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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.

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The Empire At War

Nothing so well reflects the feeling of the people of Great Britain, of Canada and the whole Empire, as the solemn words broadcast yesterday by His Majesty the King on the momentous occasion of Britain's declaration of war against Germany.

The fact that it was an Empire broadcast, that His Majesty spoke to all his subjects in all parts of the world, in what he termed "perhaps the most fateful hour in our history," emphasized to the outside world that this hour of crisis finds the British Commonwealth of Nations one and indivisible, pledged unwaveringly to the support of the Mother Country in a cause which goes to the very root of all our cherished principles of justice, and freedom and democracy.

"The task," as His Majesty said, "will be hard. There may be dark days ahead and war can no longer be confined to the battlefield, but we can only do the right as we see the right, and reverently commit our cause to God."

Already throughout Canada there are a hundred thousand men under arms. Whether or not an expeditionary force will be required for overseas at this juncture, remains for Parliament to decide. In any case, there is no doubt as to the loyal support which Canada is prepared to give.

More vividly now than ever stand out the memories of the last war, and the sacrifices made in defence of the same principles that are now again at stake. More significant are the words of our own Canadian soldier poet, who spoke for all Canada's heroic dead:

"Take up our quarrel with the foe,
To you, from falling hands, we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high!"

Then, in the closing words of His Majesty, "with God's help, we shall prevail."

The Sinews Of War

It will take many times the factory capacity of the Great War to keep the guns firing and the planes flying in the present outbreak, says the Financial Post in a leading article.

To provide the sinews of war there is expected to follow immediately any declaration of hostilities a mobilization call on Canadian industry. In the Great War, Canadian manufacturing, Canadian raw materials, and Canadian foodstuffs contributed a major part to the allied victory. In this war, the contribution is expected to assume vital proportions.

It is freely predicted that instead of waiting this time for voluntary organization of industry steps will be taken immediately to organize vital manufacturing groups for full-time and continuous production. Key industries, such as those supplying meats, canned goods, textiles, leather, munitions and airplanes may find themselves under government control for the duration of the war. Others, which in peace time supply luxury or semi-luxury goods, may be compelled to switch to army and naval equipment lines. Strict control of profit margins is certain.

When the Great War broke out in 1914, Canada's exports of munitions were nil. Before the guns ceased fire in France Canadian factories were pouring out a vast volume of all kinds of war equipment. A gigantic industry was built up and its operations co-ordinated by the Imperial Munitions Board.

On this foundation of experience, plus British trial orders in the last two years, our contribution in the next war will be erected. There will be much less delay in training manufacturers and labor, and within a few months or even weeks, it is anticipated, a growing volume of exports could be started.

Canada, it is predicted, will become a chief source of overseas supply for the British armies, and probably for the French armies as well. Production of vital raw materials from Canadian farms, mines and forests would undoubtedly be stimulated. Again official control is anticipated, first to speed up production throughout the continuance of any war and finally to spiral that production down again to reduced post-war demand. Canadian wheat fields would be the most accessible to Great Britain in time of a European war.

Financing of this huge supply of materials will be a gigantic task. An enormous increase in Canadian exports of war materials and foodstuffs will ensure the strength of the Canadian dollar in relation to sterling. Canada may well emerge from the conflict a creditor nation so far as Europe is concerned, although to maintain increased exports across the Atlantic and to keep Canadian manufacturing plants in full production there may be further borrowing from United States. Keeping foreign exchange functioning smoothly, throughout the period of war and certain adjustment period that must follow, may tax the resources of the Bank of Canada, the chartered banks and other financial institutions.

Britain is expected to mobilize Canadian securities and use them—plus credits extended by the Canadian Government—to pay for her purchases in Canada.

Some control of stock and bond markets is considered certain. Whether the experience of 1914 will be repeated, with exchanges closed for

months and pegging of prices, seems to be doubtful. Most authorities believe that prompt steps will be taken to avert panic and to maintain some support for Government bonds.

Two developments are seen as inevitable, heavy increases in taxes, sharp gains in many commodity prices. A third, considered likely, but not so certain is inflation. There would be some compensation in the almost certain elimination of such present drains on the national treasury as relief, railways and wheat subsidy bills.

Further seeds of such a growth are also seen in the certain climb of commodity prices. Peak in prices invariably synchronizes with wars. Prices of wheat, rubber, cotton, copper, wool, lead, nickel, pork move up with the armies, collapse just as quickly as final enemy resistance.

With the rise, living costs also rise and with them wages, salaries and interest rates.

The Same Hitler

An exchange recalls that last May the Rome correspondent of the London Times sent his paper a remarkable cable which stated:

"It is asserted with some authority that if he (Hitler) fails to get what he wants from Poland now by negotiation, he will make an approach to Russia, the first steps towards which have already been taken, with a view to squeezing Poland with Russian help."

