

THE DAILY MAIL

NEW BRUNSWICK'S ONLY HOME COMMUNITY PAPER

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Giving Youth a Chance

One of the most serious consequences of the depression is the untrained youth of today. In the heyday of prosperity, halted in 1929, the tendency of young men was toward the white-collar jobs. There were greater opportunities than appeared in apprenticeship to a trade. When the slump came industry did not need apprentices, and the other classes of youth were thrown out of work. What happened then was indicated by evidence given by one youthful witness after another in the investigation of conditions in the Guelph Reformatory. Few of these boys knew anything about a trade; they hadn't had a chance to learn one—no chance at work of any kind. They were allowed to drift, even their schooling being neglected, with the result that they ran foul of the law.

Now it is found that, with the revival in industry, there is a shortage of skilled labor. There were no boys coming along in the factories to fill the places of men who in the meantime have been getting old. Industry naturally is keenly concerned about this. The subject is discussed in the current number of Industrial Canada, official organ of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. One remedy suggested is closer co-operation between industry and the technical schools. This seems to provide an opportunity for bringing together the employer who needs help and the youth with some technical training. The subject is discussed at length by H. M. Macdonnell. After outlining changes in technical school work being considered by the Ontario Department of Education, and the co-operation of industry, Mr. Macdonnell says:

"If any such scheme is to function satisfactorily, there is reason to believe there are two points of vital importance. The first is that industrial employers should take an active interest in, and be well represented on, the Advisory Boards which supervise technical education, since, otherwise, there would be danger of the technical school training getting out of touch with the changing needs of industry. The second is equally important, namely, that there should be provided an efficient placement service—in other words, there should be attached to every technical school an efficient vocational officer, whose function it would be to keep in close touch with the employment situation in the industries in his particular district so that he might be in a position to direct the flow of school graduates with the maximum of advantage to both.

This at least is a constructive idea, and, with industry aware that something must be done to keep up the supply of skilled labor, there should be good results. The long view must be taken. While the scarcity of capable workers is at hand, much may be done by any kind of organization looking toward the supply in later years. Therefore the apprentice will become of considerable importance, and many boys should be taken out of their present idleness.

Change the System

This is the week specially selected by school teachers of the Dominion to be devoted particularly to education. The people of New Brunswick are particularly interested in education because at this time there is evidence of changes being made in the school system of this Province.

It is expected that within a few days a committee appointed to look into the matter of a curriculum will start work and it will be largely on this committee's findings that the work of reform will be based.

In designing courses of study this committee should give consideration to the needs of New Brunswick. Efforts should be made to educate the youth of this Province so they will be capable of grappling with the problems of this Province and help to carry it into the paths of prosperity and progress.

We of New Brunswick have prided ourselves on the fine schools we have had in the past but it is generally recognized that changes must be made so that our youth will be better equipped to battle with the world. In the past too much stress has been placed on subjects that were solely academic, and practical subjects were taboo. No doubt the course of instruction helped those who were especially adapted to absorb that sort of knowledge, but there were many young people who would have been better off without being subjected to necessity of spending long period of time attempting to learn what was necessary to admit them to college for arts and allied courses.

The introduction of vocational training met with stern opposition, but the schools have shown their worth and no doubt the new set-up will provide for more of this branch of education.

Children in the country districts should be taught something about farming and how they may stay on the farms. Up to the present our educational system has been designed to take out youth from the farms and place them in the cities, where they met with keen competition, with the result that many have fallen by the wayside and have become failures, when they could have become good farmers with the proper school training.

Similar conditions apply to other branches of endeavor. While it is admitted that there is a common basis for all education, in New Brunswick this basis has been too broad and has taken up too much time. The education system of New Brunswick must be modernized. Perhaps all the changes cannot be brought about at once, but something can be started and the reforms carried on during the coming years so that eventually our youth can be taught in school those things which are essential for their future progress and the good of the people as a whole.—Citizen, Saint John.

"The Most Unkindest Cut"

Is Dr. Dafeo of Callander to take rank among the prophets? There is high authority for the statement that "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country." By the success of the quintuplets Dr. Dafeo has gained much fame abroad; but his own township of North Himsforth has cut by nearly half his salary as its Medical Officer of Health. This was \$70; now it only \$40—and retroactive to Jan. 1.

North Himsforth civic authorities may have the impression that fame and fortune go hand in hand, and that Dr. Dafeo will not miss a little sum like \$30. But fame does not always work out that way. There is a vast difference in travelling the country roads around North Himsforth and touring about the big cities, where everyone seems to have a hand out for largesse. Thirty dollars mightn't go far in New York, but it would help.

There is another queer angle to this salary slash—and surely 42 per cent. is a slash, and not a mere cut. During the recent hard years most people learned a good deal about wage reduction; but with the return of better times Dr. Dafeo is handed a thinner pay envelope. Even the quintuplets should seek a reason for this treatment of their beloved guardian and friend. And perhaps North Himsforth's official retort would be that there are five reasons—all in Callander.

