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

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1956

Farm Federation Appeal

We are so accustomed nowadays to noting the many activities of the Federation of Agriculture that we have come to regard it as a long-established institution. Actually it has grown up in the past two decades.

On the national level the Federation has played an important part in obtaining marketing legislation, freight assistance on western grain, floor prices on butter, hogs and eggs, numerous tariff adjustments and, following the War, relief from annoying income tax regulations.

The farmers who have been supporting the Federation have realized for some time the importance and value of organization but they are now seeking the assistance of greater numbers of their neighbors.

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Heavy Responsibility

The impending union of Canada's two large labour organizations, the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and the Canadian Congress of Labor, with the probability of strength being added to the merger by the Canadian and Catholic Confederation of Labor, marks an historic and important point in the history of organized labour in this country.

Two researchers have come up with the announcement that wet weather, temperature changes, and exposure have nothing to do with "catching a cold".

In cautioning the good citizens of Birmingham against "jeering and maligning" Russians, Nikita Khrushchev cited the sad case of Hitler "who shook his fist at Russians".

polices of the C.C.F. Evidently, a compromise has been worked out tentatively, by which the C.C.F. will have a pro forma preferential status with the C.L.C., but not to the extent of making it the "labor party" of Canada.

On the whole, Canadian organized labour has a good record; and, for the most part, its leaders have been men of probity and ability. That this condition will continue under the new arrangement will be the hope of all Canadians.

Central Europe Sky Patrol

This month the seven-nation command of Allied Air Forces Central Europe celebrated its fifth anniversary. In these five years a modern international air force has been quickened to life.

At the outset, countries whose aircraft industry had not yet recovered from World War II disruption received basic aid from their partners. Now, five years later, European air industry has revived.

This force is the largest of NATO's three air forces and with its atomic capability constitutes a formidable part of the alliance's "deterrent strength".

But as important as the equipment it flies is the spirit which binds such an alliance together. Five years ago it was doubted that military men could work under, and beside, men of different nationalities in peacetime.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Washington has announced that a hydrogen bomb test set for May 1 has been postponed "for technical reasons". It is possible, too, that rising public indignation against all such tests has something to do with the delay.

A modern, humidity-controlled cold storage plant, with a capacity of 20,000,000 pounds, has been opened at Montreal by the Federal Minister of Fisheries.

Another way that certain well-meaning advocates of music in our public schools seem to think an easy way to teach it is by the radio, or by gramophone records, thus providing examples of good popular, and even classic music for the listening pupils.

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THE CITY ADVERTISES: Free for taking away windfall birch limbs around Victoria Park. (Cars and trucks must stay on pavement.) PUBLIC PROPERTY COMMISSION. BIRCH LIMBS, THAT IS EVERYBODY'S HAPPY! AS LONG AS EVERYONE UNDERSTANDS IT MIGHT ALSO HAVE BEEN DONE THUSLY: Please do not pick up and take home windfall birch limbs around Victoria Park. PUBLIC PROPERTY COMMISSION. JUST WHAT CONSTITUTES A WINDFALL. ALL YOURS

PUBLIC FORUM

MUSIC FOR RURAL SCHOOLS

Sir—I have read with much interest the recent announcements of the annually recurring music festival to be held in Charlottetown in the coming month of May.

In the current issue of the monthly "Lexiconary" is an interesting piece in which Col. E. R. Rivers-Macpherson of Ottawa gives his findings about the ceremonial loyal salute of 21 guns.

The system is, however, an exceedingly easy and effective one, especially for pupils who have had previous training on the organ or piano, and who accordingly can readily recognize all the keys of the staff with their signatures in sharps and flats when they see them written on the blackboard or few lessons. With a system such as exactly how the tonic sol-fah syllables relate to the staff notes, and having learned this, they can practice to perfection, alone or in groups, the combined staff and tonic sol-fah system.

Pupils who are prospective teachers, while still in the public school grades, would therefore be well advised to take a course even if it were a comparatively short one, on the organ or piano before entering P.W.C. With this foundation in music they could easily master the combined staff and tonic sol-fah system even in one year.

I may mention here that there is a very practical way in which the Government, or more properly speaking the Department of Education, could provide extra training in music for our rural teachers, and that is by means of a course in school music at the teachers' summer school similar to that provided by Mount Allison University in its summer course for teachers.

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There is one more matter to which I wish to refer before closing this discussion. I have noticed that several school districts during the past five or ten years have made considerable efforts to improve music in the schools by engaging a trained musician to visit these schools at least once a week, and give an hour's lesson to the pupils.

There is therefore one, and only one way, to have music satisfactorily taught in our rural schools, and that is by having the regular teachers qualified to teach it. Compulsory music in the public schools, I believe would be inadvisable for there are a few good teachers who can't sing, or rather who think they can't, and compulsory music might prohibit them from the teaching profession.

