NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT TACKLES UNEMPLOYMENT

An unusual amount of genuine unemployment is said to be the reason why the New Zealand Government has introduced proposals for the absorption of certain unemployed workers, a program described by some newspapers in that country as "a straightforward attempt to temper the acuteness of the problem by a practical and humanitarian scheme." As put forward by the Government the plan offers equitable conditions of employment to all classes of workers, according to the Wellington Dominion, which goes on to say:

"It provides for a minimum wage of 12s, and 9s. ($3 and $2.25) a day respectively for married and single men of average or below average ability, and at the same time a generous inducement to the better men. Co-operative contracts will be arranged where possible, and where this can not be done, the hourly wage rates will be on the same basis. In any case, it is 'up to the man,' as the Prime Minister points out, to earn above the minimum by his own efforts. 'Men employed on relief works on the co-operative system,' says Mr. Coates, 'will understand of course, that notwithstanding the rate of remuneration mentioned above there is nothing to prevent them receiving more if they earn more.'

"This, it will be generally agreed, is a very fair and generous offer. Among the unemployed there is doubtless a certain proportion of inefficients, men who even in normal times would be classed as 'unemployables' at standard wages, and who in the most favorable circumstances could never hope to earn as much as the average worker. Labor from this class is more or less a loss on the wages paid, and the Government must stand to lose. In the circumstances, however, the Prime Minister is fully justified in the course taken.

"Mr. Coates, in his announcement, did not overlook the excellent work which has been done hitherto by voluntary organizations operating on the basis of public subscription. With the experience gained their assistance in connection with the new scheme will be very welcome and valuable, and the Prime Minister showed his good sense in inviting their co-operation."

In dealing with the question of unemployment, however, this Wellington newspaper points out that care should be taken that the condition is not exaggerated. A certain proportion of men out of work, it tells us, are engaged in seasonal occupations, but—

"Even in their case, it is possible that greater hardship than usual is being experienced from the fact that there has been a general tendency for industry to shorten sail as the result of the present temporary depression.

"The condition of financial stringency through which the country is now passing has caught us somewhat unprepared. There is not only a general tightening of the money market, but the Government itself has been obliged to exercise the greatest prudence and reserve with regard to its expenditure and commitments. The absorption of an appreciable number of unemployed workers by the Government means in the aggregate a substantial outlay over what may probably be an indefinite period, and from which it is impossible to expect a commensurate return.

"The Government rightly suggests that where distress demands humanitarian action, the State has a duty to perform, but the Government is not in a financial position to distribute standard wage jobs to inexperienced workers, even if it were so minded. To do so would materially circumscribe the area of relief, and at the same time remove the incentive to seek permanent employment elsewhere when opportunity offers."

Music Flows From Toronto Faucets.

A curious phenomenon in radio reception was recently noticed in a florist shop underneath one of the large Toronto broadcasting stations. For some unknown reason everything that is broadcast or finds its way into the microphone, while the radio transmitter is on, can be heard quite clearly through the faucets in the florist shop with the metal sink acting as a loudspeaker.

Although a number of telephone and radio engineers have investigated the possible connections between the broadcasting station and the hot and cold water-tops in the shop, nothing has been found which would account for this peculiar effect.

Music is received with much more volume than speech, although the latter can be heard at a distance of three feet when the speaker is talking with less than average force into the microphone. The operator of CFCA, E. J. Bowers, reports one evening, while a concert was being broadcast by remote control, the music could be heard very plainly outside the locked door of the shop, some ten feet away from the water-taps.

The owner of the shop, when asked as to whether the continuous flow of music was irksome, replied he did not find it so, and often came to the shop at night to hear a good concert. He has listened in this manner to church services broadcast through CFCA.

The only time that it is bothersome, he said, is when the radio-and-music store across the street opens with its loud-speaker and rebroadcasts above the noise of traffic. Then I am in between two fires.

Just what is the cause of this freak reception has not been definitely established. Samuel J. Ellis, radio inspector for the Toronto district, has investigated with telephone engineers in an effort to solve the mystery.

"We tested every pipe near by and in other parts of the building, but nowhere was the volume as great as at the taps. Near-by pipes would record to a slight extent when a fiddlestick was used," said Mr. Ellis.

This, Mr. Ellis explained, was a small wooden rod, some eighteen inches long and similar in appearance to an ordinary broomstick. One end had been sawed off diagonally and a small wooden disk the size of one's ear nailed upon it. The other end was grooved to fit on a pipe. When the fiddlestick was placed against a pipe and held to the ear, music and speech were audible.

