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The Editor's Corner

THE PRESS AND THE GOVERNMENT

(No 2 of a series of articles prepared for C.W.N.A. member papers by B H. Mortlock, associate editor of the Brampton Conservator).

Misconceptions relating to the right of the press to criticize, commend or suggest to government bodies, civic, provincial or federal, is often assailed. For that reason it is essential that the position of the press in its relationship to governmental bodies should be examined.

Many well-meaning people conscientiously believe that the press should express no conviction upon civic, provincial or federal affairs. They assume that to offer criticism is to become partisant. They confuse the meaning of the word "independent" and "neutral." There is a very real and vital difference between the two. To be independent is to reserve the inalienable right of every citizen to approve or disapprove of any public matter without thought of servitude to any particular party or group. To be neutral is to avoid reference to any contentious matter. To sum up the two it would be fair to say that independence was that same privilege of the individual to decide for himself, for which party he shall vote, or which church he shall attend without pressure from party executives or religious dignitaries. To be neutral is to admit that one is not prepared to come for a decision or make a stand on any matter, and therefore to leave it alone.

Members of civic bodies semetimes point out that newspapers have such a tremendous influence in the community, and that their circulation is so widespread that they have an advantage over those with whom they disagree. This is true only in-so-far as the individual refuses to take advantage of the privilege granted by almost every newspaper of using the columns of the press, to express his or her views. There is however, a much more important angle to this question. Newspapermen are equipped to give more adequate study to municipal affairs than most individuals. At their fingertips they have information which is not readily available to every citizen. Their representatives attend meetings of civic bodies, and therefore have the opportunity of getting a better understanding of municipal affairs than the average voter. Of even greater importance is the almost universal attitude of the public to expect advice and leadership from the press. The newspaper is often the only medium through which citizens may keep in touch and abreast of the affairs of the community. They expect, and have the right to expect, that their newspaper will keep them advised of what is going on, and will also, through the information at its disposal, endeavour to interpret the news. The newspaper which fails to do this, is failing in what often amounts to its supreme task in the community.

Another assumption of some men and women in public office is that any criticism offered in a newspaper is personal, rather than objective. That is not true. Newspapers have been known to conduct violently personal campaigns, but it is the exception rather than the rule, and if any criticism violates the laws of defamatory libel, the individual always has recourse to the courts.

The newspaper which comments on public affairs, far from being presumptious, is but fulfilling one of the most important and vital functions of the press. If it is genuine in its desire to be of service to the community, it will open its columns to signed letters from those who disagree with its editorial opinions, but all too often those who have this privilege fail to avail themselves of the opportunity, preferring to carry on a street corner, or platform feud against the newspaper. By intelligent comment on public affairs the newspaper prevents the rise of unscrupulous men who seek office for private gain, and it often brings to light factors in a situation that have been entirely overlooked by the civic administrators and the public. In this service alone newspapers have saved their communities from colossal financial loss and from racketeers who would use public office to enrich themselves. .

PERSONAL POSTAL MESSAGES TO ENEMY AND **ENEMY-OCCUPIED COUNTRIES**

The Honourable W. P. Mulock, K. C., Postmaster General, announces that arrangements have been made by the Canadian Post Office Department for a system of Personal Postage Messages to faciltate the sending of brief messages between persons in Canada and relatives and friends in enemy and enemy-occupied countries, including Germany, Austria, Italy, Czechoslavakia, German occupied Poland, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Norway, Denmark, occupied France and the Channel Islands.

Such messages are to be written on an official form and are to be confined to simple messages not exceeding 20 words which are purely personal in character relating to family news or enquiry as to the well-being of the addressee or his relatives and friends. Nothing of a political, economic or military character is permitted. Messages should be written in block letters and, if possible, should be in English, French or German.

The messages will be transmitted through the intermediary of the International Red Cross Committee at Geneva, Switzerland, on the special official forms which may be obtained through any Postmaster.

