

INDUSTRIAL SWING TO LONDON IS CAUSING WORRY IN BRITAIN

Factories Rise in Southern England as North Stagnates --- Great Concentration of Plants Would Be Peril in War

LONDON, Dec. 15—While England as a whole is on the flood tide of an industrial boom and more people are in employment than ever before in her history, there are grave blot on the picture. The distressed areas are still sloughs of despond, workless and despairing, and Malcolm Stewart, the commissioner appointed to restore them to prosperity, has retired from the task in unexplained disappointment that the government has not sufficiently supported his efforts.

In a formidable indictment, he directs attention to a fact that is changing the whole balance of English industrial life.

London is becoming an octopus that is sucking the life-blood, not only out of the acutely distressed areas, but out of the great manufacturing centres of the provinces generally. In the past, the North and Midlands have been the great workshop of the nation, while the south has been the pleasant lotus land given up to agriculture, hunting and holiday resorts and presided over by the mighty capital of finance, politics and pleasure on the banks of the Thames.

Stagnation in North But with the slump in the great staple industries after the war and the development of multitudes of new industries, there has been a sensational reversal of the current of industry. While stagnation has fallen upon the north, the south has burgeoned out into bricks and mortar. The cloistered quiet of Oxford has been submerged by an avalanche of trade, and multitudes of rural towns have been transformed into hives of industry.

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WHAT IS THIS THING CALLED COMPATIBILITY?

(By Ruth Cameron)

"You speak of incompatibility as insignificant, but it is in all cases such an insignificant matter? We are beginning to realize in these days something of the effect of character on character—determining effects in many instances. With certain persons we are lifted up, inspired to face the battle of life and overcome its difficulties. I have known fine men and women whose life has been stultified and marred because they were badly matched."—David Graham Phillips.

I started to use that last week when I was presenting a little collection of various writers' reactions to the problems of marriage. And then stopped.

Not because I don't think it is true. I do think it is thoroughly true. But because I also think it is most thoroughly capable of being distorted in its application.

What is compatibility? Liking the same things, having the same tastes, the same viewpoints.

Who is ever entirely compatible? No two people, of course.

But what happens when people fall in love and get married? They rush toward each other, propelled by that strange force which transmutes everything into gold.

And they put all the emphasis on the things they both like. Isn't it wonderful, they say, they both love dancing and they both are fond of reading and like bridge? And they love Dorothy Parker's poetry, and they think all that old sentimental stuff is lousy, and they both hate to go to bed and hate to get up, and really it's wonderful how many things they think alike about!

They ignore the fact that he is fond of outdoor games and she never likes anything of that sort; that she loves music and he is entirely lacking in musical sense; that he loves animals and she has no use for them; that he would like to live in the country and that she is essentially a cliff-dweller.

In fact, during the courtship neither of them really care about the things the other doesn't care for. He loses all interest in his tennis, since that would keep him from her; she doesn't care to go to the concerts, since she doesn't want to be parted from him and knows he won't enjoy them. He spends most of his time in her city apartment or driving around with her, since her only interest in the country is as seen through an automobile window.

It isn't until they are married and go back to normal that they begin to realize that the things which they think differently about and have different tastes in, really do count.

And what then? Well, if it's a good marriage and there aren't too many things they feel differently about, they compromise on some things, do some things by themselves, and are bound together by tenderness, by children, by domestic ties.

Unless (and this is why I didn't want to use that excerpt without some comment) one or the other meets some one else and again is deceived by the way sex attraction has of camouflaging itself into thinking that here at last he has met the really compatible person. This time, perhaps, she finds some one who likes music or he finds some one who can share his athletic tastes.

The Stars Will Shine On "Christie Street Capers"

Stars, lovely to look upon, stars that will raise big laughs and little chuckles, stars that will create rhythm and romance, all will twinkle on the stage of the little Theatre at Christie Street Hospital on Thursday, Dec. 17, when at 9:30 p.m., CBC National network listeners are asked to tune in to join the soldier patients for their weekly frolic, "Christie Street Capers."

Jack Arthur has arranged for a formidable array of name artists and his boys in scarlet will be on hand in full forces to back up the stars, not excepting Wis Williams, the nationally known Master-of-Ceremonies. The guests are lovely Louise King, the young star of the Canadian airwaves who came from Chicago, metropolis of the middle west; and Hazel Bell, young soprano for whom the maestro expects a warm reception.

Among the indispensables of the show are: Jack Reid, gallant young tenor, Sammy Sales, the irrepressible "Salzberg," Bert Pearl, a breeze from the West. Their numbers will include such light and tuneful hits as "Penalties From Heaven," "Am I Blue," "Mammy Song," "Close To Me" and "You're Too Good to Be True." The orchestra will seem that way in Drigo's "Valse Bluettes." It's a special arrangement.

Motorist—how far it is to Turnville? Inhabitant—Well, it's thousands of miles in the direction you're going, but if you turn 'round and go the other way it's just three miles.

"There is no cure, I am convinced, so potent for our inner conflicts as a high purpose."—Burrus Jenkins.