SNAPSHOTS

There have been several accidents during the last few weeks which are due to the slippery condition of the streets. Other accidents have taken place on private property and on property owned by corporations. It might be well not only for the city but also for private persons and organizations to take a little precaution during these times when not only the streets but the approaches to private property are in a slippery condition owing to these somewhat unusual conditions which prevail this winter. A little sand or other substance scattered at the proper places might prevent serious accidents.

Attorney General McNair pretty well smashed the arguments of his old friend and former teacher, the Leader of the Opposition.

Fred Squires is a good fellow but he got rather mixed up on his Old Age Pension figures, adding the initial expenses of organization with the actual pension amounts. Every one knows that it cost money to start any machinery moving. These costs were all dropped after the first month or so.

Objections are being made to our present poor street lighting system. The company which provides the lighting would no doubt be willing to provide more lights if asked to do so.

Down in Moncton the city is putting an extra tax on chain stores with headquarters elsewhere. Good idea.

Attorney-General

Continued from Page Seven

has become acute in the case of the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The depression, intensified by drought, has drastically reduced the income of the people of these two provinces and consequently the revenue-raising capacity of their governments, while at the same time it has given rise to steadily mounting relief costs and fixed charges. These two provisions have thus far met their obligations, but we have been advised that it is impossible for them to continue to meet their present burdens with the sources of income available to them."

Again at p. 1004 is reported as follows:

"In giving consideration to the situation, as a whole, we have thought it unwise to consider the ability to borrow as the only test which should be applied. If provincial governments find it difficult to discharge the responsibilities which have been placed upon them, and, at the same time, in spite of genuine efforts at economy, to make both ends meet, there will eventually be an end to their ability to finance deficits by additional borrowing. The difficulties of the prairie provinces have been greatly intensified by drought, and the earning power of their people has been affected accordingly. But other sections of the country are not free from problems of a similar character, although they may not be so acute. We have, in short, ample indication of certain fundamental strains and weaknesses arising out of our present allocation of financial powers and governmental responsibilities, and if no attempt is made to remove them, the ill effects will not be confined to the sections where they now appear.

"In these circumstances, we propose to appoint a royal commission of inquiry, to investigate the whole system of taxation in the dominion; to study the division of financial powers and financial responsibilities between the dominion and the provinces; and to make recommendations as to what should be done to secure a more equitable and practical division of the burden to enable all governments to function more effectively—and, I may add, more independently—within the sphere of their respective jurisdictions."

Mr. Speaker, at length we are on the right track and can look forward with confidence to real and substantial progress in the days that lie ahead.

I have the sincere conviction that the course taken by this Government in relation to the constitutional questions to which I have referred was the only one open to us; not only for the reasons which I have already indicated but on other grounds equally compelling.

Our Imperial Connection

In my view, the maintenance of the Constitution and our present system of Government is the sure safeguard of our Imperial connection. Under the arrangements which now exist, separation of this province from Great Britain is impossible with out our own consent. I feel I can do no better on this point than to quote a brief passage from an address delivered by myself before the Canadian Legion in this Province a few months ago:

"Under our existing constitutional arrangements, neither the Dominion Government nor Parliament can separate this Province from Great Britain. Our British connection is not under their control. They might attempt to repudiate their own Imperial connection. Should they do so,

Alta. Premier's

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and you have a political setting which for novelty and excitement certainly never had an equal or an approach in any British country.

Hargrave's Attack

Furthermore, John Hargrave, last Social Credit adviser to the Aberhart Government, from Ottawa is hammering the world's first Social Credit Administration with biting indictments of incompetency and ignorance, and even today issues a six-point blast at his late chieftain, in which he says:

"The Aberhart Government shows no sign of being capable of dealing effectively with financial sabotage within the Province and successfully introducing, establishing and administering this or any other Social Credit plan."

Mr. Hargrave's statement is issued remember, on the eve of the Social Credit caucus which, reputedly is going to tell Mr. Aberhart "or else," proceeds to say that if the people of Alberta want what they voted for it is up to them, acting through their elected representatives, "to clear up a situation that appears to have arisen from the sheer incompetence of the Aberhart regime."

If that doesn't constitute an urge for action at this caucus and session of the Legislature to get rid of Premier Aberhart, I can't read the meaning and implication of political statements.

Shun Newspaper Contacts

And the feelings and resentments which apparently exist between the two ends of this Social Credit entity are astonishing. I don't wish to stress names and personalities in conversations which were semi-private, but Mr. Hargrave at Ottawa has since issued public statements which, if one has followed them, indicate the tempo. The questioning of veracities and competencies is a mild ingredient of the tempest.

Just what proportion of Premier Aberhart's remaining 53 followers in the Legislature are a party to the move toward ousting Aberhart is not apparent on the surface. The Social Credit supporters, having heard newspapers—particularly, Eastern Canadian newspapers—interminably condemned by the Premier over the air as pillars of support for "the money barons," shun newspapermen contacts which would allow for complete public enlightenments.

But I was advised on good authority that a group of them had secured legal advice in Calgary as to whether the passage of a want-of-confidence motion against Premier Aberhart in the Legislature necessarily involved a new election, or whether the Lieutenant-Governor would call on the strongest group, the Social Credit Party in the House, to form a new Government. I was assured they were advised a new election was not necessarily involved. Remember a sessional indemnity of \$1,800 a year is fair money in some parts of Alberta and not to be risked unnecessarily.

