

THE DAILY MAIL

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FREDERICTON, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1936

Rome Moves Nearer Berlin

If there is anything, outside an army, that can be relied upon to control Russia's threatened entry into the Spanish civil war it is the current diplomatic talks between Berlin and Rome. Already observers are able to see something more than declarations of mutual admiration from Count Galeazzo Ciano's visit to Berlin. The fact that he is Mussolini's only confidant might encourage premature and exaggerated conclusions, but there are more practical signs than the Count's official standing in Rome.

Germany's ambition runs to a Central European anti-Soviet bloc. The Count's visit was undertaken when that ambition is at its strongest, and when there never were so many mutual approaches to it as there are now. Italy and Germany are agreed on the rewriting of Locarno and the terms of Western Europe's security; they share similar opinions on the remodeling of the League of Nations; all signs are that they are working from prearranged programmes in the Spanish crisis. To begin their talk, there is Germany's readiness to recognize Italy in Ethiopia.

Only on one point can they be said to have widely separated programmes. That is on currency devaluation, and, instead of their policies being in opposition, the inference here must be that Germany would have gone the same road Italy took had internal economic conditions permitted. Even now, with Italy's help, she can arrange an easier approach to devaluation. At any rate, policy on this one question can no longer be considered as creating much of a division between them and affecting any working agreement they might come to.

It is known that Germany hopes for a pact which will permit close political and financial co-operation, and should this be accomplished she will automatically enter into the Italo-Austro-Hungarian alliance. There is the beginning of the Central European bloc which will be the first clear realignment of Powers in accordance with partisan feeling in Europe. Its real effects are not to be guessed at, but certainly such an alliance would not permit the early accomplishment of the European security Great Britain and France have in mind.

Four Horsemen Prepare to Ride

Poised for a plunge into the hell of war, fascists and communists of Europe this day uncap their artileries and tune their aerial layers of eggs of death. From the chemical works comes a stream of containers of poison gas.

Mass murder is in the making because wilful men grow mad with their material philosophies.

Not yet recovered from the agonies of the last war, supposedly civilized nations again would hurl their young into the maw of Mars, into the filth and horror of mortal combat.

Men must be mad that they use their power for such hellish purpose. Unmindful or scornful of the cost, little men in big places are ready to make the world reel, and civilization totter, simply because they, in the mire of their own conceit and incompetency, have failed in their jobs.

War is usually a confession of intellectual and spiritual failure. War is usually the answer of despots to the inescapable exposure of their unfitness for place. War is a supreme crime of men lustful for pomp and power.

Diplomacy appears to have failed in Europe. Only the players of a people, or a continual rebellion against despotism can avert a crisis from which may be born an actual Armageddon.

Are the horsemen again to ride?

Let us here be ready to repel them.

Into the Future by Air

Definite plans for a Dominion Day inaugural coast-to-coast air service next year reduce all the speculation of the last twelve months to simple and credible reality. At long last this Dominion is to assume its place in an age of rapid transport. For years it has been a mystery to foreign visitors that this country had made so little use of the airplane when opportunities and, indeed, requirements were so great.

With the objective now so close to fulfillment, it seems needless, perhaps, to condemn the shortsightedness of the last Federal Government in abandoning the original venture in commercial aviation in Western Canada in 1931 with pleas of economy. In retrospect, many political economies of the kind have proved tremendously expensive, and one cannot help wondering what it has cost this country to let aviation languish for five years—the same period in which it made its greatest strides in other countries of the world.

To gain an even partial estimate of what air transport can mean to a country of the size and scattered nature of Canada, it is well to consider some of the developments of half a decade. In this time Imperial Airways has linked Britain with every Capital on the Continent, with India, with South Africa and Australia. To facilitate that service, small connecting units were established and extended to the extremes of those vast areas. South America likewise was reduced to a matter of flying hours and brought with in easy reach of half a dozen European Capitals. In the United States, virtually every major city was drawn into the vast network of air-routes. Less than six months ago Pacific flights became daily occurrences, and in those months trans-atlantic flights proved practicable.

