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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, DECEMBER 16, 1937

SCIENCE AND THE PLANNERS

WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN surveys made of the scientific, and technological influences and trends, it is singularly significant that scant attention, if any, is given to them in the planning of those who seek the "controlled economy." Yet it is becoming increasingly evident that not only are fundamental readjustments dictated by such developments, but that they are a dominant factor in recovery and in maintaining stable progress in the future.

At the beginning of the depression the whole cry was against labor-saving devices. Yet all the data that have been collected since and even the employment totals in the most highly industrialized nations show that machinery, the new inventions they serve and the new industries they have created have absorbed many more hands than have been displaced by such devices.

A few facts given the Congress of American Industry make the best illustration of the ever-broadening influence on economic and social life. One instance cited was that of the General Electric Company, which a few years ago reported that 60 per cent. of its business derived from products unknown a decade before. Another large firm, which before the war dealt almost exclusively in explosives, has been "transformed by research into one in which 99 per cent. of the business is in new products which are used in the affairs of everyday life rather than in warfare."

It was stated by Dr. Edward R. Weidlein that during the last 30 years research in the Mellon Institute alone "has created ten new industries and given rise to 650 new products and processes." The constant improvement in manufacturing processes is itself an influence on everyday conditions, as witness that \$350,000,000 in new, improved or altered machinery installed by industries during the past two years.

Tracing these down to the individual, the effects are shown by the fact that in 1900, 90 per cent. of the population of the United States lived on the farm and got its support immediately from the farm. Today the rural population represents about 25 to 30 per cent. "The remaining 55 to 60 per cent. were forced off the farm by the advent of machinery that enabled the farmer to produce more with less effort."

It is upon science and technological research that the problem of distribution falls heaviest today. It is the improvements they can make in the cultivation, processing and manufacturing which are looked to for the reductions in cost that will broaden the consuming base and thereby raise the general standards of living. Mass production as we have it today is largely a result of such a process; and with mass production, the new inventions, the new industries, the new products which have met the rising labor market.

The point of all this is, How far can the planners go and leave science free to discover, to improve and to absorb? Can Secretary of Agriculture Wallace keep his "ever-normal granary" normal, and retain control of the production of American agriculture and risk the discovery of a new seed, a new fertilizer, which would double the yield per acre, thereby greatly reducing the cost of production? The answer is fairly obvious. He cannot, not can any of the other planners.

Yet the result of a regimented and legislated science is showing every day in the struggles of the totalitarian countries, where controlled economy is the fashion, if not the need. They may be keeping step in the armament industry. They are doing much to stimulate the search for synthetic substitutes along restricted lines. But because of the restrictions the results are not showing. Russia, for example, which has spent more in subsidizing science than the democracies together, continues to go to them and to pick their brains for the simple mechanical needs of her everyday life.

INCIDENTS SPOIL WESTERN "FACE"

IN THE CONFUSION of the first days of the siege of Shanghai many of the "incidents" to occur could be put down to overzealousness and Japanese annoyance with Chinese resistance. Diplomatically, at any rate, most of them were. There was, too, the provocation—it would be that in Tokio—of Western sympathy for the under dog. But in all reasonableness the incidents should have ceased—again diplomatically—with the "outrage" ("accident" in Japanese) on Britain's Ambassador to China. Instead they have multiplied, and, if anything, become even more blatantly open.

What has been officially and in protest described as the "very grave blunder" of sinking the United States gunboat Panay, and the attacks on the British patrol ships in the Yangtze River, are no more serious than some other blunders, but more "shocking" because the objects were symbols of authority and national rights. The demands for full satisfaction and compensation are routine, sternly so, and will bring the routine apology. As warnings they are not likely to be a little more effective than the scores already on file, if not acknowledged, in the Japanese Foreign Office.

