

THE DAILY MAIL

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FREDERICTON, N. B., AUGUST 21, 1937

Ottawa's Wise Action

OTTAWA'S disallowance of the Alberta bank and judicial control legislation was so obviously the only course and so generally anticipated that it could come as a surprise to no one. Having refused the alternative of testing the measures in the courts, Premier Aberhart could have been surprised least of all. For all the bold talk and repeated claims to a people's mandate the legislation was so crude in its conception and objectives, so indecently arbitrary in the suppression of the elementary rights of citizenship as to imply that the people of Alberta were idiots.

Had the Social Credit Administration any confidence in its constitutional standing on the banking measures would it have needed the supplementary legislation barring the people from access to the courts? Had it believed that it was within Provincial powers would it have declined to submit to a test and compelled the Federal Government to use its power of the veto? The assertions that such legislation rests upon Provincial sovereignty over property and civil rights are absurd. The fact is that Premier Aberhart has attempted to draw a distinction between Provincial and Dominion citizenship that does not exist. A distinction, which in the very nature of the constitutional relationship between the two entities, cannot exist.

If there were any need to quibble over the question of his mandate, it can be said with equal finality that Premier Aberhart never had a mandate to enact the disallowed legislation. Were he capable of remembering his own statements from one day to the next he would recall that he won his mandate on the promise to the people of Alberta, and the people of Canada as a whole, that he had no intention of resorting to such tactics—indeed, that there was no necessity under true Social Credit to resort to them—in implementing his dividend promises. Those who predicted interference with business and the accepted monetary and economic systems were falsely misrepresenting Social Credit and himself.

What today makes the whole business so crude and what labels it as political sham is the fact that it was attempted in the full knowledge of its constitutional implications. While soothing his followers with assurances that there was no thought of leaving Confederation, Premier Aberhart passed legislation which would have made it impossible for the Province to remain in the union. There could be some sympathy for the Social Credit Government had it acted out of ignorance. But there can be no sympathy with a deliberate attempt to align a majority of Albertans against their neighbors and against the Canadian people for political purposes.

There can be no mistake about the use Premier Aberhart and his followers will make of Ottawa's action. The nonsense about universal recognition of the issue as being "financial tyranny versus democracy" makes that obvious. Indeed, there has been a strong undercurrent of suspicion in Alberta and outside that the legislation was a tongue-in-cheek effort to escape "honorably" from impossible promises, leaving the blame on Prime Minister King and his Government. Considering the number who two years ago thought they could vote themselves into a \$25-a-month pension, it is possible to realize that there will be some stupid enough to give Social Credit a martyr's burial.

Such people may never be able to understand what Federal intervention has saved them from. Nothing short of the disastrous experience itself would be likely to impress them. Not so the majority. The Daily Mail is confident that the large percentage of Albertans will join with the rest of Canada in thanking the King Government for its timely intervention. In his statement the Prime Minister made it quite plain that his Government realized the political implications. The worst that could happen in that direction does not stand comparison with the economic and financial breakdown certain to have resulted from the legislation.

It is to Ottawa's credit that it gave Premier Aberhart a choice of "weapons." He chose what he hopes will be the most advantageous politically. While the veto, a power used only in such extremes, was, as Mr. King said, the only course left, his Government deserves credit for acting promptly and before any disruption of business could occur. Premier Aberhart's determination to fight the veto is his Government's business. If he can find legal alternative for the outlawed measure, they become the business of the Alberta electorate. So long as it will tolerate his tomfoolery he is welcome to try. That the fight is to be constitutional will be a welcome change. But the idea persists that he and his advisers have dug Social Credit's grave. Anything else will be a memorial.

Lawyers and Service

IN a time of unrest, with the appearance of many extreme doctrines and increasing lawlessness, the meeting of the Canadian Bar Association in Toronto is an event of more than its usual importance. Lawyers have left upon the history of this country the imprint of their special talent for legislation. They are intimately associated with the preparation and the interpretation of laws, and in all legislative chambers their influence in establishing salutary rules of conduct for the people in their mundane affairs has been toward the establishment of good government. They have given generously of their knowledge and of their time, setting a high standard of public service. This is recognized by election to successive Parliaments of a large percentage of members of the Bar.

