

THE DAILY MAIL

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 1938

JANUARY EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

DATA tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show that industrial activity has invariably declined at the first of January, the average change in the employment reported at that date in the years, 1921-1937, having been a decrease of about seven p. c. In the recession indicated at the opening of the present year, the proportion of total workers laid off was fractionally less than the average in the last seventeen years; however, staffs in recent months have been unusually high, so that, despite the slightly less-than-normal percentage loss at Jan. 1, 1938, the number of persons released from employment was unusually large. Statements were furnished by 10,437 employers whose payrolls aggregated 1,081,471; as compared with 1,159,759 at Dec. 1, this was a reduction of 78,288 persons or 6.8 p. c.

Based on the 1926 average as 100, the crude index at Jan. 1 stood at 113.4, as compared with 121.6 at Dec. 1, and 103.8 at the beginning of January in 1937. After correction for seasonal influences, the index was 121.4, compared with 119.1 at Dec. 1, when a greater-than-normal reduction in employment had been recorded, lowering the seasonally-adjusted index. In the last few months the corrected indexes have been higher than in any other period since the late autumn of 1929.

For Jan. 1, 1937, 10,034 employers had made returns showing that they had an aggregate staff of 985,078 men and women, compared with 1,044,411 in the preceding month. The largest losses had then taken place in manufacturing and construction.

The following shows the unadjusted indexes as at Jan. 1 in the years since 1927: 1938, 113.4; 1937, 103.8; 1936, 99.1; 1935, 94.4; 1934, 88.6; 1933, 78.5; 1932, 91.6; 1931, 101.7; 1930, 111.2; 1929, 109.1 and 1928, 100.7

The most pronounced curtailment at the date under review was in construction and manufacturing. The reduction in the former, involving over 26,500 persons, was unusually large, while the loss of 38,836 in factory staffs represented a percentage decrease of 6.6, which was slightly smaller-than-average. The decline in the latter constituted not quite 50 p. c. of the total decrease reported in all industries at Jan. 1, 1938, as compared with an average proportion of 56.7 p. c. in the years since 1920. The recession in manufacturing at the beginning of January in other years of the record has always been followed by a revival in succeeding weeks, although in no case has the recovery indicated at Feb. 1 equalled the shrinkage noted in the preceding report. Within the manufacturing group, the largest losses at Jan. 1 occurred in iron and steel, food, textile, lumber and pulp and paper factories.

Among the non-manufacturing industries, there were pronounced seasonal decreases in construction, as already mentioned, while there were contractions on a smaller scale in logging, mining and transportation. On the other hand, hotels and restaurants and retail trade reported decided improvement.

As is customary at the time of year, the contractions in many instances resulted from shutdowns for inventory and over the holiday season, with the anticipation of an early resumption of activity. The experience of the last seventeen years shows that usually, though not invariably, there is at Feb. 1 a partial recovery from the general losses recorded at the beginning of January.

BACK TO THE SPANISH ARENA

IT BECOMES increasingly easy to suspect a working agreement between the Japanese command and the dictators-general of the Spanish war. No sooner had a series of incidents roused the Powers to a showdown in Spain last autumn than the Shanghai front developed attention-diverting crises. Now, when the accumulation of incidents and atrocities in China threatens to become too much for Tokio diplomacy, up pops a submarine to redirect attention to the Mediterranean.

Whether such timing is actually planned must remain a matter of suspicion. But, lunatic as have been many of the incidents arising from the Spanish war, it is hard to accept the sinking of the British freighter as the signal for a new epidemic of "piracy." The patrol established by the Nyon Conference, considerably relaxed in recent months, may or may not be capable of eliminating such tactics, but Italy, for one, came too close to burning her fingers in the Nyon melee to wish being involved again. And there is still reason for believing Mussolini has some control over Caudillo Franco.

On the other hand, had the torpedo incident never occurred international attention was rapidly returning to Spain. The horrible destruction of civilians in recent weeks has been a match for anything the Japanese have been guilty of. If no more brutal than the massacres of prisoners in the first stages of the war, the mass effect has been considerably greater. For the proof there is Foreign Secretary Eden's reported intention of intervening to "humanize" the struggle in response to public sentiment in Britain.

