

THE DAILY MAIL

NEW BRUNSWICK'S ONLY HOME COMMUNITY PAPER  
Published Every Afternoon (except Sunday) at 327-329 Queen Street.  
Fredericton, N. B.  
THE MAIL PUBLISHING COMPANY — J. L. NEVILLE, Managing Editor  
Subscription Price: \$5 Per Year by Carrier; \$4 Per Year by Mail. Three and Six Months' Subscriptions Taken at Proportionate Rates. Phone 67.

FREDERICTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1936

Experience

Let us not be led too far by the experience of others.. Experience is a great teacher—for those who have the experience. But the same set of circumstances, the same situation may not have the same effect on you. It is up to you to make your own experience. If it seems right TO YOU, you must step courageously into courses where others have lost their way. Too much attention to the experience of others breeds timidity. A very thoughtful man said, not long ago, speaking of the aged:

“And what use is their experience to us, who must make our own in every single happening of life?”

Just as the true artist is not a copyist but a creator of his own pictures after seeing the work of other masters, so must we profit by the example of our forebears, but create our own experience.

Making a Fool of Yourself

He's making a fool of himself, she's making a fool of herself—over this or over that.”

Very often we hear somebody say it. Are you as kind, as tolerant as you might be. The man who is making a fool of himself does not know that he is. The thing he is crazy about is very serious, very important—to him. He has reasons, perhaps, that seem good and proper to him. They are reasons which you do not know about. They may be reasons which you would not understand if you did know about them.

Knut Hamsun, great Norwegian student of life and folks, says in one of his books: “Do you think that the things people make fools of themselves about are any less real and true than the things they behave sensibly about?”

Planes Over the Rhine

Reoccupation of the Rhineland in defiance of her obligations under the Locarno treaty was not enough. Germany has been able to find new ways of enraging the already ragged French temper and make difficult a calm solution of that violation. Repeatedly since the reoccupation began, three weeks ago, German military planes have been “drifting” across the river and scouting the territory occupied by French fortifications.

Apparently diplomatic protests to Berlin, while bringing back apologies and assurances of “severe punishment” for the offending fliers, have not been sufficient to stop the practice. Consequently the French Air Ministry has created an “air police force.” It is doubtful that this will solve the problem without leading to fresh complications.

There is an international air pact which theoretically prevents such indiscretions. By it each trip a German plane makes across the French border is as much a violation of international law as the reoccupation of the Rhine was a violation of Locarno. Unfortunately the theory of international law and the enforcement of the law are two very different things.

If the German planes were to land in France the pilots could be arrested, the machines and their contents confiscated. If they do not land, and diplomatic protests do not stop the violation, the only alternative is to put planes in the air to chase them back over the border or force them to land. Apart from being a difficult manoeuvre, it is a dangerous one in consideration of present Franco-German relations, and a step that would not have to be taken if Herr Hitler were as sincere in his desire for peace as he would have Europe believe.

Three Roads to Conversion

Bond conversion is not the simple and convenient way out of the financial difficulties some of Canada's Provinces, notably Alberta, would make it. Interesting in consideration of the whole problem and coincidence with Premier Aberhart's plans is the address by Mr. C. C. Ferguson, General Manager of the Great-West Life Assurance Company, to an Edmonton audience some time ago and recently published in pamphlet form.

In that address Mr. Ferguson described what might properly be termed the three states of mind on conversion in Canada. “There are those,” he stated, “who would arbitrarily reduce interest rates; those who would ask creditors to accept lower interest in consideration of their receiving additional or improved security; those who would confine their programmes to refunding existing securities on reduced interest rates as those securities mature, or as a right to call can be exercised in accordance with contract terms.”

Of the first proposal, or state of mind, Mr. Ferguson has points to make that cannot be ignored or easily refuted by persons of that school. Those who would hold that arbitrary lowering of interest rates is not repudiation of a contract are taking a one-sided view of the rights of contract, and at the same time are ignoring the “vital consideration—of its probable effect on future credit.” To repudiate obligations is to alienate trust, and, as Mr. Ferguson pointed out, “there are incidents in history where large communities even now have to pay extra interest on public borrowings because of repudiation made a generation ago.”

Beyond that, the lower interest rate, no matter how desirable, can have far-reaching effects in dislocation of legitimate business operations, and such arbitrary reductions “may cost more in diminished taxation returns” than they will save in interest payments. Another factor Mr. Ferguson suggests taking into consideration in any extensive programme of compulsory conversion is the degree to which it can affect the business of the community.

While no theoretical criticism can be made of the second proposal, Mr. Ferguson stated that “it might fail in practice owing to an unwillingness on the part of bondholders to surrender their existing securities, because they would see in the general plan such an improvement in Provincial or, as the case might be, municipal finance as would make them believe that their existing securities were perfectly safe, and that, therefore, they might as well retain the higher interest rate.” Others, even though approving the plan, would feel that they could not take part because of their own obligations to creditors.

