly. Price \$1.00 Per Bottle.

SENSATIONAL 1c SALE Woodbury's Facial Soap. Buy 3 cakes. Pay 1c for fourth cake. All four cakes for—23c. MAC'S PIG WORM POWDER Expels worms. Saves losses. Tones Hogs. Increases Profits. Helps make bigger, better, healthier hogs. Mac's Pig Worm Powder and tonic, not only removes the worms but is an excellent tonic for the hogs. Large sums of money are lost by farmers through worms in pigs and these losses can be entirely avoided by using Mac's Pig Worm Powder and Tonic.

THE TWO MACS 149 Great George Street MAIL ORDERS GIVEN PROMPT ATTENTION characterized by fanatical brutality and by "boundless corruption, boundless efficiency and boundless cynicism." Haffner, according to his publisher, is a German emigre of "Aryan descent," who for six years held an official position under the Nazi regime. If his information is accurate, the incident of Benigni, in time, be repeated even in Germany, with Allied troops welcomed not as conquerors but as deliverers.

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