Most outstanding passage in The Times article however, was the revelation: "The idea of making use of Russia to achieve his designs, has never been absent from Herr Hitler's mind. In support of this, reference is made to a speech which he delivered to the Nazi Party at a Berlin beerhouse on October 13, 1930. On this occasion he is reported to have said that he would destroy Great Britain with the help of Russia and Italy, and would give India to Russia and the British Colonies in Africa to Italy."

Yet the same Hitler, in a speech to the Reichstag in January, 1937, declared:

"I consider bolshevism the most malignant poison that can be given to the people. And therefore I do not want my own people to come into contact with this teaching. As a citizen of this nation I myself shall not do what I should have to condemn my fellow-citizens for doing. I demand from every German workman that he shall not have any relations with these international mischiefmakers and he shall never see me clinking glasses or rubbing shoulders with them. Moreover, any further treaty connections with the present Bolshevik Russia would be completely worthless to us."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Labour Day.

French Republic proclaimed this date, 1870.

Charlottetown is once more a military city, the uniform being the fashion for men.

Slackers will be as unpopular today as they were in 1914—"My country, 'tis of thee" being the slogan.

"Business as usual" must be interpreted as "business unusual" until we once more get into our military stride and way of life.

According to an inspired article in the Rome Popolo D'Italia, Mussolini, though declaring Italy's neutrality, says he will not be satisfied until the Versailles Treaty is scrapped. In this light neutrality means merely pro-German activity.

From Birmingham, famous for limousines and lorries, comes the latest type of motor car, designed for children's use. Weighing only 150 lbs. and equipped with a 1 h.p. petrol engine, and capable of a maximum speed of 20 m.p.h., the car, an open two-seater, has, in miniature, all the controls of a full-sized car in a form that can be easily mastered by a child of six. The manufacturers suggest that the use of this miniature car will train children in road sense and give them a valuable mechanical training. It is considered that it will be invaluable to schools for teaching safety first principles to children of all ages.

Harvesting of crops in Quebec and Ontario proceeded rapidly under favourable weather conditions of the past two weeks. Grain crops in Quebec are yielding well and are of good quality. In Ontario, grain yields are slightly below average. Truck, fruit and tobacco crop prospects are very favourable. Crop prospects in the Maritime Provinces were reduced by continued warm dry weather. Although some delays in harvesting occurred in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, good progress was made with cutting, combining and threshing operations. Yields are reported somewhat higher than was expected before harvesting. Sprouting and bleaching damage resulted from rains in early August in Manitoba while moderate frost damage is reported from central Alberta. Grain crops are being harvested in British Columbia and peaches and pears are being shipped in volume.

According to the Royal Bank, August report, throughout Canada business activity during the first half of 1939 maintained a level well above that for the corresponding period of 1938 and has recovered sharply following the recessions at the first of the year. This improvement has been general and there are but comparatively few branches of industry where the increase in operations has not reached substantial proportions. Employment is more general than in any year since 1930 with the single exception of 1937. Merchants throughout the country reported retail sales in June in greater volume than in the same month of any year since 1931. Crop prospects are more promising than for some years and with increased farm purchasing power, augmented demand for many commodities may be anticipated. While data for July and August are still incomplete, the usual seasonal slackening in business common during the summer months is indicated by preliminary reports to have been less pronounced this year.

NOTES BY THE WAY

This is the rainy season in India, when the monsoon brings dark clouds and heavy rain good for the crops. One of the problems that confront people in rural Bengal is the danger from snakes. During this period snake-bite cases are of common occurrence, particularly in the eastern and northern districts of the province. Floods wash out the snakes' holes in jungles and gardens and the reptiles then take shelter in human habitations, particularly in cowsheds and kitchens. Instances are not rare of a housewife putting her hand into a cooking utensil and being bitten by a cobra lurking there without her knowledge. During the season there is a great demand for the services of the Badias (a nomad tribe) who are popularly believed to be able to cure snake bites by the recital of mantras (verses) and the use of charms. They move about in country, from village to village and calls on them are constant. —Indian Press Union.

The Ottawa Journal makes a strong point in its comparison of the conflicting ideologies of the totalitarian states and the democracies when it states that the issue at stake is more than democracy. It quotes Mitre Jacques Charpenier of Paris, representative of the bar of France at the recent annual meeting of the Canadian Bar Association at Montreal, who pointed out that "the world is divided into two camps, one of which believes in the Christian God, the other does not." That is a very keen analysis of the two great divisions that are arrayed against each other at the present time. Germany, Italy and Japan, the centres of Nazism, Fascism and Paganism, all set the state above religion. On the other hand the nations which exalt Christianity place the individual man above the state or the race, with the inevitable result that they believe in the teachings of democracy and human freedom. If the present massed armies break loose and precipitate a war, the very happiness and well-being of the world will be at stake. If Nazism triumphs it will mean that all the Christian religion stands for will be overwhelmed. Hence it remains to be seen to what extent the various nations will become involved in the struggle. —Brantford Expositor.

