

OTTAWA HAS AN AGGRESSIVE PLAN FOR BOOSTING CANADIAN FARM PRODUCE

Designation Canada This Coronation Year Extremely Important

New Standing of Dominion Infers Important National Change

Early Fall Session May be Called

One of Several Direct Outcomes Statute Westminster

(By Dean Wilson)

The Coronation ceremonies and the Imperial Conference have attracted a great many of the leading personalities and officials of the Capital, but a close observation of the Government Offices in the various Departments is productive of many surprises. Under such circumstances one would expect a state of inactivity or a holiday atmosphere, yet that is not the case. The Hon. Raoul Dandurand, who is acting as Prime Minister in the absence of the Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King, is a very busy man these days, and a check up of the other Ministers of the Crown in Ottawa shows that the Hon. P. J. A. Cardin, Hon. J. L. Hilsley, Hon. C. D. Howe, and the Hon. Norman Rogers, are all engaged in work day and night, and which has caused a story to circulate in the usually well-informed circles that there will be a sudden call for a session of the House of Commons when the official delegates to the Imperial Conference and the Coronation return from London.

All official statements and reports have tried to create the impression that the next session of the House would not take place until after the Christmas holidays, but these unusual activities on the part of everyone in the Capital indicates that the Government contemplates the possibility that some extremely important national legislation will have to be passed as a direct and immediate result of the momentous decisions of the Imperial gathering in London. Consequently there is a chance that an unusually early summons may be sent out to the Members of the House of Commons to rush to the Capital for a session this fall, and a meeting at such an early date will be no surprise to the close observer of the doings in the Dominion Capital. Then again it is common talk that an effort will be made by all the Governments of the British Commonwealth of Nations to pass upon the joint decisions of the history-making Conference in London at one and the same time throughout the whole Empire.

It is the first time in the 174 years since Canada has emerged from the primitive colonial development of France into a full-fledged nation that a King of Canada really in name as well as fact, because the Coronation ends the Dominion participating in

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FIRE OUTBREAK IN VICTORIA CO.

Shortly before press time this afternoon, G. L. Miller, chief forester for New Brunswick, announced that a fire had broken out in the hardwood area at Tilley, Victoria County. The blaze is confined to 25 acres and a large crew of men is fighting the blaze to keep it from spreading.

He also stated that the lookout towers at Chipman, Keenan Hill were opened. The tower at Mount Hope will be opened tomorrow and also those at Mount Pleasant, Charlotte County; Mount Champlain, Kings County; McMahon's Hill; Cameron Mountain and Ashton Hill.

The fire in the New Brunswick Power Company's land at Lepreau has been extinguished. No great damage resulted.

EMPRESS BRITAIN AT SAN PEDRO ON A WORLD CRUISE

(Special to The Daily Mail)
SAN PEDRO Calif., May 1—Docking here early this morning on her round-the-world cruise, the Canadian Pacific flagship, Empress of Britain today was crowded with visitors from all parts of Los Angeles County, notably Hollywood, as the 42,500 ton white giantess attracted the usual thousands of sightseers.

Approaches to Terminal Island where the ship is docked were crowded from early morning and Los Angeles police have ordered extra details of traffic officers to handle the Sunday crowds. Highways connecting Los Angeles with their harbor otherwise would be choked with motor traffic. While passengers from the British Isles, Europe and Canada, as well as from the United States, trooped ashore for sightseeing tours, particularly to Hollywood's movie colony, Los Angeles and Hollywood returned the compliment by coming aboard to meet Commander George R. Parry, R.D., and his staff, prominent among shipside guests were C.

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Some Pikers

MOST people will agree that the striking bus men in London are a lot of pikers who show anything but a spirit of patriotism. Thousands of people from all over the Empire are visiting Great Britain at the present time for the purpose of attending the Coronation and helping to pay a tribute of respect and honor to our new King. These people who reside in the heart of the Empire are taking advantage of the occasion to play a hold-up game not only on their citizens but on the visitors within their gates.

Very little sympathy will be expressed for the perpetrators of this hold-up game on the part of the London bus-drivers. Instead of doing their part as British subjects residing within the shadow of the Imperial Palace, they are showing a spirit of selfish greed that amounts almost to disloyalty to the Royal Family whom persons from all over the Empire are gathering to honor. This is one more evidence of the freedom of the British Empire and its government. If these pikers lived in some countries in Europe and tried to pull this stuff under the same conditions they would be promptly arrested and probably stood up against a stone wall and shot.

People of all classes in Canada have done their part in the supporting of the Empire under different conditions both in peace and in war. It is time that some of these birds over in the Empire's capital woke up and tried to do the decent thing and it is time that some law was made to compel them to do it.

Subways Crowded, Bicycle Business Now Thriving

LONDON, England, May 3—The city, busy putting final touches to its dress for the coronation, felt the full force of the walkout Saturday. With the big buses off the streets, people jammed into the underground; other were forced to walk and many rode bicycles and taxis.

