

THE DAILY MAIL
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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1938

QUEBEC HAS SPOKEN
FOR THE second time in two weeks the Province of Quebec has given its answer to those who say that that province is in favour of a separatist movement and also that it wanted a "non-armament" platform introduced in Canada. The Lotbiniere by-election a week or so ago showed what rural Quebec thought of the anti-defense campaign. The election at the St. Henri division in Montreal did the same when Houde, the Conservative candidate, was defeated by over four thousand of a majority. The election yesterday was fought almost wholly on the armaments question. Houde charged the federal government's policy was "militaristic," claiming the spending of money on armaments was going to lead Canada into war within two years. The Liberals denied his claims, declaring armament expenditures were necessary for the country's defence.

As in St. Henri, armaments had been the campaign theme of the federal by-election three weeks previously in Quebec Province's Lotbiniere constituency, where J. N. Francoeur turned back the attempt of Paul Bouchard, young Nationalist, to replace a Liberal in the Commons. Bouchard's cry there was, "No war, no armaments."

The Lotbiniere election tested feelings regarding the government's armament programme in a typical French-Canadian agricultural riding. Camille Houde, former mayor of Montreal, made a different sort of a test. St. Henri-Montreal is an urban constituency, with a large labor vote and more than its share of people on relief.

The vote yesterday was the verdict of urban Quebec just as the vote in the Lotbiniere election was a verdict from rural Quebec. There has been altogether too much talk in the Maritimes regarding Quebec's separatists and about those in that province who were in favour of a "non-armament" platform. This verdict shows the real back bone of Quebec. The separatist movement as has been stated many times over does not represent the opinion of the people of the Province and yesterday's election and the previous by-election shows this.

PRINCIPLE BEFORE ABERHART
THE RECORD of mortgage payments made by Alberta farmers, despite Premier Aberhart's moratorium, should help to convince anxious observers that the Western Province has not departed as far from sound policies as Social Credit doctrinaires imply. When 97 per cent. of the mortgagors prefer a favorable reputation to the questionable benefit of delaying payments, it means that they wish to maintain an unimpaired credit standing. Manifestly, it means also that they have little confidence in the Aberhart theories.

Provincial legislation permits the debtors to postpone payments of principal and interest, and the Government apparently expected them to take full advantage of it, as the Chairman of the Social Credit Board had stated that the moratorium would keep \$50,000,000 in the Province. So confident was the Government in the outcome of its policies that no action was taken by it to make the adjustment scheme of the companies effective. It preferred its own brand of repudiation, collectively and individually. The farmers are wiser. Principals have been adjusted where necessary, and the interest rate is being reduced to a base of 6 per cent. by individual negotiations.

The companies holding the mortgages are to be commended for endeavoring to meet the situation fairly, and it is to the credit of the mortgagors that they are so willing to accept the arrangement. The proportion seeking protection under the moratorium runs from less than 1 per cent. with one company to 2, 3 and 5 per cent. with others, and doubtless in many of these instances payment was difficult or impossible.

The report covered in a despatch from Edmonton reveals, presumably, the attitude of Alberta farmers toward debts to be the same as that of honest people everywhere. They are not deceived by the Social Credit hokum that postponing payments will in some mysterious way relieve them of the obligation. With this spirit in Alberta, the Social Credit sponsors will whistle in vain for continued support.

What remains now is for the electors to repudiate the Administration which has gone to such lengths to give Alberta a false name. People elsewhere in Canada do not believe a majority of the residents of Aberhart's Province reason as strangely on financial affairs as their Government, and will welcome their demonstration of this when opportunity is offered. If the Liberal and Conservative Parties fail to do their part to consolidate sound opinion they will have to give an account of themselves beyond Alberta's boundaries.

FRANCE ERUPTS AGAIN
THE LATEST political-economic crisis in France, accentuated by the fall of the Chautemps Ministry and the possibilities of a serious rupture in the Popular Front coalition, was the expected, if premature, outcome of a large game of bluff. For all the "progress" propaganda with which the Government has sought to cheer and stabilize the country, the fact is that after seven months it has done very little if anything, to meet the accumulated difficulties of ten years of chaotic politics.