E. J. Bowers, operator of the broadcasting station, holds somewhat similar views. Since he explained that the station is in no way connected with the pipes, it being thoroughly grounded where necessary, and the leads from the motor-generator to the tubes contain more than the required number of radio-frequency chokes and by-pass condensers, it would seem that mechanical vibration is accountable for this "tap music."

The case has aroused considerable interest among Toronto radio fans. Reports from England tell of a similar case in which a metal lamp pole near Station 2LO in London acts in a like manner and daily brings crowds about it.

Never Neglect Hand Signals.

Don't neglect hand signals. Many accidents have been brought about by the drivers who are too negligent to warn those behind.

Psychologist Tells How to Develop Personality.

Want to change yourself?

Easy enough, says Henry Knight Miller in an editorial in "Psychology Magazine." "Your present condition," writes Dr. Miller, "is but the externalization of the predominant impressions which through suggestion yau have stored up in the Sub-conscious mind, not the ideas which you occasionally entertain. What you persistently think determines to a nicety what you are and where you are.

"Learn to use this tremendous force," continues Dr. Miller, "and there is almost no limit to what you can achieve. This is the devine alchemy which transforms weakness into strength, poverty to wealth, sickness to health, and defeat to life triumphant. Your destiny is in your own hands."

Dr. Miller points out that it is through the Conscious mind that the Subconscious, which governs emotions and instincts, is controlled. The Conscious mind is the guardian at the gates of the Subconscious. The Conscious mind consists of the faculties of attention, perception and reason. Learn to exercise these three and every situation in life may be rationalized and understood.

"The man who reasons," concludes Dr. Miller, "cannot be defeated by any chance circumstances."

Canada May Hear His Majesty's Jubilee Message

When His Majesty, King of Canada as of all the British dominions beyond the seas, starts the "victory" carillon pealing on Parliament Hill, Ottawa, on Dominion Day, all Canadian stations not linked up with Ottawa for the broadcasting may be stilled. Then at night when reception has improved Ottawa hopes by rebroadcasting to give to the people of Canada the King's message in his own voice.

His majesty will listen in for the carillon's peal and it is expected that through re-broadcasting the people of Canada will hear by his own voice the king saying that he heard the bells of Canada ring out on her diamond jubilee.

The program during the day will be principally confined to carillon music, but at night there will be speeches by eminent Canadians, probably in both languages. To improve the reception at distant points, the smaller broadcasting stations would be silent, leaving to the powerful stations the broadcasting.

Road to Success Not Straight.

Direct lines to success are indeed rare. There is no such thing as uninterrupted progress. In any kind of work for self-development, in business life—in practically everything we attempt—there come times when a blank wall looms in our path, when perhaps we seem even to slip backward and lose in a day what it has required years to gain.

Then we weaken and give up. Possibly one more week, even one more day of struggle, would have brought the goal in sight. Fully half the failures in the big aims of our lives could be traced to this mistake of regarding a temporary reverse as decisive defeat. You and I would be appalled today if we knew the vast number of unnecessary failures—men and women who were deceived and cheated by this Moloch, Discouragement.

Mme. Jourdan, a much decorated war nurse, recently received the most coveted decoration of all, "Knight of the Legion d'Honneur," at the hands of General Gouraud, at a Prise d'Armes at the Invalides, Paris.

Wind of Cornwall.

The sweet wind of Cornwall,
It blows across the moors.
Its perfume is a riddle
That puzzles and allures.
Its fragrances are blended
Of blossoms gently tended
With gorse that laughs unfriended
In gold upon the moors.

The sweet wind of Cornwall,
It blows across the wall
Of many a tiny garden
And takes its toll of all.
It snatches balmy pledges
From honeysuckle hedges
And the hardy rose that edges
The sea which savours all.

The sweet wind of Cornwall,
It blows across the sea.
To those who sought far fortune
It smells of memory—
Of cliffs where gulls are crying,
Of moors in sunlight lying,
And childhood's dreams undying
Beside the Cornish sea.

—Amelia Josephine Burr, in "Selected Lyrics."

Millenium Seen When People Begin to Think.

"If the potential but dormant thoughts of the race could be stimulated into activity, the entire aspect of life might be changed almost overnight," points out Dr. Henry Knight Miller.

"Investigators tell us that the race uses but ten per cent. of its mental capacity," writes Dr. Miller. "Each generation has but few independent thinkers. The masses are content to drift along on a dead level, mental parasites, living upon the thoughts of others.

This being true, the marvel is that we do as well as we do. Consider what advancement might be possible if by some divine alchemy we might reclaim the vast deserts of racial mental inertia. Slums would disappear, wars would be no more, crime, disease, superstition, intolerance, would vanish as the mists of August before the rising sun."

Fountains.

