

THE DAILY MAIL

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, SEPTEMBER 9, 1937

Let the Bankers Explain

SOME strange things have been said and attempted in the name of Social Credit. With all due respect to the literary efforts of Major Douglas, diviner and author, it is fairly well understood that the theory proceeds from and relies upon public confusion. It is questionable if one in every thousand persons in Alberta, "the world's only Social Credit State," has even a vague idea of what the theory embraces, beyond those fatuously grandiose promises of something for nothing.

On this account Premier Aberhart's letter to Prime Minister King announcing his Government's decision to defy the Federal disallowance ruling is to be welcomed. It demonstrates that Social Credit is not, as many have supposed, a political and economic thesis, but a state of mind, and one so at variance with the realities by which this Dominion lives and functions that it is to be wondered at the Montreal Gazette states, whether those who share it have not lost their "proper sense of responsibility."

The Aberhart letter (the text consumes several thousand words) is beyond rational interpretation. Only excerpts can clearly define that state of mind. One of the many that could be used reads: "The position in which your (the Dominion Government) advisers have put us in relation to the people of this Province is that we now have to tell them that they could secure for themselves all the good and appetizing food any reasonable person could ask, but the bankers' conveniently indeterminate monopoly must be accorded precedence, because you disintegrated a corpse of a law to purport to disallow the legislation which would have secured all the above amenities to our people whilst depriving or harming none."

From there the Alberta Premier proceeds to enlighten the Prime Minister, and the public at home, saying: "Banks, through charters engineered for them by political satellites, are able, like the slave owners who preceded them, to batten and fatten on the enforced servitude of men and women who are compelled to put up with anything that bankers think is good for them because you (the Dominion Government) shield those bankers."

Whether or not Mr. Aberhart is as ignorant of the facts as his letter makes out is not for us to know. Manifestly he is hoping to capitalize on the average citizen's lack of knowledge of the banking system and what it means. How well he will be able to succeed depends, as the Montreal Gazette points out on the bankers themselves. As they have nothing to fear "from the widest possible knowledge of the facts," that paper advocates that they initiate an educational campaign and put the man on the street right as to the facts.

The Montreal paper's point is well taken. We recall very similar advice being given to the bankers almost three years ago by Hon. Charles Dunning. Speaking to a meeting of bankers in Toronto, prior to his re-entry into politics, the Finance Minister urged, almost pleaded with, those institutions to take the public into their confidence and "unveil" the so-called mysteries of banking, in a way that the ordinary citizen could understand and appreciate.

At that time there was no Mr. Aberhart in sight. But the same misrepresentation, the same "oblique insinuations" which he has been resorting to were pouring from the throats of others, who, fortunately, have had less opportunity for making trouble. It was against such campaigns that Mr. Dunning urged the banks to proceed. If they had reason to under-estimate the dangers of misrepresentation three years ago, they have none today. The dangers of it, as it is now being employed by Aberhart and Company, are generally realized. To deny the allegations is not enough. The bankers owe it to themselves and to the public they serve to counteract that menace by putting their operations plainly before the people.

Time To Nationalize Our Thinking

WHEN Hon. Newton W. Rowell recently exhorted Canadians to live by the principle of respecting one another's differences but making all subsidiary to our common love of Canada, he put in simplest terms the individual's responsibility for the upbuilding of the nation. Above and beyond all else, if we are to be anything, we must first be Canadians. Trite, but so simply that it is still being overlooked and denied by petty, partisan politics.

Divided as we are in Provinces, separated in government, without the means of easy contact for much of the formative period, absorbed in local problems, the habit has unconsciously developed of thinking locally. Sectionalism has been labored to the exclusion of nationalism. Anxious to bulk large in the national picture, the emphasis has been on domestic advancement. Natural and necessary to a point, this tendency, nevertheless, is largely responsible for the misunderstandings and the group instincts which keep Canada in the turmoil of division today.

We have advanced beyond the first formative stage. The Chief Justice placed us exactly when he said Canada is "out in the full current of the world's life." She has grown into a nation almost in spite of her parts. There are nine, largely autonomous, units in a single craft. What can Alberta, for example, hope to gain by rowing against the rest of that crew? Drop the metaphor, and we can ask, What advantage is there for a "nationalist" Quebec, if that spirit means economic separation from the rest of the nation, except where it suits her personal ambitions, if it means stifling the non-French speaking minority and throws up barriers to the free development of her resources?

All our problems are not political. We cannot, unfortunately, forget our racial and religious differences. These, in too many cases, are the breeding grounds of political animosities. Too many politicians find them the shortest cut to power and monetary triumphs.