That this newest crisis developed out of a party split over labor legislation and a clash of policy on financial control is, perhaps, correct. Yet they by no means define the trouble. It could have come just as easily and quickly over foreign policy. Politics a plethora of parties, aligning and realigning into ill-mated coalitions, are the underlying trouble in France today. Even had the Chautemps Government the will and the way for solving the problems which have wrecked it, it could not have done so, for the simple reason that the extremes within itself would not have permitted it.

Much of Premier Chautemps's troubles have been the aftermath of Premier Blum's blunders. Committed to social reforms, driven by the Communists and the extreme Socialist element in the Popular Front, he overreached and alienated the moderate Radical-Socialists. His defeat was the cue for M. Chautemps to retreat, an impossibility without sacrificing the support of the Left groups, which when forced into action he has done. So it is that government in France is a series of crises.

To speculate on the outcome is to make wild guesses. The safe assumption is that France cannot hope to ride out very many more crises by changing the face of the administration. Whether action be of the Right or Left, some definite solution of the social unrest and financial instability must soon be attempted. If public opinion cannot subordinate politics to national interest, international reaction might. France needs allies, economic as well as political, badly; but no nation, however sympathetic, will long risk tying itself up to another in which the uncertainties are as great and as extreme as they are in France.

SNAP SHOTS

The only idea that some women and girls have in regard to the Japanese boycott and embargo is whether it will effect them wearing silk stockings. God help us. If a war comes they may be glad to get any kind of stockings.

Anyone who likes a cold winter has nothing to complain about in regard to the present.

Believe it or not, you can still find remote little towns where men over 40 won't take a drink if a lady is present.

Drinking widens your acquaintance. Your friends are such different people when they get a few drinks.

The upper class is like an upper berth. It's hard to get into; you are apt to be lonely; and dressing is a lot more trouble.

Away back when if a family wanted to get much music it had to let the kids take piano or violin lessons.

If men continue to be so coy, it will soon take as many ushers to get a man into the church for his wedding as it now takes palbearers to get him out after his funeral.

FREDERICTON MASS

(Continued from Page One)

citizens of the country, says Prof. Wright, there rests the ultimate responsibility for our country's policy. Continuing to discuss the matter of the Peace Council Prof. Wright said:

We have endeavored to bring together on the Council people of all sorts of opinions and in all walks of life. We have sought to find the greatest common measure of agreement so that we can unite and act for Peace together. If there are persons whose opinions are not represented, we will welcome their membership, for without them these objects cannot be attained.

I believe there are some people in this community who think that such an organization as the Peace Council is not only superfluous but even dangerous perhaps. Superfluous because we already have a duly elected Government to initiate policies, and dangerous because we may possibly be urging an unwise policy. Both these allegations I deny absolutely!

Our Prime Minister and our Governor General have both declared within the past few months that the greatest force—indeed the only force—for peace today is the moral force of an enlightened public opinion. Now I cannot believe that these gentlemen are relying on waves of moral indignation to travel through the ether and reform the Japanese militarists. Nor can we suppose they were talking of telegraphic tut-tuts. Peace will only be achieved when the great mass of peace loving but inarticulate humanity proclaims with one voice its resolve that war shall not be, that aggression shall not go unpunished, that Peace shall be preserved!

When that time comes, ladies and gentlemen, we shall know peace. When that time comes we shall be released from our shackles of fear and the resources of the earth and of the mind will be devoted to the welfare instead of the destruction of humanity. When that time comes we shall indeed have better before guns!