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OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (April 27, 1931)

Mr. W. Arnett of the Clarke Steamship Company, Quebec, is at present in Charlottetown in connection with the opening of the season for shipping. The S.S. Gaspe left Montreal on Wednesday and is due here Tuesday, via Gaspe coast ports.

One of the earliest plantings in the records of industry has been made possible this year by the unusually early season and the good condition of the ground. The season is about three weeks ahead of the average time.

A total of \$10,035,731 was paid for the fiscal year which ended March 31 last, to the nine Provinces of Canada by the Dominion Government in the way of subsidy. Of this amount Prince Edward Island received \$506,931.

The quarterly meeting of the Alberta and West Prince Board of Trade was held in Alberton, Wednesday afternoon, with Mayor Wilfred Tanton presiding. The main topic of discussion was the proposed establishment of a ferry service between West Point, P.E.I. and Buctouche, N.B.

The monthly report of the eastern division of the Department of Fisheries, released today, shows that Prince Edward Island fishermen had a small catch during the month of March. The total catch was 11,200 pounds with a landed value of \$420, both figures being up from the 5,500 pounds with a value of \$298 for the same month in 1945.

Four thousand, five hundred cars and 1,050 trucks in the Province have received their new number plates for 1946. It is understood police are keeping a sharp lookout for those travelling without new plates.

Elastic Tax Cuts

(Windvor Star) One advantage of a mid-year tax cut is that, for political reasons, it can be represented as two successive tax reductions. One applies to the half-year, and the other to the full year following.

Payroll deductions from Jan. 1 to July 1, for instance, are averaged over the corresponding period of last year. Yet he's an adroit and persuasive partisan who would prove to a taxpayer that the cut is equal to two, and we doubt that Mr. Batten has been deceived.

This suggestion of double service by the tax reduction field in dictates, however, that if election year cuts are made in 1957 they won't go into effect until mid-year. Then enthusiastic backbenchers can attempt to stretch their political value across 1957 and 1958.

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Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

In Cancer Research We don't know how far we are from solving the cancer riddle. Some scientist may come up with a cure tomorrow. Or maybe it will be years before we conquer the disease.

Like to know what is being done toward solving the problem? Well, here's a brief sketch of what is going on. Cancer Tissues Biochemists are trying to find out just how cancer tissue differs chemically from normal healthy tissue.

Inheritance is an important factor in developing cancer in animals. Studies are underway to determine whether heredity enters into the human cancer picture. Viruses are being studied to determine whether they cause cancer in humans as they do in chickens and whether they can be used to localize and destroy tumors as they have done in animals.

High power radiation for cancer treatment at low cost will be provided by a linear electron accelerator which is now being perfected at Stanford University. New Chemicals The search also continues for a drug or drugs which may provide us with a cancer cure.

And a world-wide search is underway for plants which may contain effective cancer-fighting drugs. Of course, there are many other phases of research, too. Some day they'll pay off. QUESTION AND ANSWER Mr. E.J.: Can rifle shooting cause arthritis to one's shooting shoulder?

Answer: Any type of jarring or repeated pressure, such as occurs from the kick of a rifle, can cause osteoarthritis, which is a form of arthritis, to occur in the shoulder joint where the handle of the gun is held.

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A college student's admission that he reported a sea-monster in the Thames as a joke explains the sea monster. It doesn't explain the college student.—Chatham News

A man who grows about his wife's cooking will eat any old thing with relish when he is camping out for a few days with a stag party.—Stratford Beacon-Herald

Why is it that even the most patriotic of us will assume that when the USSR does something it's a diabolically clever and when the West does a move it's unbelievably stupid?—Hamilton Spectator

Dr. Hill, Calgary's medical officer of health, objects to the idea of letting the people of Calgary vote on whether their public water supply should be fluoridated. He asks: "Does it seem reasonable to throw this into the hands of ordinary people who in the past have left health decisions to those qualified to make them?"—Calgary Albertan

Durability tests on British frogs have been going on since last July. The frogs are kept at a 38-degree temperature, given one minute of light and heat every other day and on the alternate days squirted with icy water. So far they've stayed content and healthy, and have maintained approximately the average frog birth-rate. As we reach for our vitamin pills our hands shake nervously. It sounds to us like to take over control of things, and leave the human race to snuffle and wheeze in bosky marshes.—Detroit Free Press

Premier Joseph Smallwood of Newfoundland, the little fireball who did so much to bring his island into Confederation, is in the peculiar position of being so strong politically that he is growing just a little tired of it. At least so he says. The Liberal regime is so strong in Newfoundland and the opposition so weak, he told the legislature the other day, that there is a real danger to good government. For, as Mr. Smallwood correctly pointed out, a poor opposition allows a government to become careless and cocksure; a strong opposition keeps it on its toes.—Ottawa Citizen

What Women Don't Know About Being Female Is being female a bundle of tricks, such as squealing at mice or being poor at arithmetic? In May Reader's Digest, a Canadian woman doctor tells why women shouldn't underestimate their biology, gives her reasons for doubting there can be a platonic relationship between a man and woman who are alone together a good deal.

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