

THE DAILY MAIL
NEW BRUNSWICK'S ONLY HOME COMMUNITY PAPER
THE MAIL PUBLISHING COMPANY — J. L. NEVILLE, Managing Editor.
Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at 327-329 Queen Street,
Fredericton, N. B.
FREDERICTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1937.

Sir James M. Barrie

Upon both literature and the drama Sir James M. Barrie has left an impression that will endure through the centuries, unless admiration for whimsical humor and an uncanny knowledge of human nature passes from the minds of men. His novels and his plays established him among the best known of men, yet he shrank from publicity; and for him speechmaking was an ordeal.

He made humanity smile; and he made it think. The little things of life interested him. Readers of "My Lady Nicotine" will recall his walking several miles along the railway track in the neighborhood of Stratford-on-Avon to recover a tattered tobacco pouch he had, in a weak moment, thrown out of a railway car window. It is fortunate for the world that Barrie gave free rein to his whimsical bent of mind. This has endeared him to countless people who, either on the printed page or from behind the footlights, enjoyed his subtle humor.

Even while delivering his rectorial address at St. Andrew's University—a serious and important occasion—Sir James Barrie could not suppress his whimsical strain. This address on "Courage" is regarded as among the greatest ever heard by a student body. Yet he claimed that an imaginary person named McConnachie, his "writing half," was responsible for all the work that Barrie was supposed to have done, while he himself was a serious-minded man bent on observing the conventions. "You will all have your McConnachie," he told the students at St. Andrews, "luring you off the high road. Unless you are constantly on the watch you will find that he has slowly pushed you out of yourself and taken your place. He whispered to me just now that you elected him, not me, as your rector."

While steeped in the tradition of his native Scotland, even to the thrift of its people, Sir James was less concerned about the financial returns from his writings than he was about their success with patrons of the theatre and the reading public, though of course he made an immense amount of money. That was inevitable. Strangely enough, he did not enjoy writing. During one of his periods of inactivity he said to a friend: "Oh, you don't know how delicious it seems not to be writing anything." He disliked his play "Alice Sit by the Fire," and did not go to see it produced, though he attended rehearsals. "I wrote it for Ellen Terry one summer," he said, "just because I had to. I didn't enjoy the work." But there was no evidence of this in the play that so many thousand people have enjoyed. Of all his plays, "The Admirable Crichton" and "Peter Pan" gave him the greatest satisfaction, and this will be understood by an admiring public who enjoyed the metamorphosis of an ideal servant, and the story of the boy "who never grew up."

Sir James has quit the scene of his labors and his triumphs, but the delighted characters he created will continue to tread the stage, and there will be no ending to their royal progress through the pages of the world's literature.

Roosevelt Bias Clouds Mediation

President Roosevelt's belated intervention in the steel strike has all the appearances of a burlesque performance. Having permitted violence to go as far as it could before damage spread to the White House, he finally granted a request for "mediation," and had a three-man Commission appointed for the job. It is not a Commission for which there can be any real hopes.

Mr. Arthur Krock, Chief of the Washington Bureau of the New York Times, offers the best explanation for the doubts: "The very man who, at the instance of the Governor of Ohio, signed the administrative order that commissioned the mediators has already taken the strikers' side of the basic issue that is to be mediated. He is the President."

The writer refers to the President's statement on the refusal of the steel companies to sign a contract with the C.I.O. just last Tuesday, when in substance he said, Common sense asks why, if a fellow is willing to enter into a verbal agreement with his workers, he should refuse to sign his name to it. Having already judged the issue, there is nothing, so far as he is concerned, to be mediated, and Mr. Krock is not unjust in the inference that his Commission "thus begins its labors under the impressive shadow of its creator's opinion."

No one would go so far as to say that the Commission will be bound by the President's views. Of the three, only one of its members holds a Government position. But the issue on which it has to judge is so involved with Presidential politics that a decision in favor of the strikers must inevitably leave a broad doubt in the public mind, and certainly the employers cannot be criticized for suspecting bias.

People Will Crowd Together

It is amazing news that, even now, there is urban congestion in Northern Ontario. This was brought out at the meeting in Ottawa of the Industrial Hygienic Section of the Canadian Health Association. Still, this is only further evidence that, though surrounded by millions of acres of unused land, mankind will cluster in small communities, build its little houses on little lots on narrow streets, and face later the inevitable problems associated with civic growth.

In Northern Ontario the mining centres that have sprung up account for the rapid development of overcrowded districts. Once a municipality is organized owners of subdivisions divide their land into small lots, with frontage so narrow that there is room for nothing but a small house. Pioneers in the area think this is good enough for the present. They must have some place to live, so what if the next house is but a few yards away?