Believing this, the members of the Fredericton Peace Council have consented to act so that Fredericton may not lag behind in the work. We have made it our task to bring together the peace-loving people of this community so that the force of public opinion may make itself felt in some way more effective than in the despatch of waves of ethereal indignation. In undertaking this work we are not alone. Throughout Canada as throughout the free countries of the world, an International Peace Campaign is going forward. During the course of the evening you will hear more of this great movement to rally more of this great movement to rally more of those who pay more than lip-service to the cause of Peace.

Now it may seem to some that while all this is true, the particular courses of action we are to discuss tonight, an embargo and a boycott, are ill advised. Yet people who take this stand rarely have anything to offer instead. They either rely on a miracle happening, or, what is the same thing, the Government taking the lead.

Ladies and gentlemen, in a democratic country, it is, as a matter of practical politics impossible for a government to take any grave step unless and until it is sure of the support of the people. And yet it cannot ask openly for that support without weakening itself in the eyes of those with whom it must negotiate. The movement for an embargo must therefore arise from the people themselves, and the respect which it will be given abroad will be in direct proportion to the unanimity with which it is supported at home.

I have been told by several people that an embargo cannot be made effective. The same people tell me that this same ineffective embargo will provoke the Japanese into attacking

us. I find this a very curious piece of reasoning! For myself, I cannot believe, that the Japanese by attacking Hong Kong will deliberately provoke an embargo at once more complete and more deadly to them than any peace-time embargo can ever be. And I do not believe that the allies of Japan will be very anxious to honor their engagements in the face of the aroused and united forces of resolute Democracy.

We Control Armament
Here, in Canada, holding as we do control over vast supplies of the raw materials of armament, we have a unique opportunity to lead the world back to sanity. And I am not alone in believing it. Listen to this:

"I am inclined to believe that much good could be done if this and other countries were to take a more definite stand on what they would or would not do in the matter of helping to preserve collective security. There should be more definite statements as to the attitude which would be adopted towards any nation which would threaten the security of other nations or which was proven by the facts to be guilty of having disturbed the peace of the world. I think this country ought to declare that any nation which could be shown to have threatened the peace of the world, by violating a pact of collective security should be denied any assistance in the shape of men or munitions, should be denied any assistance in the shape of food, should be denied any assistance through credit. Our country, small as it is, might well lay down a definite policy in this regard as expressing Canada's attitude towards any country which upon the facts being disclosed was found to be guilty of attempting to destroy what otherwise might be collective security. If that example were followed by other parts of the British Empire, as I believe it would be it would soon be followed by other parts of the world."

Ladies and gentlemen, those are the words of the Right Honorable the Prime Minister of Canada, spoken on the floor of the House of Commons at Ottawa three years ago. Does he still believe it? He must, or why else would legislation have been passed only last April to give him the authority necessary to proclaim an embargo by Order in Council.

Back the Government
But he has not yet been able to use that authority because he has lacked the nationwide backing without which such a step cannot be undertaken. There can be no doubt that those who are porifing by the Far Eastern war have brought pressure to bear on the Government to prevent an embargo. Hitherto there has been no pressure to balance theirs and until there is we will continue to give material assistance to Japan in her disgraceful course.

Only when disinterested public opinion is behind it can the Government take action. It is our task tonight to open the campaign in this community. The Boycott
And now, what of the boycott? There have been many arguments pro and con. Let me only read you part of a letter I received this morning from the head of one of the largest retailing establishments in the country.

"Some months ago we thoroughly discussed the question of sale of Japanese merchandise and at that time we decided that our policy should be to purchase only such merchandise of Japanese origin which could not be obtained elsewhere.

"We do believe that the average retail merchant has already formulated a policy similar to ours as outlined above, and that this will result in a big reduction in importation of Japanese goods, even though it will not by any means be complete elimination. We also believe that the effects of the continuation of such a policy will soon be visible to Japanese manufacturers and exporters."

Ladies and gentlemen, besides its direct effect on Japanese exporters, a boycott will serve as a barometer of public opinion stronger than any resolutions we can forward to Ottawa. What stronger sign of moral condemnation can we give than a refusal to buy the goods which the Japanese offer in exchange for the lead and nickel and iron, the machinery and chemicals with which they are exterminating an inoffensive people?

