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

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1950

Politics on the Brink

Ever since North Korean Communists crossed the 38th parallel most Canadians have gone to sleep every night with the uneasy feeling that there was a burglar under the bed...

Paradox of the situation is that those who appear to be least concerned are the politicians. The brief spats of brave talk about Canada's role in Korea has been pushed into the background by internecine strife on the labor front.

Nobody knows how many millions must be spent to make Canada secure in the face of the Soviet threat. Vote-conscious politicians look to high taxes and inflation to finance Canadian defence.

Life Begins at Sixty

A popular misconception which has gained much impetus in this overly social-security conscious era is the notion that most folks of sixty or over are unfit for work.

Fact of the matter is that what any man or woman of sixty or over needs more than anything else is a job. Worry about the inexorable approach of the retirement deadline kills more people than the concern about what they are going to live on after they have been thrown on the economic scrapheap.

If even a fraction of the effort spent on pauperizing people of sixty and over with promises of pensions and other social security benefits were devoted to promoting the idea that people of mature years are not only willing but anxious to form part of this country's productive force...

Truth is that older people are an asset to Canada. Most of them would much prefer to be considered an asset rather than a liability. Tendency to put a premium on youth is wrong. Age, too, deserves more practical consideration than simply to be turned out to graze.

Operation M. P.

Emergency plans by the Ministers of Transport and Defence, Messrs. Chevrier and Claxton, provide for the movement of Members of Parliament to Ottawa by Tuesday. They have been called to attend a special session to deal with the Korean situation and "other matters"; the other matters being presumably the country-wide railway strike as it affects national security and this country's commitments in opposing aggression.

It is to be noted that, notwithstanding the emergency, the organization of this meeting has taken a week after the work had actually been stopped as a result of the rail dispute. This is, perhaps, not too long for such action but there would have been far fewer headaches in Ottawa if air-transport was a normal, rather than an extraordinary, service for our legislators.

Members and Senators are under obligations of being as nearly as possible in two places at once — in close touch with their constituencies and attending to their duties in Parliament. They should be provided with the most efficient means of carrying out those duties, which today means being able to travel by air whenever it is of advantage to do so.

Picnics are still being held, notwithstanding shortages.

Not a few visitors due back in their employments are worrying over their hold up. No doubt so are their employers.

"Miss British Columbia", B.C.'s beauty winner is scheduled to visit here sometime after September 8, but she has not been chosen yet.

Parliament will probably be in session till the end of October, which will leave little time after prorogation for the re-opening for next session.

No matter how grim the transportation situation may become there is little likelihood of Mr. Godfrey's baseball donkeys being "seized" to help keep traffic moving.

Summerside is well on the way to having its new Canadian Legion Band. We cannot have too many good bands, but they require hard work by the bandsmen, and ungrudging support from the public.

It is unfortunate that the Wrens' reunion in Toronto this weekend should be handicapped by the rail strike. This is their first national get-together and will not readily be repeated.

A number of Canadians were among the "exiles" who attended the Royal Welsh National Eisteddfod at Caerphilly last week. Their leader, Professor John Hughes of Montreal, had to cut short his visit when advised of illness in his family.

Statements by Union leaders and railway spokesmen show a hesitation to compromise from fear that it would be taken as a sign of weakness, and strengthen the other party in its stand. A few practicing psychologists could assure both parties that an unbending attitude is more likely to be the result of weakness.

Nova Scotia's controversy over a proposed Child's Bill of Rights was given a new twist by Mr. L. A. DeWolfe, president of the Federation of Home and School Associations. He pointed out that rights must be balanced by obligations, and that the child must learn duty as well as be accorded rights.

