

THE DAILY MAIL

NEW BRUNSWICK'S ONLY HOME COMMUNITY PAPER

THE MAIL PUBLISHING COMPANY — J. L. NEVILLE Managing Editor.

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, OCTOBER 6, 1937

MUSSOLINI ON A SPOT

GREAT BRITAIN and France have told Mussolini to take his soldiers out of Spain. At the same time, Soviet Russia let it be known that she intended to ship arms into Spain. Simultaneously, in Geneva, the league assembly came within two votes of demanding that foreign troops be withdrawn from Spain.

Britain and France went quickly into action against pirate submarines in the Mediterranean. It is likely that both countries feel that the time has arrived for action against the presence of Italian troops in Spain.

If Italy does not do as Great Britain and France demand, it is likely that the Franco-Spanish border will be thrown open to a flow of munitions and men to Spanish loyalist forces. Without doubt, the notes will anger Mussolini. Even if they merely fill him with fear, he may feel that he must make an angry reply in order to save face with his own people. In whatever he does he will need and probably have the comfort of Hitler.

With all its pomp and pageantry, the Mussolini-Hitler meeting at Berlin was one of two frightened corporals getting together to comfort each other in an hour of isolation and imminent showdown.

The most likely maneuver now would be for Mussolini to stall for time and pretend to be considering tri-power conference. Meanwhile he might pour more Italian troops into Spain in the hope of early victory for the fascist forces there. Whether Great Britain and France would allow such delay, the coming days will tell.

TAXATION AS A WEAPON

THE ALBERTA GOVERNMENT'S proposal to take more than \$2,000,000 from the banks operating in that Province is the most recent illustration of the maxim that "the power to tax is the power to destroy." There were 221 branch banks in Premier Aberhart's Province in 1935. Mr. Vernon Knowles, representing the banks, told Alberta people in a broadcast that only 41 of them made any profit that year. Seven out of the 41 made not more than \$300. One hundred and eighty were operated at a loss. The year 1935 may not be representative of a long period. But even so, and granting, for the sake of argument, that banks deserve all the criticism they receive, the heavy taxation proposed seems not to be backed by reason, but a desire to administer punishment.

It is not a matter of banks alone. If a Provincial Government can tax one branch of business or industry exorbitantly, it can apply the same lash to another. It can destroy any business which does not fit into its political creed or is considered undesirable for any reason.

Taxation in a democracy has not been regarded as a means of punishment heretofore. It is a means of raising funds for the administration of public services, and is supposed to be applied with discretion. If it is to become a weapon, especially in the hands of faddists, we may well fear for our institutions. Under a Socialist Government it could be used to destroy all industry and sacrifice the livelihood of the wage-earner.

If there is no way of controlling the misuse of authority the responsibility of the elector becomes evident, and should be recognized before the damage is done. The surest way of doing this is by rejecting the theorists when they offer themselves for election, making certain that sound judgment will be exercised by the Government chosen. It is true we cannot stand still, but it is equally true that haste is preferable when made slowly in dealing with major changes. The Alberta electors voted themselves into a situation from which they may not recover for many years. It is a lesson for the people of every Province.

ABERHART WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT

IF SOME have thought it stretching a point to classify Social Credit in Alberta with fascism they cannot do so any longer. The enormity Provincial Treasurer Solon Low introduced into the Legislature as the "Accurate News and Information Act" is not to be construed as anything less than a step, and the most important one, in the creation of a dictatorship. There is nothing in the way of press control, outside the Fascist and Communist countries, that is comparable to it in the suppression of freedom and personal liberty. Plead what they will on its behalf, it is the negation of the first principles of democracy.

That part of the Act which makes it compulsory for a newspaper to publish up to eight columns a day of "privileged" statements concerning Government policies is tyranny, if you will. The crude political purposes it serves are self-evident. But, cheap and dishonest as it is, it is by no means the worst feature of the bill. The outrage, and it offers a challenge to every individual in Canada, is the provision that newspapers shall divulge sources of information on demand.

In brief, Premier Aberhart intends to control the speech of every person in Alberta and, so far as it is possible to reach them through the Provincial courts, every person in Canada. There is no other interpretation of this provision and the heavy penalties provided to enforce it, but the Government intends to stifle any criticism of its action or any interpretation of its policies beyond those supplied by the Government itself. It holds over the head of every individual a threat of punishment for divulging anything which might be harmful to or reflect upon the character of its administration or policies. Having gone this far, it is an easy matter to go still further as necessity may dictate.

With what is intended for subtlety, the penalties, suspension of publication and fines of \$500 and \$1,000, are framed to avoid conflict with the Criminal Code and, accordingly, any actions that might bring the legislation within the purview of the Federal courts. What Mr. Aberhart seems to have overlooked is the reach of the legislation and the British North America Act. The provisions it makes for disallowance, which he questions today, are quite clear and emphatic. Nor is disallowance so limited by custom that it does not longer apply to Provincial Acts "affecting the interests of the Dominion generally." That the Accurate News and Information Act does this with a vengeance needs no emphasis. But the idea persists that when the people of Alberta realize all they've lost they will take the action necessary.