F. W. Park
The possibilities that a boycott can do much harm to the silk hose industry and throw many of the workers out of a job seem slim. According to figures quoted in an authoritative American magazine about sixty-five per cent of the silk hosiery machines now in operation can be converted to lisle or rayon production without much loss. It was reported about a week ago that in the past two months fifty-five manufacturers have begun to make lisle hosiery though only five did so before.

IN THE NEWS

FATHER FRASER WRITES

Editor The Daily Mail,
Fredericton, N. B.
Dear Mr. Editor,

Some few weeks ago you prevailed on me to express my idea in your daily and valuable paper concerning my opinion as to the necessity of assisting the needy people of Minto. At that time I felt as I do today, that any assistance given the Citizen's Welfare Council would be in order, also the Christmas Treat Committee. The people of Fredericton, Saint John and Moncton gladly came to our assistance in permitting the latter committee, of which I was chairman, to distribute approximately two thousand well filled bags of candy, fruit, nuts and cookies to the children of the most needy families.

At the last regular meeting of the committee a hearty vote of thanks was expressed and sent to all the donors.

As to the Welfare Committee of which I wish to speak in particular, many substantial cheques were received including one for five hundred dollars from the Liberal Association, and another of one hundred dollars from N. B. Breweries, Fairville, not to mention many others.

This money is used to help the sick by means of the physicians, drugs, dentist, and unforeseen emergencies. We are contemplating the possibility of securing a Victorian Order nurse and the distribution of literature to uplift the morale and the hygienic standard of the Minto community. It has been pointed out that our church societies are able to cope with the above situation but we contend that a non-sectarian organization such as the Minto Welfare Council, made up of all denominations will accomplish much more in obtaining Government assistance and private aid. It is true that we have met with much criticism from those who do not see things in their own true light, but some times criticism is a healthy asset in accomplishing much good. I for one feel that a great deal has yet to be accomplished in the Minto area in order to uplift and educate the people in many ways and consequently I feel that our efforts have not been in vain.

R. B. FRASER, M.A.
Member of the Investigating Committee of the Citizens' Welfare Council, Minto, N. B.
Minto, N. B., Jan. 13, 1938.

PROFESSOR PUGH EXPRESS GRATITUDES TO THE WOMEN OF NELSON COMMUNITY

An account of a visit by Professor Robt. Pugh to the Miramichi during the Christmas season, which recently appeared in The Fredericton Daily Mail which was read extensively on the North Shore and copied by various papers in that section gave full credit to G. P. Burchill for the donations of gifts and refreshments at a Christmas tree party held at Nelson. Professor Pugh evidently misunderstood the situation as the ladies of the community were responsible in a large measure for gifts and refreshments to the children whose generosity was greatly appreciated as well as the kind thought of Mr. Burchill. The following letters from Mrs. E. F. Brown of Nelson, N. B. and Professor Pugh's reply will no doubt make the situation clear.

South Nelson, N. B.,
Jan. 15, 1938.

Professor Pugh,
Fredericton, N. B.

Dear Sir:
I wish to draw your attention to an incorrect statement you made in your account of your visit to the Miramichi at Christmas. I read the article in The North Shore Leader, and it was copied from the Fredericton Mail. In your description of the Christmas Tree held at Nelson you stated, "the gifts and refreshments were donated by G. P. Burchill." Now this is not correct. Mr. Burchill was very generous in giving us a donation of money, but the amount was not one third of the actual cost of the treat and gifts. We are very grateful to Mr. Burchill and certainly it was very kind and generous of him, but most credit is due to the women of the community who made it possible to give these 145 children refreshments, by their donations of food.

Yours truly,
E. F. BROWN.
301 University Avenue,
Fredericton, N. B.
January 17, 1938

To Mrs. E. F. Brown,
Nelson, N. B.

Dear Mrs. Brown,
I have just received your letter and an glad that you have drawn our attention to the mistake, in the report.