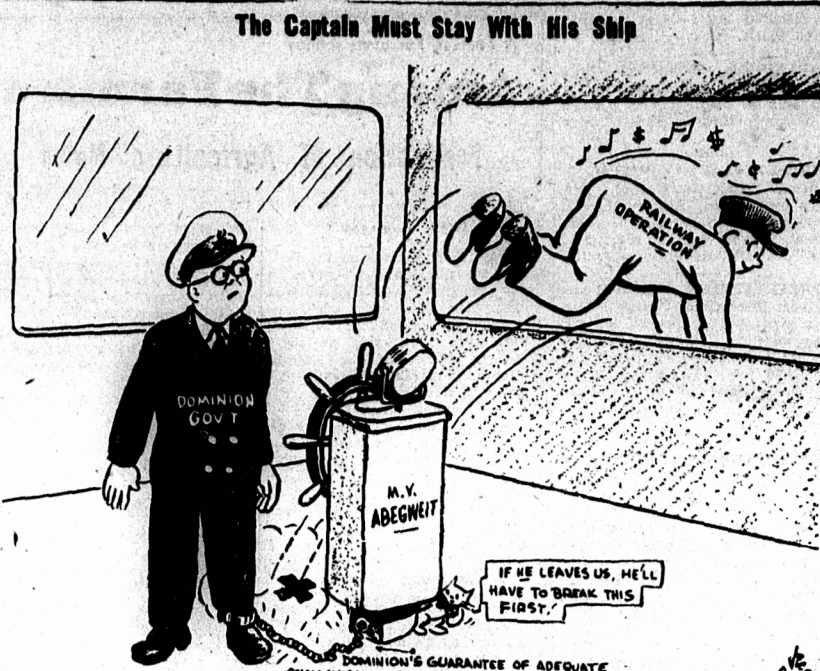
The passing of Mr. Howard P. Robinson, Saint John, removes a potent influence in the industrial life of New Brunswick and of Canada. His financial interest in innumerable industries, Banks, Press and Radio made him a power in the capitalist world, practically second to none in the Maritimes.

With all our representatives back in Ottawa the Provincial Government and the Boards of Trade will have additional force lent to their appeal to have the Borden Car Ferries released from the Railway embargo. As a public throughfare, part of the trans-continental highway, our connecting link with the mainland should be free from interruption of any kind—except as "an act of God."

Francis Bret Hart, American novelist, poet and humorist, born this date 1839. After editing the Overland Monthly, was appointed professor of literature in the University of California. Afterwards entered the Consular service serving at Glasgow and elsewhere. He was a prolific writer, among his best known works are "The Luck of Roaring Camp", "Condensed Novels", (parodies), "Thankful Blossom", "Truthful James", (Heathen Chinese) etc. His most popular poem is the beautiful "Dickens in Camp."

Detergents and synthetics are expected to boost the sales of automatic dish-washers as they have, it is claimed, promoted the use of automatic clothes-washers. Conventional soaps and the early synthetics were too sudsy and left a film on glassware and dishes. The latest detergents are said to be free from this drawback and as a result makers of dish-washers anticipate a large increase in their output.

McGill University intimates that in future Universities in Canada will advertise vacancies and invite applications instead of depending upon responses to invitations as at present. News of the change comes from T. H. Matthews, registrar of McGill University and secretary of the National Conference of Canadian Universities. He says: "It takes a long time to break down a habit. It will probably be some years yet before Canadian universities advertise all their vacancies. But, nevertheless, the decision has been made, and we can expect a steady increase in advertising during the coming years." At present only Alberta University resorts to advertising its vacancies.



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

SELKIRK ESTATE DISPUTE

The Supreme Court was engaged for four days in a case of ejectment by the executors and trustees of the late Earl of Selkirk vs. Lauchlin Martin, by special jury.

Lady Astor says it would be better for the world and all concerned "if women just took over and ran everything." Like they do in house-cleaning time; but don't say we didn't warn you, girls, that this is a worse mess! — Ottawa Citizen.

Care of the aged ought to be a first obligation of the modern community, and such care should be adequate both as to accommodation, and as to service and attention. Increasing longevity in Ontario means that the number of aged in the community will increase.

A town to us is only wealthy when its citizens are inventive, overcome difficulties, make use of the limitations of terrain, or climate or resources. When its citizens show energy and initiative, a co-operative spirit, and a community self-interest, then we would say that a town is rich.

Over in New York they found a man, prostrate from the heat, with an unbearable temperature of 109.8. Did they fill him with ice beer or even give him chunks of ice to drool over at the hospital? They fed him two quarts of tepid salty water and less than an hour he was cured and discharged.

There are few worse pests than the fellow who tosses a bottle from a car onto the pavement. Broken glass is not only dangerous to both children and adults but a source of great annoyance and expense to motorists.

Nothing could be more pitiful than the reports of American soldiers in the early days of the Korean fighting who saw their rockets bounce harmlessly from Russian-type tanks. The United States, of course, quickly had an improved bazooka sent in and it has done yeoman service.

Recent American tests with Russian tanks, now no doubt superseded by improved models, indicate they are equal to anything in the North Atlantic nations have in mass production. It is ironical to think that only a few years ago the Russian asked for more and more Valentine tanks produced in Canadian factories to assist their training and combat operations in war.