Late as its arrival may be, the trans-Canada service is the last dramatic link in around-the-Empire air travel. As a link in regular Atlantic and Pacific services, it has a tremendous future, but there are equally great and important possibilities in its domestic development to beggar the imagination. Montreal to Vancouver in sixteen hours is a staggering jump in terms of Ontario timberslands, seemingly endless prairie and the austere barrier of Rocky Mountains. Toronto to Winnipeg between breakfast and lunch is another means of measurement, but all such yardsticks stress only increased speed. It is what speed and efficiency of close contact can mean in the commercial and industrial life of Canada that assesses the real value of air transportation.

In the foundation of the service there are early and important developments—the expansion of airplane manufacture, a market for pilots, mechanics, radio technicians, for unskilled labor, and for maintenance industries. As the small connecting units develop and join industrial centres with agricultural areas, with mining fields, with the unexploited wealth of the unknown North, Canada will find new enterprise and new basis for, and advantages from, co-operation. And so Canada will more easily and rapidly come to know and work with herself and with the world.

SNAPSHOTS

And we didn't need Hitler nor Mussolini to bring about a good crop of weddings.

They were not state planned, either.

Oh well! Canada's a pretty good place to live in anyway.

A time there was when it was the absent-minded professor.

Now in this woman's age it is the absent minded professor's wife who forgets all about the bridge party.

Which goes to show Fredericton's bridge experts can really be quite domestic.

It is an example to see the community of interest between father and son such as one sees between Dr. Kierstead and his son Professor Kierstead. They make a good team, and are valuable men in the community.

Mrs. George Black, M.P. for the Yukon, said in a speech at Vancouver that she found newspapermen at Ottawa "honorable, reliable and accurate." She will find these attributes in all news gatherers who are worthy of their occupations, no matter what "beat" they may be on. They do not misconstrue.

There is something very human in Jack Miner's story of the disabled geese that are his permanent guests at the Kingsville sanctuary resenting the arrival of husky young birds on the wing southward. Why should these noisy visitors upset the comfortable routine of the steady boarders? And hasn't that been a thought in quarters where other than geese abide?

16-Hour

(Continued from Page One)

the Government in this enterprise. "The Federal Government is providing for a first-class service," said Mr. Howe this evening, "and we are confident it can be placed upon a sound commercial basis. We have already spent considerable money on providing the ground facilities, and it is our intention to enlist the co-operation of responsible private airplane enterprise. A very substantial investment has been made and the aim is to make it yield a satisfactory return."

A total of \$8,000,000 will have been spent by the Dominion in providing airports, beacons and other aids to aerial navigation. Of this \$8,500,000 has already been expended. It is estimated that, in addition to the \$1,500,000 yet to be utilized, it will require about \$1,500,000 to provide the airplanes and their operators. By July 1 next year the work of establishing the many landing fields and installing the beacons and other necessary services will have been completed, and it is possible that on that date, Dominion Day, the Trans-Canada air service will be inaugurated.

Seeking information as to how airplane service is provided in the United States, Mr. Howe went down to New York City, flew in a non-stop plane to Chicago, then in a non-stop plane to Dallas, Texas, and from that city travelled in one of the overnight transcontinental pullman planes to Los Angeles which provides all the conveniences and luxuries of a Pullman car on the railroad. From Los Angeles, Mr. Howe flew by easy stages to Seattle and thence to Vancouver.

Criminal Code

(Continued from Page One)

prisoner prays for the Minister of Justice—who is human and has a heart, and at the same time, condemn the judge," he added.

He also cited the famous case in which Recorder Leonce Plante, while practicing law in Criminal Court, had a man, appearing before Judge Monet on a charge of selling liquor illegally, acquitted because it was not proved in court that the "John Collins" mentioned contained spirits.