The opposition to the boycott and embargo has not come from the men employed in the industries concerned. The labor unions are behind them the miners union at Sudbury leads in the demand for an embargo. They have made the choice between an immediate slight laws and a future very heavy loss the inevitable war towards which we are apparently rushing.

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The Thrills
OF "MARKED WOMAN"
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OF "KID GALAHAD"

Are Now
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Warner Bros.' smile-a-minute
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Margaret Lindsay
COMEDY OTHER SHORTS

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GENE AUTRY

—IN—
"Boots and Saddles"
With SMILEY BURNETTE and
JUDITH ALLEN.

—ADDED ATTRACTION—
"A Girl With Ideas"
With WENDY BARRIE and
WALTER PIDGEON.

ing of the Children's Christmas Tree, which I attended. I regret very much that a mistake of this kind should have occurred and am communicating with the Fredericton Daily Mail, asking them to make a correction. This, I feel, would hurt nobody, while assigning credit where it is most certainly due.

Meanwhile, you may all rest assured that this policy is intended for all concerned, particularly the ladies' and I am sure that, knowing what valuable work was done by them on this occasion, and always, all concerned will feel that no one would wish to deny them what is theirs by right.

Hoping that this may be satisfactory, I am.

Very truly yours,
ROBT. PUGH.

EMBARGO AND BOYCOTT

(Continued from Page One)
take longer than the present direct route with ships shuttling back and forth across the Pacific Ocean. The British Government has been able to develop a reasonably successful system of controlling the export of war materials.

Q. Have we not a very favourable balance of trade with Japan and would it not suffer from an embargo?

A. Our favourable trade balance amounts to ten or fifteen million dollars a year. But our expenditures on fortifying the coast of British Columbia are nearly double that. So where is the profit?

Q. What sort of war materials are we sending to Japan?

A. Here are a few figures for exports from Canada to Japan in July of last year and in July of 1936:

	July 1936	July 1937
Scrap Iron	\$ 50,000	\$146,000
Copper	nil	115,000
Lead	115,000	463,000
Nickel	50,000	221,000
Zinc	110,000	216,000

Q. But if we cut off these exports, will we not throw men out of work in these industries?

A. The workers in the nickel smelter at Sudbury, Ontario, have, through their Union, expressed their willingness to go on short time if it will help in curbing the international banditry of the Japanese militarists!

Q. Will an embargo drag Canada into war?

A. Japan cannot attack Canada directly across four thousand miles of ocean. If Japan attacks Hong Kong, it will precipitate an embargo more complete and more deadly to them than any peace-time embargo could be. The Japs are not fools—they know this!

Q. What is a boycott?

A. A boycott in Fredericton could only take the form of a refusal by individuals to buy Japanese products. This decision would be made by each person after listening to the arguments pro and con.

Q. How wide-spread is the boycott movement?

A. In Canada there is a strong and rapidly-growing boycott campaign in Montreal, in Ontario, and throughout the west. In England, the League of Nations Union is supporting the drive. The London Co-operative Society (the largest in the world with an annual turnover of \$75,000,000 is boycotting Japanese goods. In New York recently fifty civic organizations united in promoting a nation-wide drive. These are only a few examples.

Q. Would not a boycott of silk put workers in Canadian silk mills out of work. Ought we not to consider them?

A. If people stop wearing silk stockings they will not begin to go bare-legged! The same amount of purchasing power will be spent for much the same things. Remembering the attitude of the workers in the nickel smelter, should we take for granted the attitude of the silk mill employees?

Q. Nevertheless, a boycott may well bring loss to some people. Have those who will not suffer the right to take such action?

A. The preservation of peace is the most urgent problem that confronts us. We have remained passive for eight years during which we have drifted to the very brink of war. Unless action is taken, the consequences are likely to be more terrible for EVERYONE than would be the consequences of a boycott to anyone. This is a national emergency!

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"Captains Courageous"
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