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

CHARLOTTETOWN THURSDAY, JULY 6, 1950

Fleet in Being

British naval strategy has long emphasized the importance of the "fleet in being"—the existence of powerful sea forces capable of bringing relief to possible objects of enemy attack, and of striking hard blows at unexpected places.

In addition, the existence of sea-borne forces must give pause to Red strategists, capable as they are of striking at any of an almost unlimited number of points should the conflict become general in character, rather than confined to the struggle between North and South Korea.

Security Is Uncertain

The forthcoming Dominion-Provincial conference will have several very thorny issues to consider. Among them, undoubtedly, will be the report of the parliamentary committee on old age pensions.

Old age security is the sort of thing that evokes the sympathetic interest of all. Each and every Canadian strives on his own initiative to provide something for his declining years.

Point to be considered in connection with the parliamentary committee's report is whether Canadian taxpayers can afford to take the chance of underwriting old age security for all regardless of whether a need exists.

Sobering thought is that, were the parliamentary committee's proposals in force at the moment, the Finance Minister would be budgeting for an even greater deficit than the \$87,000,000 presently predicted.

Better far to retain the means test than to embark upon an old age security scheme which might suddenly have to be abandoned in order to meet the even more pressing needs of national security and defence.

Prairie Farm Assistance

Since passage of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act in 1939, about \$127 million have been paid out to farmers on account of crop failure. This sum includes \$46 million contributed by farmers generally—whether or not their chances of loss are high—through a deduction of one per cent from the sale of their grain.

Many western members are not satisfied that the Prairie Farm Assistance Act is any more than a stopgap. It can be justified, however, on no other ground. Parliament has no constitutional authority to apply a scheme of individual all-risk crop insurance.

There must be at least a rectangular block of 18 sections (corresponding to a half-township) to start with. To that unit eligible for payment, if the average yield of wheat is eight bushels or less, may be added a minimum of six other sections all contained within a single township.

P. F. A. A. extends to any part of the prairie provinces which has an average yield, for the township or half-township unit, of no more than eight bushels of wheat per seeded acre (or its equivalent) of other grains in case little or no wheat has been planted.

under the statute. But the Act was originally planned to meet drouth conditions, and drouth remains its primary function.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Strawberries plentiful, but gathering weather unsuitable.

The Credit Unions have now reached a standard of development which encourages them to go out into the whole Province and endeavour to open new branches.

Shediac is glorifying the lobster and, perhaps to a greater degree, the lobster is turning Maritime eyes on Shediac.

Even at an all-time high of 165.4 for June 1st, the cost-of-living index does not accurately reflect the average family expenditures.

The decision of the Red Cross to stress adult swimming classes this year should be something of a capital investment.

Visitors especially will find the notes on highway conditions in the Province in today's issue, supplied by the Provincial Government, of value at this time.

The increase in the cost of living as at June 1 we are told was due mainly to the advance in the price of pork, beef and lamb.

John Flaxman, English sculptor, died this date 1826. He first found scope for his genius as a designer for Wedgwood, but in 1782 he began to devote himself to statuary and monumental sculpture.

One of the latest developments in the field of home heating controls is a new thermostat that contains a tiny heating plant of its own to nudge the house heating plant into action even before temperature changes can be felt.

The Senate is evidently of opinion that the Civil Service is encroaching on representative government. Senator J. J. Kinley (L-Nova Scotia) on the eve of pro-rogation told the Senate Canada needs a Bill of Rights if for no other reason than to curb the incursions of the Civil Service on the rights of the people.

Egg prices on June 29 this year and previous years. The prices quoted below are for Grade A Large. At Montreal and Toronto the prices are those at which graded shipments are selling to wholesalers.

Table with columns for Province, 1950, 1949, 1948. Rows include Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Edmonton, Regina, Charlottetown, and a section for Weight of Live and Dressed Poultry at Registered Stations week ending June 17, 1950.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

EARLY FIRE ENGINE

Some years ago an old "hand pumper" was taken down from the attic of the City Building, and although many parts were missing it was refitted and shown in the Firemen's parade during the Confederation Week celebrations here in 1939.

