

THE DAILY MAIL

NEW BRUNSWICK'S ONLY HOME COMMUNITY PAPER

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Aberhart's Eighteen Months

Invalidation of the Alberta Provincial Securities Interest Act, in the decision handed down by Mr. Justice Ives, all but wrecks the Aberhart economic revolution. The Act, which "legalized" the Government's arbitrary reduction of bond interest rates, was the first Social Credit venture in unorthodox renegeing. Involving interest, which is beyond the competence of a Provincial Legislature, it fell on the same grounds as the Reduction and Settlement of Debts Act, declared ultra vires by Mr. Justice Ewing last week.

Invalidation is the unhappy climax of eighteen months of Social Credit, the time Premier Aberhart asked in which to perform his miracles. The record of those eighteen months is a solid mass of disreputable, confidence-shattering, arbitrary acts that leave Alberta immensely poorer and further removed from the Douglas-inspired Utopia than when they began.

In that time the Government defaulted on two bond maturities, borrowed upward of \$15,000,000 from the Federal Government; pyramided taxes—including a 2 per cent. sales tax; drove capital from the Province, jeopardized the investments and savings of the whole country and travelled not a single step in relief of the Alberta people. Attempts were made to coerce business into accepting Government dictation by threats of State-controlled competition. Attempts were made to manufacture money in the distribution of "prosperity certificates." In fact, almost everything was attempted that was contrary to sound business and fair dealing.

All that remains standing is a Masters Retail Trade Act, by which the Government would control prices when the promised \$25-a-month basic dividends began to circulate. Six months ago the Alberta Credit House Act, authorizing those dividends, was passed, and that is as close to fulfillment of his election promises as Premier Aberhart has come. There are no dividends, and, since the dismal failure of the scrip or credit money, no prospect of dividends.

That is the record which explains better than anything else the unrest of the Social Credit Party. Two adverse court rulings cannot improve the situation, but neither will the threatened debacle in the party. Ousting the Premier and shifting Right or Left can do nothing so long as the Alberta Government carries the stigma of repudiation. The one bright spot was the announcement that the Bank of Canada will investigate the Province's finances.

Such an investigation opens up the door to a new beginning. By accepting co-operation with the Federal authorities, Premier Aberhart can clear away the debris and get back to sound economics and a business basis. He has had opportunities before, from the Federal Government and from private interests. All were refused because they did not stoop to Social Credit's impossible terms. But if disaster can bring reason and sanity the opportunities of this new investigation will not be allowed to pass, simply because they are orthodox.

Mr. Dunning Warns

In expressing the hope that we are "too close to 1929 to forget the necessity of ordered progress and well-balanced development," Finance Minister Dunning uttered a warning which was hinted at a few days ago by the Governor of the Bank of Canada.

With general conditions and public finances far removed from that happy pre-1929 state when it was possible to lower taxes and reduce the national debt out of current revenues, it would be regrettable if excessive enthusiasm led to lopsided expansion. The fact that public authorities are calling attention to the danger should have a moderating influence. It is being recognized in both the United States and Great Britain. The Bank of Canada has authority to restrict credit, but it is not desirable to take action which may affect the general situation. As Governor Towers pointed out, "we must hope to do a substantially larger volume of business than we have ever done before, in order to attain a satisfactory level of prosperity." We must pass the peak level from which we fell, with order and balance. Probably the level matters little so long as it is uniform, but runaway speculation has to be guarded against by those intimately concerned.

Charged to the Taxpayer

Mr. Dunning's statement that operating expenses of the Canadian National Railways in 1936 increased in the same ratio as operating revenues represents one obstacle to a speedy return to the basic wage. The amount available for interest on debt was \$200,000 less than in 1935. Part of the increased expense was due to various Government unemployment relief programmes, and therefore beyond control of the railway. But the disquieting feature is the helplessness of the railways in their efforts to get out of their troubles altogether. Money is not available from earnings for higher wages or interest charges, and new equipment is needed to modernize.

If the railway situation were improving in proportion to the progress in business and the Government's finances, the outlook would be more hopeful. Instead of this it has become relatively worse. The Minister of Finance showed that C.N.R. losses charged to the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Government amounted to more than \$260,000,000 in the last five years, although the annual loss declined some \$19,000,000 during the period. By economies and the aid of more taxation the Government deficit has been lowered by nearly 70 per cent. The contract is impressive. In 1932-33, C.N.R. losses were equivalent to more than 28 per cent. of the national deficit, in the following year to 45 per cent., in 1934-35 to 42 per cent., in 1935-36 to 29 per cent., and in the current fiscal year to nearly 50 per cent. Without the Canadian National loss chargeable to consolidated revenue the Budget deficit would have been virtually one-half of \$87,000,000.