Few things are lovelier than fountains are . . .
White water stabbing at a blue sky far
Or falling over in a crystal tree
With frozen fire in all its veins to see
Shuttled by winds into a rainbow bar.

—George O'Neil, in "The White Rooster."

Big Playground.

Jasper National Park, in Alberta, with an area of 4,400 square miles, is one of the largest "playgrounds" in the world. A part of this reserve to the north of the central section is still unexplored, but the park is being rapidly opened up by the construction of trails and highways.

Special Tower Needed to Hang Victory Bells.

A gaunt, tall skeleton steel work is raising itself beside the Victory Tower on Parliament Hill, Ottawa, to await the coming of the Victory bells, which are to ring out the diamond jubilee of Confederaion.

In the rear of the tower at the height of the roof of the hall of fame, there is a jagged gap in the stonework boarded up, an eyesore since the tower was built and the subject of much conjecture. This gap is to take in the bells which will then be hoisted into place inside the tower.

It would have been impossible to have hoisted the bells the whole distance within the tower, for the memorial room occupies the first hundred feet over the entrance arches. The roof of the memorial room comprises a wonderfully carved gothic arched vault, so the bells must be taken into the tower above this.

There will be 52 bells to be raised and hung, the heaviest weighing ten tons and the smallest being about the size of a schoolmam's large bell, but much heavier. The bells have been cast at the foundry in Croyden, near London, but have not yet been shipped.

The High Potential of Babyhood.

Consider the power of human personality. In a tiny bundle of flesh that we call a baby there lies dormant power sufficient to lift the entire race to loftier heights and turn the course of history into fairer ways. The baby grown to manhood becomes a soldier leading his country's troops to victory in the hour of apparent defeat; an orator swaying a nation with his eloquence; a musician composing strains destined to thrill unborn generations; an inventor whose creative genius will enrich the world and make life easier and more abundant for hundreds of millions.

Canadian Seeds.

Canadian-grown seeds command recognition in foreign markets by virtue of their inherit qualities of hardiness and vigor of growth. It is a fact, of which Europeans have long been aware, that in the Northern Hemisphere, the farther north any plant can be brought to perfection the higher will be the quality and that of near descendants.

Ancient Paving of Lava.

The streets of the city of Pompeii were paved with blocks of lava quarried from the neighborhood of Mt. Vesuvius.

Imitation of Resin.

A synthetic resin produced by a Viennese chemist is said to be capable of taking aniline dyes, whereas natural glass can be colored with mineral dyes only.

WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT CHINA?

The Foreign Editor was meditating an editorial on the latest developments of the situation in China when his wife—supposedly absorbed in the book column of the morning paper—looked up and asked, "What's all this about China?"

The Editor pulled himself together rapidly and executed a general countermaneuver: "What do you mean—all this?"

"Why, these attacks on Americans and Englishmen—what's the reason for them? There's a war there, isn't there?"

"Yes—there's quite a little war. The attacks on foreigners have happened in connection with the internal struggle to"—

"Oh, I know—that's between the North and the South, isn't it?"

"In a general way, yes. It's between factions, for control of the country. The Nationalist Party—the one you see referred to as the Kuomington—on one side had headquarters at Canton, in South China, at the time when it started a campaign against the militarists in power at Peking, in North China. But it has followers more or less all through the country."

"They're the Reds, arent' they?"

"Well, some of them are; and they are often called that in news reports. There really are three divisions in the party—conservatives, moderates, and radicals. It's the radicals who are the so-called Reds—the Communistic wing."

"The Bolsheviks are backing them, aren't they?"

"They've taken a great part in building up the radical organization—yes. But it wouldn't be at all accurate to call all the Nationalists 'Reds'—Even though Soviet Russia has given aid and advice to the Nationalists generally, with the aim of making trouble for the other foreign Powers in China."

"Is that the reason for these attacks on Americans?"

"Partly; but the dislike of foreigners always has been common in China."

"I guess it must be a good deal like the United States. We don't see much of foreigners, and so we don't understand them or like them—much."

"There's a lot in that. China used to be a country closed to foreigners, you know, and the Western nations had more or less to force the way for trade and missionary work by special treaty agreements. From time to time there have been uprisings against foreigners, long before this present trouble. The Boxer riots, back around 1900, were a case of that sort. You remember when the United States and the European Powers and Japan had to send expeditions to rescue their citizens in the siege of Peking. It's an old story in China."

"Why don't they like the foreigners now?"

"Well, many of them feel that the foreigners look down on the natives and have treated them badly. And the Chinese don't like the concessions and privileges that the old Imperial Government gave foreigners, exempting them from Chinese law and allowing control of the tariffs."

