

## THE DAILY MAIL

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## GASOLINE TAX

THE announcement made by Premier Dymally yesterday that he has successfully negotiated with oil companies doing business in the province for a reduction in the price of gasoline and that the Government proposes to increase the gasoline tax by a like amount seems to be a good stroke of business on the part of the Premier. The decrease in the price of gasoline will be approximately two cents per gallon and the step-up in the gasoline tax under consideration will probably be two cents so that there will be no material difference in the price of gas to the consumer.

It is roughly estimated that this arrangement will insure the Government an additional revenue of about \$300,000 per year. Thus the consumer of gas while he will not be compelled to pay any more for his gasoline than he did last year, will furnish funds sufficient to meet the interest charges on some million of dollars' worth of bonds sold with the view to provide funds for the construction of paved highways. This is the primary cause for the contemplated increase in the gas tax which is now eight cents per gallon. In the vicinity of nine million dollars was expended in the last fiscal year in connection with our hard-surfacing road program. The Government in addition to this is being urged for larger expenditures for the care of tubercular patients and other social services, and youth training.

The action of Premier Dymally is along the same line as is being taken in Nova Scotia by Premier MacDonald. The rate in Nova Scotia will be ten cents per gallon tax as it is at the present time in Prince Edward Island. This raising of the tax rate on gasoline without increasing the burden to the consumer is a good proposition. It not only places tax upon the people of this province but it places a tax on all persons who use the roads of our province. As has been stated previously it is necessary to have hard-surfaced roads in this province in common with all other provinces. The day of the horse and buggy roads has passed. We cannot build roads without money and the scheme outlined by Premier Dymally yesterday is one way of raising the money. It is only fair that those who use the roads should pay for the construction.

## FUNNY LAWS

AT the Saint John Police Court a couple of days ago a youth who was driving a car which sent two people to the hospital, injured four more, destroyed some personal property, and narrowly missed killing or seriously injuring a score of people, was sentenced to jail for seven days. Four men who were sentenced for being common drunks went to jail for thirty days, and one man charged with begging was sentenced to jail for one month. We presume that the Police Magistrate at Saint John followed the law in dealing out these sentences, but there seems to be something wrong with the law that sends a man to jail for thirty days for being drunk or begging and sends another one to jail for seven days who has created havoc and endangered peoples' lives, while on the rampage with an automobile. The effect of these sentences shows that a drastic change is needed in our laws which will protect people against irresponsible car drivers whether they are intoxicated or not intoxicated.

## NOT WORTH THE PIRATES' NOTICE

IT might be well to send copies of some of the briefs given the Rowell Commission to those nations alleged to have greedy and longing eyes on this fair Dominion. The stories of misery and want ought to convince them that Canada is worth little more than contempt.

The point that stands out in their minds chiefly is that we have a land area of more than 3,400,000 square miles with a population of less than 11,000,000, between two and three people per square mile, while they are cluttered up with three or four hundred per square mile. It doesn't seem like a fair division of the world's real estate.

Most of this "available" property, of course, is in the North and West, including the area covered by the Rocky Mountains. If the reports to the Royal Commission can be depended upon, we are close to the saturation point of settlement.

Approximately 80 per cent. of the good agricultural land in the Prairies is already taken up with a population of 2,300,000 people. Only 20,000,000 acres in the Peace River block of British Columbia remain suitable for settlement. Professor Hurd of McMaster University estimates that "600,000 to 700,000 persons might be accommodated here, in accordance with existing agricultural practices, together with corresponding development in urban centres."

Existing practices may change. Much of what is now submarginal land may be made useful. But this is something for the future. The urgent problem is to let the world, and especially the grasping world, know that we are a poor and undesirable part of the Western Hemisphere. Our case is being made fairly complete. Our land is poor and our provinces are struggling in a hand-to-mouth existence, not knowing where tomorrow's payroll is coming from. We are virtually a nation of beggars, wishing Santa Claus would come around oftener. This information, judiciously distributed outside the chambers of the Royal Commission, ought to help keep the wolves and other pirates from our doors.—Exchange.

## "VOLUNTEERS" TO QUIT SPAIN?

PRIME Minister Chamberlain of Great Britain says he has the promise of Germany and Italy that "foreign volunteers" will be withdrawn from the Spanish civil war. The prime minister gave no indication as to when they would be withdrawn. The probability is that Mussolini and Hitler will withdraw their troops from Spain when it is certain that General Franco needs them no longer.

Not much credit goes to either Germany or Italy for withdrawal of troops from Spain. Once either starts withdrawing troops, the other will follow hastily because neither wishes to be left holding the bag in Spain.