These are important differences to those who hold them, but in the national perspective they are not, beyond the limits of their contribution to the contentment of the people, of national moment. Certainly none can stand analysis as worthy obstructions to unity. There are other problems, many of them by-products of growth and progress, of mistakes and shortsighted policy. Solution of them is sought through the Royal Commission which Mr. Rowell is to head.

It will not be easy to submerge many of our differences, around which there are traditions and, perhaps, whole generations of isolated thought and teaching. But many changes, not contemplated half a century ago, are in sight: alterations in the machinery of administration, transfer of local powers to facilitate improvements in the general welfare under centralized authority. But beyond all other reforms there is need for a change in outlook and a change in thought. It is time for the people of all Provinces to begin to think of themselves as Canadians and to measure progress and fix objectives on a national scale. This is the prelude to all reform.

Snapshots

Alderman Mundle says that there are dead bodies and sewerage particles floating up to our water intake. Alderman McCaughey says it will cost three million and more dollars to get a new system—and his figures are low. So what are you going to do about it? We don't like the dead body and sewerage idea and we certainly can't afford to spend all this money to remedy the situation. Probably the two aldermen can get together and work it out for us.

It now looks as though the Richardson people will have the subway area between Waterloo Row and the Brunswick-Queen Street section finished by the time the tourist travel is over for the season—or perhaps before the snow flies.

Where is the out of town place that they say should be raided? They say that it is a regular booze joint and that its patrons include numbers of young people from the city. It is understood that there are laws governing the consuming of booze in such places, especially where it is carried to the extreme.

SECURITY OF

(Continued from Page One)

and piracy in the Mediterranean regarded of whether or not all the invited powers accept, informed sources stated tonight as despatches from the continent indicated Germany and Italy might decline.

Such a decision was reached at today's emergency cabinet meeting which approved, it was understood proposals drawn up by the Foreign office for submission to the international conference Friday.

Britain is further determined, in co-operation with France, to limit the conference as far as possible to the actual problem of security for Mediterranean shipping from attack—whether by water, under the water or air.

Angry charges and counter charges will be avoided, with no attempt made at the conference to decide who it responsible for the piratical actions that have sunk several freighters, damaged others and cost the lives of several seamen of many nations.

Informed British and French circles in London consider that Russia's accusations Italy is responsible for at least two attacks on Soviet shipping are a diplomatic question for settlement directly between the two countries.

The cabinet meeting was called after last week's unsuccessful attack on the British destroyer Havock at which a mysterious submarine fired a torpedo that missed its mark.

It faced the fact that additional British vessels met interference in their commercial movements through the Mediterranean, and the swift change in the general European situation caused by Soviet Russia's stern notes to Italy accusing the Fascist power of responsibility for sinking two Soviet freighters, and Italy's angry disclaimer of guilt.

The Havock attack and the sinking of the tanker Woodford were serious incidents involving British craft in the Mediterranean last week. Yesterday brought reports of an unidentified submarine stopping the British tanker Pegasus off the Italian Dodecanese Islands and of a mysterious warship which fired a torpedo at the tanker Harpa. The submarine which stopped the Pegasus permitted the tanker to proceed after a search.

Soviet Russia officially accepted an invitation to the conference, again accusing the Fascists of sinking two Soviet vessels in the Mediterranean.

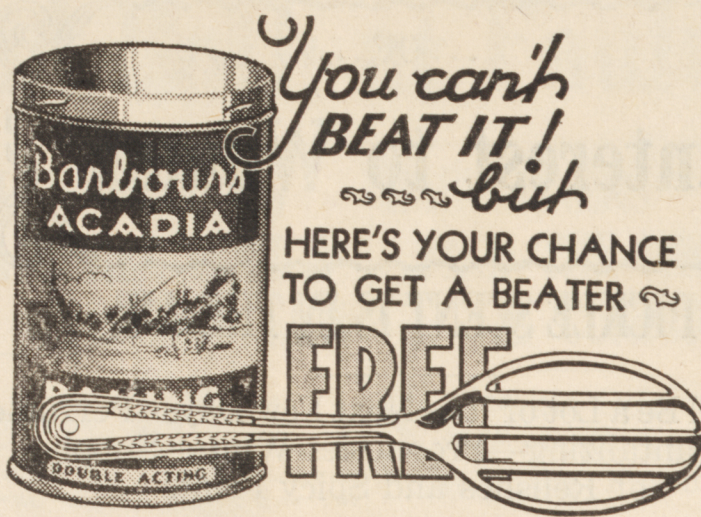
Russia's acceptance, however, did little to smooth the parley's path for grave doubts were expressed that Italy would consent to sit at the same conference table with her accuser lest the conference become a tribunal to air the Russian charges.

