

The Week at OTTAWA

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OTTAWA (CP)—Canada last week bumped squarely into the fact international maturity and responsibility sometimes bring in severe diplomatic headaches.

The full meaning of this new-found international responsibility, an outcome of Canada's large contribution to victory, burst on Canadians in a new and somewhat alarming guise with the violent Moscow reaction to a disclosure in Ottawa that leakages of secret information to a foreign power were being investigated.

It all started with a carefully worded statement by Prime Minister Mackenzie King, who said a Royal Commission inquiry was being made into disclosures of secret and confidential information to unauthorized persons, including some members of the staff of a foreign mission in Ottawa. Some appeared "far more deeply and consciously involved than others" and a number of arrests had been made. The case, he added, would remain "sub judice" until the investigation was concluded.

Sub judice or not, there was no stemming the tide of rumor, suspicion, report and denial that flooded the capital and other parts of the country after the prime minister's announcement.

It was Canada's first major spy story, and even the sparse and guarded information available was tinder for wildfire curiosity. Artful journalistic prodding at impregnable government sources established some basis for belief that the Russians had been building up a vast "fifth column" in Canada; that the information sought concerned everything a spy might be interested in—including atomic energy, radar, arctic weapons and Canadian economic and political structure; the Russians were said to have employed a system of "blackmail" in getting information by first obtaining innocent data and then threatening government officials with disclosures that they had previously committed the indiscretion of supplying unauthorized information; an Ottawa agent had "spilled the works" to R.C.M.P. officials when threatened by Soviet minions.

Strangely enough, the first official information that Russia was the power involved came from the Soviet itself. Without having been named officially by the Canadian government, the Russian government issued a statement saying its military attache in Ottawa, Col. Nicolai Zabolin, had been given certain information of "a secret character" from Canadian citizens, and that he had for this reason been recalled.

The Moscow statement said any information received was of no value to Russia since that country had superior technical facilities and chided Prime Minister Mackenzie King for attempting to save for British Foreign Minister Bevin the "face" the latter was said to have lost at the U.N.O. conference in London. It added the action of the Canadian prime minister was "not compatible with friendly relations between the two countries."

While some authorities and many newspapers remarked on Russia's apparent "admission of guilt" before being publicly accused, Ottawa, Washington and London were noticeably silent. No reply from the Canadian capital was expected until Mr. Justice Robert Taschereau and R. L. Kellock of the Supreme Court of Canada complete their inquiry.

A United States correspondent in the capital, however, said the exchange marked "the Dominion's first participation as one party in an international rough-and-tumble", and added that, in forcing the Russians to identify themselves as the power attacked, Canada had "landed the first punch."

Many newspapers were outspoken in their criticism of Russia, but there was little indication the proceedings would have a very damaging effect on relations between Russia and the other English-speaking countries. In Washington, President Truman dodged any questions concerning the matter. In London, Foreign Secretary Bevin pledged long friendship with Russia. And, Lt.-Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, newly-appointed United States ambassador to Russia, urged at a New York meeting that the world "keep the national temperatures normal."

Meanwhile, a source close to the investigation going on here predicted a "bombshell" in the spy case shortly, and another said the results of the investigation would blow "sky high" the Moscow claim that no information of value was gathered from Canadians.

MILLIONS FOR VETS

OTTAWA (CP)—The government will spend \$23,000,000 in providing additional hospital and treatment facilities for veterans, Veterans Minister Mackenzie has announced. Arrangements are being completed with the Canadian Medical Association to have veterans in need of post-discharge treatment attended by family doctors.

The Internment of Civilians at Singapore, 1942-45

(Continued from Last Week)

The camps requirements in beds and bedding were never fulfilled. Beds were made in the carpenter's shop whenever labor and materials could be spared. Some beds and mattresses were bought but at the end there were still several hundreds of internees without beds and most of the bedding in use was in the last stages of dilapidation.

In the matter of clothing and footwear the position went from bad to worse until during the last year or so of internment the standard camp working dress had been reduced to V's (a species of bathing slips) or shorts. Most of the men were barefoot and less than half of them had hats.

The administration of the Camps passed through four phases as follows:

Phase 1: February to September, 1942; Controlling Authority, Nipponese Army High Command in Malaya.

Phase 2: October 1942 to 10th October 1943; Controlling Authority, Military Administrative Dept., Singapore (M. A. D.).

Phase 3: October 10th, 1943 to 21st January, 1944; Controlling Authority, Nipponese Military Police (Gestapo).

