

THE DAILY MAIL

Published Every Afternoon (except Sunday) at 327-329 Queen Street, Fredericton.

THE MAIL PUBLISHING COMPANY

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Subscription Price: \$4 per year by Carrier; \$3 per year by Mail.

TELEPHONE 67.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1935

INFANT MORTALITY IN N. B.

The last year for which figures are available (1933) shows an increase in this province in the number of deaths of infants under one year — there being 821, or 47 more than in 1932. Coupled with this was the fact that there were 773 fewer births in 1933 so that the infant death rate was 10.2 per 1000 live births higher than in the previous year. In spite of this the rate was still below that of any other year. In the past two years there has been a very marked reduction in infant deaths due to diarrhoea and enteritis. This may be attributed largely to two factors, the greater attention paid to the safety of the milk supply and a more rational infant feeding, both of which factors are constantly being brought to the attention of mothers by the health nurses.

Almost one-half of all infants who died failed to survive the first month and in 40 per cent of these "premature birth" was ascribed as the cause of death, all of which points to the greater need for ante-natal care of the mother and proper instruction to the mother regarding the care of the infant after its birth.

It is claimed that there has been an unusually large number of young mothers in this city and vicinity within the past couple of years who have died shortly after their babies were born.

It is stated by the Provincial Health authorities that the number is not unusually large if one takes figures as a whole and makes comparisons having in mind that many of these young mothers were probably suffering from some pre-natal disease and that these is no small measure amount-ed for their passing away. One is apt to judge these things abruptly without studying various conditions.

C. O. T. C. COMPULSORY SERVICE

At the annual inspection of the Canadian Officers Training Corps of University of New Brunswick—which by the way is a compulsory military training organization—Major Landon, assistant adjutant and quarter-master-general of Military District No. 7, made a speech.

Major Landon, who pulls down a good salary for his military duties, including the inspection of the contingent of our own University, referred to adverse criticisms of the press on the fact that there is compulsory military training at U. N. B.

When The Daily Mail first criticized compulsory military training at University of New Brunswick, Major Jones, one of the professors, denied that there was such a thing. Then Chancellor Jones stated to us in an interview that military training at U. N. B. was just as compulsory as was any other subject and that any student who did not take this training would not be allowed to get his degree. There was a row over that feature at U. N. B. a couple of years ago and the students received their degrees because U. N. B. was afraid to withhold it from them.

The U. N. B. students are paid by the Military Department, so are their officers who are college professors. They are supplied with uniforms by the Militia Department of Canada. They drill in the militia drill hall and officers like Major Landon are paid for inspecting them. Some of them are then liable to be transferred after graduation to the permanent militia of Canada.

All up-to-date colleges in Canada and the United States are getting away from this kind of stuff. The matter has become serious. At the present time most of the churches in the United States, working under the World Alliance for International Friendship, have added their voices against military regimentation of America's undergraduates. The General Conference of the Methodist

Episcopal Church, the Presbyterian Church in the United States, the Northern Baptist Convention and others are all opposed to this and are back of the college boys who are objecting to compulsory military training in the colleges. Some of them go as far as to call it "Instruction in Mass Murder."

Student protests against military drill have been registered at many other educational institutions, including the University of New Hampshire, New York University, Penn State, Cornell, and the University of Missouri. Not long ago 176 students at Cornell signed a petition calling for the abolition of compulsory drill. In 1931 more than 2,000 students at the University of California signed a petition calling upon the authorities to abolish compulsory drill in favor of optional courses.

In February, 1932, shortly after the Geneva Disarmament Conference was convened, the Intercollegiate Disarmament Council, on the basis of reports from seventy colleges and universities, found that 16,030 students, or 81 per cent of those voting, opposed compulsory military training, while only 3,720 or 19 per cent, favored compulsory drill. On still another question it was shown that 11,704 students, or 62 per cent, favored the total abolition of military training, while only 7,292, or 38 per cent, favored retaining such training in the college curricula. At about the same time the Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions which was meeting in Buffalo, N. Y., took several test votes on the R. O. T. C. Exactly 1,409 delegates, or 96.8 per cent of those voting, opposed compulsory military drill, while only 47, or 3.2 per cent, favored it; 1,172 delegates, or 83.7 per cent, favored dropping military drill entirely from the college curricula, while 228, or 16.3 per cent, favored its retention.