Constitutional changes are pending in this country, and men of the legal profession are peculiarly qualified to discuss these for the enlightenment of the average citizen who gives little thought to involved problems of government. Such opportunities for service were stressed by Hon. Justice H. H. Davis of the Supreme Court of Canada, President of the association, in opening its proceedings. "From you," he said, "with your minds trained in the study of law and your practical knowledge of the working of things, the nation is entitled to leadership in the creation of a sane and sensible public opinion."

One of the important things for Canada is upholding of the authority and the dignity of its courts. There is only too evident today—and in strangely differing circles—a disposition to flout the law's authority. This may be but a passing phase of insubordination, but its presence constitutes a challenge to right-thinking Canadians, and especially to the legal profession. The supremacy of the courts ensures the security of a people, and upon those who preside over and practise in the courts rests chief responsibility for their character. Administration of the law in this country has excited the admiration of the world, and that high reputation must be maintained.

SNAPSHOTS

The highway construction work near Chatham which the provincial government started as a measure of relief to the unemployed has been closed down. The men who were given the relief walked out and left the job.

We will take off our hats to no one in our sympathy with the working man. There is no man in town works harder than we do. But we believe in reason in all things no matter who is concerned.

The married woman who sits home in the house and allows her husband to take the young girl friend to the pictures is one of the best natured woman we have yet heard about.

"Beastly hot in here" means the house is like it was last January when dad growled: "This place is cold as a barn."

Experts now say babies shouldn't be rocked to sleep on mother's lap. It disturbs the little things so when hot ashes fall on them.

Correct this sentence: "He will never hear what I said about him," said the man, "for I said it in confidence to a trusted friend."

World unrest is nothing new. It all started back in the Garden of Eden when the first woman handed the first man something to eat that disagreed with him and made him want to fight without knowing why.

If the average man would exercise as much ingenuity and enthusiasm in putting the flavor and piquancy into marriage as he does in putting the kick into a cocktail, good old wedlock would be a lot more stimulating and far less humdrum.

Moscow is to have the tallest skyscraper in the world, several stories higher than anything in New York. We shudder to think of the executions this will mean before it is finished.

Many a husband is so uncommunicative about his business affairs that when he dies all his wife knows about him is that he was a good provider, liked his eggs cooked three minutes and voted the straight party ticket. His lawyers have to tell her the rest.



GREATER

(Continued from Page One)

would be on the side of the Chinese who now were prepared to continue the struggle for years.

I interviewed him in the camouflaged offices of army general headquarters. The gate leading to his offices bore Chinese characters, meaning "House of Peace."

As I drove up Chinese sentries quickly threw a protective camouflage around my automobile. The wisdom of their action was evident almost immediately.

I had hardly entered general headquarters when a squadron of Japanese bombers roared overhead, dropping bombs that were meant to wipe out the Chinese "G.H.O." Though they landed very close, little damage was done.

General Chang, veteran of the 1932 Shanghai war, appeared confident that the Japanese forces would shortly be driven south of Soochow Creek into the midst of the International Settlement.

He asserted that, in the event, he would expect the international authorities to disarm the Japanese.

If he did not or were unable to, he said he would attempt no direct attack on the settlement without instructions from the Central government at Nanking.

Premier Prince Fumimaro Konoye predicted today the Sino-Japanese conflict would be of long duration and that there would be no settlement until Japan had "punished" the Chinese Army.

He barred foreign intervention in the rest.

NORTH SHORE STRIKE

(Continued from Page One)

THE STRIKE AGITATORS AND THOSE WHO ARE SUPPORTING THEM HAVE GONE THE LIMIT WHEN THEY, THROUGH THEIR LEADERS, ORDERED A STRIKE ON THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND HELD UP THE PUBLIC WORKS OF THIS PROVINCE. THESE PUBLIC WORKS WERE INSTITUTED BY THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT AS A MEASURE OF EMPLOYMENT TO TAKE THE PLACE OF RELIEF. THE MEN IN CHATHAM AND IN OTHER PLACES WHO WERE WORKING ON THESE ROADS WERE MEN WHO HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY ON RELIEF AND WERE GIVEN EMPLOYMENT BY THE DYSART GOVERNMENT SO THAT THEY MIGHT PROVIDE FOR THEIR FAMILIES. LITTLE SYMPATHY CAN BE EXPRESSED FOR MEN LIKE THESE WHO ALLOWED THEMSELVES TO BE THE CAT'S PAWS OF POLITICAL AGITATORS AND ILL-ADVISED LABOR LEADERS.

