

The Vancouver Sun

SINCE 1886 VANCOUVER'S MOST USEFUL INSTITUTION

A newspaper devoted to progress and democracy, tolerance and freedom of human thought.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 1942

How Important Is Next Monday's Vote?

Next Monday the people of Canada will go to the polls for a vote which may well determine the future of this nation.

On Monday Canada needs not a mere affirmative majority. It needs a united shout of "Yes!" which will be heard around the world.

A huge "Yes" majority will not only convince the world of our position in the war, our determination to fight without limit.

Such a majority will unify Canada and enable us to fight without limit. It will convince every element in our population of the nation's concerted will to victory.

A slim "yes" majority or, if that is possible, a "No" majority, would be halled throughout the enemy countries as a sure sign that Canada was lukewarm towards the war.

City Council's Rights

It is late, but not too late, for the government to amend its regulations and provide for one alderman of Vancouver to take a position on the board of the B.C. Security Commission.

Of course, this should have been done in the first place. Vancouver is the centre of Japanese population in this dominion and the City Council should have been given representation on the board.

Let's Be Cheerful

Vancouver ought to take a lesson from the world's metropolises in designing a summer program. London, bombed and disfigured, yet noble and inspiring in its ability to rise above all the hard knocks of fate.

Vancouver is in a different position—yet not so different. We are not yet in the zone of war, but we are in the centre of population and in the centre naturally of all the larger social activities of the community of British Columbia.

Regardless of how cheap a divorce is, it never will be a bargain.

The normal brain, the scientists announce, contains at least 10,000,000,000 nerve cells. Surprising how little they usually produce.

Donald Gordon laid down something very definitely at Winnipeg last week. It opened the eyes of many people. It should be kept in mind. He said: "What is not needed to win this war; but practically anything else the West can grow or produce is needed."

as some newspapers seem to think, a matter of no great importance, a mere political convenience for Mr. King. It will be the most important vote ever cast in this nation and the most important results will hang on it.

This plebiscite asks you, the citizen, whether you want any limit placed on Canada's prosecution of the war. If you vote "No" you are saying that you want the war effort limited. You are saying that you do not want the government to be able to send overseas any troops that are needed to keep the war away from Canada.

We do not believe many people who read this, here in British Columbia, will vote "No" on Monday. We believe that of those who go to the polls in this province, a vast majority will vote "Yes."

The plebiscite is not the issue on Monday. You will not vote on the advisability of taking a vote. You will not vote on the record of Mr. King.

Some gallantry in us all thrills from hitting a man when he is down. Marshal Pétain, hero of Verdun, has profited from that gallantry.

It Was Murder

It is a mistaken view of our British—and Canadian—criminal practice to argue that because four youths of this city did not premeditate murder, then they, or at least three of them, should not hang for the crime of killing one Japanese.

On compassionate grounds The Sun will not say that there should not be some commutation of their sentence. But in the eyes of the law—and it is important here to uphold the law—they are guilty of murder, even when it was committed as an unexpected incident during the commission of a robbery.

These boys were all very young. That is the horrible thing about this crime, that youngsters around 20 should have been drinking and carousing; living criminal lives that culminated in this horrible crime.

But we shall do wrong to lift the barriers of repugnance and disgust against this crime by excusing it on the ground that there was no premeditation of murder. These boys were engaged on an unlawful occasion. They have properly been found guilty. Any slackening of that law will allow countless murderers to beg off on the plea that murder was not their intention.

Twenty Years Ago

April 21, 1922.—W. G. McQuarrie, M.P., New Westminster, warned the Ottawa House Committee on Fisheries that the steady increase of Japanese in the B.C. fisheries was becoming a serious menace to the white fisherman.

Forty Years Ago

April 21, 1902.—The provincial budget for the fiscal year 1902-03, The Daily World complained, "shows the same old reckless increase." Estimated expenditure was set at \$2,475,000, or \$253,000 more than the estimated revenues.

Fifty Years Ago

April 21, 1892.—The Vancouver and Westminster "Tramway" announced that the city would start work at once on double-tracking the whole line.

HOW TO LOSE THE WAR



Dorothy Thompson

Pétain Not a Tragic Figure But a Nazi Asset; Restoration of Laval One More Proof He Is Playing Hitler's Game and Choices to Be Saved Instead of Redeemed

Some gallantry in us all thrills from hitting a man when he is down. Marshal Pétain, hero of Verdun, has profited from that gallantry. Friends of France—and you who are not a friend of France—have wanted to believe the best; intelligence prods you to see clearly the hopeless circumstances of a man who leads a truncated and disarmed nation two-thirds occupied by an insurmountable enemy, holding its men as hostages.

Not a Tragic Figure The essence of great tragedy is nobility. The tragic struggle inevitably arises out of weakness within oneself, which set in motion the inexorable law of retribution.

Attitude on De Gaulle There is a point where continuing to hold "responsibility"—when responsibility is a completely hollow sham—is irresponsible.

Realities in India The British have at times put leaders like Gandhi and Nehru in jail, but under the all-embracing despotism of Hitler or the Japanese, the Gandhis and Nehrus would never be heard of.

Ready for It Just as the Army cook had just dinner ready for a sergeant dashed into the cook house.

FROM THE BIBLE He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker; but he that honoreth him hath mercy on the poor.—Prov. 14:31

What Is Your Opinion?

Theatre Under Stars Editor, The Sun: Sir—I object very much to the proposal to discontinue "Theatre Under the Stars."

Anti-Annexation Editor, The Sun: Sir—I would like to designate R. J. Terry for his views on the subject of Canada by the United States.

Defends Her Feet Editor, The Sun: Sir—I think some of the women who write in reply to Mrs. Peat's letter would have done better to "read their knitting."

Wants Her Defense Editor, The Sun: Sir—I was so sorry for Mrs. Peat's letter that I helped her to offer my help to help one wife get a little place.

Black Sheep? Editor, The Sun: Sir—I remember C. A. E.'s letter to obtain an allowance for her illegitimate child.

Housewife Editor, The Sun: Sir—I read the story and I thought housewife, and want to say something.

Mother of Eight (All Legitimate) After all, when a young man enters the service, it doesn't mean he is a practical man.

Melito's Leader Editor, The Sun: Sir—The heroism of the people of Malta will draw the admiration, as well as the envy, of the whole world.

Volunteer Bombardier Editor, The Sun: Sir—Being Canadian it is hoped that some attention can shortly be paid to hydro-electric plants.

A Wife's Lot Editor, The Sun: Sir—May I ask you to answer to Mrs. Peat's letter? It is just like a person that doesn't know any better to write to you.

Le Bohème Editor, The Sun: Sir—Answering your correspondence, Radio Announcer, would suggest that his musical education is a fine definite one.

Twenty Years in Japan I also owe the Japanese plenty of thanks for the information I have had in all of Japan's large industrial cities and kept them well.

ALLIE BURTON