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FREDERICTON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1936

Baldwin vs. Communism

Those who find Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin's policy "vacillating" and difficult to follow got very clear directions on two points when he used the Spanish neutrality debate to say some things that needed saying. No one can escape the absolute finality of his dismissal of the League of Nations as a failure. And no one can be misguided—not even the countries concerned—by the very lucid manner in which he thrust full responsibility for Europe's troubles on communism and fascism.

When the League failed in the Ethiopian situation Mr. Baldwin was equally lucid in letting Europe know British patience was almost exhausted. His statement on Wednesday makes it patent that Britain will not muddle around rebuilding the wreckage so long as "those same currents of antagonistic political creeds" remain to destroy the results. He was most emphatic, perhaps, in establishing communism as the troublemaker—the greater evil because it invariably bred its own antagonism, fascism.

There can be little doubt that Mr. Baldwin meant his statements to serve a greater purpose than the illustration of the dangers of removing the check now restraining these enemies in the Spanish crisis. They mark out a distinct line of British policy. It is that neither creed will be permitted to reach a domestic stature which would influence Britain's policies or foment internal strife. Nor will either be permitted to involve Britain abroad simply because democratic liberty allows it to exist within.

If Mr. Baldwin's critics can't follow him there, they should remember how slight is the difference between domestic and foreign policy where communism and fascism are concerned. The wiser among the British partisans will be able to grasp the hint of official control if they do not curb their fanaticism. The warning to Moscow, Berlin and Rome should be equally clear.

King Irks at Conventions

When, on the occasion of the death of King George, his Majesty King Edward spoke to his people of "my father and mother," instead of "his late Majesty and the Queen Mother," and later when, at the opening of Parliament, he abandoned the Royal "we" for the informal "I" there was a feeling that perhaps the new monarch had not yet had time to accustom himself to the traditional manner of kingly speech.

That the changes he introduced were deliberate is shown now by the fact that in the Speech from the Throne read at the prorogation of the British Parliament, his Majesty referred to himself throughout as "I," and expressed appreciation of the sympathy which had been extended by the Empire to "me and my dear mother."

This question of speech forms is but one example of the manner in which King Edward has shown his impatience to the barriers long custom has raised between himself and his people.

Visiting the slum districts of Glasgow soon after his accession, he did not hesitate to ignore the unwritten rule that British Royalty shall be chary of expressing its personal opinions in public. Quite bluntly he voiced his private views on conditions and even told one tenant that she was being charged an exorbitant rent.

He cancelled the ceremonious gathering of the clans when he visited Balmoral, and last week at his first formal dinner at Buckingham Palace served his guests on china plates instead of using the historical gold service.

It appears obvious that his Majesty is not blind to the fact that many of the historical restrictions surrounding his exalted position have outlived their usefulness, and that he is determined to be the most democratic of all Kings in the world's last stronghold of democracy.

The way of pioneers never has been a smooth one, and his Majesty's unconventionalism must be difficult to maintain in a country so devoted to tradition as is England; but there can be little doubt that the British Throne now is closer to the people than it was even in the preceding reign, and immeasurably nearer than it was a century ago.

"Dick" O'Brien Passes

Many friends throughout New Brunswick will regret the passing of Richard O'Brien, a newspaperman of years that are gone. Mr. O'Brien was a contemporary with Senator J. V. Ellis and Messrs. James Hanney, Timothy Warren Anglin and others who have passed off the journalistic field. For years he was managing editor of the old Saint John Globe. Mr. O'Brien, who was in his day an unusually clever writer, helped to make The Globe the popular organ which it was.

In addition to being a good newspaperman, "Dick" O'Brien was a good citizen who took an active part in all that made for the good of his home city. He had served on the City Council and his advice was freely given to many organizations of which he was a valuable member.

Many old Fredericton friends will regret the passing of "Dick" O'Brien. The Daily Mail extends sympathy to his surviving relatives.

SNAPSHOTS

Can anybody tell us why a handful of leaders should be able to plunge Europe into a war that nobody but themselves wants?

There are three genders; masculine, feminine, and the one that carries a pocket comb to keep its hair slick.

Nudism can't succeed: imagine a big shot with knock-knees and a paunch trying to high-hat anybody.

Who is going to win the car and the prizes in our Circulation Contest? Everyone who enters and works will get money out of it.

