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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1939

Has The Dictator Abdicated?

The somewhat sensational announcement that a new administration has been sanctioned in Germany bears something like the impress of abdication of Hitler's hitherto absolute dictatorship.

The decision to set up this special defence council at this particular time was prompted, we are told, "by the desire to assure the public that every precaution is being taken early."

Who engineered the coup? Was it Goering, who we have previously had reason to believe had not always seen eye to eye with Goebbels, Hitler's propagandist? Goering is Prime Minister of Prussia as well as German Air Minister, and after all Prussia has more at stake than any other German principalities.

The resort to an active cabinet of six instead of a nominal government of fifteen, previously the supposed consultants of the Fuehrer, does not necessarily imply a change of heart on the part of the powers-that-be, but it does indicate that Germany is getting restless under present conditions and demands greater assurance that at least internal organization is under more-responsible supervision.

Hitler, Chairman
Hess, Vice-Chairman
Goebbels
Goering
Frich
Frick
Kreich
Rust
Darre
Ley
Himmler
Von Neurath
Von Ribbentrop
Schurach
Lutze
Schacht
Von Blomberg
Krosigk

While we are told that this new council is to be effective if and when war comes, its significance lies in the fact that Germans as a whole are learning the truth of the situation from British and French propaganda now penetrating the hitherto dictator-censored Fatherland, and are no longer content to accept without "assurance" the Nazi propaganda.

Hitler's Fatal Blunder

Hitler finds his sensational trump card, the Russian Treaty, practically lost the hand he thought he held. On the memorable afternoon of Aug. 21 Herr Hitler and Herr Ribbentrop decided a Soviet pact would bring back the support of their hesitating allies and would throw a scare into their enemies.

The German Army

Military observers do not agree with regard to the strength of the German army. In so far as training and officers are concerned, the Reich has still, it is contended, a long way to go before catching up with France.

All these estimates have still granted great power to the army that Hitler has built up.

There has been no inclination to discount it. As Herbert Rosinski, a military expert who formerly lectured at the German Military Academy and now lives in London, describes it: "The German army is today in many respects a far more formidable force than its 1914 predecessor."

But reserves are weak, more so in training than in numbers. It is unlikely that the actual total which Hitler could mobilize would exceed 4,000,000, and "fewer than 1,000,000 reservists have gone through the full two-year course since the beginning of rearmament."

"In contrast to the training and tactical strategic ideas of the German army, which are in general on a very high level," the writer continues, "its personnel and morale are of much more doubtful character. In view of the discontent existing under the surface, it is inevitable that the army's ranks should contain many secret opponents of the Nazi regime."

Taken as a whole, according to this authority, the German army is "a formidable striking force, trained not only for a lightning campaign, but for hard and prolonged fighting and particularly for mobile warfare. Its weaknesses are a lack of clear strategic doctrine, a lack of staying power owing to the indifferent morale of the rank and file and the inner disharmony in the officer corps, and, finally, the poor quality of most of its equipment."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Jacques Cartier died this date, 1557.

Festival of St. Giles, patron of lepers, cripples and beggars.

From present indications it would appear Chamberlain has put the skids under Hitler.

The rain seems very shy of us this year; it approaches, almost drops in on us, and then hastens away.

Bliss Carman reminds us that now September is with us "The scarlet of the maples can shake me like a cry of bugles going by. And my lonely spirit thrills to see the frosty asters like a smoke upon the hills."

Should hostilities break out Prime Minister Mackenzie King will immediately reorganize his Cabinet with the inclusion of the opposition chiefs including Messrs. Manion, C. Stevens, C. Woodsworth, C.C.F., Blackmore, S.C.

Montreal is pluming itself that one day last week the Detective Bureau did not have a single prisoner charged with a crime, which is an extraordinary record considering that there are about a million citizens in their district.

Storing up financial anxiety for future generations, thanks to Hitler. Prime Minister Menzies told the Commonwealth Defense Council that Australia's defence expenditure for 1939-40 will be \$128,000,000, as compared with \$56,000,000 in the previous year.