In the United States open rebellion against compulsory drill was manifesting itself on scores of campuses. University presidents and R. O. T. C. officers were being hard pressed by the refusal of an ever-increasing number of students to enroll in courses of military instruction. And the Supreme Court of the United States, by a unanimous decision, has ruled that university and college authorities are acting in accordance with the law when they make military training compulsory.

What next? The court did not say that military training must be compulsory. This is important. The University of California is a land grant college. The Morrill Act of 1862 makes the inclusion of the teaching of "military tactics" obligatory upon the institutions availing themselves of the grant, but the law does not require that students be compelled to take military training. Those who are opposed to the compulsory aspects of the C. O. C. T. must now turn to state legislatures and to the regents and trustees of local educational institutions. This the churches propose to do.

Churches are aroused over this issue. Prominent church leaders repudiate the conception of a totalitarian state, in which the conscience of each and every citizen is regarded as belonging, without reservation, to the Government. They regard this exaltation of the state, with its consequent dwarfing of the significance of the individual, as thoroughly unchristian and contrary to the well-established principle of the freedom of conscience in the realm of peace and war. The churches, in their efforts to uproot the compulsory feature of the C.O.T.C. are motivated solely by the desire to render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's.

Scores of religious assemblies have pledged their moral support to those who for reasons of conscience refuse to participate in war or in preparations for war. The following church bodies have gone on record as being opposed to compulsory military training: Northern Baptist Convention, Church of the Brethren, Congregational and Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, Evangelical Synod of North America, General Conference of Friends, Methodist Episcopal Church, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, Reformed Church in America, Reformed Presbyterian Church, American Unitarian Association, United Presbyterian Church and the Universalist Church.

SNAPSHOTS

A writer from Campbellton says that the Normal Students' hiking parties are terrible. The young devils should be home tucked in bed.

When parents are making sacrifices to send their boys and girls to Normal school or college, the boys and girls should do their part. In the "gay nineties" the Normal School faculty exercised some influence over the students outside conduct.

There is a sewer on Lansdowne Street and another on Waterloo Row which are built on the highest grade in the street instead of the lower grade. The water on the block has either to run up hill or stay there in a puddle. It knocks that funny hill down near Moncton all to pieces.

Personally, we imagine it would be more direct to reach a man's heart via an upside-down stomach.

Of course the next one will be to make the world safe for whatever it was that superseded democracy.

It is always embarrassing, when Hitler asks the rest of the world:—"What are you gonna do about it?"

It would seem that Sam Insull, who once remarked that Greek justice is ideal, owes the courts of Chicago an apology.

Sales of table forks in Russia have leaped to unprecedented heights. The traffic in lethal weapons abroad is the despair of peace-lovers everywhere.

An ironic lecturer in Chicago commented on the absence of any cougher in the audience. Maybe he got well and couldn't come.

A New England parrot has been left \$2,500 in its owner's will. The hard thing now will be to keep it out of conversations with plausible strangers.

The Dakota farmer who wishes the return of his farm can have same as soon as the housewives of Kansas City empty their vacuum cleaners.

Princess Barbara announces that the husband from whom she is going to get a divorce will have no compensation. Meaning, of course, monetary.

A new border incident has materialized in Somaliland. It dispels the recent fears that peace in Africa is rearing its ugly head.

The curlers closed a very successful season last night by a banquet at the curling rink.

There is plenty of "pep" in the Conservative party in York County to judge by the turnout last night.

Legislature Discusses C.N.R. Discrimination (Continued from Page One)

Government, Sunbury, associated themselves with the remarks made by Dr. White. The attorney general felt it was a grave problem. Referring to the alleged discrimination between Halifax and St. John, he asked, "Is it economical? Is it business-like? Is it fair?"

He believed the House would feel that St. John's protest should be supported strongly. All agreed that the City of St. John and the province of New Brunswick were united in matters of this kind. What affected the welfare of one affected that of the other, he pointed out.

