

The Week at OTTAWA

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OTTAWA (CP) — Canada's parliament momentarily forgot its prerogative this week in the heat of a long and serious debate on an important piece of government legislation known as Bill 15. It was the Emergency Powers Bill outlining the control powers the government will continue into the transition period. And it took the government with two of its top ministers in action a full week to get it through a critical House of Commons and then on to the amended form.

Progressive Conservatives were the main critics. They said the legislation invaded provincial rights, that it gave blanket power for government by order in council. Frederick Borden, independent member for Charlottetown, Saguenay, charged the measure asked parliament to abandon its rights to the cabinet. He asked for a six month delay for the bill but his motion was defeated.

Justice Minister St. Laurent and Agriculture Minister Gardiner defended the measure in speeches which brought wild desk-pounding from the Liberal benches. The grey-haired Justice Minister said while regrettable, the controls were required. "They are required and this government has the nerve to come to the country and say it intends to see that they are maintained so long as they are required."

That brought a rejoinder that what was needed was a government with nerve to take the controls off. "Government nerve," shot back the Justice Minister. "This government has not the nerve to take off controls and make opportunities for those who would derive benefits from those opportunities at the expense of the mass of the population."

Given Third Reading
Amended from its original form by the government, the measure received two minor changes in committee of the Commons. Then Bracken called for a vote on third reading and the House approved it by the comfortable margin of 121 to 46 with the C.C.F. and most of the Social Crediters supporting the government.

As amended, the bill extends for a year the government's right to enforce wartime controls. It authorizes the government to keep controls on prices, wages, rents, shelter, production, distribution and other matters deemed necessary for the peace, order and good government during the transition period. It gives other powers, too, such as those affecting immigration, deportation and the revoking of nationalization the latter point the target of much criticism.

The immediate future of Canada's great agricultural industry was mapped in Ottawa this week. The plans were laid at a three-day Dominion-provincial agricultural conference and inter-continental and inter-world trade entered the picture, too.

The conference made recommendations in the entire field of Canadian agricultural production on which the 1946 food production program will be based. And the figures were almost staggering. Here are some of the main recommendations:

Wheat acreage at 23,414,100 for 1946, the same as 1945, oats at 14,310,200 compared with 14,393,200 in 1945, barley at 8,000,000 compared with 7,350,000 and rye at 487,100, the same as this year. The conference also recommended 6,148,000 head of hogs compared with 5,900,000, 1,700,000 head of cattle as in 1945 and 1,100,000 sheep and lambs down 100,000 from this year. It asked for 17,000,000 pounds of milk, 310,000,000 pounds of butter, 180,000,000 pounds of cheese, 375,000,000 dozen eggs, 12,500,000 bushels of apples, 52,000 acres of potatoes and 40,000 acres of corn.

Canada's Larder
Observers agreed Canada's 1946 larder will be huge and much of it will be for export. Agriculture Minister Gardiner told the conference future policies of production and marketing should be governed by the assumption that all war-induced restrictions will be removed.

sent anti-tuberculosis campaign under which cattle are segregated by areas.

The Minister spoke after Dr. W. G. Blair, Progressive Conservative from Lanark, told the Commons of the dangers of Bang's Disease, how it spread to humans in the form of undulant fever. Eighty per cent of undulant fever cases were among farmers who became ill after handling infected cattle or drinking milk from diseased cattle.

In humans he said the disease might run two or three years. There was doubt that those afflicted ever could regain normal health and there was no cure for the illness. Doctors were helpless.

The way to combat undulant fever he said, was to fight Bang's Disease.

"All Aboard"

By R. J. Deachman

The train left Toronto at 7:30 a.m. It was headed for Guelph, Kitchener, Stratford, Goderich, London and other places. The chair car was reasonably full. Some sat in for breakfast the majority grabbed the morning paper on the way through the station, buried their faces in it the instant they found their seats.

A stout lady was reading the social items a wedding interested her. "I doubt if she thought much of the bride, or was it the groom?" There was a smile of restrained superiority when she turned to another page. In her mind lingered the idea that both she and her husband had done better in their day, at least she thought they had. A young girl turned to the sporting page. She was not interested in the game, but she was in the players' good luck to her.

One man was up to his ears in the Financial Page, only his bald head shone above it. He read every item in markets and prices. I wondered if he had been in the crash of 1929. I remember that day remember also the few who got out in time and henceforth wore an air of infinite superiority. Another was busy on Walter Lippman's article, "The U.S. A. in the Middle East." The front page got his attention.