Phase 4: 21st January, 1944, to August, 1945; Controlling Authority, Nipponese Army High Command in Malaya.

PHASE I Control by the Nipponese Army High Command in Malaya, February to September, 1942

During this period internees were under the direct control of the Nipponese Military Authorities. The first Camp Commandant was Major Kato whose attitude may be judged from the following extracts from his pronouncements to representatives of the Camps during the first weeks of internment.

"If you want food you must work for it. The first job is to repair destruction in the town."

"In the Camp you are to do everything for yourselves. Women and men are to be strictly separated."

"You are to feed yourselves and work in co-operation and lead a good life in the Camp."

"The Governor has asked us to supply you with beds and mosquito nets but these are luxuries in war time."

"You must submit a list of medical instruments and medicines required. The High Command will then decide whether these will be supplied to you or whether you have to get them yourselves."

(N.B.) The only medical supplies received from the Nipponese during the first 25 months of internment was 1 bale of cotton wool.

Major Kato lost no opportunity of informing the internees that it was the intention of the Nipponese to punish them in revenge for the alleged ill-treatment of Nipponese internees by the British Authorities. On 25th March when he handed over control of the internees to Lieut. Okazaki he said "When we consider the way in which Japanese internees have been treated by the British we feel we cannot give you freedom or an easy life."

One of the punishments which he decreed and which was maintained during the first 15 months of internment was the complete separation of husband and wives, parents and children and male and female relatives generally in the Men's and Women's Camps. Except for a meeting on Christmas Day 1942 and on 11th February 1943 husbands and wives quartered in the same building were not allowed to meet until June 1943 from which date meetings as follows: June to September 1943: ½ hour every fortnight.

13th September to 10th October 1943: ½ hour every week.

10th October 1943 to 25th December 1943: No meetings.

25th December 1943: Meeting for 1 hour.

1st January 1944: Meeting for ½ hour.

7th April 1944: Meeting for 1 hour.

4th June 1944 to August 1945: Weekly meetings, 1 to 2 hours duration.

In succession to Major Kato, Lieut. Okazaki assisted by 2nd Lt. Tokuda controlled the Changi Camp from 25th March to September 1942. It was on the whole a negative administration. Internees were left to work out their own organization. The controlling officers seldom entered the living quarters of the Camp. There were no roll-calls or routine inspections. After mid-April limited and irregular opportunities were given for buying extra food and other supplies through a firm of Indian merchants. But these facilities were insufficient to enable the Camp to get in sufficient supplies of food to balance the diet. And the Camp was on the verge of outbreak of beri-beri in June when after repeated requests permission was given to buy rice puddings. Nothing was done to relieve congestion or improve living conditions. Indeed these became worse as internees—many of them ill-equipped—continued to be sent to the Camp.

Under this regime the administration of discipline was left in main to the Camp Committee. Individual punishments inflicted by the Nipponese staff included 3 cases of face-slapping of women internees for alleged irregularities in bowing and a few similar cases in the men's camp but there were no instances of imprisonment or corporal punishment inflicted by the officers in charge of the Camp. At the time internees took this as a matter of course but in the light of their later experiences they were to realize that the restraint shown by Lieutenants Okazaki and Tokuda were a matter for surprise and gratitude.

(Continued next Week)

"SHOT IN ARM" TO AILING TREE

BERKELEY, Calif. (CP)—Like human beings who receive "shots" of calcium or iron, trees now can be given injections to speed the diagnosis and treatment of their nutritional deficiencies.

Microscopic amounts of elements such as zinc, copper, boron, manganese and iron are shot directly into the sapwood, which is the tree's equivalent of veins and arteries, with a tree gun developed by Dr. J. P. Bennett, professor of plant pathology of the University of California.

Vaguely resembling a target pistol, the gun consists mainly of a brass tube for a barrel and a plunger which forces the micro-elements out through the muzzle end. A hole is bored in the tree trunk or in a limb, the elements are shot in and the hole is sealed with a hardwood plug.

The results, if any, are apparent in a few months or even in weeks, because the injection acts much more quickly than if the elements were applied in the natural way, through the soil, or by spraying the leaves. The effects of soil treatment or spraying often are not apparent until a season passes, and sometimes are delayed a year or more.

With the gun the plant expert also can do some sharpshooting.

Often trees will not flourish if just one micro-element has been depleted from the soil. To determine the single deficient substance, the expert can inject copper into one limb of the tree, zinc into another limb of the same tree, boron into another and so on.