A REPUTATION STARTS AT THE SCHOOL

Children Often Careless About Good Will of Superiors

(By Arthur Dean, Sc.D.)

Young people, and older ones, too, are very careless about seeing the necessity of keeping, at least partly, on the right side of those who are officially superior to them.

More than one boy is tickled pink with the idea that eventually he is to shake the dust of the local high school; that figuratively speaking, he is to kiss good-bye that principal whom for the last four years he has despised and is to give the final ha! ha! to three or four school spinsters, who have assumed that their job was to teach him something and not to amuse him.

Yes, a grand and glorious feeling! But watch out for a good hangover if you have not cultivated your teachers.

After you have applied for a job that is good for anything, the prospective employer is going to look you up. The better the position, the more pains he will take in following up your references.

The employer is likely to send the principal a letter, which reads something like this:

My dear Mr. Principal: Mr. John Smith has applied to us for a position as —. We desire to employ only persons of good character and, as he has named you as a reference, we hand you the enclosed questions. We solicit your candid answers. Your reply will be held strictly private and confidential.

Are you related to the applicant? If so, how?

How long have you known him; how well?

Do any of his family or intimate associates, to your knowledge, bear an unfavorable reputation?

Have you ever heard or known of his being suspected of (a) fraud; (b) dishonesty; (c) intemperance; (d) gambling; (e) speculation; (f) extravagance; (g) unfavorable associations; (h) dishonorable conduct? (Underscore).

Does he use coarse or vulgar language?

Do you know of his ever having been irregular or unsteady in his habits or inattentive to his duties?

Is he (a) industrious; (b) careful; (c) thorough; (d) dishonest; (e) truthful; (f) trustworthy? (Underscore).

Can he work harmoniously with others?

Does he appreciate the business value of courtesy and good service?

Is he active and energetic?

Is he of fair, average or unusual ability? (Underscore).

You can help the principal give favorable answers, and now is the time to do it.

BE WARNED IN TIME SAYS MINISTER

NEW YORK, Dec. 15—In the face of pacifists, clergymen and peace-loving statesmen, H. L. Mencken today reveals his idea of what will happen should war hysteria again grip this country.

A daring article in the current Liberty Magazine, written by Mencken, declares the warnings of pacifists will be of no avail when the bands start to play and flags wave. War is popular, he says, appeals to the very nature of mankind and the uncontrollable excitement experienced by the average citizen is sufficient to send him marching off again.

Peace-loving statesmen are thoroughly disliked by the public in wartime, Mencken says. Henry Clay and John C. Calhoun are written up in history books as heroes of the War of 1812, he points out, and says the men who opposed that war have been forgotten.

The clergymen, he says, will protest. But they will be bitten by the hysteria bug sooner or later, he predicts.

"As for the rest of the people," the article states, "they are for war all the time, whether for good reasons or bad. They delight in it as a cat delights in catnip, or a dry congressman in radiator alcohol."

Mencken declares the pacifists always make the mistake of assuming that the people do not like war.

"The whole body of the people high and low alike, are all the same when the bands begin to play and the tramp, tramp, tramp of marching men converts every heart into a cocktail shaker."

A complete renovation of human nature is the only thing that can change all this, he says.

"Science is mighty and may change this in time," he concludes. "If, when, and as it does so I'll begin to believe that we have seen the last of war. But not before."

Seen But Not Heard

Manhattan

Morton Downey, almost buried under white packages, waiting at Grand Central for the train to Greenwich, Conn., and home . . . Kate Smith watching her Original Celtic professional basketball team in a practice session, to prepare them for the opening of the New York "dribble" season. . . . Guy Lombardo running up the steps of Mt. Sinai Hospital where his wife is nicely recuperating from an operation. . . . Andre Kostelanetz at the Hickory House for an informal luncheon given in his honor by lead musical figures—composers Dana Suesse, Ferde Grofe, Rubie Bloom, publisher Jack Robbins. . . . Frank Munn and Lucy Monroe, of the "American Album" pouring over hundreds of music manuscripts at the NBC Music Library in selecting their popular duets. . . . Eddie Cantor in a Fifth Avenue book-shop buying A. A. Milne's "Winnie The Pooh" books as a gift for his protegee, Deanna Durbin, who can quote whole passages of the whimsical works. . . .

Hollywood

Frances Langford, on her way to Bette Davis' party at the Cocoanut Grove, clinging to the arm of Gil Kuhn, football captain for the University of Southern California. . . . Burns and Allen, burning the midnight oil and valiantly struggling to hang drapes in the living room of their new Hollywood home. . . . Gertrude Niesen chatting gaily with Joe and Mrs. Penner at the Brown Derby. . . . Boris Karloff at the Caravan microphone, the county gentleman in tweeds, playing Death in "Death Takes a Holiday," without once glancing at the script.

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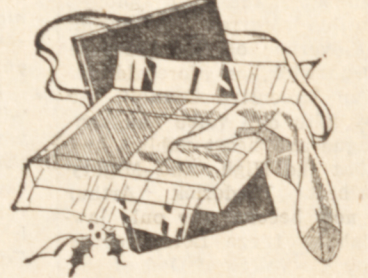
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