Anyway, as the crucial session of the Alberta Legislature gets under way, there is a distinct feeling—particularly down-country—that Premier Aberhart may not survive. If he can placate his caucus followers with Social Credit measures during the next two days, then, it is said, he is safe until the workings of the proposed new laws are demonstrated.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24—The trade agreement between the United States and Great Britain which was signed yesterday is expected to be made public within the next few days.

we, as a British province, could repudiate them."

I am not for a moment suggesting that there is today in Canada a desire to effect separation from Great Britain. I firmly believe there is not. It is well, however, for us to be on our guard.

Again, under our Federal system, extreme or violent political changes are practically impossible. Neither Fascism nor Communism can establish itself in Canada without winning control in the provinces as well as at Ottawa. Under our system of divided authority, the latter control would not be sufficient to render possible such schemes. This may suggest to Honourable members the reason why certain circles of widely different political outlook and aspirations desire to concentrate power in the hands of the Federal Government.

The Honourable Leader of the Opposition yesterday spoke with great fervour of democracy. I share his sentiments in this connection. I believe that the democratic method in Government is sound and can be made to function. I further believe that our system of Government in Canada, as now established and maintained, is the greatest bulwark of democracy.

Heavy responsibilities rest today on the shoulders of those charged with public administration but we have our faces set in the right direction and before long a solution of many vexed problems will be found. During the life of the present Government, great changes will take place which will lead to such progress as this province has never before witnessed.

Stewardship

(Continued from Page One)
partments of welfare, labor and municipal affairs, rather than as contact man for five small girls, no matter how successful a one," he added.

He told the Legislature that his two-year stewardship brought the Callander babies a fortune in money. He was glad to say Oliva Dionne, father of the quints, who opposed the guardianship and its control over the children's affairs, finally had come to favor the arrangement.

Succeeded by Percy D. Wilson

Percy D. Wilson, Ontario's official guardian whose duties include administration of minors' estates, will succeed Mr. Croll on the board. Other members retain their positions. They are the chairman, Judge J. A. Valin of North Bay, Dr. Allan Roy Dafeo and Oliva Dionne.

Announcing for the first time that the government and Mr. and Mrs. Dionne at last were in agreement upon the value of a guardianship, Mr. Croll said:

"There was at the time criticism of the method the government followed in the 1935 legislation. The parents in particular were inclined to regard the bill as a theft of their children. I am happy to say that in the intervening two years they have changed their opinion on this point. Mr. Dionne is today one of the keenest advocates of some form of continued government and protection and assistance."

From the former guardians was handed down two years ago \$32,472.02 "and certain debts."

"When this bill passes the House, after two years operation of the act, we shall turn over to the official guardian the Dionne assets now under our control, consisting of \$543,046.39, invested in government and government-guaranteed bonds of the province and the Dominion, and contracts guaranteeing for two years an assured income of \$200,000 a year and no debts," Mr. Croll said.

Unlimited Market

(Continued from Page Eight)
which the assembled thousands greeted the appearance of their national hero.

There was no evidence of economic stress in Germany, Mr. Atkinson stated. He referred to the normal standard of living enjoyed by the average citizen there, also pointed out that theatres, cafes, and other places of amusement seems to be well patronized.

Asked regarding war scares in Europe, Mr. Atkinson said there seems to be more fears expressed by the people living on this continent than those living in the countries threatened with invasion. The average man-on-the-street in Germany, Belgium, England and Holland does not express any undue alarm over the developments in the last few months Mr. Atkinson added. There does not seem to be any fear of war, he said, nor was there any spirit of hostility prevalent among the people.

Interesting Visit

The visit to Belgium was a most interesting one, Mr. Atkinson told a reporter. The people there seem well satisfied with conditions and there are no outward evidences of unrest or discontent. King Leopold is a most popular figure and is held in the highest esteem by his subjects, it was further pointed out by Mr. Atkinson.

Business conditions in the Little Kingdom seem brisk, he said. The shipping trade has increased considerably during the past couple of years, and there is a national spirit of optimism that the country is definitely on the road to economic recovery.

Lumber Crews

(Continued from Page One)
lack of snow, rather than hindering our movements, has greatly facilitated them. As all our hauling is done by trucks, the hard, bare ground has enabled us to move at top speed at all times."

Mr. MacDonald is probably the only contented lumberman in Southern New Brunswick today. Lack of snow is holding up nearly all other hauling operations but his. And his men continue to maintain their remarkable record of "less than a day from forest to sea."

LEADER OF IRISH CONTINGENT PROTESTS

(Special to The Daily Mail)
DUBLIN, Feb. 24—General O'Duffy, leader of the Irish contingent for General Franco has protested to the passing of the non-intervention bill in the Irish parliament.

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Tweedsmuir

(Continued from Page One)
airplane and may fly as far east as Coppermine on Coronation Gulf. A visit will be made to the Eldorado Mine at Cameron Bay.

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