Ailing pear, peach and apple orchards have been made healthy and even eucalyptus and acacia trees and rose bushes have been treated successfully with a little iron. Pear trees have been made more productive with a few handfuls of copper salts. Olive trees which lived but never bore fruit were made to flourish with a little boron.

POSTPONED CLEARING AUCTION SALE

IN NASSAGAWEYA TOWNSHIP
FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, HAY,
GRAIN, FURNITURE, ETC.

The undersigned auctioneers have received instructions from

CHARLES RYDER
To sell by public auction at the farm, Lot 27, Con. 2, situated on the Eden Mills school line 1 1/2 miles south east of Eden Mills on

SATURDAY, MARCH 2nd
Commencing at 1.00 o'clock, the following:

HORSES—Grey Percheron, 7 yrs., a real good mare, about 1350 lbs.
COWS—Blue Grey Cow, due July 23rd; Black and White Cow, fresh; 3 Fat Cattle; Calf, 2 mos. old; 2 Shorthorn Heifers, rising 2 yrs.; 2 Shorthorn Steers, yearlings.

POULTRY—17 Rock Hens; 1 Rock Cockerel.

IMPLEMENTS—McCormick Binder, 7 ft. cut, in good running order; M. H. 12-spout Seed Drill; Peter Hamilton Mower, 5 1/2 ft. cut; 10 ft. Dump Rake; 4-section Harrow; M. H. 13-tooth Cultivator; Turnip Sower; Scuffer; Chatham Fanning Mill; Stone Boat; Tolton No. 7 Plow; Fleury No. 21 Plow; Wagon with Box; One horse Wagon with box, good as new; Portland Cutter; Rubber-tired Buggy; Sloop Sleighs; Hay Rack; One Horse Bob Sleighs; Feed Furnace; Hand Cutting Box; Turnip Pulper; Small Size Grain Chopper; Hay Fork; 3 h.p. Gas Engine; Rope Pulley; 2 Cars for Steel Track; Slings, etc.; Set of Breeching Harness; Forks; Set of Plow Harness; Hoops; 1 pair of 21" long straw half Scotch Collars; Several Odd Collars; Showels; 2 new Wool Blanket Rugs; 3 Buffalo Robes; Chains, etc.

HAY, GRAIN, LUMBER, FUEL, ETC.—150 bus. Alaska Oats; 200 bus. Turnips; 100 bus. Abundance Fall Wheat; 12 ton Mixed Hay; 3 loads Oat Straw; 6 loads Wheat Straw; A quantity of Hemlock Plank; A quantity of Hemlock 1" Lumber; 4 cord of Stove Wood; 2 Forty Rod Rolls of 10 strand Wire Fence, new; Poultry Netting.

FURNITURE—Dining Room Furniture; Chairs; Extension Table; Buffet; Leather Covered Oak Couch; Victrola; 2 Oak Rocking Chairs; Parlor Table; Table Cloth and Table Linens; Axminster Rug; Wilton Rug; Congoletum Rug; Pictures, etc.; Oil Cloths; 2 Happy Thought Ranges; Wood Heater.

BEDROOM FURNITURE—3 Bedsteads with mattresses and springs, complete; Wash Stands; Chiffonier; Dresser, etc.; Toilet Set; Bed Clothing such as wool blankets, quilts, sheets, pillows and pillow covers, etc.

KITCHEN FURNITURE—Kitchen Table; Work Stool; Chairs; Cooking Utensils; Dishes of all kinds such as plates, cups, saucers, vegetable dishes, pitchers, pots, pans, sealers, knives, forks, spoons, dish pans, lamps; Milk Pails, etc.; Mellotte Cream Separator; Gentleman's Black Fur Coat, Washing Machine, Wringer, Tub.

TERMS: Cash

No article to be removed until settled for. Lunch Counter. No reserve as the farm is sold and the proprietor is quitting the farm and giving up housekeeping.

ROY HINDLEY, J. A. ELLIOTT,
Auctioneers
L. McMillan, Clerk

WHAT THE HOME TOWN CAN DO

If people want to know what the home town can do for them, they need to be regular buyers and readers of the home newspapers. In its columns they learn of all the activities of the community, what the organizations are doing, what entertainments there are, and what activities are going on. They are fully informed of all opportunities open to them, and can take advantage of all chances for pleasant social contacts, and for interesting experiences.

Thus the newspaper reader comes closely in contact with all phases of home town life, and is able to fully enter into all activities that attract him.