Japan, relatively speaking, is an old master in the art of incidents. They have become indispensable instruments in her diplomacy, and pretty well everything in the international rule books, as the Nine-Power Conference so pathetically demonstrated, aids and abets the art. In addition she now enjoys the protection of Germano-Italian diplomatic sympathy, and all the restrictions of which it, under the present conditions, is believed to be capable. She fears no serious, certainly no active, opposition to her outrages, and as they fulfill a very important and utilitarian purpose in her Asiatic campaign she can be expected to exploit them to the full, even at a little risk.

The purpose is to strip the Western Powers—Britain, the United States in particular—of their prestige in the East. At bottom that is all their influence is built upon. The Chinese, like most Asiatics, have been taught to respect Western civilization, if not for its form, for its power. "Face" with them is a standard of measurement. Loss of it is about as serious an obstacle as the Western nations could encounter, and they have had a taste of it following Manchuria, Jehol, and the Shanghai campaign of five years ago.

Japan's major interest, like their own, is economic. It is good business, while forcing concessions from China, to handicap or eliminate as much of the competition as possible. The attitude of the Western Powers toward aggression (China subscribes to their definition of it) has been Japan's best ally in that campaign. To rub it in, to underscore their ineffectiveness, she mocks Western might, manufacturing incidents to thumb her nose at the warnings.

SNAP SHOTS

Rothwell mine workers at Minto who worked through the strike period have organized a Union of their own, free from foreign influence. More power to them.

It looks like a civic election. Do you remember, the old, time "Scott Act" civic elections when the interest was high?

A girl wants to know if Joe got his hair waved at the beauty parlor. No he only had his fingers manicured. Joe's hair is real, naturally wavy.

We are not telling fortunes so can't say whether the young lady will spend Christmas at McAdam or not. But McAdam should be a nice place to spend Christmas with the right kind of company.

Some one writes that newspapers encourage drowning accidents by reporting the names of those people who are unwise enough to cross the river before the ice has frozen solidly enough. Perhaps he is right.

Premier Duplessis seems to have been talking through his hat.

The last year's City Council gave us good government and it has several important matters under consideration. Is it wise to swap horses at the present time?

Whilst the aldermen have given us good service it is not up to an alderman to kick when his actions are criticized. This should go with the job and thin skinned persons should keep out of public affairs. All citizens cannot see alike or all the aldermen would be courting the same girl and there would be the devil to pay.

FAIR WAGE BOARD

(Continued from Page One)

Act" which provides for separate escape shaft.

(c) That Mining Act be amended to provide for proper brushing of Cable Board to within 25 feet of the Cable Head.

(d) That Mining Act be amended to provide that operators be required to furnish free of charge to miners and that miners be required to use suitable containers for carrying Explosives, such containers to have separate compartment for Detonators.

(e) That Section 141 of the Mining Act be amended to give Local Mines Inspector authority to require immediate correction of poor ventilation.

(f) That proper drainage and or pumping facilities be provided and maintained and drains which are considered a menace by the Local Mines Inspector be properly covered.

(g) That all wheelers employed by Miners be paid through Company Pay Rolls at such rates as are agreed upon between the miner and his wheeler.

(h) That Explosives be supplied to miners by operators at invoice cost plus, not more than 10% to cover freight, cartage, handling and other charges.

(i) That Mine Tracks, Boxes and Dumping Stands be maintained in good working condition.

(j) That the use of Carbide or Electric Lamps be optional with the miners.

(k) That Timbers to be used in the mines be placed in a convenient location under ground in preference to being stored on the surface.

(l) (a) That a central selling agency be established by the Operators to handle the output from the area to secure best prices available and eliminate price cutting, or in the event of unfair or unreasonable practices, the problem be dealt with by the Public Utilities Board as provided by Chap. 28, Sec. 3, S. S. 2, 1936.

(b) That Dominion Government Freight Rate assistance be accorded New Brunswick Coal on the same basis as Nova Scotia Coal. Freight Rate assistance on this basis over the past six years would have benefited the New Brunswick industry by \$350,000, instead of only \$36,506.