The plan to which Mr. Ferguson gave his approval was the third, that of refunding securities at maturity on lower rates of interest. It is the practice that has been followed quite successfully in the past both by Governments and by private corporations. In each case credit has been left unimpaired and the desired savings have been obtained. Some Provinces have not been able to adopt the plan because “frankly, their credit ratings have not been any too good.” At the same time it is the plan which offers a basis for Federal-Provincial co-operation in working out a solution for the debt problems of the Provinces and the municipalities alike.

SNAPSHOTS

“Catch the Bus,” was the slogan this morning.

Few things can be as unwieldy as water out of place.

How time flies! Already the Dionnes are older than some of the stuff the distillers call “mellow.”

The Capital Bus needed elastic sides this morning.

A report on progress in the Dionne nursery says the girls are acquiring judgment of their own. Look out any day now for a 3 to 2 decision.

It is intimated officially in Rome that if Mussolini be given a mandate over Ethiopia he will fully respect the rights of Great Britain and France—And isn't that nice of him?

One woman carried almost everything but her pajamas to the bus in a mad rush to catch the car.

The S.P.C.A. should get after the local Queen street merchant who keeps cats but does not seem humane enough to feed them.

Commissions Are Buffer State

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made and must be carried out. I feel that he could engage sufficiently competent assistants to render the establishment of this commission unnecessary, and in that way curb the expenditures that are bound to arise through a measure of this nature.

“One can picture the appointments of this commission. Of course, the appointments were to be non-political. No politicians or near-politicians need apply. The commissioners are to be gathered together here in Ottawa; then they are going to proceed to collect statistics and compile and publish all that information, and then they are going to proceed to act upon it. Now, why could not that be done by officials in the Department of Labour? Why could there not be a committee formed in the department to do that self-same work, instead of adding to the burdens of the department by giving it another body with which to deal? The only reason I see for the appointment of a commission of this kind is that it may act as a buffer state between the government and those who are seeking aid and relief in connection with unemployment in this dominion. That is the only reason I can see, and I do not like political manoeuvres and appointments of that sort. I think any government in power should take full, absolute and complete responsibility for their actions, and not place themselves in a position to say: We have nothing to do with this matter; here is the commission; you must go to them, and if they do not do as you would like them to do, we are very sorry but we cannot assist you in any way; blame the commission; we have nothing to do with the matter; we did all we could but the commission would not act as we would like them to do.”

Alberta's Legislators Vote for Setting up of a Provincial Bank

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Trade and Industry Act, which became effective upon 8,000 retailers throughout the province yesterday. Under the act a master code governs retail trade. Price regulation is one of the principal points.

ROAD IMPASSABLE

The road is completely washed out between Sewell's Wharf to within 2 miles of McGowan's Wharf, it was learned today from C. B. Croasdale, Chief Highway Engineer in New Brunswick, who drove yesterday from Fredericton to McGowan's Wharf district with John MacKenzie, district highway engineer in a light car. The depth of silt made it impossible to go further than within 2 miles of McGowan's Wharf. Mr. Croasdale announced that the road was utterly impassable for cars at the present time, and that snow conditions make it impossible to get materials there now. He said temporary repairs will be made as soon as possible.

REMANDED TO JAIL

C. L. Stewart, of Moncton, pleaded guilty in the police court today, to two charges of obtaining money under false pretences. The case was set over till Tuesday at noon. The prisoner was remanded to jail. Fred Peters acted for the accused.

TO BE REPEATED

“The Meddlesome Maid” will be repeated on Wednesday evening, April 15 at St. Dunstan's hall for the benefit of those who did not see the play on its first showing. Proceeds for St. Dunstan's Y. P.

TENDERS CLOSED TODAY

Tenders for removal of the wreckage of the old C.N.R. bridge closed today. Notice of the successful tender will be announced in a few days.

DISPLAY OF PASTELS BY LOCAL ARTIST

Donald Cox Has Some Fine Portraits at P. N. S. Art Display This Week—Earns Acclaim.

Besides the fine array of Renoirs, Piacassos, and Cesannes at this week's art display at the Provincial Normal school there is a small collection of pastel portraits by Donald Cox, promising young pastellist of this city. His work is being much admired by the visitors to the Normal School this week. The display is another in a series sponsored by the Maritime Art Association.

Mr. Cox's work shows delicacy and a thorough craftsmanship and his scenic pastels of New Brunswick are especially fine. One of his portraits is of Prof. R. B. Pugh, Boy Scout commissioner. Natural scenery, including scenes of the Restigouche, the Tetagouche and a rural scene at Rothesay are keystones of Mr. Cox's most recent work. Mr. Cox is the only Fredericton artist represented in the current group.

The Fredericton man's portraiture has brought favorable recognition from Grant McDonald, one of Canada's leading pastellists, who is now in England, and who was one time art editor of the Toronto Star.

Ald. Ross in Statement Re Discrimination

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Ald. Ross' statement on Monday night was that he had been “singled out” for a “Roman holiday” in September of last year in respect to a summons for an infraction of the by-law regarding electric signs. At that time, said Ald. Ross, he was required to appear in court while seven or eight others who were similarly charged were not compelled to go to court.

While Ald. Ross did charge “discrimination” he made no mention of police magistrate. Neither did he say he was fined and he had no fault to find with the judgment. The discrimination came in, according to Ald. Ross, when he was compelled to go to court while the others were not. At the time Ald. Ross had sent an attorney to court for him.