Snapshots

The City Council is to be commended upon again bringing up the matter of abolishing the Police Commission and suggesting that the Police Magistrate be put on a salary and that the fees from the office go to the city where it should go instead of to the Police Magistrate.

Two of the principal departments of the city are being run by closed door bodies which ignore the City Council and conduct business in private. We refer to the Police Commission and the School Board. If Hitler has anything on this we would like to learn what it is.

It is clearly up to our elected representatives in the Legislature to support the City Council in its efforts. The Council has the endorsement of the citizens in this move. This has been shown on more than one occasion. This is a matter of principle and not a personal affair.

One day some years ago, a local man now passed away was at an auto show in Chicago, when a lean individual down in the heel, approached him and said, "My name is Henry Ford. I am trying to raise money to put a cheap car on the market. Can you let me have \$1,000 and take stock in the company." The local man laughed, turned the offer down, and then bought another car for two thousand dollars. You never can tell from where a frog sits how far he is going to jump.

Newcastle believes in women's rights. Dr. Frances Fish, woman lawyer, has more than once been a candidate for parliamentary honors. Now a woman Miss Annie Morrell, has been appointed sitting police magistrate for that town.

GOVERNOR OF

(Continued from Page One) indemnity, to amend the income tax act and to repeal the Legislative Assembly recall act.

Prorogation was delayed an hour after the House sat at 3 o'clock. The adjournment was made on motion of Premier Aberhart. After a caucus of Social Credit members, the House resumed and the lieutenant governor appeared and prorogued the session.

FINISH LOADING CARS FOR WEST BY END OF WEEK

Motor Truck Drive Tomorrow; Mostly Potatoes, Fruit To Be Shipped

Loading of cars of vegetables and other produce for the drought stricken areas of the West will be completed this week, it is believed. Contributions have already been pouring in, while the collection drive with motor trucks will be staged tomorrow.

Although it was originally intended to load three cars, present plans of the committee are to load five cars. One has been placed at each of North Devon, South Devon, Union Station, Fredericton, and the two additional cars have been placed at Mouth of Keswick and Stanley.

Four or five trucks will be in operation tomorrow collecting the materials which the donors are unable to transport to the sidings where the cars are stationed. These trucks will be loaned to the cause through the efforts of the Rotary Club.

Mostly Potatoes
The bulk of the shipments consists of potatoes, although other staple vegetables which are least perishable are also being sent. A great amount of apples is expected, fresh fruits being sorely needed by the residents of the area in combatting scurvy, which is reported to be quite prevalent.

It is not yet known where the cars from this district will be consigned to. The commission in charge of directing the shipments is situated at Toronto and will notify the committee here of the address desired.

The drive is sponsored by a non-denominational commission composed of both Protestant and Roman Catholic members, and the food is distributed without consideration of creed.

Rev. Dr. H. J. Millegan, Rev. Gerald W. Guion, Rev. George Telford, Rev. H. E. Dysart, other members of the local clergy, the Rotary Club and the Y's Men's Club are conducting the drive in this district.

LOST

If the person who took the blue trench coat containing money and private papers from the Old Gaiety dance hall on Saturday evening last will return the same to The Daily Mail Office or will phone 271 and ask for Mr. Tomlinson, he will receive a reward.

THE POLICE COMMISSION

(Continued from Page One)

be instructed to again take up the matter of abolishing the Police Commission and that he be instructed to take whatever steps were necessary in this connection. This motion was passed on a standing vote. The Aldermen voting in favor of abolishing the Commission were: Aldermen Ross, T. Earle Doohan, W. Raymond Crewdson, Ivan McKnight and Murray E. Hagerman. Alderman Ray T. Forbes, who is also in favor of abolishing the Commission, was in the Chair in the absence of Mayor Kitchen, and, therefore, did not register a vote. It is significant that the two Aldermen who have from the first been in favor of retaining the commission were absent from the Council Board. These were Aldermen David McCaughey and Delmas Oits. Alderman Mundle was present and voted to retain the commission.

Another important matter brought up by the Council last evening was the discussion of the fees of the Police Magistrate of this city, who, it might be stated, in addition to being Police Magistrate, is also a member of the Police Commission. In this connection, a resolution was passed to the effect that the Attorney-General's department of this province be requested to put the Police Magistrate on a straight salary basis and that all fees now being paid to the Magistrate be paid to the Municipalities or town over which such Magistrate presides. In discussing the matter, Alderman Doohan emphasized the fact that the more crime there is in the city the larger is the amount of fees paid to the Police Magistrate, who, as a result, benefits financially from the quantity of crime there is in the city. It was also pointed out by Alderman Ross that the jurists of the Higher Courts were paid on a salary basis, while the Magistrates in the lower courts received the remuneration according to the number of cases which they hear.

ANOTHER PECULIAR FEATURE OF THE POLICE COMMISSION IN THE CITY OF FREDERICTON IS THAT THE POLICE MAGISTRATE AS A MEMBER OF THE POLICE COMMISSION MAY INSTRUCT POLICEMEN TO LAY CERTAIN CHARGES AGAINST INDIVIDUALS AND WHEN THESE INDIVIDUALS COME BEFORE THE POLICE MAGISTRATE'S COURT, THEY ARE TRIED BY THE MAGISTRATE WHO INSTRUCTS THE POLICEMEN TO LAY THE CHARGE.