The forecast for 1937-38 brings the climax. Mr. Dunning has estimated a deficit of \$35,000,000, all due to prospective C.N.R. losses. This, like the other deficits, will be added to the national debt.

In the last analysis it is a taxpayers' problem. Are the taxpayers willing to pay year after year to maintain a condition like this?

The railway case presented recently to the Board of Investigation and Conciliation showed that 411 employees were engaged in Canada for each \$1,000,000 in revenue obtained, compared with 288 in the United States. The latter carried 24 per cent. more freight per train in 1935 than did Canadian roads.

Railways in this country are managed efficiently. The trouble cannot be laid on the doorstep of the officials. It is a fundamental situation out of reach of Administration and taxpayers. But it is not beyond reach of Parliament. Must the people continue to pay because Parliament declines to move?

SNAPSHOTS

A fair maiden dreamed last night that she was going to marry our friend Barney.

Better be careful Lou. Some pretty husky men on the Wisley Road.

A young lady who has travelled all over Canada says that New Brunswick has the best looking body of members of the Legislature that she has seen in any province in Canada.

When liquor is being advertised in the Montreal and Toronto papers coming into New Brunswick, why not make it optional for New Brunswick papers to carry the same ads here.

England reports that mustaches are coming back. There is no sign, however, of a second growth on bald heads.

Complaint is made that the right people don't read the Bible. But they don't have to; it's the wrong people that need it.

Taxes could be made painless. Just give a lottery ticket with each \$10 tax receipt and they'll try to pay twice.

British Press

(Continued from Page One)
out that the treaty continues the work of demolishing the "Canada First" cotton tariff begun with Mr. Dunning's last Budget. Cotton exports to Canada under the last Budget, the Guardian observes, rose 4,256,000 yards above the 1935 figure, and it is satisfied that further expansion now is assured.

The Guardian criticizes the treaty on the ground that the United Kingdom government should have gone further in scaling down the British tariff in favor of Canadian manufactures. It also says that any attempt by the United Kingdom Government to use the powers granted by the treaty to restrict imports of Canadian foodstuffs will be strongly resisted here.

Shortage

(Continued from Page One)
tion's slump period and drifted away, are now coming back to take up where they left off, and hundreds more are entering the business for the first time.

The sudden revival of flying activity has taken the industry by surprise, and if demands for flight training increase, a long waiting list may be created before a sufficient number of teachers can be provided to take care of the students.

It may be thought by many that any expert pilot is qualified to step into the position of instructor, but this is by no means true. The job of flying an airplane and the job of teaching some one else to fly are two entirely different vocations.

Most difficult aspect of the instructor's work is the memorizing of a standard system of "patter" issued by the Royal Canadian Air Force and developed originally by the Royal Air Force in Great Britain.

The "patter" is a highly scientific method by which the instructor conveys to the student, through the speaking tube, the correct manner in which to manipulate the controls in every manoeuvre from take-offs to tail-spins.

South Africa Announces New Defence Plan

(Special to The Daily Mail)
JOHANNESBURG, March 2—South Africa has also announced a new defence plan, one of the main points being the construction the munition factory at Victoria which is to be modernized. One hundred and fifty thousand pounds are to be spent and it is to be taken over by the government and is expected to be ready by July, 1938.

HEAVY SANDSTORMS INTERFERE WITH PLANES

(Special to The Daily Mail)
CAIRO Mar. 2—Heavy sandstorms have caused a lot of inconvenience to aeroplanes and have forced flying officers among these being Flewelling who is on his way to England. It is expected that the latter will continue his trip to the Mother Country tomorrow.

ORIENT PREPARING FOR WAR

(Special to The Daily Mail)
TOKYO, March 2—The Orient is also preparing for war at any time at all. The Minister of Foreign Affairs states that when the airport of Japan is complete that Japan will have no fear of the United States for three years.

Pres. of N. B.

(Continued from Page One)

bone extended thanks to the government. He suggested that the convention take up during the session several proposed amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act having for their object improvements in the effectiveness of its provisions and more adequate coverage for injured workmen.

Continuing again, the President referred to the minimum wage which should be at a sufficiently high rate to insure workers decent living standards.

Unemployment remains by far the most serious and complex problem confronting us, said the President. Wide publicity has been given, he said, to statements emanating from Associations of Employers proclaiming the expected shortage of skilled workers and urging the immediate placing in industries of apprentices to counteract such shortage. Mr. Whitebone claimed that there was no necessity for the departure from the established system of apprenticeship which is governed by the number of journeymen employed. He recommended this subject to the careful consideration of the delegates. He objected to the action of industrial concerns in dismissing skilled tradesmen and replacing them with youthful graduates of vocational schools. He also complained of the low wages paid local men on the government construction in connection with hard surfaced roads and to the number of non-resident men employed.

