

"THE LIBERAL"

Established 1878
AN INDEPENDENT WEEKLY
J. Eachern Smith, Manager

Advertising Rates on Application. TELEPHONE 9
THE LIBERAL PRINTING CO., LTD.
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AT RICHMOND HILL
Member Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association
Subscription \$1.50 per year - To the United States \$2.00
Covering Canada's Best Suburban District

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd, 1938.

URGES BETTER HEALTH STUDY

Better health study and wider physical training for students in schools throughout Canada, was advocated by the committee of the Canadian Teachers' Federation, representing 30,000 teachers throughout the Dominion, to the Rowell Commission at Ottawa recently.

The deputation was headed by J. W. Noseworthy, Toronto, president of the Ontario Secondary Teachers' Federation, and with him were Jessie M. Norris and L. S. Titus.

The committee in a comprehensive brief, said in part: "We have no hesitancy in calling the attention of this Commission to the lack of health education in the Schools of the Country. True, some of the Provincial Departments of Education have recently introduced courses of health study as integral parts of their school curricula; yet our survey shows that medical and dental inspection and service are available only to urban people (with the exception of the Province of New Brunswick).

In a number of provinces the medical health officers visit rural schools only when an epidemic threatens. The Dominion Government already has the necessary machinery with which to assist Provincial Departments to take some measures to see that better safeguards are offered the health of our school population.

The Department of National Defense, through the provisions of the Strathcona Trust, and the Department of Pensions and National Health, are both concerned in this matter.

It was suggested that some working arrangement be reached between the Department of National Health and the Provincial Departments of Health and Education, whereby a programme of teacher-training in the broader aspects of health and physical education may be inaugurated in all the Provinces. It was also suggested that the methods employed by the Strathcona Trust be modified to the extent of being brought in line with the more modern methods of health and physical training already being adopted by some Provincial Departments of Health.

CANADIAN DEFENCES

One of the greatest problems of today is to know what defences a nation needs to ensure peace and security. Canada has to face the problem and the Canadian people are fortunate in having at this critical time such a statesman as Hon. Ian Mackenzie in charge of National Defence. Mr. Mackenzie is not a militarist, but he knows from experience the ravages of war, and as a keen observer of European manoeuvres, both in political and military circles, is well informed as to the part Canada should take in the defence of the British Commonwealth, the one nation of the world whose re-armament is for the preservation of peace and the prevention of war.

This problem of Canadian defence and being ready for eventualities is doubly difficult when men and women in responsible positions in the state, even members of our Parliaments, who meaning well, cry down the idea of spending larger sums on armaments in Canada, and label those who would shoulder Canada's share of the responsibility, as militarists.

We will always have extremists and fanatics with us, and we have them today, who by their arguments have apparently no faith in the true motive of the huge Anglo-Saxon re-armament plan. This is unfortunate, for it is not sound reasoning and more profitable to spend money in building up a great military police force to ensure peace, rather than to be put on the defensive, and when it is too late to evade war, spend even more money to defend our rights, and at the same time sacrifice the nation's young, flowering manhood, with the wholesale destruction of property, to defend our rights against a powerful unscrupulous aggressor nation.

Since the Great War no nation has made more sincere efforts than Great Britain to disarm, and what did we find? We found even the nations who were signatories of these disarmament treaties were ferociously arming for the purpose of conquest, and at the logical moment struck out against weaker nations, who could not defend themselves, and went so far as to defy Britain and the League of Nations, knowing as they did that these agencies for peace, were not strong enough to demand peace.

The Government of Canada has today a very definite responsibility in the matter of defences and this responsibility is in the protection of her people by taking part in the defence of the British Commonwealth of Nations, the only hope for world peace and security to all nations.

RADIO LICENSE FEES

In an article which appears in the current issue of Queen's Quarterly there appears a listing of annual fees paid to governments by radio receiving-set owners in a number of countries. We feel that the list, which follows, will be of interest to our readers.

Table with 2 columns: Country and Fee. Germany \$9.00, New Zealand \$7.50, Australia \$6.00, Italy \$6.50, South Africa \$5.00-\$6.00, Norway \$5.00, Denmark \$3.40, Sweden \$2.50, Canada \$2.00.