It is to be hoped that a bill to abolish the Police Commission in the City of Fredericton and to invest in the administration of justice committee of the City Council elected by the people, the control of the police affairs will be again submitted to the Legislature at its next session. It is to be hoped that the Legislature, when it receives this bill from the representatives of the City of Fredericton, will treat the people's wishes with more courtesy and consideration than was the case at the last session of the House. IT IS UP TO OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES IN THE LEGISLATURE TO SEE THAT THIS REQUEST ON THE PART OF THE CITY OF FREDERICTON IS CARRIED OUT.

The bill "To ensure the Publication of Accurate News and Information" affected newspapers and provided the chairman of the Alberta Social Credit Board with authority to enforce publication of statements signed by him correcting or amplifying any previously published statement relating to any policy or activity of the government. Mandatory disclosure of news sources and identity of writers of news items or articles was provided in the act.

The bill respecting taxation of banks increased from one-tenth to one-half one percent the tax on paidup capital and imposed a new tax of one percent on the reserve fund and undivided profits of the banks. The taxes were estimated to be a source of \$2,000,000 in revenue for the government annually.

The bill to ensure the publication of accurate news and information received these amendments before its passage through the Legislature:

1. The chairman of the Social Credit Board was empowered to order publication of any signed statement

"which has for its object the correction or amplification of any statements relating to any policy or activity of the government of the province published by that newspaper within the next preceding 31 days."

2. The section that previously required up to one page of daily newspapers and one-tenth of the total issue of other newspapers was amended to specify the same length, type and prominence must be given the correction as had been given the "mis-statement."

3. The corrective or clarifying statement must be submitted in the same language as used in the publication.

4. Where the bill previously set fines of \$500 and \$1,000 for violation of its provisions, the penalties were changed to fines not exceeding \$500 and \$1,000.

5. The section protecting the newspapers from action under the libel and slander act in the publication of the board chairman's statements was clarified.

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RUDYARD KIPLING POURED ENOUGH ADVENTURE FOR THE WHOLE WORLD INTO THIS EPIC OF THE JUNGLE!



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Based on "Toomai of the Elephants" by RUDYARD KIPLING

Directed by ROBERT FLAHERTY and ZOLTAN KORDA LONDON FILM

ALSO:—

THE CORONATION OF KING GEORGE AND QUEEN ELIZABETH A Feature Picture Entirely in Technicolor

HERE FRIDAY "Bulldog Drummond Comes Back" WITH John Barrymore and Louise Campbell

Many Political

(Continued from Page One)

The Liberals are headed by Premier Michael F. Hepburn, seeking a mandate to continue in office after three years, and Conservatives led by Hon. J. Earl Rowe, former minister without portfolio in the Bennett federal cabinet.

The third largest body of candidates—39—is sponsored by the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation of two of these run under the banner of C. C. F.-Labor. Eleven Socialist-Labor nominees are among the 266 of all designations seeking election to the 90-seat Legislature.

ONE NEW CASE INFANTILE. One new case of infantile paralysis was reported to the Department of Health this morning, according to an official release issued at noon today. The new case was reported from Saint John, bringing the total number of cases since the outbreak up to 129. The infrequency of the outbreaks within the last few days and the small number of cases reported indicate that the disease is on the wane it was stated this morning.

Capitol

NOW PLAYING

IT'S HECTIC! IT'S HILARIOUS!

A double-crossing lady gets double-crossed by an expert!

ANN DVORAK and JOHN TRENT

in "SHE'S NO LADY"

WITH

Harry Beresford Guinn Williams Aileen Pringle

News Comedy USUAL PRICES

HERE THURS., FRI., SAT.

JACK HOLT in

"TROUBLE IN MOROCCO"

With Mae Clarke and C. Henry Gordon.

ALSO PLAYING:— Leaves You Limp With Excitement

"The Frame-Up" With Paul Kelly Jacqueline Wells and George McKay

Gloucester Co. Fair To Open Today

BATHURST, Oct. 6.—Bathurst expects a large influx of people for the next three days while the Gloucester County Exhibition is in progress here. The stage is all set for the big show, which opens at 1 p. m. tomorrow. At 7.30 p. m. the official opening will take place, with addresses by Hon. A. C. Taylor, minister of agriculture, who opens the Exhibition; Mayor J. E. Connolly, J. A. Doucet, M.L.A., F. T. B. Young, M.L.A., and D. H. Sutherland, Halifax chief supervisor of fisheries in the Maritimes.

This year's entries far exceed those of last year in all departments. Industrial and mercantile exhibits far outnumber last year's displays. The interior of the Bathurst Arena has been decorated under the direction of J. B. Riordon, department of agriculture representative. Because of the ban of school children attending, the school children's exhibit has been dispensed with. The Bathurst Amateur Athletic Association and the Bathurst Hockey Club are in charge of all entertainments.

NOTICE

OUR FALL TERM

OPENS ON MONDAY

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