

THE DAILY MAIL

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, SEPTEMBER 13, 1937.

Exploiting The Newspapers

BEGGING FREE SPACE from newspapers for propaganda of various types seems to have become a habit in this age and generation, and it seems opportune that the public ought to give reasonable consideration to the positions that the newspaper is called on to endure. In these public movements to raise funds, the newspaper ought to be paid for the space used to promote the project. It should not be subjected to the double burden of donating its space and making a contribution in cash.

There is too much misunderstanding with regard to the functions of the newspaper. The latter has to employ help and pay wages just like any other commercial concern. It has to pay for newsprint, ink, for stationery and every other commodity that goes into the production of its finished article. It must invest a large amount of money for building and equipment. It is subject to heavy overhead for taxes, insurance, light, heat and power, yet there is a widespread public idea that it should give away the only thing it has to sell.

There is too little realization of the value of the work which the newspaper does for the community in general. It is the mirror that reflects the activities of the community, that carries the business messages of its trade, industry and commerce to all who read. Without a newspaper any community would be hampered to an unbearable degree. What the newspaper most requires is an intelligent realization by the public that it is providing service just as vital as the grocery store, the gasoline station, the department store or the doctor, and it is entitled to be paid for such services. (Yarmouth Light).

Economic Health and Peace

HOW is peace among nations to be maintained in face of recent increases in international political tension, expansion of standing armies, sharp increase in military budgets, and actual warfare in some portions of the globe?

"No one," says Secretary of State Cordell Hull in the current Rotarian Magazine, "would presume to give a complete answer to that question. But certain conditions are obvious, and in the light of troubled international relations in the present they take on tremendous significance.

"One such fact," he continues, "is this: Only as the world's economic health is restored will individuals and nations develop again adequate resistance to psychological madness that makes possible internal and external strife. Only as constructive economic effort once more fully engages the energies of mankind, as the machinery of production and distribution regains and expands its scale and speed of operation, as sterile unemployment is replaced by fertile toil, will the nations of the world restore and develop their economic prosperity in full and sound measure and turn their thoughts away from war and toward lasting peace.

"The foreign trade program of the United States is based fundamentally upon what is to us an indisputable assumption—namely, that the domestic recovery of any country, including our own, can be neither complete nor durable unless its surplus-creating branches of production succeed in regaining at least a substantial portion of their lost foreign markets.

"By negotiating with other nations," urges Secretary Hull, "we are seeking to bring about a mitigation of trade barriers on a reciprocal basis. This method of procedure, combined with the use of the fair, constructive, and equitable principle of equality of treatment, contemplates simultaneous action by many countries and operates to drive down excessive trade barriers throughout the world.

"Already we find the results heartening. Already we find our way leading us to increased economic stability among the nations of the world. The reciprocal trade agreements which we are negotiating form a real foundation upon which to build friendly relations with other nations. They constitute a check upon tendencies that in recent years have become alarming indeed.

"We are learning the lesson that peace can be obtained by bringing contentment to the peoples of the world. All that is lacking is world-wide co-operation and the will to make use of the instruments of action which are at our disposal."

A Peril To Canadian Youth

"GROUPS whose doctrines we do not want in Canada are trying desperately to educate a large number of youth to their way of thinking and to enrol them under banners we know to be false," said Hon. R. C. Matthews in his Presidential address to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce convention in Vancouver. Because of this he advocated establishment of a central bureau of education, whose duties would be to conduct educational surveys in the Provinces, and would involve annual conferences of Deputy Ministers of Education and officials of the Departments of Education, who would discuss problems common to all and aim at uniformity of teaching methods. But more than that is needed.

Whether it be done in the schools or out, an effort must be made to counteract the activities of "roups whose doctrines we do not want in Canada." Mr. Matthews's alarm is well founded. The day has passed when it may be assumed that the youth of this country automatically will develop the true spirit of Canadianism. Adverse influences are at work, constantly and subtly at work, with the aim of weakening in immature minds adherence to Christianity and regard for law and order as established in this British country.

It has been shown definitely that these influences are Moscow-directed, part of the general Communist campaign.

Such doctrines, of course, are not taught in the lower schools. It is after teaching ours that the propagandists do their work. What may be done to check this business? Parents have here a serious responsibility. It is their duty to know where their children spend leisure hours, and a little investigation along this line may be revealing. Canadian parents interested in the future of their country know what kind of thinking is best for their offspring, and sensible heads of families know it is not along the lines of communism.

Snapshots

A million dollar rain.