While The Daily Mail does not speak for the Provincial Government except to give the facts as a matter of fair play, still this paper believes that the Government will not be deterred by this strike in continuing to do its best towards helping the working men in all parts of the Province.



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OUR MAIL BAG

A BACKWARD SETTLEMENT

Geary Woods Settlement.

Dear Sir:

We received a copy of your paper, and were very interested in your article "A Backward Settlement." We would like to explain a few points regarding this article. We have good land as good as any in New Brunswick and we are using every inch we can get, and there is our trouble. We cannot get the land under cultivation. Promises will not pull stumps, we have been promised tractors time and again. "Just as soon as we can send one." It sounds good but that's all. Please print the following plainly as people seem to think the Government is keeping us.

"We receive no help whatever from the Government except a small seed order, or from the Counties we are in."

We have to rely on selling wood for a living, and believe us, we have to keep hopping. The writer has cut suckers from the same stumps three years running and are fed up trying to keep the land clear, while waiting for the "promised tractors" to arrive to pull the stumps. We have hardwood stumps 15' in diameter at the butt and a tractor is the only thing that can handle them.

If the Government will stump and plow four acres for each settler, we would soon show New Brunswick what we can grow.

T. A. MacDonald may be looking after other Settlements, but not ours. Mr. Duffie, our supervisor, is doing the best he can to make our settlement a success but receives no backing or help from the officials at Fredericton. We have to make our gardens where we can, between the stumps, and many of these gardens cannot be seen from a speeding car, which is the only way officials ever visit us.

We would like your reporter to visit this district, and see for himself just what we are doing. Mr. Duffie would no doubt be pleased to show him and explain our problems to him and introduce him to some of us.

Thanking you,
TWO OF THE SETTLERS.

the undeclared war, asserting peace negotiations must be conducted by China and Japan alone.

In his second interview since assuming office, Prince Konoye explained that Japan had launched its tremendous drive against Shanghai and northern China because it "had to." Circumstances, he said, made it necessary for the government to abandon its previous attitude of "passive defence" and assume the offensive.

The government's ultimate aim is to effect amicable relations between China and Japan after chastising the Chinese militarists, he asserted.

ABERHART

(Continued from Page One)
case," the statement continued, "all I can say is that the financial interests have framed up a very ugly plot against the people of the Dominion, and all of us are now having very definite evidence of the manner in which finance dominates Governments."

The personnel caused "surprise and keen disappointment" to the Alberta Government, which had taken for granted it would be consulted in regard to personnel, the Premier said.

"When I have had the opportunity of receiving and examining more definitely the terms of reference, I shall be better able to express my feelings on this matter," he concluded.



S. S. Saint John sails from Reed's Point Wharf, Saint John, at 7.30 p.m. (A.T.) Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays. Due Boston following morning. Fare from Saint John, \$10 one way; from Fredericton to Boston, \$12.40. Rail connection to Saint John from all interior points. Staterooms, \$1.50 up, good for two people. Excellent meals at reasonable prices.

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Buck Jones

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NEXT WEEK

"DRAE GERMAN COURAGE"

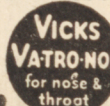
with Jean Muir—Barton MacLane

DIED

PICKARD—Passed away at Princess Park, yesterday, August 20, 1937, Mary M. Pickard of Marysville, N. B. The funeral will take place Sunday afternoon, August 22, with service at the home at 2.30 o'clock. Rev. M. D. Oliver will conduct the service. Interment will be made at Marysville.

Stuffy Head.

Just a few drops up each nostril. Quickly, breathing again becomes clear.



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