Ald. T. Earle Doohan, chairman of the Administration of Justice committee, who on Monday night had moved that the Police Magistrate be asked to come before the council and explain the matter, last night reported that his investigation of the affair was not complete and he said he would report at a future meeting.

Edward Malone Found Guilty of Theft

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spiracy to defraud clients and with 13 separate counts of theft of clients' stocks by converting the proceeds to his own use or to the use of E. A. Willis & Co., Ltd. The jury found him guilty on nine counts of the indictment.

When the court opened yesterday morning, E. B. McLatchy, who with J. T. Troy has been conducting the case for the Crown, addressed the jury. Mr. McLatchy concluded his summing up at 2 p.m., adjournment being made for lunch. The accused, conducting his own case, then proceeded to sum up for the defence, following which Judge J. L. Ryan gave his charge to the jury, which retired at 4.20 p.m.

Gordon Campbell, Dalhousie Junction, the foreman, reported that the jury found the accused guilty on counts 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 15 of the indictment. All of the counts, excepting No. 15, concerned certificates for stock owned by Joseph S. Cyr, Edmundston. Mr. Cyr had delivered three stocks to the Willis company as collateral for his margin account. Count 15 charged the accused with converting the proceeds of the sale of 100 shares of L. P. Co., preferred stock, owned by P. J. Kelly, Dalhousie.

Following the verdict, Judge Ryan remanded the accused to jail until 2 p.m., tomorrow, when sentence will be given. His Honour discharged the entire jury panel from further attendance.

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St. John Chief of Police Dismissed for Cause

(Continued from page One)

plied for the writ after they had been notified of their dismissal in a letter from Commissioner Walsh read to them March 19th by Acting Chief McLeese.

The judgment, delivered by Chief Justice J. B. M. Baxter, strongly censured Commissioner Walsh for his “misconduct” in “usurping an authority which, it should have been evident to him and to the city's adviser, he did not possess.”

No step to disapprove Commissioner Walsh's action in dismissing the chief of police was taken by any member of the council at yesterday's meeting and tacit approval was conveyed by the fact the question was not put to a vote. Notice that the chief had been discharged was accepted with the routine motion—“received and filed.”

Commissioner Walsh's communication to the council merely reported that he had “this day dismissed E. M. Slader, chief of police of Saint John,” and that he had dismissed him on the grounds of inefficiency.

“Never Been Satisfied”

“I think,” he told the council verbally, “that it is only right that I make some explanation. This has no bearing on the Mary Boyd question except in the one instance of him taking no action on the findings of the investigation. I have never been satisfied, since I took over office, with the cooperation of the police department.”

He charged that his orders to the police had been met with “passive resistance.”

“Materials were purchased by the police department without consulting me until it got to the stage where I had to circulate certain people saying I would not authorize payment of bills unless they were incurred on a written order from me,” said Commissioner Walsh. The main bills incurred without his consent had been for automobile repairs.

“At the same time as the Mary Boyd case,” he continued, “two false summonses were issued by somebody.” The citizens who had received them brought them to him. They were typewritten.

He had turned these over to the Chief of Police and the detective inspector and asked them to check up the typing with the typing of certain machines about which he had “reason to be suspicious—one in particular.”

“At the end of the next week,” declared the commissioner of public safety, “these typewriters still hadn't been checked on, and I was told by the chief that they didn't have time.”

The police department had no proper records of clothing, although he was not intimating there had been any shortages; nor had it a proper record of firearms, although these were registered at Ottawa. There were no files of contracts with the men on the force and he had “found applications all over the chief's office.” In the case of one member of the force, from what records there were, he apparently had been employed without a medical examination.

He referred to offenses under police regulations. For calling in from box 25 instead of box 26, the commissioner said, Chief Slader had suspended one member of the force for a day. Another constable had been suspended two days for being on his beat 25 minutes while he had a lunch in a restaurant. A third member had been dismissed because he was off his beat 35 minutes, which he spent in a private house. He contrasted these cases with Chief Slader's attitude with regard to the “defense” of Matron Adams and Detective McBrien.

He had asked the chief of police for “several” reports which had not been given him. The police medical bill in the last year had been \$639.53, compared with \$51 in the previous year and \$80 in the year before that. He had asked a report on the reason for the sudden increase. He was still waiting for that report from his chief the commissioner said, although he had received a satisfactory explanation elsewhere.

Commissioner Walsh had also asked for a report on what had been done about the theft of plumbing fixtures from a house on Ludlow Street. Chief Slader had not given him this, either.

“The commissioner,” said Mayor

CAPITOL

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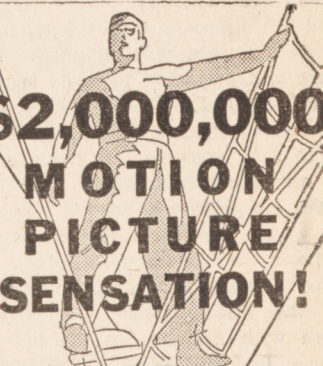
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