

BROADCASTER

The Maritimes' Feature Weekly

Vol. VI., No. 24

SAINT JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, MAY 1, 1936

Pages 1 to 16

Insidious Propaganda Directed Against The Weaker Provinces

Minorities Can Get Protection Under Confederation Agreement.

While the Government of New Brunswick and members of the Legislature are working to have the smaller Provinces get a square deal in the Confederation, known as the Dominion of Canada, and are fighting against the move of severing the Imperial tie, propagandists are at work trying to counteract the work being done in the interests of the weaker Provinces.

Persons, who pose as authorities on constitutional matters, among them being university professors and those who class themselves as scholars, are spreading propaganda, which if allowed to continue will undermine the very foundation of the whole Dominion. They claim they are patriotic and are working to establish Canada as a nation, when as a matter of fact many of them are giving out statements that would belittle the efforts of those who would have the Confederation Pact carried out as intended.

Central Canada has been the instigator of most of this propaganda but it has spread through the universities and some professors, who should know better, are trying to influence the masses by their utterances.

One professor in Winnipeg is credited with saying: "Constitutional questions are not merely academic, because if the compact theory of Confederation now being widely supported were accepted, 70,000 people in Prince Edward Island could block changes desired by 9,930,000 in the rest of the Dominion." This professor, however, did not say that the Confederation agreement gave the minorities the right to demand a square deal, and if 3,930,000 people wanted to make moves that would encroach upon the rights of 70,000, that small group could get protection. This professor even went so far as to say that the Provinces had no existence apart from the Dominion; when as a matter of fact the Provinces created the Dominion and each Province is recognized as a unit.

Propagandists compare the Dominion of Canada with Australia and with South Africa, when as a matter of fact the unions in those countries are far different from that of the Dominion of Canada. Seemingly the learned gentlemen do not know the difference between a confederation and a federation, nor do they appear to have a very intimate knowledge of the terms of the agreement by which the British North America colonies were confederated.

They talk of Canada being a nation, but it never can be a real nation unless the rights of the minorities are fully protected and the terms of the Confederation Pact provide means of obtaining that protection. Canada is scarcely ready to assume all the responsibilities of nationhood. These Provinces, even when classed together as a Dominion, have few facilities for defence in case of need. But they could provide that protection as a confederation, if the terms of the contract were carried out as was originally intended.

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Montreal Talks Of The Welcome To A German Cruiser

Council Puts Matter of Official Welcome Up To Ottawa.

Montreal City Council will not take the responsibility of giving an official welcome to the commander and officers of the German warship, Emden, which is to visit Montreal on May 12. After a prolonged discussion the question was referred to Ottawa.

The discussion started when two letters of protest concerning the visit of the warship were received. The Montreal Trades and Labor Council and the Labor Party of Canada sent letters to the City Council registering protests against any civic welcome to the commander and officers of the warship. The members of the council were warned that the visiting cruiser has no peace-loving mission in view and then proceeded to delve into debate.

Some members of the council thought it was for the Secretary of State to decide if the German cruiser has the right or not to cruise in the waters of the St. Lawrence. If it has, then the Mayor of Montreal, it was said, as first citizen of the metropolis, is in duty bound to see that the sailors of the German cruiser have the right of free citizens to walk the streets of Montreal, but now it will be left to the authorities at Ottawa to decide just what status the Emden may have as a visitor.

FEDERAL BUDGET

NO DOUBT the Federal Government's policy to beat the depression will be reflected in the budget, that, it is expected, will be presented to Parliament soon. Doubtless the tariff will be reduced on a wide range of manufactured goods and on raw materials, with freer trade within the Empire.

While increases are expected on many items, no doubt they will be for revenue purposes.

Will taxation be increased? It is reported that the income tax is to be stepped up. Calculations have been made as to the increase in revenue which would result from a reduction from \$2,000 to \$1,500 for married persons, and from \$1,000 to \$750 for single. This change is being seriously considered; also a cut in the exemption for dependents. Likewise, the higher brackets of the income tax are under scrutiny.

Particular attention also is being paid to the gaining of more revenue from those with so-called unearned incomes.

Postage rates on second and third class matter may possibly be revised upward.

SOME HANDICAPS

BEFORE Confederation the Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island levied and collected their own customs duties. When entering Confederation, the customs duties were turned over to the Federal Government and the Provinces were to be compensated for this by a cash grant. But now it is seen that the three Maritime Provinces are not receiving nearly as much as the Federal treasury gets from the customs collected in these Provinces.

The automobile is an example. Let us consider it in 1934. In that year the Maritime Provinces purchased 6,450 vehicles at a cost of approximately \$7,000,000. If these had been purchased in the United States and the Maritime Governments had received the duty, they, no doubt, would have cost the consumer less and the three Governments would have received in duty approximately \$1,000,000. In other words, car owners in the Maritime Provinces in 1934 contributed \$1,000,000 to the Federal Government and the central Canadian car manufacturers.