If Germany and Italy withdraw their men from the Spanish civil war, what will be done about Russian "volunteers" in Spain? Prime Minister Chamberlain has not informed the Parliament on that subject. In fact, in the House of Commons the prime minister again and again has refused to disclose what he is going to talk about with Mussolini.

The nations of Europe have become so tangled in a net of conflicting interests that it would be absurd for any one to pretend to forecast the developments within the next few months, least of all Prime Minister Chamberlain, Signor Mussolini and Herr Hitler. Each profoundly wishes he knew what was ahead.

## Snapshots

Hon. Fred Squires is a good speaker and made the best of a poor job and the poor materials with which he had to work.

Commissioner R. H. Scott is making a good job of administering the pensions for the blind, which branch of the pension service comes under his particular jurisdiction. Mr. Scott is one official with whom it is a pleasure for the public to do business.

Mr. McAllister will also speak. We hope that he will be in good form.

Mr. Squires paid the Premier some compliments about the latter's charming personality. But think how much younger the Premier is than Mr. Squires.

Mr. Perry of Carleton has returned and the bouquet of the "Five Roses" is complete.

Charity covers a multitude of sins. Other words with equal coverage are eczema, rheumatism and hash.

For that matter, a minority rules in every land. Ten men who know what they want can always dominate 90 who don't.

California wife told the judge she had to pay her husband for cutting the grass on their lawn, and the judge agrees she should be a grass widow.

French brides need no longer promise to obey their husbands, but the change in the old law will not be noticed so long as husbands continue to do as they are told.

Educator says youth usually know better than their parents what course of study to pursue. And sometimes they even tell the old folks what's fit for them to read.

A woman is always doubting herself, always wondering if she's just right. But did you ever hear of a man wondering if his hat was becoming or if his nose was shiny?

## SEVERAL

(Continued from Page One) vacancy in the office of Clerk Assistant and nominated Mr. Frank B. Osborne for that office.

Hon. Mr. Dymally moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. McNair that House approve the nomination of Mr. Frank B. Osborne as Clerk Assistant and that he be given a seat on the floor of the House.

Messrs. Squires and Perry and Mr. McAllister for Mr. Smith (Saint John County) gave several Notices of Inquiry for Friday next.

Hon. Mr. Anderson presented a petition for a Bill to authorize the Town of Newcastle to issue debentures.

Hon. Mr. Richard presented a petition for a Bill to authorize Hotel Dieu de l'Assomption to issue debentures.

Mr. Henneberry presented a petition for a Bill to fix and determine the value for assessment purposes of Jas. Pender & Co., Limited of Saint John.

Mr. Gill presented a petition for a Bill to authorize the Town of Newcastle to guarantee the bonds of the Anderson Manufacturing Co. Limited.

Hon. Mr. Richard introduced a Bill to provide for the redemption of \$300,000 Provincial debentures falling due in 1938. The Bill was read the first time.

Hon. Mr. McNair laid on the table report of the Fair Wage Officer for 1937.

Hon. Mr. Richard laid on the table the report of the Board of Public Utilities for the year ending April 30, 1937.

## GERMANS

(Continued from Page One)

Recalling the Air Force's founding in violation of the Versailles Treaty Goering asserted it was created as a safeguard for peace but that if forced to fight it "will be awful in action."

Then, he exclaimed, it "will be the terror of our enemies."

"You as fliers, know the time may come when you may have to make good this word of our fuhrer."

"Boundless will to fight animates our air force. Anxious as we are for peace, as a weapon we tingle with eagerness to show our invincibility in action."

"What I want is men of iron, with the will to action, with the recklessness of youth."

## DIED

BLIZZARD—Passed away, March 1, 1938, at his home, Morrison Mill, Roy Alexander Blizzard, aged 35. The funeral will take place Friday afternoon with prayers at 1:45 o'clock at the home. Services will be conducted by Ven. Archdeacon S. C. Gray at 2:00 o'clock at St. Margaret's Chapel of Ease, Morrison Mills. Interment will be made at Forest Hill cemetery.

## AUSTRIAN

(Continued from Page One)

The outlawed Socialists, under the leadership of Otto Bauer, who is in exile, already have announced that they will back the Chancellor.

I came to Austria's capital, thinking I might find a tense, perhaps frightened, population. I did not. The words "Gay Vienna" are more than phrase; they are a state of mind and that state of mind prevails today. Everyone seems to be relaxed. There is, a significant phrase that you hear in the coffee shops:

"Things are hopeless but not serious—why worry?"