Unfortunately, there can be but slim hope that he will succeed. Giving him credit for the tenacity he has shown in his struggle with the whole Spanish situation, it remains that outside influence has accomplished nothing. The war is still very much a war. Worse, it has been in a stalemate for months, and stalemates reduce "strategists" to desperate measures. The bombing of civilians is about the ultimate in these, calculated to break down the morale and shorten the struggle. Even were both sides to agree to give up these tactics, desperation can always find excuses; there is always the "military objective."

If there were ever any reason to place hope in pacific suasion, it died when it was proved impossible to withhold the supplies that have made such wholesale destruction possible. About the only hope for Spain that now remains is that one side or the other will in some way find the strength to end the war and end it quickly. That, too, is about the best hope for Europe, Japan being where she is.

SNAP SHOTS

Speaking on evils of drinking liquor, the preacher said he regretted the mornings that were lost in seeking remedies for a "hangover."

Hitler Praise Sung in Reich—Headline. The acoustics are specially designed for this purpose.

Nearly three million dollars lies unclaimed in Canadian chartered banks. Such is the forgetfulness that opulence creates.

"There are quite a few drivers who are safe enough in the daytime but not at night," says a police inspector. They are something like husbands.

Waiting around to inherit a rich dad's money has one drawback. When you are 40 years old, you are still just old man Jones' boy.

Beauty hint: If at 30 she is shocked or disgusted by almost everything at 50 her face will resemble a nut-cracker.

No matter how long they may live, no man will ever get all the amusement he wants, and no woman will ever get all the love she craves.

When a man with a pint-size heart meets a girl with oceans of love to offer, the result is bound to be an embarrassing spill.

New Unemployment

(Continued from Page One)

this load a very negligible factor in normal times. Secondly, in the insurance idea the worker does not have to prove need, and the insurance benefits can be demanded as an earned right. Thirdly, under the insurance system the benefits paid do not go out indefinitely, but they are determined by the length of the worker's previous employment. Finally, the actual amount of the insurance benefits bears a definite relation to the sum that the recipient is shown to be able to earn in private industry.

Information from various sources such as public welfare societies, relief officials, and from the statistics gathered by the agencies of the Government at Ottawa, discloses that under unemployment insurance workers are inclined to lose docility and indifference to future employment, which is something that cannot be said to be true of persons who receive assistance from relief rolls for any lengthy period.

Those who do not favour this insurance scheme point out that various Governments in European countries and in the twenty-one States of the United States, where unemployment insurance has gone into effect, have discovered that it is by no means a certain cure for this trouble. They state that it is not always a sufficient incentive to find work because it often pays the worker to apply for relief rather than submit himself to the benefits of an unemployment insurance policy, especially in those cases where persons earn very small salaries in private industry. This is very important because it defeats the object of the law. Most of the unemployment insurance laws provide that the unemployed shall receive his benefits for a maximum of sixteen weeks in any year, and the worker is to receive about 50 per cent of his regular weekly wage when he is engaged in some industry, or 75 per cent, if this amount reaches below a certain set standard. Furthermore, the opponents of this scheme claim that the taxpayers of Canada and the Dominion Government will find it useful to know that this scheme in England, Scotland and Wales, with a population of about 45,000,000 people, costs about \$2,000,000 yearly, and this means that in time it is possible that this idea would cost Canadians about \$500,000,000 each year, which is an amount that even the best Canadian optimist would not be prepared to spend.

Therefore, this problem is not a simple one, and unemployment insurance and relief must be harmonized and co-ordinated in a scientific manner. That is the majority opinion along Parliament Hill. The bulk of the legislative population in the Capital believe that insurance and relief must be adequate and it must be in accordance with the standard of living in Canada, but at the same time it must not be such as to remove the incentive to find new employment, or to create an army of permanent employment sufferers, or relievers. Permanent relief should certainly not be made more desirable for the unemployed than the fixed-term relief granted by the insurance plan, which aims to safeguard the economic security of the worker and his dependents and to induce him to get off the public relief roll, supplying a monetary incentive to find work.