AUSSIES FACE DROP IN TEXTILE IMPORTS

CANBERRA, Australia (CP)—Australia faces a lean year in 1946 for cotton and rayon textile imports according to a recent survey by Customs Minister Senator Richard Keane. Senator Keane warned that Australians face a drop of from 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 square yards in cotton piece goods from Britain. Rayon imports from Britain will be lower by about 10,000,000 square yards. Australia originally imported 70,000,000 square yards of rayon a year. During the war years this dropped to an average of about 35,000,000.

THE CHAMBERED NAUTILIUS OLD AND NEW

The Chambered Nautilus, which builds one of the most beautiful of the modern molluscan shells, may have been immortalized by Oliver Wendell Holmes but the Royal Ontario Museum can demonstrate that it and hosts of related forms existed long before poets lived to sing its praises. In the collections side by side with specimens of these delicate pearly shells, fossilized remains of their ancestors may be seen in rock. Though these fossils now lack the exquisite colouring of the famed 'ship of pearl' they nevertheless demonstrate that the mollusc inhabiting them had developed, millions and millions of years ago, the subtle process of building for itself a home of many chambers. In each chamber it lived during successive stages of its growth. Aside from the interest attached to the modern shell on account of its natural beauty quantities of Nautilus shells are used in the finest cameo-cutting and in the making of pearl ornaments. Th ancient representatives of this animal group contribute to man's enjoyment also, in a form more practical. Limestones formed by nature through the ages from their abundant fossilized remains constitute the underlying rock of many of the centres of present civilization. Once again we see, therefore, that the primitive organisms of long-vanished seas contribute in no small measure to the foundations upon which our modern world is built.

Amnesia Victim Stages Comeback

Veteran Injured in England Works As Typewriter Mechanic

VANCOUVER (CP)—Howard Passmore, 19, who lost his memory as the result of injuries in a bomb explosion in England, has not only learned everything over again—how to count, how to spell—but has become an expert typewriter mechanic.

A "dud" exploded while Passmore with the Westminster Regiment was engaged in manoeuvres off the Brighton coast. A bit of metal lodged behind his ear close to the brain, and his condition was so serious that he could not be moved to army hospital until much later.

As he slowly recovered, it was discovered that he could not remember anything that happened prior to the explosion. He could not count or recite the alphabet.

Invalidd home and given a 100 per cent. disability pension, he grimly decided to stage a comeback the hard way. As a result he has recovered nearly all lost ground, learned to master a mechanic's tools, and is employed in a Vancouver shop.

An out-patient at Shaughnessy Military Hospital, he is still undergoing medical treatment and physicians say this must continue for at least two years. His eyes and hearing still are impaired but he is firmly convinced he has won the struggle.

An open letter to all Ontario Citizens

THE CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY ONTARIO DIVISION

For six years of war the splendid support given to the Red Cross by Canadian citizens enabled the Society to do those things for our Prisoners-of-war, and for civilian war sufferers throughout the world, which many times meant the difference between life and death, and always brought comfort and mercy where and when it was most needed.

We ask you, through your membership, to keep your Red Cross strong in peace as in war, for the continuing benefit of our Canadian people.

Where your membership helped to save lives in war—it can save lives in peace, through the proposed new Blood Transfusion Service, through the Outpost Hospitals on our isolated frontiers. It can bring mercy and comfort to our gallant disabled veterans and to our crippled children. It can bring health, happiness and comfort to our people generally through the Society's many other humanitarian efforts.

There will be no campaign for funds in 1946—but there is a vital need for a large and virile membership so that we may be able to do for our own people in peace what we were privileged to do for them in war. With your help this can be done. Join the Red Cross for 1946—Minimum membership fee is one dollar. Your local Red Cross Branch will provide further details.

A. B. Hill
President,
Ontario Division,
Canadian Red Cross Society.

Here's why you should join THE RED CROSS...

Your membership will help to continue these vital Red Cross services—

- AID TO VETERANS**
- SICKROOM EQUIPMENT**
- OUTPOST HOSPITALS**
- HEALTH IMPROVEMENT**
- PEACE-TIME BLOOD DONOR SERVICE**
- DISASTER RELIEF**
- WOMEN'S WORK COMMITTEE**
- JUNIOR RED CROSS**
- NUTRITION SERVICE**
- VISITING HOMEMAKERS**
- CANADIAN RED CROSS CORPS**
- WATER SAFETY AND AQUATIC PROGRAMME**
- HOME NURSING, FIRST AID AND THE RESERVE**

THE CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY ONTARIO DIVISION
MEMBERSHIP WEEK — MARCH 1st-MARCH 7th