The Sir John Aird Commission, which investigated the Canadian radio situation several years ago, recommended a Canadian annual license fee of three dollars.

THE COST OF WAR

The cost of living goes up and down, but the cost of war goes up and up. The World War in actual expenditures cost \$190,000,000,000—and, with interruptions to trade, property destruction and the like, this figure has been pushed up to \$340,000,000,000. Any war on the same scale would now cost twice as much, it is estimated by experts in such matters. Battleships which once cost \$30,000,000 each, fully equipped, now cost \$60,000,000. Small arms, shrapnel, air bombs, artillery ammunition, torpedoes, weapons, transportation, food, communications, plus many imponderables, have become costlier during the last score of years. Flying fortress bombers cost \$250,000 each.—(From the Samia Canadian Observer.)

BOOKS THAT MATTER

WHAT THE UNITED STATES CAN TEACH CANADA
By Claris Edwin Silcox
Divided We Stand: By Walter Prescott Webb: (Toronto: Oxford Press). Price, \$2.50.
The New America: The Story of the C. C. C.; by A. C. Oliver and Harold M. Dudley: (Toronto: Longmans). Price, \$1.75.

The two books mentioned this week deal primarily with the situation in the United States, but they have a peculiar value for Canadian readers. "Divided We Stand" should certainly be read by every member of the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations, while "This New America" gives a very vital interpretation of the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps which should be pondered by every Canadian interested in youth rehabilitation.

DIVIDED WE STAND

Walter Prescott Webb is the professor of history at the University of Texas. In his book, he points out that though the West and the South furnish the bulk of the raw materials such as cotton and oil (but not coal) in the States, most of the population and a still larger percentage of wealth is in the Northern States, and that in almost every commercial transaction the southerner and the westerner pay tribute to the north. In the North are 90% of the 200 largest non-banking corporations, 84% of the firms that sell merchandise to the retail drug-stores, fifty-five of the 75 leading insurance companies have over 96% of the total annual income received by all the insurance companies! The North also furnishes 83% of the income taxes. Canadians will seem to recall somewhat similar lamentations raised by the Canadian west and the Maritimes against Ontario and Quebec. The analogy is arresting.

But Prof. Webb probes very deeply as he asks what has been responsible for this servitude or, as he calls it, "the rise of America's feudal system", based not on land but on finance capitalism. He plunges a bit abruptly into the Civil War, and does not perhaps take sufficient cognizance of the developments that antedated the Civil War and involved the conflict of the plantation system based on slavery with the more economically efficient reliance of the North on craftsmanship, manufacturing, shipping, etc. And he fails to designate the inevitable dependence of all frontier civilizations for capital on the more settled areas; also the tendency of pioneers, once they have accumulated their wealth, to return to the more settled areas to spend it.

Nevertheless, there is no getting away from the Civil War and its economic consequences. The North, our author says, "Reduced to the vanishing point the economic power of the South, practically during the war and further after the war". Fortunately that is a tragedy which we in Canada have been spared. It was inevitable that the triumphant North should take the lead over the impoverished South in the economic exploitation of the opening West. But one wonders if it might not have done so even if there had been no Civil War. Perhaps, the slave system did something to the mentality of the slave-owners which made them less agile in some kinds of business transactions. But that is our own idea; not the author's.

Prof. Webb traces the economic mastery of the North rather to the rise of the corporation as a legal entity with full "juridical personality", ever moving forward through its purchase of patents to the control of the machine, and through its power to crush the small competitor to a position of practical monopoly with a capacity to assess a whole people whatever it felt that the traffic would stand. More incisive even than this analysis is his contention that when juridical personality is given the corporation, it receives the privileges and immunities of personality without the responsibilities. It is really given a favoured position over individuals. A corporation can't be put in jail; a person may be imprisoned. A corporation does not die; persons do die as family corporations have discovered. The corporation, once grown large enough, really becomes a government within the government, ever claiming new privileges while it repudiates all responsibility. "If a corporation employs a man and finds that he does not fit into the system, it discharges him; but the government cannot discharge a citizen for inefficiency, incompetence or old age."