Women in high heeled shoes pedaled along the streets. Bicycle dealers did a brisk business despite a \$1.50 increase in prices. A bike could be bought for \$30.

The government's three-man court of inquiry will begin taking evidence on the strike tomorrow. In the meantime none would predict the strike's duration.

Most of the busmen spent Saturday doing nothing or jeering street car operators. Some marched in a May Day demonstration at Hyde Park.

No disturbances were reported. Pickets took up their posts at bus garages under the watchful eye of London's bobbies.

TORONTO MASQUERS WIN TROPHY

OTTAWA, May 3—For the second year in succession the Bessborough Trophy, highest award of the Drama Festival, was presented to a team that performed a play written by a Canadian.

The Toronto Masquers who played "The House in the Quiet Glen," an original comedy by a fellow townsman, John Coulter, received the prize from Lord Tweedsmuir who entertained the teams this afternoon at Government House. Last year the prize went to London, Ont., Drama League in "Twenty Five Cents" by W. E. M. Harris of Sarnia.

Award of the prizes was announced early today by Adjudicator Michel St. Denis, first Frenchman to judge the finals since festival was launched five seasons ago through efforts of the Earl of Bessborough. M. St. Denis said one of the reasons for giving the top prize to the Masquers, was that they played a comedy and a good one.

In runner-up position for troupes performing plays in English he chose two teams, the Strolling Players of Vancouver in excerpts from fourth and fifth acts of "The Barrets of Wimpole Street" and the Dramatic Club of the University College Alumni.

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SPRING GARDEN DISPLAY WEEK COMES TO CLOSE

(Special to The Daily Mail)

VICTORIA, B. C., May 1—A record attendance at the Vancouver Island Horticultural Flower Show and a spectacular display of horsemanship including an intricate musical ride at the Willows, brought Victoria's initial occasion of inviting the world of garden lovers to visit her spring gardens April 24-May 1 to an outstandingly successful close.

Five hundred garden guests registered during the week at the Empress Hotel headquarters. Many of them were from as far south as Los Angeles, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary, Connecticut, Virginia, Montana, were also represented. Six clubs of the garden clubs of America sent representatives. Specialists in Alpines avid to see and generous to appreciate Victoria's famed rock gardens were most numerous among the horticultural experts though herbaceous enthusiasts were also there in numbers.

Next year's programme may include a collecting trip to Mount Arrowsmith, Vancouver Island's happy hunting ground for Alpines and round table discussions among continent known specialists. Many here this year are urging Victoria's spring garden week be extended to two.

MUCH DISCOMFORT IN LONDON FROM BUS STRIKE

LONDON, May 3—The strike of 25,500 busmen went into its second day with all available means of transport uncomfortably crowded and not a single red bus moving on London's streets.

Contrary to early predictions the strike did not appear to be spreading outside London. It had been estimated after a meeting Friday that 100,000 workers in the provinces would join in a walk-out which demands a 7 1/2 hour day instead of eight hours, and slower schedules. But most of them remained at work.

A meeting of men operating buses in Berkshire and adjoining counties decided to remain at work. Busmen at Plymouth said there would be no strike there.

CARELESS DRIVERS WILL BE SENT TO SAFETY SCHOOL

Public Safety and Accident Preventing Class

Road Hogs Will Be Notified to Attend

TORONTO, May 3—Motorists who persist in hugging the centre of the road, making it difficult and dangerous for others to pass, will be notified to attend an instruction class in safe driving. Brig-Gen. D. C. Draper said yesterday at the official opening of the Toronto City Police Safety and Accident Prevention School at the Central Police Garage on Strachan Avenue.

That's not the only offense that will send the motorist back to school. He will have the opportunity of attending instruction classes on a specified date if he disregards pedestrians' right-of-way at intersections, doesn't obey stop signs, passes children playing in the streets or at the curb at

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BUS STRIKERS STATE CLAIMS THIS MORNING

(Special to The Daily Mail)

LONDON, May 3—The Court of Inquiry to look into the strike situation in London opened this morning. John Foster was the chairman. The strikers' representative gave the evidence and claim companies have speeded up schedules, the men are working longer hours, the buses are larger, buses are not large enough to do the job that they are expected to do and men had to bear the whole cost of illnesses brought on by their work. The strikers claim that all they wish was the same as the railway men have been getting since 1919.

A doctor was called to give evidence in regard to bus men who had consulted him. The doctor said that a great many bus men were suffering from gastric disorders which were probably due to carbon monoxide fumes. The inquiry is to continue tomorrow.

Mrs. Simpson Was Granted a Divorce Today

LONDON, May 3—A divorce was granted to Mrs. Wallis Simpson today. The Duke of Windsor left his castle in Austria at 4.45 this afternoon and is due to arrive in Paris tomorrow morning.

SECRETARY WISECRACKS AS DEATH REPORTED

LONDON, May 3—George Bernard Shaw's secretary, informed today of a report that Shaw had died, said:

"How awful! But I can't possibly give him the news now because it would give his wife too much of a shock. You see, they're having breakfast."