It is too much to expect that we can lean on the United States and Britain and expect them to provide us with the components of tanks and other heavy equipment when they themselves are pressed so

Notes By The Way

A man really becomes skillful when he can drive as well with the wheel in his hand as his wife can without it. —Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.

Canada has been fortunate again that somebody else was able to stand between her and direct aggression while she took the time to bolster her defence forces. — Sherbrooke Record.

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Editorial Comment On Strike Situation

Winnipeg Free Press (Independent-Liberal) — Few, it is clear from talks with railway workers, wanted the strike. It is time that the reasonable and intelligent individuals who make up the bulk of the railway workers of this country applied their good sense to a solution. Every day of strike will make a solution more difficult and will bear with greater weight upon the people of this country.

Winnipeg Tribune (Independent) — The thousands upon thousands of people who stand to suffer inconvenience, and later possible loss of employment, will join in the sincere hope that mediation will continue, and that both sides to the present dispute will continue to keep contact looking to a time of early compromise.

Calgary Albertan (Independent) — Substantially higher wages, followed by very much higher freight rates, are the alternative to a strike. Canada cannot afford either of them, and the unions are to blame for trying to force them on the nation. But in the end they will be much less disastrous than a lengthy strike. It is unfortunate that the unions insist on such cruel terms, but they do, and (assuming that they would compromise further as Dr. MacIntosh said they must) Canada must accept their terms as the lesser of the two evils.

Edmonton Journal (Independent) — Parliament is the proper place to review and deal with a national emergency such as this. Members of the House are all consumers and affected directly or indirectly by the stoppage of railway services. Some of them are shippers and some are railway employees and they will be able to speak with first-hand knowledge of matters in dispute.

Edmonton Bulletin (Independent) — The crux of this strike situation is not wages nor hours of work nor railway revenues, but constantly increasing commodity prices. Only the government can control that factor. But the government, delaying all effective action beyond the point of reason, appears to have said to the people of Canada: "The public be damned." Prime Minister St. Laurent has called an immediate session of Parliament. That session should have been called six weeks ago.

Ottawa Citizen (Independent) — Mediation might have succeeded had it been undertaken sooner. Precious days were lost when the rail companies took the unfortunate course of making a "final offer" — couched in terms that served only to arouse the resentment of the unions and make a settlement that much more difficult. Since then the railways have offered concessions that go a long way to meet the major demands of the unions... with these concessions assured, to settle by negotiation... should not be impossible.

Ottawa Journal (Independent-Conservative) — Because 14 million Canadians should not have to suffer loss and possibly endure severe hardship at the will of 125,000 men, the strike simply cannot be permitted to run its tragic course to that compromise which eventually is the solution of most strikes. We find some satisfaction

Halifax Chronicle-Herald (Independent) — It is not just what the Prime Minister intends to convey by the statement that "the government will have to act to protect the vital interests of the whole national community" in this crisis. Whatever the course may be, one should entertain any doubts about the power and authority of the government... in any situation where "the security, defence, peace, order and welfare of Canada" is involved.

Calgary Herald (Independent) — This strike is the showdown now that it has been launched. The Federal Government must do something else besides appointing 11th-hour mediators. It must establish its authority once and for all; it must make it clear that the national welfare invariably comes ahead of the selfish ambitions of a small group of men. Nothing less will save us from anarchy.

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Weapons in A Hurry

(Ottawa Journal)

Mr. Claxton with his justifiable enthusiasm for the CF-100 and F-86 fighter aircraft obscures our vision. We are completely persuaded they are excellent and will serve Canada well. We know we do not need to remind him that one CF-100 in hand-operated and one Canadian-built F-86 under test may be a matter of pride but can hardly be counted as protection until they have been multiplied many times.

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The Poet's Corner

A naked house, a naked moor. A shivering pool before the door. A garden bare of flowers and fruit. And poplars at the garden foot: Such is the place that I live in, Bleak without and bare within.

Yet shall your rugged moor receive The incomparable pomp of eve, And the cold glories of the dawn Behind your shivering trees be drawn;

And when the wind from place to place Doth the unmoored cloud-galleon chase,

Your garden gloom and gleam again, With leaping sun, with glancing rain.

Here shall the wizard moon ascend The heavens, in the crimson mid Of day's declining splendor; here The army of the stars appear.

— R. L. Stevenson

The Age-Old Story

That Thy way may be known upon the earth, Thy saving health among all nations, God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear Him.