The President referred to different matters of legislation in regard to industrial standards and so on which will be taken up.

His Worship Mayor Kitchen, who had intended delivering the address of welcome, was unable to be present this morning. The report of the Executive Committee was read and adopted. This afternoon the report of the Secretary will be taken up.

Featuring the morning was the executive report submitted by G. Melvin, secretary treasurer. The report gave a comprehensive survey of the labor conditions throughout the province.

The committees appointed included: Credentials, J. E. Tighe, A. H. Ryder, H. N. Doyle, John Wonnacott, C. J. Redstone; rules and orders, A. W. Jamieson, E. Camick, A. E. Skaling, J. N. Small, Albert Barnes; resolutions, J. S. MacKinnon, C. J. Larracey, E. Love, H. MacFarlane, L. J. Dionne, A. Savoie, J. Monteith; officers reports, J. Dever, C. C. Steeves, J. S. Martin, A. Ross, R. Edgecombe, M. Purcell; ways and means, G. T. Rawlins, J. Tighe, E. Larracey, S. Burns, W. Powell; and it, F. H. Weir, T. D. Owens, A. Barnes; union labels, H. A. Mantle, A. W. Jamieson, A. E. Skaling; thanks, L. J. Dionne, A. H. Ryder, F. Gallant. In addition to the presidential report, the report of the secretary treasurer also was submitted this afternoon.

Change Will be Made In Patrol of Spanish Territorial Waters

(Special to The Daily Mail)
LONDON, March 2—In regard to the non-intervention committee concerning the patrol of Spanish waters certain countries taking part were to control waters held by the opposite party with which they were in sympathy. Due to the fall of Malaga a change of zone has had to be made. Great Britain will now be patrolling the coast formerly patrolled by Germany. Patrolling will start next week. The committee is also to take action next week in regard to recalling of all foreign volunteers.

STRIKES IMPROVE CONDITIONS

(Special to The Daily Mail)
WASHINGTON, March 2—The chairman of the Conciliatory Board of the United States stated today that the strikes have affected a change for the better in business conditions because the men are asking for better wages and shorter hours.

LIMITING OF ARMS DECLARED IMPOSSIBLE

(Special to The Daily Mail)
SPAIN, March 2—All possibility of limiting of arms in Spain has been definitely excluded. Rebel forces are today striking at Madrid at three definite places.

EGYPTIAN COLLIERY SHOWS INCREASE

(Special to The Daily Mail)
CAIRO, March 2—An Egyptian colliery shows an increase of five per cent. in exports over the previous record which was made in 1934.

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(The Daily Mail is not responsible for statements made by correspondents to this paper and reserves the right to accept or reject or to eliminate any part of such correspondence).

IS FARMER-LABOR PARTY AND COMMUNISM ONE?

Fredericton, N. B.,
March 2, 1937
To the Editor of The Daily Mail,
City.

Dear Sir:

According to a notice in one of our daily papers a meeting of Farmers and Laborers is called for Wednesday evening in this city. While this meeting is advertised to be addressed by members of the N. B. Federation of Labor and will be addressed by International speakers as advertised, yet it is well for all loyal farmers and labor men to be on their guard, for it may just be possible that Communist Measles may be lurking under the surface, for Communism has various ways of deluding those whom it hopes to ensnare and amongst those auxiliaries or affiliates we would call your attention to that one known in their lists as the Farmer-Labor party the principles of which reads like this: All Communists, insist that ours should be a Government of workers and farmers modeled on the peasant, proletariat combination in Russia. The very first article in the Constitution of Soviet Russia reads: The union of Soviet Socialist Republics is a Socialist state of Workers and Peasants.

