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

FRIDAY, MAY 23, 1941.

Britons Never Shall Be Slaves

It is well on the occasion of the celebration of Empire Day to bear prominently in mind that we are now fighting for its continued existence.

The enemy is well prepared for the attack, having made its plans and worked out the details years before the Democracies awakened to the threatening danger.

There are none so blind as they who will not see, nor deaf as those who refuse to listen. The danger is not imaginary but real and actually present.

Her coast must be held inviolate. Her stricken cities must be repaired. Her war industry must be maintained and supplemented.

Therefore despite our present concern in the Mediterranean battles, and especially that now going on in Crete, the most essential part of the warning which Mr. Churchill is constantly dining in our ears is that in which he refers to the position in which Britain finds herself as the stop-gap between Europe and America.

This does not mean that there are grounds for undue pessimism, rather the reverse provided we fully realize what it imposes upon us as Western nations and individuals.

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The Menace From Vichy

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The Dominion Government has continued to accord full diplomatic privileges to the Vichy ambassador in deference to the natural sympathy felt for France in its hour of trial.

There is no doubt, also, as to the devout Christianity of Marshal Petain. But Petain can only rule France as long as he conforms to the will of the Nazis, whose leaders are implacable enemies of the Christian religion.

It will also be equally impossible for it to allow the flag of the Vichy Government to remain flying over the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, lying as they do so close to Canadian territory.

Perhaps we shall hear shortly from Justice Minister Lapointe on this subject. He has undertaken on several occasions to speak on behalf of Quebec, notably in repudiating a recent subversive speech by the Liberal member from Beauharnois, and in an eloquent appeal for support of the recruiting campaign.

Unusual interest attaches to the mortality record of the Canadian people since their declaration of war in September, 1939.

Emphasis is placed by the Department on the folly of attempting to send perishable or fragile articles through the mails to overseas troops.

It is also emphasized that lots of packages properly packed are not properly addressed, and much delay ensues before the proper address of the prospective recipient is ascertained.

Time and industry work wonders—there were smoke and gas masks in the basement of the Provincial Building the other day, where only a few years ago workmen were supposed to get "trench feet."

Mr. Victor Quelch, (S.C.) Acadia: "There appeared to be in the ranks of the government too many elderly ostriches until . . . last May. Since that time we have seen a certain amount of action, but it has been the sort one gets when he has a balky horse in a mud-hole—plenty of action but not much direction."

The Canadian Bank of Commerce reports that its index of industrial activity in Canada, based on 1937 as 100, rose to 149 in mid-April, compared with 143 in mid-March and 108 one year ago.

Tom Hood, English humorist and poet, born this date, 1799. Journalist and author, published "Odes and Addresses to Great People," "Whims and Oddities," and "Hood's Comic Annual."

Lieut.-Col. J. H. Woods, of the Calgary Herald, whose death is announced, will be greatly missed in journalistic, commercial and Boy Scout circles in each of which he attained a place of prominence.

The crop of examination paper boners was never better, reports a Provincial superintendent of Education. A student, asked to define a spinster, wrote: "A spinster is a bachelor's wife."

On thousand village smithies are to be turned into engineering shops for the repair of agricultural machinery. The blacksmiths are to be specially trained, and will buy their new power-driven plant out of additional profits they will make out of their new industry.

The whole city of Trondheim is still laughing over the reception recently given to a visiting troupe of German actors. It seems that when this company—touring Norway as part of the Nazi campaign to win over Norwegians to German kultur—was booked for performance in Trondheim, the propaganda department made great efforts to ensure a tremendous success.

Words are charging—heaven be holding; Thou hast but an hour to fight; Now the blazoned cross unfolding—Come, right onward for the right—On! on! all the soul within you! For the truth's sake go abroad! Strike! let every nerve and sinew Tell on ages—tell for God.

Words of Challenge
A THOUGHT A DAY FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR
"Let them put us some place. We stopped them once we stopped them twice, and we can stop them again. It looks as if the old vets will have to go. Let us go now—as a legion."—Brigadier General A. E. Ross, assistant director of the Canadian medical services, proposing the recruiting of all veterans.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The soul of Britain has never been in a defeat. Hitler has never crushed that soul of freedom, justice and right. That spirit will keep Hitler from victory.

It is not surprising that American restaurateurs have found that the most best-selling menu to please prominent persons consists of a shrimp cocktail, consommé steak, head lettuce salad, pie and coffee.

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To save Belfast, capital of the "black north," so many of the "black north" have been fought between Irishmen. Southern Ireland rushed practically all her fire-fighting brigades and ambulance corps during Sunday night's raid.

But few corners of the world are exempt from the navy touch of war. Like a great conflagration the disaster spreads swiftly in one direction after another.

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EMPIRE DAY MESSAGE

By Viscount Bleddislo, P.C., G.C.M.G., K.B.E.
President of the Empire Day Movement.

Let us this year celebrate Empire Day as never before. For the British Empire, aided by her valiant Allies and buttressed by the practical sympathy of the United States of America, is standing out as the stronghold of humanity against cruelty, injustice, tyranny and falsehood—an impregnable fortress based not upon hatred and selfish ambition, but upon humanity and righteousness.

It is against the Powers of Darkness that we are fighting, and the fate of the Empire, and with it that of civilization, are at stake. We must all courageously play our part, however humble, in achieving victory, "lest freedom should perish from the earth."

Those who planned the downfall of the British Empire recked not of the unquenchable spirit of the British race, the staunch loyalty of peoples of different races and colors owing allegiance to the British Crown, and the unshakable solidarity of the British Empire.

I appeal especially to the young people of the Empire who, when the present upheaval is past, will be called upon to fashion a new world. Yours will be the task of winning the peace. Do your bit, be it great or small, to ensure that the Empire shall ever be the symbol and example of all that makes for human happiness, peace and progress.

We have no need to be ashamed of the story of the Empire, but its greatest chapter has yet to be written, and it is for the youth of the Empire, with their boundless opportunities, buoyant hope and unshaken faith in God to write it, for the benefit of the whole human race.

The British Empire never had a graver responsibility thrust upon it than it has today. But never have there been grander opportunities for displaying those outstanding qualities which built it up and which alone can maintain it.

Let us remember that it is neither wealth nor might, but character, which has ever been the deciding factor in our hour of destiny, and make it crystal clear that it illumines and strengthens all our lives.

Honoring Sir John Macdonald
(Ottawa Journal)
It is a mark of Mr. Mackenzie King's historic sense of his unending duty to the meaning and unity in a nation's life, that he should want to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Sir John Macdonald.

When Lincoln lay dead from the bullet of an assassin, John Hay his great Secretary of State, said, "now he belongs to the ages." Sir John Macdonald belongs, not to a party, but to the ages of our Canadian story; it is of the stuff woven into the traditions which have inspired, and will continue to inspire, our voyage through history.

Why on Earth do they do it?
We are living, we are dwelling, In a grand and awful time. In an age on ages telling To be living in sublime. Hark! the waking up of nations, Hark! the masses to be fray. Hark! what soundeth is creation Groaning for its latter day.

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A cheap but thoroughly effective remedy. Grain growers would be wise to act promptly in order to have seed properly treated before sowing.

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W. K. ROGERS Agencies Ltd.
neglect keeping an accurate inventory of possessions
You can't guess right now what's on your living room mantel. What chance would you have of remembering what was in this room or that room after it burned up, and what valuation would you put on the stuff?