It was the same all over Canada. With virtually the whole country available, narrow streets were blazed—Yonge Street, Toronto, is an example—and rows of houses, close together, built on either side. Everything was done in haphazard manner, with no thought of future expansion; no town planning; all this left to future generations—and these generations know the price that must be paid for meeting new conditions. In the West they have done better. Cities, and even smaller communities, have splendid wide streets that are the envy of visitors from older Canada.

Rapid development in Northern Ontario—booming towns now where at the beginning of the century there was only wilderness—explains this overcrowding, as described by inspectors, in even small settlements with unused land for miles about. All mining camps, as in the North, develop as flourishing communities with an assured future. It is a pity congestion in urban centres already is present in the North Country; but now is the time to begin planning for the greater towns and cities that are assured as this newer part of the Province continues its astonishing development.

SNAPSHOTS

All this talk about the "idle rich" wanting Daylight Saving Time so as to play golf is foolish. Some of our well-to-do citizens work hard but they can knock off when they wish and play golf or anything else whether we have Daylight Saving Time or not. It is the ordinary every-day citizen who benefits by the extra hour in the afternoon.

It is said that several clerks and office people from Devon signed the petition against Daylight Saving Time. We do not know what right these people had to "butt in." They should be pleased to be allowed to work over here and we are pleased to have them but they should mind their own business. We understand that there was five in one establishment who signed this petition who had no right to do so.

Not every man believes that he is another Robert Taylor or a replica of Gene Raymond; but if the girl who loves him insists that he is, far be it from him to dispute her taste.

A beauty treatment and a fresh wave are always a sort of spiritual uplift to a woman; but a clean shave, haircut and a massage merely give a man an upsurging of the vanity, which sometimes ends in a little sentimental side-stepping.

Watch your step! We are now in the dangerous season when women fall in love—and men dive into it! In the Garden of Girls, most men are seeking a species of Morning-glory which blossoms under the sun of a smile, clings without clutching and "shuts up" of its own accord.

So live that you'll feel no urge to strangle your offspring when they tell guests all about it.

As a last effort, economic royalists might give John L. Lewis some tips on the market and turn him into a conservative.

Let's not be hypocrites. If the millionaire and the pauper could change places, they would also change "principles."

You can estimate the size of a town by the citizen's degree of anxiety about what the neighbors will say.

C.N.R. President

(Continued from Page One) ment might be issued after the meeting, Mr. Hungerford said.

Under present plans, the new government-controlled system is to go into operation this summer. A daily 16-hour service between Montreal and Vancouver is expected to be pioneered by late summer, and the passenger and mail service will be extended later to stretch into the Maritimes to Halifax.

DIED

PETERSON—Passed away Tuesday, June 22, 1937, Howard Peterson, 13 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Peterson, Morrison St., Marysville. The funeral will take place Thursday afternoon, June 24. Service at the home at 2 o'clock. (Rev.) Stephen Smith will conduct the service, interment will be made at the Baptist Cemetery, in Sandyville.

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Churchmen Deny

(Continued on Page Four) ton, stood in the pulpit of his First United Church and told a capacity congregation that he was convinced, after his Muskoka experience, that men of divergent views and in different stations of life could live in true fellowship and mutual helpfulness. He suggested that such good-will might lead to universal co-operation and understanding and create a world where men might live like brothers.

And Rabbi Maurice Eisendrath, over the week-end, also described the suggestion of the new political party as "fantastic" and gave his word that the purpose of the conference had solely been an attempt to find a common bond between various elements of society.

Having heard of similar conferences being held in India, it was felt that something of this nature should be attempted in Canada. Dr. Young told his congregation last night that, in his opinion, it was regrettable that the vast majority of Canadians were going through life in cliques, and would never stop to study the other man's point of view.

"Carefully Chosen Group" He then explained that Rev. Crossley Hunter, minister of the First United Church in Hamilton, had decided on his own responsibility to invite to his summer home on Fairhaven Island "a carefully chosen group" for the sole purpose of discussing one another's viewpoints and ascertaining what each proposed to do about it.

"We had with us the most distinguished rabbi in Toronto," Dr. Young continued. "He shared everything with us right down even to one meal of ham."

"Could you imagine a more interesting group than that?" Dr. Young asked the congregation. "We met on the island, and sat down in complete informality to discuss the problems of life."

Wild Deductions

The gathering had sometimes discussed these problems as a complete unit, he stated, and on other occasions had broken up into little groups of two.

"Each of us was trying to see life through the other man's eyes," he remarked. "That was all there was to it."

But back in Toronto, Dr. Young continued, reports had been spread around that the conference had been arranged by the Communist Party on direct instructions from Moscow. The truth of the matter, he said, was that the conference had been thought of and arranged by Rev. C. Hunter, who had "as much in common with the Communist Party as he had with the Shah of Persia."

