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

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 1942.

The Vital Flame

Our two highest institutions of learning, St. Dunstan's University and Prince of Wales College, hold their commencement exercises this week. Today's exercises at St. Dunstan's mark the 88th anniversary of its founding. Prince of Wales is younger by a few years, its establishment dating back to 1860. Both institutions have been engaged, all through the years, in work of the very greatest importance to the community and to Canada. They have been keeping alive the flame of knowledge and Christian culture, the vital principles of justice, freedom and democracy. We did not, perhaps, always realize that this was the essential function of our University and College. We were inclined to emphasize the practical, workaday value of a "good education", rather than the effect on character which such education was meant to produce. If there is anything this war should have taught us, it is the fallacy of such a conception.

In all the allied nations at war against Nazism, the vital flame of education is being maintained with difficulty. The universities have suffered from reduced number of students and staffs, in many cases from restricted accommodation due to the requisitioning of departmental buildings, over crowding of laboratories, financial stringency, and postponement of all plans for development. The heaviest loss of students has been felt in the humanistic schools, but the national demand for doctors, engineers and other scientists has kept the relevant faculties hard at work with a full complement of students. Many instructors and officials have been called away to the government service. This has entailed a vast amount of reorganization, which it was necessary to do while preserving at the same time the essential purpose of the university.

In this connection, Prof. W. E. Harrison, of Queen's University, strikes a warning note in a pamphlet contributed to the excellent series published by the Oxford University Press. Citing the example of universities in the United Kingdom in meeting wartime demands, and expressing confidence that throughout the Commonwealth the universities can, if need be, adapt themselves to an extent hardly yet dreamed of to the national effort, he says this must be on one condition only. They must not be diverted from their most essential tasks and denied of their humanism, which is the life-blood of our civilized society.

"The organism of a university," says Prof. Harrison, "takes time to grow; it is an intricate thing requiring skilled and sympathetic handling and must be nurtured with a view not merely to its bearing the fruit of technicians, but to yielding sustenance for that spiritual and cultural well-being which is the only true measure of national stature. We ought not so to impair the life of the universities that they become part of the problem of our reconstruction when the war is over. That they are likely to gather strength from the community's renewed appreciation of their infinite capacities is a permissible forecast dependent upon wise dealing, but if it ever becomes necessary to rebuild them on the ruins of standards, personnel and finance, and to retrieve their humanities from bankruptcy, we should have suffered nothing less than social disaster."

The voices of authoritative opinion are all in agreement on this question. There is no present danger, either at St. Dunstan's or Prince of Wales College, of the humanities being neglected. The graduates this year, as in the past, should go forth well equipped, and eager, let us hope, to hold high the torch entrusted to them.

Oil Resources

In view of the oil shortage which threatens to become more and more acute as the war progresses, it is a pity that so little attention has been given at Ottawa to the possibilities of producing our own oil resources.

Speaking in Parliament last February, Hon. Mr. Howe, Minister of Supply, said with reference to developing Alberta tar sands as a source of oil: "I have a very exhaustive report on the subject. It indicates that the location of the sands and the possibility of development is too remote to be of any great use in this war." Yet on May 15 Mr. Howe, speaking on the same subject, had to make this statement: "The problem of oil development within Canada has of course been changed considerably by the events of recent months. I think most people had looked upon the sands of Alberta as a great reserve of oil for some future period when the more easily accessible oil resources would have been exhausted. But today we think of that same area as a source of immediate oil production."

There was no excuse for the Minister not knowing what he was talking about last February. He had available detailed topographical surveys of the bituminous sand areas of northern Alberta, which the Alberta government estimates contain 100,000,000 barrels of oil. The U. S. Bureau of Mines places the potentiality at 250,000,000 barrels. Mr. Howe's objection to the remoteness of the work.

location of these sands is inexplicable in view of the circumstances. The distance from Edmonton by direct pipeline is about 250 miles—a quarter the length of the line which is feeding Sarnia with Oklahoma oil.