Communist papers are urging the formation of Farmer-Labor clubs everywhere. Thirty-two such clubs were organized in Michigan following a Farmer-Labor party convention conducted by Communists in Detroit in August 1936. A Communist publication named the Education Vanguard in its issue of August 19, 1936, urged school teachers to organize the Farmer-Labor party, which Communist leaders hope to see grow into a nation-wide popular front party for the next national election campaign in 1940. George Dimitrov, general secretary of the convention in Moscow in a speech delivered on August 6, 1936, has this to say in regard to Farmer-Labor parties, referring to the Communist activities in the United States. "Our comrades in the United States have acted correctly in taking the initiative in creating such a party (Farmer-Labor party), but they must take care that this party should appear the spontaneous development of the masses themselves. It is necessary to state that the organization of a mass party of workers, a so called Farmer-Labor party would best suit American conditions. Such a party would be a specific form of a popular front party in America to oppose the parties of the Trusts and Banks. There are many other organizations controlled by the Communists, all interlocked with the main system, amongst them are the American League against War and Fascism, the International Labor Defense, the American Federation of Teachers, The American Youth Congress and many other organizations all used as stepping stones to the main party itself, Communism, "the Destroyer"—destroyer of the God you believe in, of the home which to you is so sacred, of the sanctity of marriage, or liberty and freedom your most priceless possessions, destroyer of everything personal and individual, whether social, political or sacred; robs you of every possession in your name, and places it under state control; makes of its subjects mere serfs and abject slaves, to do with as they please. No matter how bad your condition may be under present circumstances, you still are free to live and do and act as you please, even to criticize and find fault openly with our Rulers, while under Soviet rule, you keep your mouth shut or stand before the firing squad. The average Farmer or Labourer can not comprehend why the Communist program is so dangerous. He is not informed that its ultimate aim is to destroy industry, destroy the present order of Society, and to make him a slave under a new altruistic order. All of this will be denied by any Communist agent. The cleverness of Communist propaganda makes it look good, even to men of wealth. It assumes as premises, the entire gamut of subverted definitions, which all Reds use in their work. It assumes that in this country, laborers and foreign-born persons are persecuted that the ideals which have resulted in our present form of civilization are all wrong. That to believe in a God marks us as only fools; that we cannot have progress without revolution.

This meeting called for Wednesday evening may be under different influences altogether from what we suppose, but if under the auspices of the N. B. Federation of Labor, why is it not called at the request and over the name of some official of that body? Why is the name of the International speaker not announced? To farmers who may attend this meeting, keep this one thing in your mind, uppermost: If you are exhorted by any International speaker to form yourselves into Farmer Clubs or

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Farmer Labor Clubs, BEWARE. That is the first step to entrap you into the camp of the Communists, the most deadly trap you ever got caught in. On the advice of your own fellow countrymen, don't join a Farmer-Labor Club, or have anything to do with them. They are purely Communism, and will lead only to disaster.

If you are a Laborer, remember that the Communists don't want peace in industry. Strikes, riots and violence are their weapons, no matter how perfect working conditions may be. Many strikes have been laid at their door and of every strike they take full advantage and when once a strike is settled it is their policy to start a new one.

If we believe that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, then let us act in accordance with that belief. No use in locking the stable door after the horse is gone. When better conditions are possible for the Farmer and Labor men of this city and county, there will be found amongst our own people those upon whom we can rely to bring about happier and more prosperous conditions, rather than upon any foreign agents or agitators, who come to us in the guise of the sheep, while in reality they are but ravenous wolves.

You can rely on it, Farmers and Laboring men, that no matter how genuine this meeting may be, it is not being held because these speakers have your interest so much at heart. There's a "Colored Man" in the woodpile somewhere. Don't be misled or deceived by any new doctrine preached to you as a means of improving your social condition. Europe today is a striking example of experiments, all of which have brought about a reign of terror amongst the people, encouraged anarchy, assassinations, marching of irresponsible bodies of armed men and general political chaos. Not in all the world today is there a single country where men and women and children enjoy the same high degree of freedom, liberty and peacefulness as here in Canada, and in no city so much as here in Fredericton. We can keep it so by sticking to our own old system and not allowing ourselves to be dictated to or fooled out of it by those who would present to us the Real Paradise should we accept and act according to their teachings.

Again we say to our Farmer and Labor friends: Don't join any Farmer-Labor Club Wednesday night. We ask this of you in all sincerity, with a deep interest in your welfare and happiness, in your homes and families, in your churches and schools, yes, even in your spiritual welfare, regardless of what belief you may possess.

Beware of Communism, it sneaks in, it works that way, it bores in as they themselves put it, and once it gets a hold on you, it encircles you like a giant octopus, crushes you with its monstrous tentacles, from which there is no escape. And they use as the bait to ensnare you the formation of Farmer-Labor Clubs, apparently, and on the surface for your benefit, but actually make of you a slave of the Komentera of Russia. And don't let any man or woman, no matter how learned he or she may be, or how much you may value their opinion, as knowing all things, convince you to the contrary.

So, again, have nothing to do with Farmer-Labor Clubs or organizations. You will live to regret it if you do. If you desire any information on

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Communism, send your inquiry to K. of C. Crusaders, Fredericton, N. B. This article is contributed by the K. of C. Crusaders against Communism, "The Destroyer."