There is a difference between stealing a car and taking a car without asking. A car can be taken as a joke provided the joke is not carried too far.

Now that the Highway Transport Company has a full swing carrying passengers between Devon and this city, it would do well to watch its step and continue to give its patrons and the public a satisfactory service.

It looks as though the local truckmen had cause to kick, if their claims are correct. What is the good of a license if they are not protected from outsiders?

According to what we were told the sub structure of the bridge was to have been completed by October 1. The contractors will have to "Go Some" as Dave Stockford used to say. They have been nearly three months at the subway alone. All things come to those who wait—if they only wait long enough.

There should be a better system than exists at present of giving out public news in connection with provincial affairs. As it is at present the Fredericton papers seem to be getting a raw deal on stuff being given out through the Provincial News Bureau. The local press gets all the free boost news, but gets the harpoon on the more important items.

A woman gets the same pleasure out of window-shopping that a man derives from looking over the pretty girls on the beach; but no married pair ever succeeded in convincing each other that such "sight-seeing tours" were purely academic.

The Japanese Navy, threatening Shanghai, announces that the step does not denote any change in "a judicious and calm attitude." It's wonderful how calm these Japanese can keep when they are in no danger.

BLOOD PURGES

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in intermediate ranks—have been killed.

Executives Liquidated
2—The current Five-Year-Plan has come to a full stop. Why?—Because so many of Soviet engineers and managers of various plants and factories have been executed for nothing more than errors in judgment that it is difficult to find today Russians who dare to show initiative.

"Is it any wonder," my informant asked, "that initiative has ceased, and work in scores of plants has slowed down or stalled? What would you do? You'd leave it to some one else to show enterprise and initiative and take chances."

Today London newspapers report further executions in the U.S.S.R. There is an ironical touch in the space given to the latest purge. Here are the headlines:

"The Soviet Paradise: Another 72 Executions."

(The news item says: Another mass trial culminated in the execution of seventy-two employees of the Eastern Siberian Railways. . . . The item has a one-column head and occupies seventeen lines of type).

"Russia Executes 18 Trotskyists."

(The news item, on an inside page, says: Eighteen alleged Trotskyist spies, terrorists and wreckers were executed at Piatikorsk today. . . . The item also has a one-column head and takes up seven lines of type.

No Longer News

It was my friend the Intelligence Officer who called my attention to these items. He remarked:

"In London, and perhaps in many other cities in the world, mass executions in the U.S.S.R. have almost ceased to be news. We are perhaps deadened by the impact of these continual purges. But, think of the effect they are having in the U.S.S.R. Stalin may be achieving his end. He may be justified, right up to the hilt. All the charges may be true, and all the confessions genuine.

EMPLOYEES FAR

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and the impression has spread that workmen in these nations are not much happier than those in the other countries. However, that is far from the truth.

Whereas in Canada and the other democratic countries, the past seven years have witnessed conditions that saw the wages of workmen rise in face of the economic depression, the actual conditions under which workmen laboured have been improved greatly by unionization and legislation, the influence of the working classes in the political life of the country has become powerful to an extent never seen before in the history of the nation, and in every other way there is a continual change for the betterment of the workmen's place in society, including special provisions to take care of the sick, old and unemployed, through private and public relief systems, yet in the countries where dictators rule with an iron hand over workmen, misery has marked every class of the employed in all industries. These are the conclusions from any impartial study of the comparative conditions in the various industrial centres of the world as disclosed in the sensational reports now being given close scrutiny in Ottawa.

According to all official statistics, including the famous document now known as the annual report of the Labour Department of the League of Nations at Geneva, it appears that the workmen in Germany have reached the lowest place possible and this decline started with the arrival of Chancellor Hitler. The workmen of the Third Reich receive less today than they did during the past seven years, while the cost of food and commodities have gone up exactly 35 per cent. In Italy, since the regime of

Mussolini commenced some years ago the actual conditions of the workmen has been continually falling down, until today, the Italian workmen is the lowest paid individual in all Europe, and he must pay much higher prices for everything that he purchases. In Soviet Russia the workman is getting a minimum of 206 rubles per month, which is much more than he used to get prior to the Revolution, when wages were as low as

30 or 40 rubles a month, but that is not the true story behind this increase in the earnings of these industrial workers. The point is that the prices of all that the workman buys has jumped up gradually, and today, everything, including the cost of bread, butter, meat and potatoes, have increased in price much faster and completely out of proportion to the rise in wages. In other words the average workman in Russia has a lot of money, but can get very little for it. Then again, conditions of work are closely akin to slavery, and few of the items of the initial Bolshevik programme of 1919 are being carried out in practice now. For example, that famous programme strictly prohibited any kind of overtime work yet today the hours of labour are unlimited in this regard, and all reports of impartial and scientific researches are amazing to the Canadian mind, particularly the fact that no actual unionism exists, save that sponsored by the Government.