An elderly gentleman read the want ads. He was looking for a farm to buy. One of those quiet places which live in the memory of those born on a farm, now living in a city. He would play with it if he bought it, but in his eyes there shone the lights of towns and cities, the farm would not hold him long.

Across the aisle was a good looking well dressed chap, chasing fly perhaps. He was a symphony in greys, grey suit, hat and overcoat of slighter darker hue. His socks matched his hat. I noticed his tie, it added a dash of color to the ensemble. It was tied as if it came fresh from the pages of "Esquire." He reviewed the paper much as I would the news, the financial page, the editorials. He rested a moment with this page spread out before him then he took a small pair of scissors from a pocket case, cut an item from the page, ranned it carefully, took a note-book out of his pocket, folded the item, placed it in the note-book, returned the note-book to his pocket. The caption of the story was: "Household Soap is Needed in Many European Homes." If I meet that man again I will ask him why he was interested in that item. Strange, wasn't it? The train moved on through the country on a lovely autumn day.

Three days later I was on a night train bound for Ottawa. At two o'clock in the morning I awoke dimly conscious of a child crying, one berth forward, across the aisle. It was a quiet, subdued cry with now and then a broken word which failed to reach my ears. At last her voice became clearer: "Mummy, Mummy," she said, between low sobs, "take my hand, where am I?" There was a movement in the berth across the aisle, the curtain of the next berth was pulled back, a woman's hand reached in: "Mummy," she said and the child answered "Mummy." There was a moment of silence, then a long drawn out sigh from the child. The woman went back to her berth, the child was asleep, the train roared into the night.

HOME TOWN CO-OPERATION

It is usually quite a problem in carrying on community efforts, to obtain the people needed to serve on committees, get up entertainments, and sales, and take offices in the local organizations. Many people of course are so burdened with their own cares that they cannot be expected to do any considerable amount of public work.

Yet many persons who seem very busy with their work or business duties, do manage to squeeze in a good deal of time to manage home town efforts and work in community movements. Somehow they find the hours in their busy lives which they can devote to these activities. They show a splendid spirit, and the community honors them. They are rewarded by the friends they make in these activities, and the reputation they make for leadership and accomplishing useful results.

EVIDENCE

The woman autoist posed for a snapshot in front of the fallen pillars of an ancient temple in Greece. "Don't get the car in the picture," she said, "or my husband will think I ran into the place."

A Farmer's Wife Looks at Strikes

By R. J. Deachman

There appeared recently in the Canadian Countryman, a farm journal published in Toronto, a letter from Mrs. William Schrag of Zurich, Huron County, a letter which expresses the farm attitude to strikes more clearly than anything else I have heard or read this year. Here it is: "It seems that all we hear about these days is Strikes! Strikes! and more Strikes! 'More pay for less work!' I often wonder what all these strikers think (I doubt if they think much, or deeply) when they vote to strike for their demands. Do they honestly believe their action is justified? Do they really think they are getting less than their share of the income of the nation as a whole? Do they foresee the result of their demands, if met, upon the economic life of the country? Or are they determined to get all they can at the present moment, regardless?"

"Apparently the only large group in the country not in a striking mood is the farm population. The farmer seems to be satisfied. He is enjoying a position of economic parity with the city. In which his returns for a 12-hour day plus the hours contributed by his wife and children are equal to the returns of the industrial laborer for his eight day."

"Let us assume that all these groups have a moral right to a 30 per cent wage increase and a 40-hr week. Do they not concede to all non-striking groups the same right? Let us be fair and square and increase the income of every man and woman in the country by 30 per cent, and cut their working hours to 40 per week. Are we any better off? Even a moron could see that we would be in a worse position. Our export trade would suffer if all prices were increased by 30 per cent. The non-farming population would most certainly be half-starved if the farmer worked 40 hours per week instead of the 120 hours which he (and his family) spend on the farm work at present."

"If industry were able, by more efficient management up to date machinery increased output, etc., to offer a pay increase, it would be much better and fairer to reduce the price of all manufactured articles, thus benefiting the consumer. That would be helping every man, woman and child in the country. If a product is lowered in price, the demand for it is increased, exports are increased, and the entire industry stimulated."

"With prices, as a result of free competition becoming lower and lower, all workers would enjoy a continuously rising standard of living even though their money wages remained at a stationary level. "Wouldn't that be a happy situation? In conclusion, will say I am against the 'closed shop' for free trade, and believe that if all people practised true Christianity, the world would enjoy a continually expanding prosperity such as is impossible for the imagination to conceive."