Now the Government has asked for another survey, to be made by leading oil engineers and the Consolidated Smelting and Mining Company. There should at the same time be a check up on potential oil resources in the Maritime Provinces. Even in Prince Edward Island, there are possibilities which private enterprise has considered worth spending money to investigate.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"Marking time" may be descriptive of Russia's attitude at present.

When Mexico enters the War her navy will act as convoys to tankers and other coastal trade to Canada and U. S. A.

Here is an excerpt from a No. 7 district (Saint John) military order: "Recently a sergeant-major was seen walking arm in arm with a private soldier. This practice must cease, however attractive the C. W. A. C. volunteer may be."

Many in the community had "one foot in Heaven" the past three nights and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. On Tuesday night the Guardian called by phone seven persons who do not usually patronize "movies," and discovered six of them were at the Prince Edward.

McGill University students who have been required to give up summer employment to continue their courses in medicine and dentistry are to be benefited by "hand-outs" from a grant-in-aid of \$20,000 from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.

A Montreal restaurateur, corner of Pine Avenue and Park Avenue has been fined \$100 for illegally offering to serve food, refreshments and beverages at higher rates than he had offered similar items between Sept. 15 and October 11 last. Let the buyer beware!

Quebec lawyers and others are critical of the Provincial Government appointing Judge Jules Desmarais manager of the Quebec Liquor Commission at a salary of \$12,000 with a pension as judge of \$4,500. It was explained the pension mentioned would be deducted from the salary.

Two thousand bad men at Sing Sing prison fainted at the sight of a hypodermic needle in the last five years. Some who fainted were machine-gunners, many had committed crimes of violence. The hypodermics were part of routine health tests. This trait of alleged he-men was reported to the American Psychiatric Association by Dr. Ralph S. Banay of the prison. A case of hero and hero worship below par.

The Hon. Walter Nash, Minister of Washington New Zealand, declares "we shall go back one hundred years, if we lose." He could have put it more bluntly by saying "we shall become slaves," for it was only in 1838 that slaves were fully emancipated in the British dominions while France did not follow Britain's lead until 1848, and Holland in 1863. Hitler thinks we made a mistake, and must now be made subject to German "supermen."

It cannot be claimed the sentiments of the Federal Parliament are preponderantly prohibitionist, but we are told that Mr. J. H. Leder, Liberal, Shefford, who himself is in the dairy business, got the biggest applause of the session so far when he spoke as follows: "I hold in my hand a copy of the Temperance Advocate which states that the liquor bill for Ontario this year will be \$88,000,000, as compared with \$73,000,000 last year. It is not my intention to scold the people of Ontario for this rather high consumption but I should like to ask the Government how it is that the distributors of hard liquor and the brewers of beer seem to be able to get all the bottles they need when milk distributors have to beg the glass controller to give them the bottles."

Sir Humphrey Davy, English chemist and inventor of the miner's safety lamp, died this date 1829; educated himself in natural philosophy and chemistry; investigated the properties of nitrous oxide (laughing gas), and was appointed lecturer in chemistry, and later professor, at the Royal Institution in London; was awarded the French Institute's medal for researches in electro-chemistry; after several years on the continent, proved that diamond is pure carbon; later investigated the nature of the electricity of the torpedo fish; was elected President of the Royal Society and knighted: "Man has it within himself to attain his objective, provided he applies himself diligently and with all reasonable concentration of his God-given energies."