Those words describe Vienna aptly. You can get 102 different kinds of coffee in the cafes; you can get almost as many opinions on what is going to happen now that Adolf Hitler has succeeded in forcing Nazis into the Austrian cabinet.

They Sing and Jest

Even the political demonstrations are light-hearted. Nazis march down one side of a street singing "Deutschland Leber Alles." Non-Nazis march down the other side singing the Austrian national anthem—and to the same tune.

When people get tired of marching they go to the cafes and wise-crack. One joke goes—

"The Rome-Berlin axis is a spit on which Austria is being browned."

The "browned," of course, refers to the brown shirt—symbol of Nazism.

The Nazis reply to such jests by scratching the Austrian five-schilling piece until its cross becomes a swastika. Thus they force non-Nazis to circulate the Nazi insignia.

A few heads are sore from political scuffles. Many more throats are sore from shouting and singing. There has been almost no bloodshed.

Nation is Steadied

Herr Schuschnigg's speech steadied and relaxed the nation. It also appears to have united behind the slogan of "independence" elements which hitherto have been uncooperative.

"Everything must now be subordinated to the great fight for Austrian independence," Von Wiesner, the Monarchist leader, told me. "In this fight we will support Schuschnigg with all our force. This does not mean we give up our struggle for the return of the monarchy, but at the moment the Monarchist question is not in the foreground."

There are neutral observers, however, that believe that not even a union of non-Nazi elements can prevent, in the long run, the capitulation of Austria to Hitler. One reliable observer said:—

"Schuschnigg at Berchtesgaden (where the Austrian Chancellor conferred with Hitler) purchased a breathing spell from German pressure. Optimists believe it may last six months; pessimists, three months. Police Post a Check

On the other hand, equally competent observers emphasize the fact that Herr Schuschnigg had placed a check on Nazi members of the Cabinet by appointing Dr. Michael Skubi Secretary of State for Public Security.

In that post he has command over the gendarmerie and police officers

## Assistant Zone Manager



ROSS BAKER

who has been appointed assistant Zone manager, General Motors Products of Canada Limited, at Moncton. Mr. Baker comes to the Moncton zone from Montreal, where he was retail selling manager.

## BELIEF

(Continued from Page One)

ject, however, to the possible claims of Montenegro, Serbia and Greece.

In Africa her hold on Libya was to be consolidated and—this has vital bearing on Ethiopia—in case France and Britain increased their territory in Africa at the expense of Germany, Italy was to have the right to enlarge hers.

The war over and the victory won, Britain and France did not live up to this treaty. They took over every foot of Germany's African colonies, and, to Italy's way of thinking, left her out in the cold. Subsequently they did not agree to "rectify" certain African frontiers for the benefit of Italy, but all it amounted to, as Premier Mussolini afterward said, was that it gave her just a little more desert sand.

Now, it seems, Britain is about to recognize Italy's conquest of Ethiopia. The Italians regard such recognition as extremely important. The Ethiopians continue to make trouble it is said, because they have been led to believe that Britain plans to fight Italy and win the country back. Unless British and French recognition is accorded, therefore, it is felt in Italy that the job of pacification and reconstruction will be slow and difficult.

Early settlement of the Anglo-Italian feud will vastly weaken the Rome-Berlin axis, regardless of what may be said to the contrary. The tie really has never had much more than nuisance value. Neither Berlin nor Rome at heart has ever been particularly enthusiastic about it.

throughout Austria.

Those observers also stress that the Cabinet contains two prominent ex-Socialists, one of whom is Adolf Watzek, head of the trade unions of the Socialist party in the days when trade unions were permitted.

## Capitol

—NOW PLAYING—

Three mysterious deaths in a row! A fortune in bonds missing! A dozen men and women under suspicion! And Charlie Chan himself . . . in jail!

CHARLIE CHAN  
AT  
MONTE CARLO

WITH  
Warner Oland  
KEYE LUKE  
VIRGINIA FIELD  
SIDNEY BLACKMER  
HAROLD HUBER  
KAY LINAKER  
ROBERT KENT

NEWS :— COMEDY  
Shows at 3; 7:15 & 9:15  
Mat. 10-20; Evg. 15-25; Plus Tax

Here THURS., FRI., and SAT.

Gene Autry  
The Singing Cowboy, in  
"Springtime In The  
Rockies"  
ADDED ATTRACTION:  
THE JONES FAMILY  
—in—  
'Borrowing Trouble'



## GAIETY

NOW PLAYING

A grand behind-the-Hollywood-scenes comedy-romance by the author of "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town" . . . Action! Laughs! Love!