"What ever became of the Emperor?"

"The Emperor? Why, the 'Boy Emperor,' so-called—the heir to the throne—was confined for many years in the Imperial City at Peking, after the Manchu dynasty was overthrown in the Revolution in 1911."

"Oh. yes, I remember. Well, then, they have a republic?"

"They set up a republic after the Revolution, under the leadership of the founder of the Nationalist Party—Sun-Yat-sen. You probably recall hearing his name?"

"Sun Yat-sen? It makes me think of Sen-Sen."

There was a slight pause for reflection on both sides of the table. Then:

"Is he President?"

"Sun Yat-sen? He's dead. He only acted as executive temporarily, and another man became the first regular President."

"Who's President now?"

"That's what they're trying to find out in the civil war. There isn't any President now. You see, after the Republic was established, a strong military leader named Yuan Shih-kai got command of the Government and appointed his chieftains as rulers of provinces all through the country and tried to make himself Emperor. There was a Nationalist movement against him. He died—it's been rumored that he was poisoned. After his death no one seemed to be strong enough to control the country long. Various military governors and generals have tried to exercise power, and there have been wars between factions and many changes of government at Peking. Meanwhile Sun Yat-sen established headquarters of the Nationalist Party—the Kuomingtang—at Canton, and organized an administration claiming to be the rightful Government of China. Finally, one crafty military chief got the upper hand in North China, and he heads the other Northern militarists and really runs the emergency Government at Peking—Marshal Chang Tso-lin, of Manchuria. It's against him and his followers that the Nationalists are fighting."

"What's the difference between them?"

"Well, the militarists are a pretty reactionary lot; and they raise funds by appropriating the national and provincial revenues and letting their soldiers loot. They would run a government on despotic lines, probably. The Nationalists are a mixed group, but in general they want a constitutional central government and a considerable degree of local self-government for the provinces."

"Who's winning?"

"It's hard to tell now. The Nationalists were winning. They had advanced from the South and gained command of the Yangtze River in central China and set up their capital in Hankow and captured the port of Shanghai.

"But they're not winning any more?"

"No; there's been a split between the moderate group on one side, headed by their general, Chiang Kai-shek, and the radicals on the other—the Reds. The moderates now have headquarters at Shanghai, and the radicals at Hankow."

"I see."

"Nothing more?"

"I don't think so."

"Don't want to know the reason for the split?"

"Oh, it seems to me they always split. I'll bet it's no sensible reason. It never is."

"Well, it seems to be partly over the general policies of the party—whether they should be Communistic or democratic—and over the attitude to be taken toward foreigners."

It struck the Foreign Editor, thinking over the conversation, that the needed editorial explaining the situation in China had been outlined.—The Outlook.

Luring the Temperamental Fish.

That fish have a well-established reputation for vanity may be gathered from the popularity of the mirror as a "trick" lure, according to an article in "Field and Stream Magazine" describing peculiar bait patents.

However, vanity is not the only piscatory instinct appealed to by these lures. One device carries a mirror suspended behind the bait to arouse a fish's competition instinct; while another seeks only to excite curiosity by his mirror.

Still another promising inventor wrote, "My invention seeks to utilize the instinct of a fish to bite at another fish, particularly one smaller than himself; and my invention consists, therefore, in placing a reflecting surface upon the line in which the fish will see himself reflected, and also a hook upon said line adjacent to the reflecting surface, so that when the fish bites at the supposed approaching fish he will be caught upon the hook."

World's Poultry Congress.

Some of the British delegates to the World's Poultry Congress here July 27th to August 4th, are sailing from Britain at once, according to word received from Edward Brown, London, President of the 1927 International Congress. President Brown himself is sailing on June 24th to assist in preparing the show. The Marchioness of Aberdeen, wife of a former Governor-General of Canada, writes to say that her daughter, Lady Pentland, with her son, young Lord Pentland, and Hon. Peggy Sinclair, is likely tqo be a visitor to the Congress. Lady Aberdeen adds that there will doubtless be a number of members of the National Council of Women attend in one capacity or another.

The Voice of the Sun.

The day began before your eyes were awake,
Something had spoken.
The world about your room was very still;
The sun, it seemed, had dried up every sound—
Yet something spoke.
No lark's song in the sky;
No gentle lowing of a cow;
No cheery salutation from a passer-by in the road below—
Just morning, sublimely beautiful, touching your eyelids,
And something breathing "Peace" into your ear.
You lay in quietness and listened.
You and the sun were close to one another.
It was the sun's voice you had heard.

Armistice car on which Foch and Hindenburg suspended hostilities will be hauled to Compiegne, where the armistice was signed.