"George," (as he was familiarly called by all and sundry) A. MacDougall will be greatly missed by a host of friends and acquaintances here. His sudden passing in Sydney was not altogether a surprise to those who knew him intimately. He had a heart affection and was subject to dizzy spells. A local doctor certified to this effect but notwithstanding the military medical authorities considered him physically fit. As a boy George showed an unusual interest in printing and persuaded his father, Rev. James MacDougall, to purchase him a toy printing set with which he long amused himself. When his father died, George expressed a desire to become a printer and started out to learn that trade, but changed his mind and entered Prince of Wales with a view to entering the Presbyterian ministry. He became assistant secretary of the Y. M. C. A. and showing marked indications of becoming a good newspaperman was offered a position on the staff of this newspaper. Had he been spared, had the war not intervened, he would have gone to the profession. As it was he played a not inconsiderable part in the political life of the community, being associated with the Liberal-Conservatives in organization and secretarial

NOTES BY THE WAY

The Liverpool Library, which was the first circulating library in the Kingdom and is reputed to be the oldest of its kind in Europe, is to close after 124 years. The library's 70,000 volumes include many valuable first editions and other rare publications. The fate of the stock books has not been settled. — London Times.

A colleague who was going to visit friends a few miles out of town bought a ticket at the station, and as he was waiting on the platform read on the cardboard the accusing M.O.I. question, "Is your journey necessary?" It was not, but having sunk his capital lock for a seat about the middle of the train. The train seemed to be half-empty, to do so imply that it was curious enough to walk its length and count the passengers. There were no passengers but himself. — Glasgow Herald.

On July 1, Virginia will become the twentieth state to select and retain its employees by civil service. It was the first civil service state in 1883. The new state to be its third anniversary under civil service this month. Indiana and Kansas joined the merit system last year. However, the frictions that arise in civil service—and there are bound to be plenty in any system as new as Minnesota—states move to the next step and confirm that we're on the right track. — Minneapolis Star-Journal.

St. Nazaire raid, the incidents which followed, the member of a Highland regiment, was given permission to wear his kilt, and of a wounded officer pleading that his kilt be not cut. These incidents are not merely interesting, and go to prove that the War Office is a big mistake in not providing a kilt for all ranks of killed regiments. As is well known from experience in the same war, our enemies do not appreciate our "Ladies from Hell," and I am certain the same would be the case in the Newfoundland regiments. — Edinburgh Scotsman.

The uncertainty which surrounds the fate of the one of our men who were at Hong Kong is one of the cruellest misfortunes which their relatives are obliged to bear. The pleasant information which has come out has not yet cleared up the situation. The latest fragment of information has come through the Melbourne Argus. From the review of refugees from Hong Kong an Australian newspaper has compiled a list of those who were remembered in the prayer book of the battle. In the next issue of the list compiled in this way could not be complete. Of all the soldiers and sailors on the island fortress, only a handful would be known to those who had friends or relatives at Hong Kong and who cannot have no more can be ascertained before the list was received. — Winnipeg Tribune.

Halifax has another grievance. Of course that is not the matter Halifax ever should need a new coat of arms, a most appropriate one for a city, a rampart, crying for the moon. It may not be characteristic of the city as a whole, but there always seems to be some voice raised in Halifax demanding that something be done for the transfer from Moncton to Halifax of the terminus of the Newfoundland air line. The argument of the commission of the demand is that "a letter mailed from St. John's, Newfoundland, (this morning, if addressed to Halifax, would be received in Halifax tomorrow afternoon. The urgent requirements of all the rest of the Dominion, of the army, the navy and the air force, which are finding the need for prompt despatch of mails for overseas, the desirability of saving time and gasoline by using the most direct and most dependable route, all of these considerations compared with the unbecomingly that a letter mailed in Newfoundland today will not reach Halifax tomorrow. — Moncton Transcript.

One of the most deadly enemies of food production in this country is the woodpigeon. The pest against which a nation-wide campaign has had to be started. He but a woodpigeon is nearly twice as much as a rat. It is likely that today the woodpigeons have driven from dawn to dusk, the birds of food. And they keep that up all through the year. The 50 tons they ate today won't all have been human food, been Spring corn. It will have every grain of corn will be year after year. Woodpigeons go to the new-sown fields day after day, before the corn is ripe, the pigeons will be there, stuffing away for weeks on end. People have opened pigeon shot at the cornfield and have found the crops so full of birds that they have fed it to their poultry. But the trouble is, how, as a nation-wide problem, are we going to control the woodpigeon? We can shoot them, but shooting didn't keep down the number of pigeons even in peacetime. The fact is we don't know enough about the bird, its habits, and so the scientists have now been called in. — London Listener.