July cheese exports were valued at \$1,609,551, the United Kingdom as usual being the heaviest purchaser at \$1,502,910. In June the export was \$802,171 and in July last year \$1,693,307. The total export in the first seven months of 1939 was \$3,694,876 about the same as in 1938.

What "Taxpayer" and "Another Taxpayer," "Justice" and all that class of citizens would like to know—is "Why the external Civic Audit included revenue from taxes back to, and even beyond, 1932, but specifically confined the investigation of Civic expenditure to the one year, 1938?"

Fifty young constables admitted to the Sydney police force have, at the instigation and with the blessing of the Police Commission started a wedding dowry scheme. Each constable will have \$4 a week deducted from his wages, which in three years will produce \$624. The Police Commission thinks that a policeman should practice thrift and not incur financial responsibilities until he is able to meet them.

The unusual display of the aurora borealis on the night of Aug. 11, visible over the northern portion of the United States and Canada, was scientifically clocked, photographed and measured more completely than any other auroral display that has occurred in many years, reports to the National Geographic Society indicate. Scientific observers pronounced it the most brilliant and extensive aurora of 1939 and one of the most striking in the past ten years.

Mr. George B. Armstead, Managing Editor of the Hartford, (Conn.) Courant, in his intensely interesting article "Reflections On The Fair at Flushing," published in the Hartford Courant, of August 6th, states his visit to the New York World's Fair leaves him with the impression that the management has "missed the boat" in public relations. Mr. Armstead believes the reason for the poor attendance at the Fair may be found in the fact "that the Fair has not been properly advertised."

It undoubtedly would interest automobile tourists to learn which route Teddy the toad journeyed in his homeward journey from Oakland, Calif., to Harvard, Mass. Teddy's owner, who attributes his pet's homing instincts to all loads, says he has never heard of any other toad jumping home from Dallas, his owner relates. A correspondent therefore suggests that before leaving California he should be tak-

NOTES BY THE WAY

Farmer at New Dundee threshed 25 acres of oats for a total of 1970 bushels, and that is an average of 78.8 per acre. There may be a number of things wrong with the country, but there is nothing much out of order with that particular crop. — Peterborough Examiner.

Here in Canada we should be building for the biggest Autumn business in years. Industrial production is up; so are employment figures and total payrolls; a good crop is almost ready to be harvested. There is nothing between us and better times but ourselves—and our cantankerous habit of cussing. We should stop it. — Vancouver Sun.

Scientists who have just failed in the abstraction of their own reason with the intention of eating the country over. That apple pie retains only twenty percent. of the C vitamin contained in the original apples is no deterrent to pie eaters. Any vitamin eater who likes his pie will merely eat five times as much. — Sarnia Canadian Observer.

Mark Twain would have been interested in the announcement made by a person that during the summer months none of his sermons will exceed fifteen minutes. The famous humorist has related how he was present at a charity service conducted by a most eloquent preacher. The sermon was so long that everybody's ears were numb. He himself was so moved that he pitched for the plate to come round in order that he might give the \$400 he had in his pocket. But the preacher went on and on, the air grew hotter, Mark grew sleepier and his enthusiasm went down \$100 at a time, till at last, when the plate reached him, he stole ten cents out of it. — Halifax Chronicle.

Japan is increasing her domination over China to "make room for a crowded population." But because of her adventure in China, Japan is so short of manpower that, according to a report by Sir Victor Sassoon, she is recruiting her coal miners on two shifts of twelve hours each. She does not have enough men to produce the work needed to find room for her surplus of men. And she joins with Germany, which is taking 200,000 former Austrians back from the Italian Tyrol, in order to have more people to create the arms with which she intends to fight for more room for their crowded people. — New York Post.

The Peace Front is not yet all that it should be. The first essential was to bring in all the countries that are willing to stand with us against the aggression of the Dictatorships. If possible, or in the event of mutual support, the second is to strengthen them as our resources permit with money and with arms. The third is to concert with them military and other plans so that, in spite of our efforts, the blow should fall on the shall all of us—not we or France, but all—be as ready with both arms and plans as the Dictatorships—and reader, The Dictatorships are to act quickly. It is of essential importance that we have no complaint of people being impatient. Here impatience is a virtue. Speed wins a war, and speed may preserve peace. But how much is still to do! — Manchester Guardian.