Dr. White spoke during consideration of the \$3,000 appropriation for the Maritime Transportation Commission. He said he thought the government was to be congratulated in having done so much to rehabilitate the transportation commission. It was claimed that the work it had accomplished during its short career had saved the shippers of the Maritime Provinces \$11,000,000.

Transportation and its cost was the greatest problem in Canada, and of vital importance to the city of St. John, which in the past had secured most of its prosperity from the sea. As the entire province was intimately linked up with the prosperity of St. John, it was fitting that this Legislat-

OUR MAIL BAG

GAY NORMAL STUDENTS

Fredericton, N. B.
March 27th, 1935.

Editor, of Daily Mail,
Fredericton, N. B.

Dear Sir:

I wish if it were possible you would publish a few lines for me, I understand you are a very fair minded citizen. I have been a visitor to your city for over two weeks, and must say I was much surprised at the liberty the Normal Students enjoy. Late shows, dances, plays, etc. There seemed to a big a flock of Normal Students everywhere and the later the better. This strikes me as queer. When I attended P. N. S. a number of years ago we had to be in our rooms and quiet at ten o'clock p.m. and it took a mighty good excuse to be out later than that. You know they used to tell us when we went. You could tell a Normalite wherever you saw them but you couldn't tell them much. After living in a home with a bunch for over two weeks. I came to the conclusion the woman was a martyr. It's terrible all hours at night. All hours in the morning, I said "Weren't you told hours and your duties?" Answer was No! Well sometimes I used to wish hours were later. But now I appreciate the hours we were made keep. I have in mind three who are attending Normal, whose district I had taught in and I can tell you it's sure a sacrifice for those parents to send their children here to play cards, attend shows and dances, and I feel something should be done to make these pupils keep better hours and attend studies. "Oh! we aren't having Easter exams. We don't have to study" seems to be the theme. I think a few exams help you to keep up in your work. Surely the teachers aren't falling down on their jobs, and yet so many secretaries tell us "The new teachers aren't good teachers", one or two exceptions, of course. Some teachers are born and no matter what license they possess seem to have the ability to teach. Please don't think I criticize too much. I happen to know about some hiking parties which were terrible and as I say I know what these parents are doing without to send the pupils.

Now teachers of P. N. S. visit the homes of students more. Unexpectedly if possible and around ten o'clock and see how many pupils you will find studying or even in the house. I thank you for your valuable space and wonder how many would agree with me if they lived closely with the students for several weeks.

Yours truly,

A. R. WEEKS,
Campbellton, N.B.

ure should consider some of the problems confronting not only St. John, but most localities in the province.

Mr. Harrison gave a history of the port of Saint John and put in a word for the Valley line from Fredericton, and Dr. White spoke along the same lines as already advocated in The Daily Mail, using practically our paper's figures published in our recent Editorial on the McGivney-Fredericton-Saint John route. Hon. Mr. Harrison said the situation was that the federal government owned the harbor and owned the Canadian National Railways. Why not then, connect them up for the benefit of Canada? Agitation for the building of the harbor bridge continued until the federal government engaged Sir Alexander Gibb to make a survey of national ports, and in that eminent British engineer's report Section 281 stated: "In my opinion the Canadian National Railways should run direct into West Saint John by means of the Valley line from Fredericton. This, I was informed, involved the construction, or reconstruction, of a bridge and the relaying of a considerable portion of the line between Fredericton and St. John. It would, on the other hand, effect a valuable saving in mileage, and would provide a satisfactory route between Montreal and Saint John, that would permit more economical and more rapid traffic operation."

Continuing, Dr. White said he believed that the situation arising from the quoted recommendation, and the whole attitude of the men in charge, or the Canadian National Railways demanded the immediate attention of the House. The debt of the Canadian National Railways system, for which the Dominion was responsible, amounted to practically half of the whole

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debt of the country. It should be of the greatest interest to all Canadians as well as to those in this province to see that the railway was operated in the most economical way possible. He claimed that there was enormous waste in the operation of the railway because of the apparent prejudice of its management against the port of Saint John.

A table of comparative distances, as recently published by the Daily Mail, savings that might be effected by the use of Saint John against Halifax, for heavy freight at least. For instance, the distance from Winnipeg

(Continued on Page Five)

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