Most of us these days appear to be qualifying, in one way or another, as disciples of the Apostle of Despair! It may be the heat that is getting us; it may be the snub from the gal with whom we tried to be friendly; it may be the howl of the radio across the hall; it may even only be the cussedness inherent in humans—whatever the reason, we let us get us down, and we are out in the gloom that Gloomy Gus ever took a whack at. Nothing is any good. Modern craftsmanship is punk. They don't know how to make anything properly these days. Young people are going to the dogs. The music is atrocious. And so on down the line. Our notions of life are abominable. And our prophecies are worse. Perhaps we're wasting our energy these days looking on the dark side of things. Let's take a hand at being optimists. Modern civilization will surmount almost every kind of crisis that it may have to face; it may have to alter its aspect, but it will survive. And that is the main issue. —Winnipeg Free Press.

Heavy rains are reported to have undermined several of the hastily constructed forts in Germany's Limes Line. Military experts conclude that if Hitler decides to attack the world war he will pick a fine day for it. —Toronto Star.

Men who have loved the clash of steel and the glare of the trumpet calling them to action should not necessarily be barred from serving in the Senate after a long apprenticeship in the House of Commons, neither should service as chore boys for the party in power necessarily be considered a qualification for elevation to the Senate. If the Senate is to maintain the best traditions of the past the Government should strengthen its personnel by appointing the wisest and ablest men in the country to outstanding positions. It has made a study of national problems and have some contribution to make, even though they have neither participated in politics—Toronto Globe and Mail.

The Reserve Fleet of 130 vessels, which the King reviewed in Weymouth Bay, was in itself a formidable navy, comprising good fighting examples of nearly all the main surface types, with little or nothing that could be called rubbish. There are still not a great many battleships in commission in the world that are better than the "Ramilles" or the "Revenge," and in their way many of the cruisers were just as useful. The fact is that, though most important changes, few of them could be called revolutionary, and the number of such ships outside our own navy is as yet very small. Similarly in regard to the men: the bulk of the crews, will not have much to learn that they had not learned already in their years of service. What they do need, and what only time and exercise can supply, is the efficiency which a ship company, or a company of ships, obtains through working together and getting to know each other's capacities. For that purpose the Admiralty has done well to embody the reservists now, though some of us, looking at the ston of our negotiations with Japan, may think that it would have been even better done a month earlier. But the fact that the fleet is as fully mobilized today as it was on August 1, 1914, is reassuring. —London Spectator.

In 1938, Canadian automobile

That Body of Yours

WE SHOULD EAT MORE OF THE PROTECTIVE FOODS

Some months ago an outstanding British physician food expert Sir Edward Mellanby, gave a number of addresses and radio talks in Canada under the auspices of the Canadian Medical Association. During the past few years there has been a campaign for physical fitness under way in Great Britain which includes bringing to the knowledge of the public the best foods to maintain health and vigor. The keynote of his talks was that there should be an increased production and use of dairy products and garden stuffs.

"Instinct seems to tell you pretty well what to do in the way of providing for the energy giving foods—bread, sugar, cereals. Nature tells you to eat when you are hungry; the fat man knows he is fat because he has eaten too much. But instincts do not serve so well in the case of protective food stuffs. In fact, instincts are sometimes definitely bad. There is no justification for people gorging themselves with sweets from a physiological (because they are protective) basis."

What does Dr. Mellanby mean by protective foods? Protective foodstuffs, whose need for body health has been pointed out so often by Prof. E. V. McCollum, Johns Hopkins University, are milk, cheese, butter, fruit, eggs, fish, liver and kidneys, and meat. Potatoes, which are inexpensive, are among the most valuable foodstuffs to give energy besides containing helpful minerals and vitamins.

Dr. Mellanby made a special plea for better feeding of children in their early years. By the time English children were old enough to go to school they were too often "damaged" goods—decayed teeth, bad tonsils, anaemia, and tuberculosis.

Remember, children and adults need starch foods—bread, sugar, potatoes, cereals—because they give energy to work and play. Enough starch foods for this purpose should be eaten daily. The suggestion by this eminent food specialist is that more garden stuff—fruits and vegetables, and more dairy products—milk, butter, meat, and eggs—be eaten to protect against ailments, particularly anaemia, tuberculosis, and which he could have employed against an aggressor.

U. S. Neutrality Laws

(Winnipeg Free Press)

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A Car In A Glass Case

(Halifax Chronicle)

There recently came to this desk a picture showing an automobile of antiquated lines reposing in a glass case. Beside the car stands a price card \$1500. The picture, naturally, draws attention. The accompanying reading matter explains that it is an illustration from a General Motors booklet entitled "Research Looks to New Horizons." The explanation is as follows: Suppose that in 1920 an automobile had been sealed in a glass case, in such a way to keep it in perfect condition until today. The price in 1920 was \$1500. Only one or two closed cars sold at a lower price then. But what would you offer now? The car looks awkward. It is high and clumsy looking, with square corners and flat fenders.

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