Probably the most beautiful babies in the entire bird kingdom are the chicks of that remarkable flightless bird — the Australian emu chick. Most other birds, the almost as soon as they are hatched, and having no weapons of defence very few of them would survive to see their parents. At birth they are tiny and vividly striped coats, which blend so admirably with the long grass of the forest country. As they grow the young birds are very difficult to see, especially when they stand motionless with head erect — a pose they always adopt whenever danger threatens. As the birds grow the stripes gradually disappear, and when fully-grown (from five to seven feet in height) they are a uniform grey-brown. Their feathers being tipped black, the neck feathers greyish, and the throat Our Dumb Animals.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WARREN

Sir—As ex-president of the Privateers' and Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society in Canada and Newfoundland, I would like to pay my tribute of respect and appreciation to the late Mr. Warren, whose death we all greatly deplore. Mr. Warren was a man whose warm friendship was to be coveted by those who were called to duty and the task on hand was to be highly appreciated. As Secretary of the Provincial Bible Society for the past four years he gave his best service, not from a sense of duty only, but with a heartiness and responsiveness that was rarely met with. It was a great pleasure and satisfaction to be associated with him in the work of the Society, knowing full well that its interests would be well looked after, and to this end he gave unstintingly of his time and best efforts. The Society will greatly miss his genial presence, and will, no doubt, find difficulty in securing some one else to do so ably and efficiently. I am, Sir, etc.

FLAX FUMBLE AT OTTAWA

Sir—In the course of a news story from Ottawa in The Guardian the other day, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics estimate, "based on farmers' intentions to plant," indicates that 1,531,600 acres will be sown to flax, only 537,100 acres to flax, more than last year."

As you are aware, the effort was made to triple last year's acreage sown to flax, and the flax acreage authorities have recently—far too recently—been calling for 20,000,000 bushels of flaxseed. This would compare with a production of just 7,000,000 bushels last year.

When will officialdom learn that there is a time-element in formulating and publishing agricultural production plans, denied which the farmer—with the best intention in the world to serve the nation's need—is utterly unable to fill the bill?

It takes time to alter individual plans, and the precious contemplative months of December-January. Mr. Hirst is about building up a plan, and the precious contemplative months of December-January. Mr. Hirst is about building up a plan, and the precious contemplative months of December-January. Mr. Hirst is about building up a plan, and the precious contemplative months of December-January.

As director of airframe production, Mr. Bell feels that he can hardly ask Mr. Hirst to carry patriotism to the point of losing votes. "If you can then there is place with Mr. Hirst your printing acquaintance for the year... so he will not have to worry" of the director of airframe production will "approve" of your sympathy and generosity."

WOODEN SHIPS NEEDED

(Moncton Transcript) The suggestion is made by the Transportation Committee of the Maritime Board of Trade that an investigation be conducted into the feasibility of using small sailing vessels in the West Indian and Caribbean trade. The Maritime Commission of the United States, it is stated, is investigating the matter and it is understood that a survey is being made of the possibilities of constructing suitable sailing vessels to accommodate the traffic. It is high time the Canadian government was taking at least an equal interest in the possibilities of sailing ships. The need is likely to become more rather than less urgent before the war is over, and time is required for the building of a fleet of wooden vessels ready to go anywhere they were needed.