An Italian government official declared the second note added a new obstacle to Italy's participation, adding "however the possibility of our attendance is not excluded."

The official Soviet press predicted little would result from the conference and criticized Great Britain and France for not joining in the accusations against Italy.

During his annual party congress at Nurnberg, Hitler conferred with Foreign Minister van Neurath and other Nazi officials leading to the belief his answer had been sent to London tonight. It was reported the reply was negative.

Unconfirmed reports, nevertheless, asserted Germany would make neither a flat rejection or acceptance but instead would suggest referring the submarine attacks to the Spanish non-intervention committee which dealt with an alleged attack on the German cruiser Leipzig near Sicily a few months ago.



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RECORD LIST ON PASSENGER OCEAN LINERS OF C. P. R.

(Special to The Daily Mail)
MONTREAL, Sept. 8.—Evidence that has been a bumper tourist season for trans-Atlantic traffic is mounting up with word from the Canadian Pacific that this week's west-bound traffic establishes a record that has not been equalled by any line to the St. Lawrence during the corresponding period of any year since 1929.

When the fourth Canadian Pacific liner due at St. Lawrence ports this week reaches Montreal Saturday a total of 3,557 passengers will have been brought over by the Canadian Pacific since and including Sunday. This total is greater than any line has brought to the St. Lawrence in a corresponding period since 1929 which was the last year before the depression lowered passenger traffic.

The Montrose started the arrivals when she docked here Sunday with 806 passengers. A Quebec tomorrow the Empress of Britain will dock with 1,065 while the Duchess of Richmond will be here late tomorrow night with 815. On Saturday the Duchess of Bedford is due with 871 passengers.

Two of the liners will make quick turn arounds the Empress of Britain and the Duchess of Richmond both sailing Saturday. The Montrose will leave port Friday.

FAIR WAGE OFFICER AWAY

H. R. Pettigrove of this city, fair wage officer for the province of New Brunswick, is in Saint John on official business. He is expected to return to the city this week.

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the Transportation Committee of the Fredericton Board of Trade will be held at the City Club at 10 o'clock tomorrow (FRIDAY) MORNING for the purpose of meeting officials of the C.P.R., and discussing the matter of the winter time-table.

ALEXANDER MURRAY,
Secretary.

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BUILDINGS DEMOLISHED

The two buildings on Queen Street, recently purchased by the Irving Oil Co. Ltd. are being demolished in preparation for the building of the garage and bus station, which is to be erected in the near future. The two properties, which were purchased from the Hughes Estate and the J. J. McCaffery Estate are expected to be ready for building within the next month and a half. An adjoining property, owned by T. W. Rainsford, and which the company also wished to buy, has not changed hands yet, according to latest reports.

TO MEET

The Transportation Committee of the Board of Trade will meet at the City Club tomorrow morning at ten o'clock. The purpose of the meeting is to consult with officials of the C. P.R. regarding proposed changes in the winter time table. R. L. Phillips, chairman, will preside.

OTTAWA, Sept. 9.—In conference with the youth training programme in other provinces in conjunction with the dominion—for young unemployed persons between the ages of 18 and 30, the Dominion and Nova Scotia governments have signed an agreement to spend more than \$50,000 each in a youth training program. Labor Minister Rogers announced.

The Dominion's contribution comes from a \$1,000,000 vote for the purpose approved at the last parliamentary session. About two-thirds of that amount has been allocated to Ontario and the Western Provinces, and the remainder will be spent under agreements to be made later with New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Quebec. The entire \$1,000,000 was voted to be used in the present fiscal year ending March 31, 1938.

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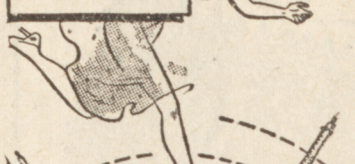
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(Continued from Page One)

the United States" said Dr. Black, Denmark will be a promising field in the next two or three years. On the subject of continental European immigration he pointed out that British stock was amalgamated a few centuries ago of European peoples. He thought the Swiss, Czechs, Belgians, Hollanders and Ukrainians should become "as good Canadians as we ourselves ever have been" Dr. Black suggested there should be no large scale immigration movement for the present, even if it were possible but one that could be increased from year to year. "In my opinion," he said there never has been a time in our history when this important question of immigration called so urgently for leadership of a consecutive kind, there is a distinct tendency of our developing a laissez faire attitude which means we shall go back" in conclusion he asked the chamber to give that leadership.