A lot of Albertans have been led to believe that all one should have to do in order to get all the money they want is to go to some bank and get a loan. The bank is just as simple as that. The bank has encouraged this belief. Unfortunately it is not all so easy. Credit presupposes a lender and a borrower. The lender is willing to lend when he is sure the borrower is going to pay back, with some profit to the lender. Otherwise the lender would just keep the money and spend it on his own needs. It is when the borrower doesn't pay back that the trouble comes. Alberta knows all about it. Alberta has defaulted on three bond issues. — Lethbridge Herald.

One of the main causes of so many traffic fatalities is the inexperience of car drivers. There is a laxity in the issuing of driving licenses that seems prevalent in every province. The officials in charge of this important task are so indifferent to the results that they carelessly issue licenses to inexperienced drivers of modern high-powered motor cars. A recent letter published by The Ottawa Journal is illustrative of this regrettable carelessness. . . . Cursory examination is all too common. And as the Ottawa Journal asks, is it the fault of the drivers for assuming they are competent to handle a car after a few lessons from the auto salesman or an obliging friend? Or is it the fault of a license bureau which issues a license to anyone who can negotiate a few city blocks without an accident? — Calgary Herald.

Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture taken at meal times prevents all bad effects from gas, but it promotes the functional activity of the stomach, aids digestion and improves the appetite.

History Of Hymns

(Victoria Daily Colonist.) Since the United Church of Canada was formed, some fourteen years ago, there have appeared by authority of the General Council, a Book of Common Order, a Hymnary, and a companion to the hymnary entitled "Hymns of the Church." The last named work is by Dr. Alexander MacMillan, the scholarly editor of the hymnary. In his preface the author expresses the hope that while the illustrative examples are drawn from the source, the work may prove of interest to worshippers in other communions as well. The book is constructed on historical lines and the reader is thus enabled to observe the growth of a vital part of Christian worship through the centuries. As the story of this development is one of the things that are "good to know and worthy to be told," a brief survey of Dr. MacMillan's work may be attempted in the belief that most churchgoers are interested in the history of their favorite hymns of praise. Some idea of the scope of the work may be gathered from the fact that the index of authors, translators, composers and sources contains 260 names, and the book contains longer or shorter references to nearly 700 hymns which are also listed by "first lines" in an index.

The early Christians, as was natural, derived their songs of praise from the Jewish Psalter. Supplementary hymns were required to celebrate the gospel, and they appropriated the Magnificat, the Benedictus and the Nunc Dimittis. The Gloria have had its origin in Apostolic times. The second half of it was added later, but is "known to have been well established" in the sixth century. The Sanctus of the Western Church is from a Greek original adapted and translated into Latin. Of the hymn-writer of the Eastern Church the name may be guessed, for "they were more objective than subjective" and that "they uttered adoration rather than expressed the changing emotions of the soul."

FATHER OF HYMNODY

The father of hymnody in the Western Church was St. Ambrose. He contributed hymns of his own composition, and stimulated others to write and sing for the development of music. There is a legend which connects the name of St. Ambrose with the name of St. Augustine, "primarily to Deum Laudamus," "primarily a song of praise," but also a confession of faith, "the greatest non-Biblical hymn in the Christian Church." To a later period belongs the great name of St. Gregory, who also wrote hymns, incited others to write and achieved great things in music. Passing by some lesser names we come to Bernard of Cluny (twelfth century) with his poem of 3,000 lines from which more than 200 lines were rendered into English by Dr. Neale. These are well known. "Brief Life is Hee Our Portion," "For Thee, O Dear, Dear Country," "Jerusalem, the Golden City," "The most sublime," "the loveliest," and the "most pathetic" of medieval Latin hymns are said to be Dies Irae, Veni, Sancte Spiritus and Stabat Mater Dolorosa.