Felix HOWARD  
Joan BLONDELL  
in  
"Stand-in"  
with  
HUMPHREY BOGART  
Alan Mowbray, Marla Shelton  
A WALTER WANGER Production  
Released thru United Artists

SHORT FEATURES:

"King Without A Crown"  
"How to Start the Day"  
—USUAL PRICES—

HERE FRIDAY & SATURDAY

Frank Lloyd's

"Wells Fargo"  
—With—

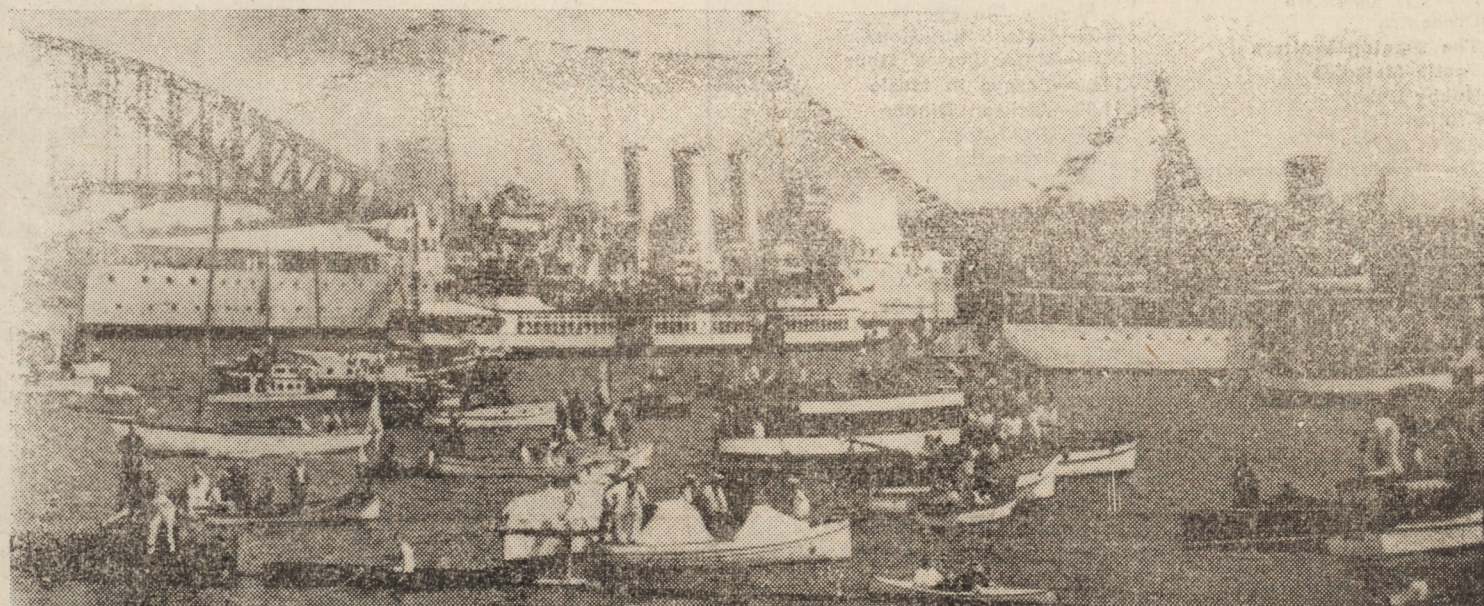
JOEL McCRAE — BOB BURNS  
FRANCES DEE

## MR. SQUIRES' SPEECH

(Continued from Page One)

kets throughout the world. The gradual change of eliminating the dole and in re-establishing the unfortunate victims of the depression was met by the launching of an extensive program of hard-surfaced roads to which we have referred above. All this has been carried out with a minimum of expense and in such a way that no matter what Mr. Squires or his followers may say the province showed a surplus at the close of the fiscal year. Each department of the Government has been carried on in a business-like and efficient manner. It will take more than the criticisms of Mr. Squires and his followers to make the people of this province believe that they are not today receiving efficient, economical and sane Government and that their affairs are not in safe hands.

## AUSTRALIA CELEBRATES HER 150TH BIRTHDAY



Three months of celebrations were inaugurated at Sydney recently, commemorating the 150th anniversary of Australia. Pageants of all kinds and a realistic re-enactment of the landing of Admiral Arthur Phillip, first Governor, were features of the celebrations. These, the first pictures received show the landing of Admiral Phillip and the gay scene in Sydney harbor—boats gaily decorated visited Sydney from all parts.