Here, Prof. Webb really describes the fatal weakness in the system we unintelligently call capitalism. That weakness is not in its desire for profits, nor in its insistence on private property, but in the irresponsible, monopolistic nature of impersonal corporations, often as callous to its

own shareholders, as to its employees, which govern us against our will and, unlike governments, too often refuse to accept responsibilities for their own mistakes. In his closing chapter, he suggests that since or if these corporations cannot be adequately controlled by governments, perhaps the best thing to do would be to amend the constitution and give them, on a basis of responsibility, the real powers of government. "They tell us that business can do almost anything if government will only let it alone. The self-appraisal might be modified if we give them a few real jobs with duties instead of privileges as a spur" (Page 236).

This, we fear, would prove the pons asinorum of capitalism, but perhaps the corporation might surprise us. Of course, it would mean the junking of democracy and the adoption of Italian fascism or "corporatism" with a vengeance, but it might work. But if the governments cannot now induce the corporations to accept responsibilities as well as privileges, what chance is there that they will accept the responsibilities if we really did turn the government over to them? Nevertheless, it does get to the heart of things and is a "must" book for all who want to understand the basic and political problems on the North American continent.

THE NEW AMERICA

"This New America" is hardly an ordered account of the Civilian Conservation Corps, but for the most part, a compilation of comments on the C. C. C. by officers and men employed, chaplains and teachers, and extracts from camp newspapers including a whole chapter of poems written by enrollees: The value of the book is in the fact that it does impart the spirit of the enterprise which Canada would do well to emulate.

If, instead of leaving our young men between 18 and 25 to utter frustration, we had recruited them especially from the families on relief, sent them to camps for young men only, set them to work on schemes of forest and soil conservation, building roads and trails through national and provincial parks, combined these valuable activities with a comprehensive educational program directed by first class educators, we would have been creating economic wealth and saving it for the future instead of merely dissipating it in "relief", and above all, we would have been saving manhood and developing a high spirit of real patriotism among youth instead of evoking the understandable criticism that we were indifferent to the legitimate aspirations of youth. And what would it not have meant to the physical health of our young men?

We in Canada lost a great chance when we failed to develop a peace army for specific age groups as a sound economic and educational project. Perhaps, it is still not too late to do something before the next war; if there is time, let our political leaders saturate themselves in the spirit of "This New America".

A fool and his money are some party.

A Fascist land is one where nothing is needed to establish freedom but one swell funeral.

Advertisement for Gray Coach Lines. Text: "YOU'LL ENJOY GOING ANYWHERE". Includes a table of fares: LOW RETURN FARES DAILY SERVICE, LEAVE RICHMOND HILL DAILY SERVICE. Contact: R. PETCH, Phone 177.

Advertisement for Reading Anthracite Coal. Text: "Reading Anthracite Coal ALBERTA COAL Langstaff Supply PHONE THORNHILL 73".

Advertisement for Cities Service Garage. Text: "PROTECTS YOUR POCKETBOOK", "NEW INVENTION TAKES JUST 30 SECONDS TO DISCOVER WASTED GASOLINE...", "CITIES SERVICE GARAGE MEL. P. MALTBY Phone 12".

Advertisement for Rose & Herman Barristers-At-Law. Text: "ROSE & HERMAN Barristers-At-Law 40 Yonge St., Richmond Hill Telephone 133".

Scottish Curlers Arrive to Meet Canadian Rinks



These bonneted Scotsmen photographed in the lounge of the Canadian Pacific liner Duchess of Bedford on arrival at Halifax New Year's Eve are members of the party of curlers who have come to Canada to meet Canadian adherents of "the roar-in' game" in many cities and towns of the Dominion. They are

all members of the Royal Caledonia Club. Captain William Henderson is seated third from the left of the group. During a two months' tour they will visit Saint John, N.B., Sherbrooke, Quebec, Three Rivers, Shawinigan Falls, Montreal, Ottawa, Sharbot Lake, Kingston, Port Hope, Lindsay, Peterboro, Galt,

Detroit, Toronto, Welland, Hamilton, Medonte, Fort William, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, Banff, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Sudbury, North Bay, Timmins, Swastika, Kirkland Lake, Buffalo, Utica, Albany, Boston and Portland, Me., and will sail from Saint John in the Duchess of Bedford on February 25.