The fee for a Personal Postal Message is 25c which pays postage to final destination as well as postage from Geneva to Canada on the addressee's reply.

The scheme will go into effect tomorrow (May 1st).

SNUFF IT OUT!





"All right - all right; - So what if he IS going down for the third time?--I gotta right to practise my duck-dive SOMETIME, ain't I?

tality of hundreds of children - and day Times.

BOMB-SHOCKED LITTLE MINDS how the daughter of famous psychiatrist Dr. Sigmund Freud is working England's Most Heartbreaking Casualty day and night to salvage the young Read how the blasting of cities by human wrecks, as told in a feature Nazi air attacks is not half so des- article n The American Weekly with tructive as the shattering of the men- the May I issue of The Detroit Sun-

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TIME TABLE

Effective Sunday, October 6th

(Eastern Standard Time)

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a-Except Sun, and Hol.

d-Except Sat., Sun. and Hol.

b-Sun, and Hol. only

e-Sat., Sun. and Hol.

f-Daily except Sun.

c-Saturdays only.

4.08 p.m.

6.48p.m.

9.13 p.m.

6.00 p.m.

b 7.50 p.m.

dx10.35 p.m.

ex11.35 p.m.

f 6.14 a.m.

9.18 a.m.

11.48 p.m.

c 2.23 p.m.

9.35 a.m.

2.05 p.m.

x 12.05 p.m.

ay 4.05 p.m.

SECRET SPEECH DISCLOSED

U. S. Shocked by Nazi

A political sensation of the first order was created in United States recently by the publication of a speech by Richard Walther Barre, Germany's Minister of Agriculture and a key man in the Nazi party.

With extraordinary frankness outlined German plans for the world including the United States. He described how the populations of the conquered countries would be forced to work as slaves for the Germans.

In the United States, he said, Nazi sympathisers already held many key posts, "and we have in the American police an organization operating with the same exactitude as in Berlin 'or Prague."

The speech which was delivered in May to a gathering of high Nazi officials, who were warned that it was as much as their lives were worth to divulge it, was printed recently in the Now York Times and the magazine hife. Both declare that after thorough investigation they believe it to be authentic.

ON INVASION EVE

Darre began his review of Nazi aims by dealing with the situation in Europe on the eve of the attack on the Low Countries and France. But it is his reference to the United States and the avowed intention to secure America's total capitulation which cause interest and concern there. He said: "I have been asked about my opinion on America, especially the United States, and the danger of this pseudo-democratic republic's possible attempts to hinder us in our historical development.

"There is no fear that this demoralised country will mix in this German war. In the first place, as in France and other countries, also in the United States we have many of our compatriots and even more friends among the citizens of the United States who are favourably disposed towards us. "Many of the latter hold most im-

portant positions in political and economic life, and will not permit public opinion to allow something so senseless and insane as war against Ger-

EYES ON U.S. GOLD

tion of England and France such a vice.

war would be entirely hopeless. "I may say that at the outbreak of war or even at the beginning of this year a declaration by the United States of war against Germany would have caused serious difficulties, inasmuch as the moral strength of France

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and England would have gained and the unloading of relatively weak American forces would have encouraged World Slavery Plan the Western Powers to an offensive. On the other hand, we Germans have an account which we must settle with this country. In this war, not to mention the last war, the United States holds all the gold of Europe, which was and indisputably is our property, Germany being the successor state of the subjugated nations.

"Gold alone is practically of no value; but the insulting fact that it is something which God intended for us. which we were robbed of and which is intentionally withheld from us. must not remain unpunished.

"The United States also will be forced by Germany to complete the final capitulation. Our superior industrial products will be sold at very low prices to the whole world and will cause the United States to have not 7.000,000, but 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 unemployed.

"Mr. Rosenfeld (a Nazi leader) will then beg the Fuehrer on his knees to purchase from the United States not manufactured products but raw mat-

erials at prices we shall dictate. The United States is at present so demoralised and so conrupted that, like France and England, it need not be taken into consideration as a milltary adversary.