Mr. Attlee's Statement On Schuman Plan

Britain's Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, made the following statement in the Commons, June 13th: "On the afternoon of May 9th, the French Ambassador informed the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that the French Government had prepared a proposal for pooling French, German and other European coal and steel production and that a public statement would be issued by the French Government on the subject in the course of the day."

"It became perfectly clear in the course of informal discussions between Monsieur Monnet, the Chief Planning Officer of the French Government, and the British officials that, while the French Government had not worked out how their proposal would be applied in practice, their views on the procedure for the negotiations were definite."

"The consequences, as far as His Majesty's Government are concerned, were stated in the communique they issued on the 3rd of June and from which I quote the following passage: "His Majesty's Government do not feel able to accept in advance, nor do they wish to reject in advance, the principles underlying the French proposal."

"I am sure the whole House will hope that a practical working out of the scheme will show ways by which the United Kingdom may be able to associate itself with this valuable piece of European Co-operation."

New Pitcher



MON. N.B. BILL

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

"WATCH YOUR STEP"

Sir,—In Psalms 1:1 we read—"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly". It is very apparent that in this modern age a great many women in our midst try to improve.

Commons United On Korean Situation

(I. Norman Smith in the Ottawa Journal) When Mr. St. Laurent told the Commons Friday morning that our ships were getting up steam for Korea the Commons burst into shouting applause.

Commons United On Korean Situation

So that was the way the Canadian Parliament sent its ships to Korea—83 years after Confederation, 32 years after one world war, five years after another.

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"I conclude with two points. In its attitude to a proposal of this kind, His Majesty's Government must have in mind the basic economic needs and the security of the country and the necessity to ensure that the United Kingdom is in a position to discharge its responsibilities in every part of the world."

The Poet's Corner

FROGS Here in the red heart of the sun set lying, My rest an islet of brown weeds blown dry, I watch the wide bright heavens, hovering high, My plain and pools in lucent splendour dyeing.

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Notes By The Way

We are among the ardent admirers of the Chicago climate. We believe firmly that it provides the utmost in luxury that the human spirit can stand without going dangerously soft.

The surprising fact is that in comparatively quiet water, pushing a good-sized freighter away from a pier is no great feat of strength. It can be done by a single man, or a boy for that matter, and with no great heaving or straining.

This part of Canada is vitally interested in reforestation, not only as a means of providing employment in local industry, but as a means of beautifying further what is already a lovely countryside.

to war without coaxing or pleading or formal binding treaty. And so Canadians rose in the Commons to cheer the sending of ships to Korea even though few of them would be able to find it on a map.

"I wish to say that a mighty change has come in the affairs of our city, and our ideals are utterly unlike those of our leaders in a previous generation. When I was a boy, it was considered not only safe but honorable to create an estate, so that almost all men of standing wished to add to their possessions and felt a certain dignified honor in prospering; but now one must apologize for any success in business as if it were the utter violation of the moral law, so that today it is worse to seem to prosper than to be an unlikable criminal.

One of the large Fergus churches has a committee going around the country these Sunday mornings, trying to pick out a new minister who will please everyone—quite a task, by the way. A cynic asks us what they look for in choosing a minister. Do they pick a man with a pleasant appearance; or one that will suit the young people; or one who will bring the new members to a church that won't hold all the present membership, if they all decide to go to church; or one who can be at home visiting in the country as well as in town; or one who seems like a good fellow; or one who reads and prays well; or one who won't ask for a big salary or an assistant; or one who doesn't look as if he would stay too long till the congregation got tired of him; or one whose wife can preside at missionary meetings, or one who is fluent? Or do they look for one who is likely to save precious souls from damnation? Don't ask us. We have wondered too.—Fergus News-Record.

The Age-Old Story

As an ear-ring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprover upon an obedient ear.

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