Coming to Reformation times we meet the name of Luther, who wrote "The Great Hymn of Praise" and the hymns of this period. "Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott," which has been called "the Marsellaise of the Reformation." There has been many translations into English. Rinckart's great hymn is best known to us in Catherine Winkworth's translation. "Now thank we all our God," Gerhardt, said to be the greatest hymnist of Germany, wrote what is known to us in English as "O Sacred Head, Once Wounded," and "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me." The familiar "God Reveals His Presence" is a translation from the original by Tersteegen. The original of "Jesus lives, Thy terrors now" was written by Zinzendorf. It appears that Cranmer hesitated for a time between two courses. Should he follow Luther's policy of using the Latin hymns translated, or should he look to the Psalter as Calvin did? He chose the latter alternative. So did Knox and his colleagues, and the Psalms in English held an undisputed place for many generations. Some of the earlier metrical versions of the Psalms were harsh and crude, but these were gradually displaced. Great improvements were made by Francis Rous, an English scholar.

On to Calaveras county, where Mark Twain's celebrated jumping frog could go over more ground at one stride than any animal of his breed you ever see." was trained. — Christian Science Monitor.

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A new Psalter authorized in Scotland in 1680 contained a new and splendid version of "O Lord, Thou Art My God and King," sometimes called the Te Deum of the Old Testament; "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want," "O Send Thy Light Forth and Thy Truth," "God is Our Refuge and Our Strength," "Praise Waits for Thee in Zion, Lord," "O Thou My Soul, Bless God the Lord," "It's the Hills Will Lift Mine Eyes," Things took a different course in England. Tate (poet laureate and Brady (a clergyman) prepared a new version of the Psalter in 1696, which was in use for some time, but the invention of the musical device known as the Anglican chant led to the gradual abandonment of the metrical psalm and the substitution of the prose psalm in public worship.

OF THE 17TH CENTURY

From among the many lyrics and hymns of the seventeenth century may be selected three of surpassing beauty. The work of Bishop Ken: "Awake, My Soul, and Praise the Lord," "Praise to Thee, My God This Night," and "Praise God From Whom All Wishes Admissum." Later on came Watts, Addison, Doddridge, Wesley, Cowper and Newton during the eighteenth century, a period which saw in Scotland a movement to extend the range of church song, not by the addition of "many new hymns" but by the use of Scripture paraphrases.

During these later centuries, which occupy two-thirds of the book, the number of hymns is very large. From among the English hymn-writers of the eighteenth century are "Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning," "God That Madest Earth and Heaven"; "Charlotte Elliot was Just as I am" and "My God and Father, While I Stray"; Keble contributed "O Tisely Happy, Tisely Wise" and "Sun of My Soul, Thou Saviour Dear"; Newman composed "Lead Kindly Light," and Kipling, "Let Us Forget." In Scotland, as already noted, the psalms and paraphrases long held the field. It is, therefore, not surprising that relatively few hymns have come from Scottish writers. A few, however, merit notice. Bonar, "When the Weary Seeking Rest," "Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power," "A Few More Years Shall Roll," "Thy Way, Not Mine, O Lord," "The Sands of Time Are Sinking," Matheson, "O Love, 'Thou Will Not Let Me Go"; John Campbell, Duke of Argyll, "Unto the Hills Around." The great name in American hymnology is surely that of Whittier, "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind," "When on My Day Life the Night is Falling," "Immortal Love, Forever Fall, Forever

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The Poets Corner DREAMERS Soldiers are citizens of death's gray land. Drawing no dividend from time's maw. In the great hour of destiny they stand. Each with his friends, and jealousies and sorrows. Soldiers are sworn to action; they Some flaming, fatal climax with their lives. Soldiers are dreamers; when the guns rain. They think of fire's flames, clean beds and wives. I see them in foul dug-outs, gnawed by rats. And in the ruined trenches, huddled and shivering. Dreaming of things they did with balls and bats. And moving on by hopeless longing to regain Bank-holidays, and picture shows, and spats. And going to the office in the rain. Siegfried Sassoon