(c) The discrimination in Freight Rates, as evidenced by the following comparisons, be promptly corrected:

Minto—Fredericton, 34 mi. rate is \$1.10.
Macan—Moncton, 56 mi. rate is .80.
Minto—St. John, 104 mi. rate is \$1.10.
Macan—St. John, 145 mi. rate is \$1.00.
Chipman—St. Julie, P. Q., 435 mi. rate is \$2.30.
Springhill—St. Julie, P. Q., 560 mi. rate is \$2.30.
Chipman—St. Charles, P. Q., 423 mi. rate is \$2.20.
Springhill—S. Charles, P. Q., 548 mi. rate is \$2.20.
Chipman—Montmagny, P. Q., 446 mi. rate is \$2.20.
Springhill—Montmagny, P. Q., 571 mi. rate is \$2.20.
Minto—Danville, P. Q., 515 mi. rate is \$2.70.
Springhill—Danville, P. Q., 625 mi. rate is \$2.60.

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Mr. Rogers' Statement

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citation as required by the Act and when they sought a board were advised by the Minister he could not establish one while they remained on strike. A board may be established by the Minister, either on his own initiative or on the application of one of the parties to the dispute.

Announcing his decision, Mr. Rogers said:

"It is clear from information before the Department of Labor that there has been a refusal by certain Minto mining companies to take back the miners who reported for work on Monday morning.

"The men reported for work in order to place themselves under the provisions of the industrial disputes investigation Act and apply for a board of conciliation, thus bringing to an end a prolonged strike in the Minto coal fields.

"The effect of this action taken by the employing companies has been to delay the establishment of a board on application of the employees as originally proposed. If this condition continues it will tend to aggravate the bitterness and hardship resulting from the recent strike.

"In the circumstances and under the authority vested in the Minister at Labor under the Act, I have decided to establish a board of conciliation of my own without waiting for any formal application by one of the parties to the dispute.

"As contemplated by the Act, both employees and employers will be given an opportunity to nominate a member of the board in order that they may be placed in the same position they would have held if the board of conciliation had been established on formal application."

MINTO, N. B., Dec. 15—Coal mine operators here tonight had nothing to say as to whether or not they would nominate a member for the board of conciliation to be established by Labor Minister Rogers.

The latter sent the following telegram to A. D. Taylor, manager of the Miramichi Lumber Company mine:

"In view of unwillingness of employing companies at Minto to facilitate establishment of board of conciliation and investigation under industrial disputes investigation act on application of employees I have deemed it expedient to establish a board on my own motion under the authority vested in minister of labor under the act. In accordance with established procedure will you please confer with other employers concerned and send me a joint nomination of a person for appointment as board member within the prescribed five days. In default of such nomination it will devolve upon me as minister to appoint the board member without nomination."

Wire to Minister

Before receiving this telegram Mr. Taylor wired the minister:

"If you had in the beginning the power you are now endeavoring to assume, why did you not proceed at the inception of the strike under section 65 of the act and order the men back to work or enforce penalties as provided under sections 60 and 61. You entering the situation at this late date have had the effect of obstructing the New Brunswick Fair Wage Board and prolonging the strike."

(Section 65 of the act gives the minister of labor power to establish a conciliation board without being asked by either employers or employees. Section 60 provides a penalty of \$10 per day for each day the employees are on illegal strike, and section 61 provides a penalty of up to \$1,000 for anyone who incites an illegal strike. Operators have claimed the Minto strike was called illegally.)

Mr. Taylor declared that loss of markets and other circumstances has made it impossible to employ a large percentage of men who were working before the strike.

At a union meeting last night the miners decided to discontinue picketing owing to proposed establishment of a conciliation board. They also decided not to seek re-employment again, for the time being.

A few more miners have returned to work, indicating willingness to accept any findings of the provincial fair wage board. A total of 327 men were estimated to be on the job at various mines, including 91 employees of an operator who recognized the union.