Dr. Young then stated that the presence of Tim Buck at the conference had been one of the most difficult things to arrange. The minister further could not understand why a certain "enterprising journalist" had not even gone further in his "wild deductions" and suggested that the Muskoka conference had, actually, been the cause of Premier Mitchell F. Hepburn's recent attack of asthma.

International

(Continued from Page One)

For months the two have been considering the scheme to obtain from Canada sufficient land to provide an "inside route" for the United States fliers between Skagway and the main body of Alaska. At present aviators must fly over Canadian soil, which involves international law, or skirt the rugged, glacier-bound coast—a hazardous undertaking in winter.

They explained by making the block of country and international playground citizens of the United States as well as Canada would have access to it, or could fly over it, without Customs restrictions.

In exchange for Canada's concession of land, the United States would under proposal, make Skagway a free port, thus giving Canadians in adjacent Yukon free access to the sea without annoyance of present United States regulations.

The Council and Daylight Saving

(Continued from Page One)

any law stopping them from turning into bed whenever they wish. Daylight Saving Time, moreover, puts Fredericton on the map with other up-to-date cities and towns throughout the Dominion.

Now that the Aldermen have apparently decided to rescind the action which they took in regard to Daylight Saving Time, it would appear that the only fair way to all concerned would be to have a plebiscite and if the majority of the citizens do not want Daylight Saving Time it is probable that those who are in favor of it will be able to worry along without it. It would seem to be, however, for the City Council in the future to consider well a proposition before passing upon it, and after the matter has been passed in Council and settled to let remain settled no matter who may or may not be satisfied in regard to it. No City Council, even if it came down from Heaven, which ours did not, can hope to satisfy every person, and it is up to the members to perform their duty as they see it without any dictation and demand for a change every time something crops up.

Striking Workers

(Continued from Page One) the strike-torn interior reached here. Another cruiser, H. M. S. Exeter, was nearing the island.

The town of Rio Claro was isolated when striking oilfield workers uprooted telephone and telegraph poles and tore up railroad tracks. The railway station was burned down.

Another clash was reported on a sugar plantation in the interior, but casualties were believed few.

Today's deaths brought the total dead to 12. Twenty-four were known to have been seriously injured and more than 100 strikers, police and deputized citizens nursed minor wounds.

The Ajax's marines landed at Pointe a Pierre, relieving police and volunteers who had gone without sleep since the rioting first broke out Saturday night.

Business Halted

Business throughout the island was suspended today as strikers invaded this city for the first time. Hundreds of citizens were sworn in as deputies. One person was killed here and four injured when police fired on a mob outside the transport building.

Deserted automobiles lined the highways throughout the island. Service stations were closing because of lack of gasoline as European employees of the oil companies worked frantically to check flow from oil wells, much of which was going to waste. Their wives already had fled to Port of Spain for safety.

Police and volunteers, heavily armed and in strong groups, patrolled the affected areas in lorries, occasionally clashing with the strikers. Looting of homes and business houses continued at San Fernando and in the interior.

Uriah Butler, Negro organizer, blamed by officials for starting the wave of sitdown strikes that preceded the first riot, was still being sought.

Training Plan

(Continued from Page One) tion by Parliament, and informing them that the Dominion Government would contribute, on a dollar-for-dollar basis to training projects, for unemployed young people.

Subsequently, on the suggestion of the Minister, arrangements were made for members of the National Advisory Committee of the Commission to co-operate with the Provincial Governments, and discuss with them plans for youth development and training within the field outlined by the Dominion Government.

Object of the move is to place young men and women in a position to take advantage of any employment that may offer, and to occupy them in the meantime in a manner that will improve their ability to earn, maintain their physical fitness and improve their morale.

Four Courses

There are four categories of effort planned, described in the statement of the Commission as follows: "First, training courses which will not only give occupation to unemployed youth, but will increase their employability."

"Second, short term learnership courses designed to give a certain amount of training while engaged in specific employment. These learnership courses should not be confused with apprenticeship training. They will not exceed one year in duration, and are designed to assist the semi-skilled and unskilled worker to be better qualified to meet employment

Hitler, Il Duce

(Continued from Page One) as Fascist flouting of the regulations for international non-intervention in the Spanish conflict.

Diplomatic circles here feared the non-intervention accord is now nearer collapse than any time heretofore.

The new crisis, resulting from German charges a Spanish Loyalist submarine attempted to torpedo the German cruiser Leipzig, was eased somewhat by general belief Germany will not resort immediately to drastic reprisal like the recent bombardment of Almeria.

The Council and Daylight Saving

(Continued from Page One)

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