The Maritime Provinces once led the world in the building of wooden ships and, although conditions have changed since those days when almost every creek and cove had its shipyard, the revival of the industry and the sailing vessels to meet all the demands made upon modern shipping, but they could be built in many capacities and lighter than the steamships. They would be constructed of materials for which there is no such demand as there is for iron and steel. Depending largely upon what machinery would be required to obtain, and they would not be so expensive as the steel ships. Under no sound of machinery to lead to their detection by submarines; their shallow draft would make them less likely to be sunk by torpedoes. For their construction, labor would be available that is not being employed in war work.

C. N. R. EARNINGS

MONTEAL, Que., May 27—The gross revenue for the all-clusive Canadian National Railway system for the week ending May 21, 1942, were \$5,997,000 as compared with \$5,400,000 for the corresponding week of 1941, or an increase of \$597,000 or 11 per cent.

and neck bare. The emu is the world's second largest, and heaviest, bird, only the ostrich exceeding it in size. It has several unusual features. It has no tail, and although equipped with wings the bird is incapable of flight; this deficiency, however, is compensated for by its extraordinary speed. The foot (the bird has been known to travel at a speed of more than sixty miles an hour), and by its being an expert, strong swimmer. — Our Dumb Animals.

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

"Either we win by making sacrifices now or we lose and pay tribute in the future." — Hon. Earl Rowe, M. P.

By Arrangement

(Judith Robinson in Times-Review) The Minister of Munitions and Supply says it is regrettable and should never have happened, and he would not have allowed it had he known, but it is all over now and don't bother him about it, because he has important things to think of, and anyway all airframe manufacturers have sent a letter to say they think Mr. Bell is a lovely man.

Mr. Howe is referring to the matter of Mr. E. G. Hirst, of Migh's Directories, Toronto, and the conditions of his employment as a peep-hole to aircraft workers as revealed in the House of Commons last week. John Diefenbaker, M. P. of Lake Centre, insisted on the revelation, but it was a small matter, so don't bother Mr. Howe, he's busy. The people of Canada might be bothered. The people of Canada might well be bothered, for the small matter of Mr. Hirst's employment reveals something bigger and graver than a cheap trick to pass a publicity man's \$9,000 expense account on to the Canadian taxpayer. It reveals a great gulf between the way the ordinary Canadian thinks about this war and the way his paid servants think. It reveals a state of mind in the privileged classes of government and industry that is as bad for Canada's hope of victory as of aircraft production.

Consider the chief letter in the correspondence as tabled. Ralph Bell, Canada's director of airframe production, wrote it as Mr. Hirst, manufacturers about Mr. Hirst. Read it remembering that its author is the same Ralph Bell as he who has just finished reminding Montreal airframe workers that they shouldn't kick about wages or working conditions or organize unions. They should be patriotic and remember they are better off than soldiers.

Back to the letter, tabled by Mr. Howe, because Mr. Diefenbaker was rude and insisted. In the letter Mr. Bell explained to all the airframe manufacturers how patriotic Mr. Hirst is about building up the morale of airframe workers to suffer if he gets very, very patriotic about it.

As director of airframe production, Mr. Bell feels that he can hardly ask Mr. Hirst to carry patriotism to the point of losing votes. "If you can then there is place with Mr. Hirst your printing acquaintance for the year... so he will not have to worry" of the director of airframe production will "approve" of your sympathy and generosity."

But Mr. Bell hastens to assure patriot airframe manufacturers that he doesn't expect them to carry their patriotism too far, either. "Their percentage of profit need not suffer on account of their sympathy and generosity," Mr. Hirst's "arrangement with the treasury" mark it well, by arrangement with the treasury, sympathy and generosity taking the form of contributions towards Mr. Hirst's upkeep as a builder-upper of morale and as changeable to overhead" on account of airframe contracts.

The letter did not say whether the treasury would consider it good taste in patriot airframe manufacturers to add the usual and necessary contributions towards Mr. Hirst's upkeep as a builder-upper of morale and as changeable to overhead" on account of airframe contracts.