After receiving Mr. Rogers' telegram Mr. Taylor said:

"If Rogers is correct in his action at this time he had equal power to prevent the strike. This being so his inaction has cost the community at least \$250,000. The situation is back to where it started, and the strike so far has served no purpose except creating a great deal of hardship, suffering and privation that a prolonged strike always entails. This, in addition to loss of markets that at the present time are impossible to recapture, make it impossible to employ a very large percentage of the men who were working when the strike was called."

Referring to the stand of Hon. J. B. McNair in questioning the authority of the federal department of labor to appoint a conciliation board, Mr. Taylor today said: "Mr. McNair's attitude in this is the same as his attitude in other matters which have been taken up by Ottawa. He is trying to protect the legal rights of the people

HON. MR. ROGERS

(Continued from Page One)

The application for a federal board which was sent to Ottawa sets forth grounds which have never been presented by Union officials to the Provincial authorities. The application asks that the miners have the right to bargain collectively and belong to the Union of their choice, which right the employers have never refused. It also asks for better wages and working conditions. In all their discussions with Provincial authorities, as well as in their numerous statements to the Press, Union officials have consistently stated that wages and working conditions were not in issue in the present strike. The only question so far as they were concerned was Union recognition, through the check-off and the closed shop. The inclusion of these new points in the application to Ottawa is for the sole purpose of concealing this demand.

Throughout the strike every effort has been made by my department to bring about a settlement and to satisfy the real needs of the mining community. At every turn we were met with opposition from Union officials whose one insistent demand was the check-off.

When Union officials turned for assistance to Ottawa, I endeavored to impress upon the Federal Minister of Labour that this Province possessed adequate machinery to deal with the situation; and in an effort to prevent any action which would enable Union officials to prolong the strike, I urged non-intervention. I advanced the view that the Dominion Government was without jurisdiction in the matter, but my representations were disregarded.

In his official statement, issued a few days ago, the Federal Minister of Labour gave as his ground for intervention the authority granted by an Act of the New Brunswick Legislature passed in 1926. On the 14th instant, I sent him the following telegram:

"In your official statement twelfth instant re Minto strike you stated: 'There is no basis for the suggestion that the establishment of a board of conciliation under the industrial disputes investigation act is an invasion of provincial jurisdiction. This Act has full force and effect in the Province of New Brunswick by virtue of a provincial statute of nineteen hundred and twenty-seven enacted in the following terms. Chapter one, five, eight: This Act may be cited as the New Brunswick Industrial Disputes Investigation Act. Section Two. The provisions of the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act chapter twenty of the Acts of Parliament of Canada nineteen hundred and seven and amendments thereto shall apply to every industrial dispute of the nature therein defined which is within or subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Province. May I point out that New Brunswick Legislation referred to mentions only Dominion Act of nineteen hundred seven. Stop. Latter statute repealed by Dominion Parliament in nineteen hundred and twenty-seven. To

of New Brunswick. After all, the Fair Wage Board legislation is far more advanced labor legislation than the industrial disputes and investigation act, if the men could only see it that way."

He referred to the legal power of the provincial government to sanction the rulings of the Fair Wage Board and put them into effect, in contrast with the inability of the federal department to make a conciliation board's recommendations legal unless both parties to the dispute agree.)

Continuing, Mr. Taylor said: "As far as the employers are concerned, if we were trying to take any advantage of the men, we would have less to fear under the conciliation board than we would under the Fair Wage Board."

GLACE BAY, N. S., Dec. 16—United Mine Workers District President D. W. Morrison was notified by federal Labor Minister Norman McL. Rogers the latter "had deemed it expedient" to establish a conciliation board under the industrial disputes investigation act to probe the Minto miners-operators dispute. The operators had been advised of the action and asked to make a joint nomination for the board within five days.

President Morrison expressed appreciation on behalf of the union's district executive and pledged "the fullest co-operation" to the board members when they were selected.

The union would name their counsel at once to assist in preparation of a brief for presentation to the board. Who the counsel would be was not announced. U. M. W. district executive have already named James A. Whitehouse of Saint John, president of the New Brunswick Federation of Labor, as their representative on the board.