The wrecking company worked all day yesterday loading the scrap iron from the old C.N.R. bridge, on the cars at South Devon. It would seem that this was unnecessary work on the Sabbath Day. If so, this Company should not be allowed to come in here and do this work.

There is no more reason why a company should work all day with steam cranes loading iron than there is why some poor devil should build a house or shoe horses on Sunday. It's an insult to those who believe in keeping the Sabbath sacred.

If we are not going to enforce this law about Sunday let everyone open up wide and let it go. There should be the same law for every person and it should be enforced by those who are supposed to do the enforcing.

Toronto Barrister

(Continued from Page One)
The Toronto barrister was speaking on "Canadianism" at a dinner of the South York Liberal Women's Riding Association at the Strathcona Club. Englishmen, he said he sometimes thought, had brought a little too much of the spirit of Old England to Canada—among more admirable things, a tendency to official arrogance and domination which many of the colonists found obnoxious.

"We who own to an Anglo-Saxon origin," Mr. Prentice went on, "we have broken away, very, very slowly from the old Imperialistic inhibitions. In other words, we suffer from a political inferiority complex."

Mr. Prentice said that he was not suggesting that "we should try to imitate every quality of our French-Canadian fellow-citizens. We can, at least, however, admire and learn something from their contentment, their industry, their simple faith, their loyalty to principles in which they believe, their detachment in the midst of a strife-torn Christendom."

"As to language, is there anything more beautiful of its kind than the mellifluous language of France?" the barrister asked. If every Canadian of British origin could speak and write French, and vice versa, he believed, one of the greatest obstacles to national unity would be removed.

Mr. Prentice said Canadian citizens had not talked enough about "Canadianism" since Confederation; "and since so many British subjects insist on talking about Imperialism, we citizens of Canada should be free to talk about Canadianism."

"Having been granted full autonomy by the Motherland," he concluded, "we should see to it that no false restrictions are built up around that autonomy by demagogues in our own land."

Strike Up the Band

Frances James, an artist well-known to concert and radio audiences throughout the Dominion and the United States, will be guest soprano on the CBC programme, "Strike Up The Band," to be heard from the Toronto studios over the National network on Monday, November 9, at 10.00 p.m. James Shields, the sensational young tenor, will share vocal honors with Miss James on this date.

PICKING PLUMS

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Spanish Gov't

Socialists, Anarchists, Syndicalists and Communists. Of these groups, the Communists, though least in number, are the most powerful because of their perfect organization, their strict discipline, and because they have a fixed and definite policy provided for them by Moscow which they pursue with intense zeal and energy. They have also the great advantage over the other groups of being liberally supplied by Moscow with funds for their activities.

For the five years since the Republic was set up, the country, under the agitation of these groups, has been in a state of turmoil and chaos. Revolutionary strikes, armed risings, confiscation of land and other property, assassinations, the burning of monasteries, churches and convents proceeded on an ever-increasing scale. The Republican governments failed, completely to control the anarchist and Communist organizations which were chiefly responsible for this campaign of outrage and terror.

After two years and more of strife, the people of Spain returned a government of the Right; but the Communists were determined to fan the revolutionary flame they had kindled. There began a series of general strikes usually accompanied by violence, and a state of disorder developed into open revolt against the government in the autumn of 1934. Catalonia proclaimed itself an independent Republic; a national general strike was called, and in many provinces there were fierce battles between the rebels and the government forces. In places where the rebels won, Soviets were set up. There was the usual slaughter of private persons, including priests, suspected of being supporters of the Right. When the government troops entered Oviedo they found the streets littered with corpses and 1,067 bodies were cremated in a single day to avoid the risk of plague.

The revolt of 1934 has a particular interest for us at the moment. Here was a revolt against a "constitutional and democratic government," but there was not a word of protest from those who are now denouncing General Franco and his men as "rebels." On the contrary, they were energetically supporting the rebels of that day and condemning in strongest terms the action of the government in meeting them with force. So do circumstances alter cases even for the more distinguished "intellectuals."

"There is no such thing as a constitutional government in Spain," Control is in the hands of Communist Committees, which snap their fingers at the government." General Franco wrote thus to the London Daily Mail two months ago. It may be noted that the electoral system which Spain has was given to it by the Right, not by the Left. The Marquess del Morál has pointed out that it is a mistake to describe the national movement as Fascist, though it contains a percentage of Fascists. In the February elections the Fascists did not gain a single seat in Parliament. Here are the votes received by the three political parties:

SHERIFF'S SALE

The following property will be sold at Public Auction in front of the County Court House, Fredericton, N.B., at twelve o'clock noon on the 28th day of November, 1936.