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WORK FOR ALL

(London Free Press) Dr. P. Cyril James, principal of McGill University, economist and chairman of the Government's Advisory Committee on Post War Reconstruction, has been planning a program designed to bring this country safely through the war years immediately after the war ends, possibly over a longer period. Expanding his views before the House of Commons Committee on Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Committee, Dr. James offered his thesis of post-war requirements and conditions. He predicted a business boom, similar to that which followed the First World War, would follow this conflict. This meant, he said, that demobilized service men and munitions workers would be absorbed into the Canadian economy and social structure, with if possible, an increase in the standard of living. He reminded the committee that after the war in 1918 the post-war boom and subsequent depression was accelerated by accumulation of consumer spending power due to high war-time wages and soldiers spending their cash bonuses. But he predicted that the post-war boom and price controls would confiscate the large surplus purchasing power which existed after 1918. War savings would be the only large

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The Gasoline Question

(Eastern Chronicle) Premiers MacMillan, of Nova Scotia, and MacNair, of New Brunswick, have gone to bat on the gasoline question, that the Maritime Provinces have been selected for special punishment over the gasoline cut.

We commend the courage of our leaders in standing up for the rights of their subjects. In all the rest of Canada the unit still remains five gallons. Only in the Maritime Provinces has it been cut to the Lord Harry have not been getting the short end of things for the past three-quarters of a century. Being at the front door of Canada and on the war front should command some consideration from the folks in the other parts of Canada. But it's the same old story. Our treatment is akin to that of the doorman.

Fight For Sea Power

(London Free Press) At a time when United Nations naval authorities are predicting that the German fleet will be broken between Germany and the Norwegian coast, and further clashes between Japanese and American sea power in the South Pacific the 1941 edition of the U.S. Fighting Ships appears with its latest estimate on naval construction. Jane's believes Japan has built or is building five 40,000-ton battleships in the next three years. The United States program includes 17 battleships and six battle-cruisers. Little is known of Russian construction or of Italian output. German ships receive little mention but it is known German shipyards are busy on, or have completed, such giants as the Hindenburg and the Friedrich Grosse, sister ships to the Tirpitz, now in a Norwegian harbor, and the Bismarck, last summer in the Atlantic. There is no reference to British shipbuilding and replacements.

There is no information about the new British Lion class of four ships armed with nine 16-inch guns. Whether the Anson and Howe of the George class have been commissioned is not clear. Much information as to aircraft carrier building. But there is sufficient knowledge to indicate a large increase of warship construction in various classes of ships in the near future.

Estimates sea power these days is difficult not only because the number and power of ships is uncertain, but because of the Vichy French fleet, and the value of the Russian fleet and its disposition, and the quality of the new German and Japanese vessels. There is an interesting suggestion in "Time" magazine that the U.S. Navy should arm with nine 16-inch guns. Henry J. Taylor, American negotiator who is well informed on European conditions. Mr. Taylor is authorized to state that German chemists and metallurgists have produced a new type of steel, a great toughness and resistance to use. This steel, he says, was used in the Bismarck which during the war was almost without torpedo than any other ship has ever done. He says English steel experts are still wondering what sort of alloy was ever made that might have been used in that ship. He even suggests it may prove to be one of Germany's "secret weapons."

Such factors as these together with gun power and concentration, fighting spirit of the personnel, understanding of sea power, and use taken into account in calculating comparative sea strength. Much we cannot know but the next months will test many theories in naval warfare including the due weight of ship versus the dive bomber, and may effect such changes in naval power as to decide the course of the war.

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FIRST MOVIE AT 100

PEMBURY, England — (CP) — On her 100th birthday, Mrs. Harriet May saw her first movie film, a private showing of Mrs. May was evacuated when the town was first shelled.

SHE WILL LIVE AGAIN

LONDON — (CP) — H. M. S. Pinafore has been lost by the action! The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company had to drop this famous musical from its repertoire here because the wardrobe was destroyed by bombs!

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