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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1955

The Tenth Anniversary

The tenth anniversary of VE-Day, marking the unconditional surrender of Germany in the Second World War, falls on Sunday, May 8.

It was in the little town of Wageningen, Holland, ten years ago, that General Foulkes of the Canadian Army accepted the surrender of the German troops in the Canadian sector of the line.

Even as the last echoes of the war in Europe died away, the world found itself on the threshold of a new era heralded by the atomic bombs which obliterated Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The year 1945 saw one important stride taken towards maintaining peace after victory—the birth of the United Nations Organization, designed to succeed the League of Nations.

Let The Facts Be Known

There seems to be considerable criticism—especially in the United States, but it is evident in this country, too—concerning publication in the newspapers and elsewhere of the certain danger to life and property that modern bombs would do in the event of war.

Yet it seems only right and proper that the people should know as much about the situation as is possible for them to learn. This, for two reasons. First, there is nothing to be gained by harbouring or encouraging the delusion that, in another war, some areas would be safe from attack.

land, for example, one dropped on St. John or Moncton or Halifax, given the right wind to carry the dust, would amount to about the same thing.

Second, it needs to be understood that there is some protection even from hydrogen bombs and their after effects. We are told, for example, that basements provide up to 90% safety from radioactive fallout or even from an explosion many hundreds of miles away, and ordinary frame houses up to 50%.

There is something else to be considered, too. Assuming that the known facts are being circulated in all countries, it may be that they will help to build up an international situation in which the very thought of the magnitude of the danger that confronts civilization will make the hydrogen bomb—and even war itself—look utterly suicidal and aimless.

"Tuning-In" To The Stars

"Noises" from outer space are being recorded at the Jodrell Bank experimental station, near Manchester, England, where a giant radio-telescope is under construction to "listen-in" to the stars.

Unlike conventional telescopes, the Jodrell Bank apparatus will be a great saucer-shaped reflector of copper mesh, 250 feet in diameter, suspended between two towers.

Radio telescopes are also planned or under construction in Australia, the Netherlands, and the United States.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, Mother's Day, an anniversary which has gained greatly in popularity in recent years; first given official recognition by the United States Congress on May 8, 1914.

A six-weeks course to instruct pilots in the proper methods of spraying and dusting crops with insecticide, will start next October at the Texas Agricultural and Mining College in the United States.

According to National Health Minister Martin, Canada now has the fourth lowest tuberculosis death rate in the world; but we cannot afford to fall into the error of thinking that tuberculosis is conquered.

It was a strenuous week for Music Festival participants, adjudicators, and scores of willing workers in the Festival Association whose combined efforts made this season the most successful in our musical history.

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce is sparking a nation-wide program to increase the number of teachers in our schools. The program includes plans for giving wider publicity to the importance of the teaching profession, a survey of salary scales and releases to inform taxpayers if revisions are necessary, and co-operation with school administrators to insure good equipment and supplies.



High Scorer

Public Forum

Whether 'tis wiser to close on Wednesdays, And hie off to the country or take in the races.

When we have shuffled off for hours of leisure... must give us pause.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The rear-view window is especially important. Yet it is by no means uncommon to see such windows almost completely curtained with pennants and stickers.

When parking meters came into vogue they were evenly spaced in accordance with the size of the automobiles generally in use.

Is it all over, finally? Will the sun shine long enough, or the rain rain warm enough to bring spring to the Tenth Province?

rest; but they look back from a realm of glory to the door of life that is closed between us.

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A Shopper's Soliloquy

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LEGION MEMORIAL DAY

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Medically Speaking

CLAIM TWO NEW DRUGS WILL CURE POISON IVY

With summer just around the corner, you are probably already thinking of picnics and hikes in the woods.

They've developed a combination of two agents to fight off the itchy rash of poison ivy.

DEADLY FALL-OUT

Too, the serious-to-lethal radioactive fall-out from a 20-megaton bomb, the equivalent of 20,000,000 tons of TNT, extends downward for about 200 miles across a belt up to 20 miles wide.

DECISIVE WEAPON

Officially, Western leaders have said the free nations would use the H-bomb, first if need be, to deter the Soviet Union.

POWERFUL DETERRENT

"In this scientific race we must strive to keep our offensive and defensive developments in step but if this cannot be done we must be sure that our offensive capabilities are at all times adequate to deter an aggressor from attacking."

WARNING LINES

The two countries now are rushing work on two radar lines, the DEW (Distant Early Warning) line in the Arctic and the Mid-Canada Fence.

CANNED FOOD

The United Kingdom, biggest single importer of canned foods, takes more than 30 per cent of all world exports.

Civil Defense Planning

Last of a series of four articles By Dave McIntosh, Canadian Press, Ottawa

Civil defense thinking here now would require interceptor bases in the North, plus interceptor bases against hydrogen-bomb attack by radar.

The only existing interceptors are the Pine Tree radar in the Canadian border. Range of a radar is believed only 200 miles.

At the moment, Canada has four or five long-range CF-101 interceptors and an even number will also come into operation this year.

This will mean a defence force of only some 100 planes, which, however, could quickly concentrate at the point of attack. The Canadian defence force would be augmented by hundreds of American fighters.

The hydrogen bomb also may be increasingly important in the RCAF. The development of a long-range air-to-air missile, now being tested at Cold Lake, Alberta, would mean a fighter plane could be within 300 yards of a Soviet aircraft to shoot it down.

A distance of 400 yards would mean suicide for the interceptor crew because the likelihood of a hit would be almost certain.

To save its interceptor planes from being shot down, the RCAF would need a long-range air-to-air missile that could be fired at least 15 miles away from the bomb-carrying plane.

Beyond the bomber is the threat of the intercontinental ballistic missile equipped with a thermonuclear warhead.

Dr. O. M. Solandt, chairman of the Defence Research Board, in a recent speech at Montreal said the evolution of an effective defence against intercontinental ballistic missiles poses some very difficult problems which are not yet completely solved.

"Nevertheless, we must recognize the advantages of thermonuclear weapons and the possibility of intercontinental ballistic missiles has given the offensive war tremendous superiority over the defensive."

"We are, in fact, faced with the scientific problem of reaching some time in the future a state which there exist offensive weapons of power and number adequate to destroy our whole civilization with no adequate means of defence against them."

"Should we ever find ourselves in a defensive position we run the risk of tempting him to embark on the third world war."

"Therefore the peace and possibly the survival of the world depend upon the speed with which the scientists and engineers of the free world can devise and perfect successive offensive and defensive weapons systems."

Dr. Solandt concluded with the sentence: "We are now at last faced with the desperate alternative of one world or none."

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