WILLIAM MCINTYRE, PROPERTY,
McAdam, York County, N. B.
Commencing at a point on the north-east side of the "Harvey Road," so called, at the point where the Hoyt Road, so called, intersects the same, thence westerly along the said Harvey Road eighty (80') feet more or less to a point thence northerly to the rear of land owned or possessed by the said lessor, Thos. J. Coughlin, on a line parallel to the said Hoyt Road, thence easterly along the said rear line to the westerly side of Hoyt Road, thence westerly along the same a distance of twelve (12) rods more or less to the point of beginning.
Delinquent Parish & County: Road and School Taxes (School District No. 9, H. A. Thomas, Secretary).
Delinquent Parish & County Taxes
1931.....\$ 2.26
1932.....\$ 9.22
1933.....\$ 9.85
1934.....10.00
1935.....10.00
1936.....\$ 8.00
Total.....\$54.27
Total Parish & County Taxes ..\$ 54.27
Total School Taxes ..\$ 83.10
Total ..\$137.37
C. M. GOODSPEED,
High Sheriff for York County.
Fredericton, N. B.,
October 28th, 1936.

Spain's Capital

(Continued from Page One)
new visit by insurgent planes at 12.15 a.m., yesterday (8.15 p.m. Sunday AST) and shortly thereafter, one loud explosion was heard. It was not immediately known if there had been any casualties.

Artillery roared through practically the whole day before the belligerents halted their man-to-man combat at nightfall.

An official bulletin early this morning reported the Socialist defenders of the capital had lost some positions on the outskirts but later recaptured them.

Madrid's defenders were ordered by the defence junta to stand firmly at their posts.

Many of the wounded in yesterday's hail of shells and bombs were stated to have been seriously injured. Three trucks were seen loaded with mangled bodies of victims from the area of Puerta de la Princesa alone.

Two Huge Craters

The insurgent bombs crashed entirely through some houses and shattered the walls. Near the Puerta de la Princesa there were two bomb craters 13 feet wide and 15 feet deep. It was estimated 20 incendiary bombs fell upon the city during the day. Several bombs fell on the platform of the North Railway Station.

Artillery shells landed in the Puerta del Sol near the ministries of Interior and state and sprayed the southern section of the city. One shell scored a direct hit on the Presidential Palace and another hit Cibeles Square in front of the ministry of war.

(1) Popular Front—Number of votes, 4,356,000, a percentage of 47. They took their seats thus: Left Republicans, 162; Socialists and Communists, 108.

(2) Centre—Number of votes, 340,000, a percentage of 4. Number of seats, 60.

(3) Right (Opposition), Number of votes, 4,570,000, a percentage of 49. Number of seats, 140.

The Popular Front, therefore, which included Left Republicans, Socialists, Communists, Syndicalists and Anarchists, polled only 47 per cent of the total; while the Right, which included Catholics, Liberal Democrats, Royalists, Independents, landowners and farmers, small-holders both owners and tenants, industrialists, shop-keepers and workers, polled 49 per cent. Nevertheless the Popular Front with a smaller number of votes, returned a number of members far in excess of its strength in the country.

A government returned under these conditions, with an actual minority of votes, should surely have devoted itself to a policy of reconciliation and moderation, to a strict maintenance of law and order and the preservation of life and property. It is possible that the government had that hope and intention, but as soon as it was constituted it was clear that control had passed out of its hands. It was composed entirely of Republicans. The Socialists, Communists and Anarchists refused to join it, being anxious to preserve their freedom of action. They knew they could control it better from without than from within, where they would have to incur responsibility for its actions or inactions.

It was clear soon after the outbreak of hostilities that the government was unable either to control its supporters or defeat its opponents. The military position became gradually worse, and it was evident towards the end of August that the government forces were faced with defeat. At this critical moment M. Rosenberg, an ambassador from Russia, suddenly and unexpectedly arrived in Madrid. Within a week after his arrival, a new government came into power. At the head of this government is Senor Caballero who is known as the "Spanish Lenin" a gentleman with a long history of revolutionary activity.

It is strange that there should be so much confusion about the position in Spain. A glance at the opposing forces should be sufficient. It is not a question of a constitutional government fighting for its life against a revolution. There was, in fact, no government in Spain, and its place was taken by forces that were revolutionary in character and by tradition.

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