A similar situation evolves around hundreds of other commodities and it is no doubt just what Hon. A. P. Paterson referred to in his address to the New Brunswick Legislature when he said: "Customs duties and transportation regulations, which should have been established for the mutual benefit of all Provinces have been almost exclusively for the benefit of Montreal and Ontario."

That this Province and other Maritime Provinces are being bled white for the benefit of foreign interests in Montreal, Ontario and the United States particularly is evident, when we consider the millions of dollars the people of the Maritimes are forced to pay for commodities due to the tariffs and freights. These millions are going out never to return and are being used to build up industry and facilities in other parts of the country. All this acts to our detriment.

There must be an awakening of the Maritime people to the true situation and a realization of the handicaps under which we are struggling.

LARGER PULP WOOD CUT IN NEW BRUNSWICK THIS YEAR

Extended operations in pulp cutting and peeling will be in evidence in New Brunswick this season. Already preparations are being made for putting crews in the woods. The Port Royal Pulp and Paper Co., Ltd., and the St. George Pulp and Paper Co., Ltd., will purchase a total of 71,000 cords as compared with 13,000 cords bought last season.

The demand from Canadian and United States mills is greater this year than last and it is expected that some of the stocks carried over from last year will be sold now. The cut is expected to be much greater than last season.

Forced Insurance For Auto Owners Gaining In Favor

Protection Necessary For the Careful Driver on the Highway.

The need of a policy of compulsory insurance whereby every car owner is required to carry insurance which will safeguard the public from damage inflicted by the irresponsible driver is an absolute necessity. It becomes more and more apparent every day that action along this line must be carried out to make safe our highways.

In the majority of so called accidents on our highways, a survey will show it is generally the fault of the irresponsible driver who is generally driving an antiquated vehicle, and the damage he does through his carelessness to another's property he does not pay for, as he has no financial responsibility. Therefore, not only does an innocent party have his property destroyed, but has to pay for the repairs for a happening in which he was an innocent victim.

A striking example came to light a few days ago when a careful driver with a new car while proceeding along the highway was suddenly swerved into by a careless driver in an ancient vehicle. The new car had the side ripped off, necessitating a repair bill of \$100, which the owner of the damaged car had to pay, as the driver who did the damage had nothing.

This is only one of the hundreds of similar cases.

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POTENT THOUGHTS

IT IS generally known that Germany has been making gasoline from sawdust, and alcohol from potatoes, so that the country can economize in its purchases from foreign countries.

Now the Germans are making soap from coal and the first factory for this purpose has been opened at Witten, in the Ruhr district. Research chemists have been working on a process for extracting from coal the "fatty acids" needed for soap. This, they hope, will enable German soap makers to do without imported fats and mark another triumph in Hitler's "Ersatz" campaign to provide substitutes for goods that used to be purchased outside Germany.

After the war it was thought among other people that Germany was down and out. Perhaps she was. But she is coming back. Because the German people would not admit defeat and resourcefully set about rebuilding by use of her own resources.

In the Maritime Provinces there are more natural resources than Germany ever dreamed of, but the people here are lacking that spirit of co-operation which is needed for success. The Maritime people go on wishing but they do not put the necessary energy into work.

Gossip from Far and Near

EVEN in the matter of radio the Maritime Provinces are given little or no consideration. The Radio Commission is providing the listeners with eastern and western programs. The western programs largely originate in Toronto, while the eastern apparently have the French portion of Quebec as its origin. As we are well aware the Province of Quebec has a large French-speaking population and naturally they should be served in the French language, but why should the people of the Maritimes be asked and practically forced to listen to a language they do not understand. There are some French-speaking people in the Maritimes but even these have difficulty in understanding the so-called French that comes out of Montreal, but the majority of them speak and understand English. Canadian Radio Commission programs coming to the Maritimes, could well have much of their French content eliminated, and when French is used it should have idioms that are understood by the people of the Maritimes and not the slang of Montreal.

THE Federal income tax is likely to be increased by lowering the exemptions which now exist. This will mean that people of the Maritimes will be called upon to pay more money into the federal treasury. They are not likely to get any of this back, for the money will be needed to swell the loans to the western provinces and build and maintain more canals for Ontario. Maybe the extra money will go toward another ice-breaker for the St. Lawrence so that trade which should come to Saint John and Halifax can be handled through Montreal. It has often been pointed out that the federal income tax, while not in accordance with the terms of the constitution, was put on as a special war measure and is not supposed to be continued indefinitely.

IN GERMANY love is to be relegated to a minor place in marriage. Health is to be the first consideration. Healthy Germans are barred from marrying anyone suffering from certain so-called hereditary diseases. The state view is that men and women should marry primarily to produce healthy children for the sake of Germany's future. But we wonder what the Germans will do about all those sayings, such as "Love will find a way" and "Love laughs at locksmiths." It is a new thing for Germany where it used to be understood that love was a national trait.

SOME 25 persons were killed in the mines of Nova Scotia during the last year, official reports indicate. Some miners were trapped and rescue parties did wonderful work. During the last few weeks, three men, who were not miners were trapped in a mine. One of them died from natural causes while two were rescued after ten days of confinement. This incident sent the country hysterical, but for the miners killed while on duty there is practically no publicity.