WRIT SARCASTIC

Lawyers say that access to and across from one's own property and the right freely to pass along public thoroughfares are elementary points of justice firmly rooted in common law. However, to clarify the position in the light of the realities of the Forcible Entry Act, there might be something to this effect included in the Criminal Code:

"The citizen is entitled to enter and leave his place of business or employment to pursue his trade, business, profession or any other lawful activity, except that he may be prevented by a labor union, or any group of persons calling themselves a trade or labor union, or a committee thereof, in which event neither the police of the Dominion, nor of a province nor of a municipality may take any action to stop such prevention whether it be by force or intimidation, and any police officer or other Dominion, provincial or municipal official who is proven in a court of law to have interfered with such actions on the part of such labor groups or committees thereof may be prosecuted in a court of law for damages by the union or its members."

The foregoing may be as fuzzy writing as is much of our legislation, but the reader will get the idea. And another clause might be added to make certain that unions cannot be hauled into court by the person who so unreasonably might have desired to enter his property when it was strickenbound. The Printed Word.

"Everybody thinks about himself," said a downcast man, "and I'm the only one who thinks about me."

SERVICEMAN AS "POI"

It will be a great joy to the returning servicemen who have children to get home, and see these little ones again and take up the joys of constant companionship with them. They will discuss eagerly with their wives the needs and progress of the children, and will have many talks about their future.

If it is asked what kind of a father the average serviceman will be, he should turn out to be a very good one. For one thing, he has acquired the habit as a soldier of obeying orders, and has accustomed himself to strict discipline. One would think he would be quite firm with his children, that he would expect them to obey parental commands without undue hesitation, and that he will not be likely to yield if they leave and seek for things they should not have.

Military life tends to make people orderly in their habits. The serviceman will not like to see his children throwing things around in a careless way for someone else to pick up. One would think that the children would have special respect for a father who has been with the armed services, and one can imagine the close attention with which they will listen when he tells about his experiences. He will have many stories that will interest them.

One can imagine how they will boast of the deeds and service of their father. It can be imagined that they will usually obey his orders quite well, and will be anxious to please one whom they admire so thoroughly.

The servicemen have thought and dreamed about these little ones. The pictures of these youngsters have been precious souvenirs that have given them courage and patience in difficult and dangerous circumstances. It has been or will be a wonderful moment when they come home to these offspring.

ANSWERS MAY TAKE CANADIAN CATTLE

CANBERRA (CP) — Proposals have been made to extend shipments of stud cattle from Canada the free transport which Australia is providing for six shipments of pedigree stock from Britain. Some experts urge that Australia would benefit greatly by securing pedigree Herefords and Durhams from Canada. The Australian Agricultural Council has asked the Commonwealth to help the states to secure stud bulls to be kept at state farms.

RIG BLANT
CALGARY (CP) — Preparations for an explosion which may affect oil production all over the world are under way at Turney Valley, 35 miles southwest of Calgary. Engineers are planning to set off 5,000 quarts of nitroglycerine in an attempt to recover an almost played out oil well.

RECIPE WANTED
Newlywed to mother: "Do you like scraps?"
Mother: "I don't know. What are they?"
Newlywed: "I don't know either, but my husband has gone out to shoot them, and I don't know how to cook them."

THOUGHTS THAT HEAL AND PREVENT DISEASE
The growing recognition among physicians and others of the value of thought in the treatment of disease, Christian Science shows to be a development of much significance and promise.
A Christian Science Sunday Service will be Broadcast over Station CFRB at 11 a.m., Sunday, December 9th, 1945.

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BLACK FLAGS on U Boats

When Nazi U-boat commanders hoisted black flags of surrender, it was a "go ahead" signal to the three out of every eight Canadians who normally depend for their livelihood on export trade.

For five years the flow of foreign trade has been largely a government responsibility. But now, to help create peacetime jobs, Canadian enterprise must do its full share in finding customers abroad. This means doing business all over the world, in strange and distant cities, in a hundred languages and currencies.

Canadian banks have a key role in this complicated but essential peacetime task. Every day their foreign branches and correspondents arrange credits, handle documents and perform other intricate operations to bring buyers and sellers together across the obstacles of distance, language and custom.

This banking service is of primary importance to business and to every Canadian worker as Canada turns to the task of re-creating trade abroad to provide jobs at home.

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