When the operators would name a member acceptable to the minister, the two nominees were expected to confer in naming a chairman for the investigating body. Should they be unable to reach agreement, the third member would be named by the minister.

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meet this situation our legislature in nineteen hundred thirty-six passed Fair Wage Act New Brunswick which provides machinery for investigation industrial disputes within provincial jurisdiction. There is no New Brunswick Statute which will justify intervention your Department, under your present Industrial Disputes Act. Consider present situation will only be complicated and prolonged by your attempted intervention and strongly urge you seek opinion your law officers as to legal justification for your appointing conciliation board on basis of our old Statute or otherwise."

The reply to this telegram is as follows:—

"Have considered point raised your telegram fourteenth. Stop. Am advised point is a novel and highly technical one and not likely to receive judicial support. Stop. As strike now has continued for more than two months deem it expedient that I proceed without delay in establishing board which I propose to do today on my own motion under the authority vested in Minister of Labour under the Act.

"(Sgd.) NORMAN McL. ROGERS, Minister of Labour."

The intervention of the Federal Minister of Labour in the present strike will afford food for serious thought to all who have the wellbeing of this Province and the maintenance of her established institutions at heart.

The Fair Wage Board has submitted to me an interim report on the situation which will be published forthwith. As conditions in the Minto district become stabilized this board will be able to issue effective orders under the Fair Wage Act. The responsibility for any delay in terminating the strike now rests with the C.I.O. and Ottawa.

ATTENDED THE FUNERAL LATE O. NICHOLSON

R. B. Graham has returned from Newcastle, where he attended the funeral of his father-in-law, the late Osborn Nicholson. Mrs. Graham is still in Newcastle. Others attending the funeral included Rev. Robt. Scott and Col. H. H. Ritchie of this city.

The late Mr. Nicholson was the last surviving member of the family of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nicholson. He was born in Chatham on Aug. 28, 1853, and educated at the Presbyterian Academy at Chatham. He entered the employ of the D. J. Ritchie Company at Chatham at the age of 16. In the Fall of 1872 he went to Newcastle with this firm, when it made Newcastle its headquarters, and had resided there since. At the death of Allan Ritchie in 1916 he acted as executor of the estate and as general manager of the business until his retirement in 1922, when he completed a service of 53 years.

He is survived by four children, Willis McL. Nicholson, town treasurer of Newcastle; James Myron, Montreal; Mrs. A. J. Ritchie, Newcastle, and Mrs. R. B. Graham, Fredericton. Dr. R. N. Nicholson, Newcastle, Mrs. Robert Scott of this city, is a grandniece of the deceased. R. N. Wyse, Moncton, and Osborn N. Brown, of Montreal, are nephews.

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HEPBURN
(Continued from Page One)
Ontario, having collected some \$14,000,000 through succession duties in the last two years, could not possibly consider abandoning such revenue as matter what the promised compensation from Ottawa, in any new shuffle of the economic order, might be.

In brief, Ontario and Quebec decided definitely and deliberately, that the "dump it all in the pot" attitude of Manitoba with respect to provincial taxation cannot be tolerated.

Every possible angle of the economic situation as affecting the two provinces, was discussed by the "bonne entente" of Prime Ministers in a meeting which began at the Mount Royal at ten o'clock this morning, shifted to the Ritz Carleton for the afternoon, and returned to its original setting during the evening.

DYSART
(Continued from Page One)
Mr. Hephburn did not say the amount of surplus power held by the Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission as a result of signing new contracts with four Quebec companies. It was understood, however, contracts for export of 110,000 horsepower to two New York State power companies had been negotiated.

(Special to The Daily Mail)
SHAWINGAN FALLS, Dec. 16—Premier Duplessis says that Quebec and Ontario and the Maritime Provinces will not be run by the Prairie Provinces and that they will form an alliance against the prairies.

Speaking to The Daily Mail today, Premier Dysart confirmed the statement that he knows nothing about the matter mentioned by Premier Du-

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