AUTO GROUP

(Continued from Page One)

tourist traffic, the Minister is told. The Canadian Automobile Association for these reasons urges that the proposed tax be not extended to car radios whose owners already hold licenses to operate radio receiving sets in their homes.

Our Mail Bag

ABOUT DOGS

Editor The Daily Mail, City.

Dear Sir:

And so our City Council deprives man's best four footed friend of the last piece of liberty he possesses. As if he could do any damage to property in the winter season! To my mind it is a heartless and cruel piece of legislation with the need for it very doubtful. O that we could see the promoters of this regulation individually and collectively each with a leather collar around his neck at the end of twenty feet of rope securely tied outside his back door for an half hour by the clock some cold day. They would then know how the dog feels physically to say nothing of his injured feelings

M.

Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 5, 1938.

BRITISH INCOME TAX

Editor The Daily Mail, Fredericton, N. B.

Dear Sir:

There are undoubtedly many British subjects amongst your readers who wish to make repayment claims but who perhaps do not realize that there is a strict time limit involved. May I remind them that claims for the year commencing April 6th, 1931 (or notice of intention of claim) must be lodged with the Chief Inspector of Taxes not later than April 5th, 1938.

Yours faithfully,

WILFRED T. FRY.

13 Buckingham Palace Gardens, London, S. W. 1.

TOKYO

(Continued from Page One)

ment's note led to speculation that it was this matter which Capt. Royal E. Ingersoll, head of the Navy war planning board, discussed recently with the British Admiralty.

Leahy refused yesterday to disclose publicly the nature of Ingersoll's conversations, although telling the committee he would make a "frank statement" in private. His refusal brought conjecture that there was a naval understanding with Britain.

Proceeding farther East we heard from Ethel Rimar, a native of Czechoslovakia, and Annie Sabod, her Hungarian neighbor. The large Polish Empire was represented by Valerie Popocin, who sang several beautiful Ukranian solos. Combined choruses demonstrated fully well the ability of the foreigners to learn the English tongue, and the different orators commenting on the performance, congratulated the children, parents and directors on the good work that is being accomplished to build up a great British Empire with an assimilation of all other nationalities; taking what is good and discarding what might

Capitol

NOW PLAYING

The Doctor Has A Way With Women!

See him kill . . . watch him baffle police . . . thrill to each new clue in this sensational love-murder!

Adolph Zukor presents

"NIGHT CLUB SCANDAL"

A Paramount Picture With

John Barrymore

Lynne Overmann, Charles Bickford, Louise Campbell, Elizabeth Patterson, Harvey Stephens, Cecil Cunningham, Evelyn Brent.

NEWS COMEDY

Mat. 10-20, Evg. 15-25; Plus Tax

Here THURS., FRI., and SAT.

BERT WHEELER and

ROBERT WOOLSEY

—IN—

"High Flyers"

ALSO:—

PRESTON FOSTER

—IN—

'The Westland Case'

prove detrimental to the true Canadian citizenship.

R. B. FRASER, M.A.
Minto, N. B., Feb. 4, 1938.

HITLER

(Continued from Page One)


considered his carpenter's daughter bride "socially impossible" have removed Conservative generals from positions where they might act as brakes.

There were circumstantial indications that Hitler might proclaim to the Reichstag that Germany was taking Danzig under her sovereignty. (The town of Danzig and surrounding territory was made a free city by the Treaty of Versailles).

GAIETY

NOW PLAYING

MIGHTY DRAMA—of 24 momentous hours in the life of the world's most exciting city!...The season's greatest film—from the play that thrilled the nation!



SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRESENTS

DEAD END

Starring

SYLVIA SIDNEY and JOEL McCREA

with

Humphrey Bogart, Wendy Barrie, Claire Trevor, Allen Jenkins

Directed by WILLIAM WYLLER

Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

NEWS SING SONG

HERE WEDNESDAY!

DICK POWELL in

"VARSITY SHOW"



This picture, taken a moment after the Falls View bridge fell into the Niagara River gorge recently, shows the power of Nature when it is exerted. The 39-year-old structure was torn from its abutments and the steel twisted and torn apart. It is still lying on the ice jam.