After breakfast, Shaw himself denied the rumor.

Tremendous Advances Economic Situation Past Year

Manufacturing and Employment Substantial Gain

Production Trade Climb to High Level

Canadian Railways Also Report Increased Business for Year

AIMS TO BOOST FARM EXPORTS BY \$100,000,000

Federal Minister Agriculture Launches Policy

OTTAWA, May 3—An increase of \$100,000,000 or more annually in the sales of Canadian agricultural products in the markets of the world, but particularly in the markets of Britain and the United States, is the objective of Hon. James G. Gardiner, Federal Minister of Agriculture.

Following his personal survey of marketing opportunities in the United Kingdom last summer, Mr. Gardiner has secured an appropriation of \$400,000 for the purpose of launching a more aggressive and intelligently directed sales and advertising policy to induce Britain's millions to buy Canadian products.

Detailed Plans
Reorganization and consolidation of the marketing services of the Dominion Department of Agriculture will now go forward with the following objects:

1. Expansion of the information service with respect to markets supplied.

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Showers in West Sign That Drought May Be Broken

REGINA, May 3—Fair to good showers practically daily at various points in Western Canada appears to be the first sign that the drought may be broken. Prevailing winds have been from the south and east.

The borderline between drought and good crop-growing weather is so slight that it is almost unbelievable. Good rains at the right times are what is needed most. As one farmer, or for that matter any farmer in the West will say, "Tell me when it's going to rain and I will tell you what kind of a crop I will have."

Landslide Defeat of Japanese Military Cabinet May Ease the European Situation

Victory of Military Supported Government Would Have Given Germany Possible Useful Ally.

LONDON, May 3—The crushing defeat of the army supported Japanese cabinet at the polls to all appearance should definitely ease the situation in the Pacific particularly in relation to Britain's worries over Japanese schemes of aggression. However, there is always the possibility that the military junta will endeavor to take over the reins of power by a military coup and establish a dictatorship of the army.

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OTTAWA, May 3—The vast improvement in business conditions in Canada is strikingly revealed in a report issued today by the Department of Trade and Commerce covering the economic situation during the first quarter of the present year. It shows tremendous advances all along the line in comparison with the corresponding period of last year, while the gains over the year 1933, the lowest point of the depression, are little short of amazing.

The index of the physical volume of business for the first three months of this year was 116.9 as against 105 last year and 79.7 in 1933. These percentages are based on an index of 100 for the year 1926, which was considered normal.

Stock Prices Up
Mineral production on this basis stood at 162.7 in the first quarter of the present year, as compared with 147.8 last year. Mining stock prices for the first three months of 1937 stood at 174.8, an increase of 20 per cent. over the same quarter of last year and 86 per cent. over 1933. Wholesale prices, although still lower than normal, showed an improvement of 14.6 per cent. over last year and an advance of 25 per cent. over 1933. The index of common stock prices was 142.3 in the first quarter of 1937 as against 117 a year ago, an increase of 21 per cent., while it was more than 100 per cent. higher than in 1933 when the index figure stood at 68.

Bank debits stood at \$9,149,126,000, an increase of 9.5 per cent. over last year.

Copper exports during the first three months this year were 93,500,000 pounds, as against 87,500,000 pounds in the first quarter of last year. Nickel exports were the largest in the nation's history, totalling more than 55,000,000 pounds, or 11 per cent. better than for the corresponding period of last year. Lead production for the first two months of this year were 62,000,000 pounds, a betterment of 13 per cent. Gold shipments for the first three months totalled 973,584 fine ounces, an improvement of 12.4 per cent. over last year.

Auto Production Jumps
Manufacturing production in Canada also showed a substantial gain during the first quarter of this year, the index figure standing at 118.2, an

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ARCHBISHOP SQUELCHES BRIEF BATTLE IN SYNOD OVER CARDS AND DANCING

TORONTO, May 3—A brief flare-up in the Church of England Synod yesterday over the part which dancing, cards and theatricals should play in church activities was extinguished by Archbishop Owen when he expressed "the utmost confidence in the young people of the church."

These pleasures should be no part of church activities, Rev. F. N. Palmer of St. Anne's, Toronto, urged. He claimed no church function could be 100 per cent. successful these days without one or more "worldly things," which he thought was to the detriment of spiritual leadership. Church dances also were deplored by Rev. J. R. S. Boyd.

The criticism came when Synod was considering the report of Sam Brown, Chairman of the Board of Re-

ligious Education, on A.Y.P.A. work, in which he described fireside hours, camp meetings and similar functions. Later, Mr. Brown explained that the A.Y.P.A. did not call for a programme of dances or cards as a method of raising funds.

"The world is full of unemployment, and if the young people are truly Christian, they will be thrilled at the prospect of fighting worldly pleasures and anti-Christ propaganda," declared Mr. Palmer.

Response to Leadership
In asking for the adoption of the report, Archbishop Owen said "The young people of the Church of England will respond to the highest spiritual leadership we will give them." The report carried almost unanimous approval.