Of course, the dictators have created the severest form of censorship known to modern history, and few depend upon the official reports of these Governments, with secret and scientific investigations being the only way to learn the facts. This has been done, and it shows that Canada and the other democratic nations of the world could never hope to adopt any methods for solving unemployment as it is used in these countries. Actually their unemployment is not solved.

The scarcity of money and employment in these countries are supposedly given a treatment by forcing workmen into prisons and concentration camps, by making men and women engage in compulsory works which offers them no rewards, except a miserable lodging and a very low standard of food, and under the pretense of patriotism, hundreds of thousands of persons are forced to engage in work in the mines, in agricultural undertakings by the Government, in building roads, or in a number of other public works. The young women are compelled to become domestics. All others are listed as unemployed and are given relief by the Government, but this list is usually composed of the aged and the sick. Yet, in face of all these actions there is an unemployed list that reaches a figure higher than those in France, England, United States, Ca-

ACCORD OF NYON

(Continued from Page One)

ping at will as long as they did not prey upon merchant vessels of foreign powers.

British and French Patrol

British and French warships will patrol the Western Mediterranean, and the high seas of the Eastern Mediterranean. Territorial waters of the Eastern Mediterranean will be supervised by the Riparian powers.

Under the accord, Italy will be given the task of policing the Tyrrhenian Sea if she wishes to accept the invitation of the conference.

If not, the accord will be put into effect anyway, with the French and British taking over the area allocated provisionally to Italy.

A British spokesman said that the only point of France and Britain taking over the major share of the anti-submarine patrol was that they had greater naval resources at their command. It was pointed out the international patrol in no way modifies the right of individual nations to protect their own shipping against submarine attack in contravention of international law.

The contradictory powers may with draw from the agreement upon giving one month's notice.

Although Soviet Russia was assigned a lesser part in the patrol—given charge of Black Sea operations but with the right to send her ships as convoys into the Mediterranean—Maxim Litvinoff, Moscow's foreign commissar, indicated satisfaction with the agreement when he said after the meeting closed:

"We have reached an accord as to how we are going to fight piracy in the Mediterranean." Fridtjof Litvinoff made thinly veiled charges that Italy was the pirate nation.

The agreement reached probably will be known as "The Accord of Nyon." The draft protocol is to be submitted at once to the participating governments for approval. If this is given the delegates will reassemble early next week for the formal signing.

nada, or any other democratic country.

Consequently, it is no surprise that officials at Ottawa have come to the conclusion that Canadian workmen are on the right road in trying to solve all their troubles through peaceful methods, without imitating any European example.

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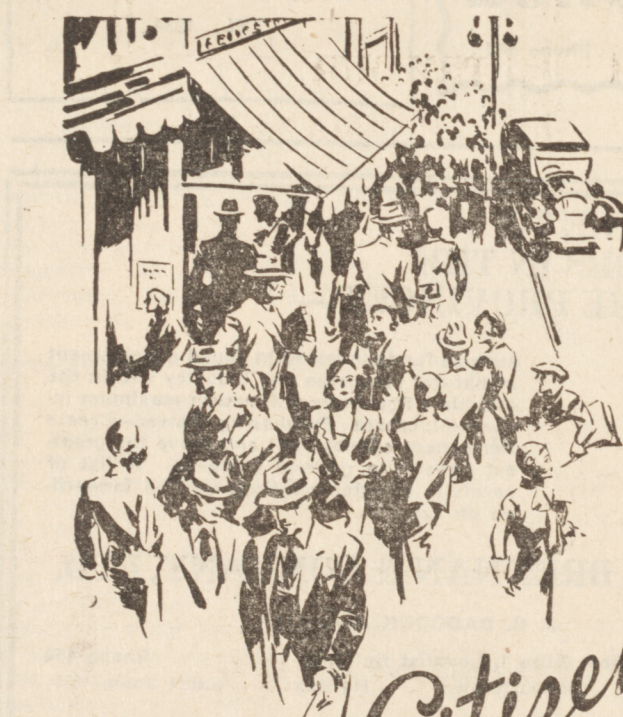


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