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THURSDAY, MAY 22nd, 1941.

FAIR DAY

Next Saturday, May 24th, is Victoria Day, the anniversary of the birth of the beloved Queen Victoria, and it is the date of Richmond Hill Fair. On this day thousands of visitors will be with us to enjoy the Fair program and renew acquaintances with old friends.

The Twenty-fourth of May is Richmond Hill's day, and citizens of town and district should make a special effort to attend the Fair this year. These are difficult days for organizations such as the Richmond Hill Agricultural Society, and while war work occupies the major attention of our people, it is well to remember that it is important that worth-while projects like the Richmond Hill Fair need to be carried on.

Agriculture as an industry is the back-bone of our national life and needs every help and encouragement we can give. The annual Fair is an institution in our Agricultural life which leaders have urged Agricultural Societies to continue.

Let's extend a cordial welcome to our visitors on Saturday. Let's attend the Fair in such numbers that the officers and directors will be encouraged in their work.

DON'T LET DOWN

There was an easing up in the campaign for War Savings Stamps and Certificates while the claims of Canadian War Services Fund were being presented to the public, but the need for continuous purchase of War Savings Certificates is, if anything, more urgent day by day. It is human nature, following a burst of enthusiasm for any cause, to slow down and fail to follow through to a triumphant finish.

So our government simply must keep the War Savings effort going, and at top speed; continual revivals of interest and of effort will surely be required.

The total incomes of Canadians, due to increased employment and higher wages, will be up by hundreds of millions. How can the government, as it must do, get its share of this increased income to support Canada's war effort? One way is by taxation; the other is through the sale of War Savings Certificates. How much better for us to invest in a sound interest-bearing security than to be compelled to provide through taxation the money that must be raised!

SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN

The speed and recklessness of many drivers on Yonge Street makes the crossing of this street at any time for anyone a very hazardous undertaking. It is particularly hazardous for elderly people and children. Why motorists should be allowed to tear along Yonge Street without any apparent thought for the safety or convenience of anyone else is a mystery to us. We cannot understand why a law abiding citizen who wishes to cross to the other side of the street should have to risk his life and leap like a jack rabbit to miss being killed by a mad motorist rushing nowhere. Surely we do not need to have a fatality before we realize the extreme seriousness of the danger of Yonge Street traffic. Through towns and villages, with men, women and children crossing the street, and with cars parked along the curb, motorists must be compelled to drive slowly. The allowance of the speed limit is too fast in our opinion, but at present the speed limit is not observed by half the motorists.

Parents, teachers and older persons generally should feel a responsibility to impress upon the youngsters the importance of being careful, especially now that the busy season is here.

KEEP OFF THE GRASS

This is rather an abrupt remark! However, at this time of the year it is a necessary admonition: Keep off the grass! Warm weather is here, lawns are being planted, shrubs and plants are being carefully tended, and it is annoying when delivery boys, canvassers and others walk across gardens and lawns to save a few steps. They walk through flower beds and hedges quite deliberately when making deliveries or canvassing. It seems such a small matter to take such a short cut yet it means everything to the citizen who is trying to beautify his home and grounds... Delivery boys and canvassers are paid to make their calls and should be taught to respect public property.

SUPPORT YOUR HOME TOWN

It is high time all of us paid more attention to the building up of the small town and less to making the overgrown city larger. The little town or village is home—or should be. It needs our support and we are the people who must give it life and power if it is to have either. The big city cares nothing for us. It will if it can, pull our dollars away, but that is the only use it has for us. The little town needs us and we need it... The future which lies in the cities is shopworn, smoked, dirty and unclean. The true future lies in the country and the little towns. Back them up and make them grow. When you buy goods or services other than through men who have their stake in your home town, you are tearing down the foundation on which your town rests by just that much.

PAYING IS EASY

The people of Canada are indeed among the fortunate and blessed of this world, for they can still go to their homes at night and find them intact; they can still talk and walk with their loved ones in safety and at night they can lay down to sleep in peace and comfort. No underground holes for them and their families; no ruined homes and no killed and maimed loved ones... If the taxpayers of Canada know when they are well off they will pay that they can help win this war by giving twice as much money as they are now asked to pay — even then they will not have paid too much by any means.

THE LIFE OF WINSTON CHURCHILL

The overpowering effect of Tanks in the present war is well-known, but when the First Great War started, there were few who did not scoff at the notion of land battleships.

Much of the credit for their introduction must go to Winston Churchill for he braved grave criticism by dabbling with them. When the idea of "landships" was broached to him in November 1914, he formed a Landships Committee of the Admiralty to enquire into their possibilities.

The War Office had refused even to consider experimenting with tanks and pigeonholed plans and designs for a tank with the terse verdict scribbled on the envelope: "The man's mad!"

TOOK A CHANCE. Without consulting either the War Office or the Treasury, Winston Churchill undertook the responsibility of ordering experimental tanks. Writing later of this decision, he says: "Had the tanks proved wholly abortive, or never been accepted, or never used in any way by the military authorities... I could have offered no effective defence to the charge that I had wasted public money on a matter which was not in any way my business and in regard to which I had not received expert advice in any responsible military quarter."