"NO FEAR OF U.S." "We have in the United States pelice an organization operating with the same exactitude as in Berlin or Prague, and we have no fear of any activities on the part of the United Sta-

"The only purpose of our offensive against the United States is for ever to get rid of another bulwark of plutocracy, to regain what belongs to us and to teach Americans to respect Germany." Darre started by predicting the de-

struction of France. "The French." he said, "are a nation of idlers and the fists of our good soldiers will teach these greedy pleasure-seekers and rotters to work hard for us."

Germany had many friends in France, Belgium and Holland, "These friends are not only our kinsmen resident there but also many members.

of those nations. "Some of them have adopted the Fuehrer's doctrine; some are displaced officials of the former regime: some are ambitious to gain prominent positions; some won't resist the temptation of money. All, however, will ren-"Moreover, after Germany's occupa- der our cause the most faithful ser-

"ACCURSED ENGLAND"

"After the complete defeat and humiliation of the Western Continental Powers it will be easy to crush contemptible England, isolated and in our power. England must be destroyed as once Carthage was destroyed.

"The centres of this perfidious plutocracy must be turned into ruins so that this punishment might serve as a lesson to all who will attack this na-

"Thousands of our 'planes will fly over proud Albion and the thunder of bombs and fires will shake to the very foundations this accursed island that has hindered for centuries our development. Our S.S. regiments, with the rest of the army, will finish the work of destruction without any sentimentality.

"By good or evil we shall subjugate especially Rumania, because of its sources of naptha, Jugoslavia, Bulgaria, Turkey and Greece. Then our way is open to immeasurable supplies

of raw material in Africa. "It may be assumed that before the autumn sets in we shall be absolute masters of two continents with the exception of Soviet Russia.

"We shall introduce in our new living space completely new methods. All the soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception and distributed primarily among the worthy members of the party and sollers accorded honours for bravery in this war. Thus a new aristocracy of German masters will be created.

"This aristocracy will have slaves assigned it, these slaves to be their property and to consist of landless non-German nationals.

"Please do not interpret the word slaves' as a parable or a rhetorical term. We actually have in mind a modern form of medieval slavery which we must and will introduce because we urgently need it to fulfil our great tasks.

"These slaves will by no means be denied the blessings of illiteracy. Higher education will in future be reserved only for the German population of

"We have selected this form of slavery for several reasons. The most important reason is that we are abolishing the gold standard and replacing it by work. This work must be as cheap as possible so that our economic conquest may spread extenvely and rapidly."

NORWAY UNDER HITLER

Daily Life Under the Nazis as Revealed in a Letter from Friends In

"Yes, keeping house in times like these is certainly difficult, for ration-

ing is very strict. Meat can scarcely

be found anywhere, and even farmers who have pigs are not allowed to use them for their own families. It is almost impossible to get fish because the fishermen have no gasoline for their boats. . . . You can't think of buying anything without a ration card, not even thread, yarn or a tiny plece of cloth. We get 300 coupons per year in our card, but a dress requires 150 coupons and a little yarn 30 coupons. Men can buy only one suit or overcoat a year. I am in despair when I think how many coupons it takes just to buy stockings for the

"Even with a bread card we have to buy 9 kilos of coarsely ground rye meal in order to have, one kilo of wheat meal; as for real flour, that can't be bought in the stores. It's a daily problem to know what to prepare for meals. Fortunately we have enough milk, at least up to now . . . I could write a great deal more about difficulties in housekeeping, about having to stand in line at the market place for hours in order to buy five eggs, and so on but I snouldn't complain too much, for we have not suffered real hardship yet . . .

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6.45 p.m. Passenger and Mail Passenger, Sundays only 11.30 p.m.

Going North Passenger and Mail 8.45 a.m.

Golne South Passenger and Mail ... 6.50 p.m. Depot Ticket Office-Phone 20w

"Jack, you don't love me any more. This is the third time you have gone before dad has made you go."