Maritime Electric

(Continued from Page One)

Regarding the application made by Mr. Winslow, the latter explained that it was desired to dispose of the \$900,000 issue of first mortgage bonds at 41-2 percent, but that no decision had been arrived at regarding disposition of the \$400,000 issue of general mortgage bonds at 51-2 percent.

BORN

HAWKINS—At Longsight, Manchester, England, on October 24, 1936, to Reverend and Mrs. Raeburn S. Hawkins, a daughter.

Committee

(Continued from Page One)

ereign, and the Prime Minister will be attending in a slightly altered status. It is understood the general representation, however, will be similar to that at the Coronation of King George V.

On that occasion the Dominion party included the Prime Minister and a representative group of members of both Houses of Parliament, Liberal and Conservative. A picked composite military contingent of 700 officers and men from Canada also took part in the ceremonies.

Suggested

(Continued from Page One)

credit for the betterment in conditions which has been brought about at our jail here.

The information which was given to the commissioner by these gentlemen was much appreciated. The commissioner stated that he had only been able to pay a short visit to the Fredericton jail. He had not been able to see the diet and if he had any talks with any of the prisoners that was a private matter which must necessarily be kept for his report, which will be made at Ottawa. Commissioner Craig stated also in answer to a question that as far as he could see the jail building had a very de luxe appearance. He could not compare this jail with other jails throughout the province as he only had been able to visit two jails besides this one—one at Saint John and the other at Dorchester. Therefore there were twelve jails which he had not seen at all.

A rather amusing attempt was made during the afternoon to belittle the efforts made by The Daily Mail which paper, after a lone fight, has been able to secure any improvement that has been made recently in the York county jail. This attempt by a fresh reporter was received with the contempt that it deserved by the members of the Commission, and those gentlemen who were endeavoring to do their part towards bettering the lot of the unfortunate.

Comments regarding the York County jail were presented yesterday afternoon before a Royal Commission on prisons, which met at the Executive Council Chamber. R. W. Craig, K.C., former Attorney General of Manitoba, presided and A. J. Fraser, Secretary of the Commission, was also present.

Rev. Mr. Buckland, rector of the Anglican Church at Springhill, told the commission that he had visited the York County jail over a year ago. He had found from seven to ten men crowded into small sized rooms and even found men crowded into dark holes in the dungeons. In the latter place it was so cold and damp that the men were obliged to wear their overcoats. The jail menu was so meagre that it did not contain proper nourishment for the prisoners. He had visited many jails throughout the province of New Brunswick and in his opinion the food in the York County jail was the worst to be found in the whole province. Mr. Buckland cited the case of a man who had spent six months in jail and who had no friends to bring him any food. The man had to subsist on the jail menu and when he was released he fell in the street from exhaustion and undernourishment and had to be taken to Victoria Hospital.

Commissioner Craig stated, that the Federal authorities had no control over the jail system but they were endeavoring to find out conditions as they existed in the county jails as it was part of their duty to work it into a system. He believed that the county jail system as we have it here does not exist anywhere else in Canada.

Councillor J. F. Doherty of Kingsclear, who has been a councillor for sixteen years and who has been on the jail committee, told the commission that conditions in regard to overcrowding were better now than they were a couple of years ago. But that other conditions were far from what they should be. Up to two or three years ago and for many years the jail menu consisted of one loaf of bread and three mugs of water per day for each prisoner. Through efforts which he had made at the council board, milk had been added so that each prisoner in the County jail in addition to the above menu now receives four pints of milk per week or less than a pint every second day. Within the last year or so, owing to an agitation which had appeared in The Daily Mail, a pound of cheese and a quart of molasses were added once a week and last year the councillors had given the prisoners a cup of tea every day additional. Councillor Doherty also stated that cells size 18x20 feet had at times contained from seven to ten prisoners in a room. At one time two years ago, when the conditions were very bad sixty-five prisoners were confined in the jail when there really was not room for more than a third of that number. Men in dungeons were obliged to wear their overcoats. There were no lights in

the cells and unless a man took a candle or a lamp in with him, he would have to remain in the dark from early in the winter afternoon until the following morning.