When Mr. Churchill left the cabinet, following the Gallipoli disaster, he persuaded Mr. Balfour, his successor at the Admiralty, to carry on with the experiments, and as a result, tanks were introduced on the battlefields of France late in 1916, with demoralising effect on the enemy.

FORETOLD SUBMARINE MENACE. As a major in the Scots Guards, Winston Churchill spent some time in France, and although constantly in the thick of the front line fighting, the Churchill luck stayed with him, and he came out unscathed.

Once, in the spring of 1916, he returned to London and took part in the debate on the Naval Estimates in Parliament. Greeted again as a hero, he uttered some prophetic words on the submarine menace, warning the House that the Germans would certainly embark on unrestricted submarine warfare.

They did — nearly a year later, and by that time Winston Churchill was again in London, this time to stay. But it was not until July 1917, after twenty months in exile, that Mr. Churchill entered Mr. Lloyd George's "Win the War" Cabinet as Minister of Munitions.

URGENT MECHANICAL DEVELOPMENT. Now that he was responsible for Supplies, Mr. Churchill did not forget his old interest in tanks, and despite considerable opposition from still-sceptical military people, one of his first tasks was to order many thousands of these land monsters. At the same time, in a memorandum, he urged the War Cabinet to "organize mechanical development upon the principle: someone must stop the tiger." He reorganized the Ministry from top to bottom, threw out the "limpets" and substituted business men.

The entry of the United States into the war posed new problems for the Minister of Munitions, for the U.S. could not equip their vast armies of men with the arms and guns they needed. Britain would have to help equip these hordes of men from the New World, in addition to supplying her own huge army, now numbering millions.

Thereupon Winston Churchill made a contract with the United States to supply the entire American army with medium artillery. The original contract amounted to \$500,000,000 and Mr. Churchill expressly declared that there should be no profit on this contract — a significant gesture in view of present Anglo-American co-operation.

"WORK — OR FIGHT." In spring of 1918, Winston Churchill came face to face with another crisis. Three and a half years of intense war had taken their toll; the nerves of Britain's munition workers were on edge. They went on strike!

Munition workers had been exempted from active service, but Winston Churchill told them tersely: "Back to work, or go to the front." They went back to work. But they didn't forget the man who'd beaten them, and although victory eased their grudge for a time, the Socialists were to have their revenge at one of the bitterest elections that

Mr. Churchill ever fought. ***Next week; The Irish Problem, and "Mr. Churchill meets his Waterloo."

Personality Parade

Eamon de Valera, Premier of Eire, has no love for the dictators, yet he resembles Hitler and Stalin in one respect — he is a foreigner to the country which he leads.

Born in New York 58 years ago, his father died. His mother remarried an Irish schoolteacher who married a sculptor-musician.

De Valera was two years old when his father died. His mother remarried and young "Dev" was sent back to Oulde Ireland to be cared for by his uncle. He was brought up to be a Catholic priest but became, instead, a teacher of mathematics and a revolutionary.

LIFE SPARED BY BRITAIN. His American origin saved his life when he was captured by the British after the Easter Week rebellion in Dublin in 1916. Most of the revolutionary leaders were executed, but de Valera's life was spared because he was American-born.

He is said to eat, sleep and live for his ideal of "a United Ireland," but may yet see the day when he will be passionately grateful that the six counties of Ulster are not yet part of Eire. For some of Britain's crack troops are stationed in Ulster, and if Hitler invades Eire, these British troops will be vitally necessary to save Ireland — and de Valera.

GERMAN PLOTS. In the recent wrecking of an hotel at Istanbul, when the British Ambassador to Bulgaria, George Rendel, nearly lost his life, it was revealed that the bomb had been made to look like a radio and placed in the baggage of the British party.

This isn't the first time things of this kind have happened. During the last war, thermos bottles were used as bombs, and a railway bridge in Canada was blown up by a bomb of this type, placed by a German plotter. The idea was, naturally, that a thermos bottle would never be suspected, even if it were discovered.

This is using guile to kill. But lives have been saved by utilising familiar things in unfamiliar ways.

SAVED BY LEG OF MUTTON! Some years ago, the Atlantic flyer, Stanley Hauser, fell into the sea. His plane floated and he managed to keep alive, until rescued, for days by — of all things — catching fish by means of his compass needle, bent into a hook.

When a girl living in the North of Scotland was assaulted by a man, she managed to grab a fire extinguisher and squirted the chemical contents in her attacker's face, causing him to plunge away in anguish. And, prosaically enough, there is the case of an English butcher who defeated an armed thief by knocking him unconscious with a leg of mutton!

But that was in pre-rationing days. Today, he'd probably let the thief take his money.

HAVE DREAMS ANY MEANING? Do you believe in dreams? I didn't used to, but now — well, let me tell you of a dream that happened to me not very long ago. I dreamt that I was in school and my old headmaster was taking the class. Sitting with me was a personal friend of mine.

When I awoke two points about this dream struck me as peculiar. First, my old headmaster had been dead for some years; secondly, my friend never attended any school where I was attending.

The other day I heard from England that my friend, who is an Air Raid Warden, had been so badly hurt in an air raid that his life had been despaired of. Happily, he managed to pull through.

As near as I could figure it out, my dream came to me the same week that my friend was lying near death!

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