Commissioner Craig stated that the system here in New Brunswick was different from that in Nova Scotia. In New Brunswick there was no government supervision or regulations regarding rations. In Nova Scotia fixed ration both as to quantity and quality was provided.

Dr. W. C. Kierstead of the University of New Brunswick agreed with the commissioner as to what he said in regard to Nova Scotia and added that the inspection which was supposed to be made by the Health Department of the province was, he believed, inadequate. Dr. Kierstead stated that he believed that the commissioner was familiar with the Nova Scotia report and that our conditions here were very similar to that outlined in the Nova Scotia report.

Commissioner Craig said that conditions in Nova Scotia "are shocking." The public should be aroused to the general jail conditions. The jailers here are untrained men and they should be trained jailers. He believed in the need of a central prison farm and for some uniformity of our jail system and for a proper inspection of food and sanitary conditions.

Dr. Kierstead discussed at length the results arising from the lack of a proper child welfare league in the province where preventive and educational measures would be used for the prevention of crime. He believed that the Bannister case was an instance where such neglect had resulted unfortunately. We are not doing anything to educate, or supervise our social work. There is a good deal of inbreeding throughout the province and this results in much crime, and in the breeding of people with criminal tendencies. There was need of much social welfare work.

The commissioner stated that the jail conditions as he found them in this province were in the hands of the municipality, and the electors in these municipalities had the power in their hands to elect councillors who would see that the proper administration of the jail system was carried on.

Prof. B. S. Kierstead of the University of New Brunswick did not seem to have much faith in the rural electors so far as their bringing about improved conditions where the jail was concerned. Prof. Kierstead believed that the administration of the jails should be removed from the municipalities and put in the hands of the provincial authorities.

In reply to a question by Commissioner Craig J. B. Dickson, deputy attorney general, stated that no doubt the municipal councils would like to have the province take over the load of carrying the county jails. He believed the chief objection would be the financial one.

In a very instructive address Prof. B. S. Kierstead went into the matter of our jail system. He pointed out that the punishment for many offenses in this country was much more severe than it was in Great Britain. In Great Britain a man could not be confined to jail for an ordinary debt. The commissioner broke in to say that this had long since been abolished in Ontario and Quebec and one had to go back to the days of Charles Dickens to find a precedent for putting a man in jail for debt. Continuing Prof. Kierstead said that punishment in Canada appears to be vindictive, more than along the line of deterring a man from committing a crime. The commissioner agreed with this statement.

In reply to a request by the commissioner J. L. Neville gave some facts regarding the York county jail. He stated that over a year ago in company with the Ministerial Association, including Rev. Mr. Buckland who was present today, he had visited the York county jail. He had found the conditions what he would style "terrible" in regard to sanitation and segregation. Mr. Neville agreed with all the statements made by the representative of the York county council, Mr. Doherty. The latter, he said, should know what he was talking about as he had been on the jail committee for some years. Mr. Neville was glad to state that owing to an agitation which had been started by the Fredericton Daily Mail that considerable improvement had been made in regard to the sanitary and overcrowded condition. Mr. Neville paid a tribute to the present sheriff, C. N. Goodspeed, for the efforts he had made to bring about this improvement. At the same time he stated emphatically, and he said without fear of successful contradiction, that as far as the jail menu was concerned that it was no doubt inferior to that of any jail in New Brunswick. Mr. Neville had visited several of the other jails and had been in communication with the sheriffs of other counties and could make a comparison in regard to the jail menu. Mr. Neville also quoted a statement made by His Honor Judge Slipp to the grand jury of the county of York in which the judge stated that he had hesitated to send prisoners for minor offenses to the county jail owing to the conditions which prevailed

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and that he would rather send them for a short term to the penitentiary. Mr. Neville also quoted from the statements made by the late Judge (Continued on Page Five)

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