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BRIGHT OUTLOOK FOR 1939

Almost without exception the business prophets and economic soothsayers are predicting that 1939 will be the best year for business since 1929.

Col. Leonard P. Ayres, vice-president of the Cleveland Trust Company, the most famous and the most usually accurate of these forecasters, warns people not to be too eager for a sharp upturn the day after New Year's, but predicts that after the usual seasonal decline in the early months of the new year, business of all kinds will begin to boom.

The signs of the times are all favorable, unless something comes out of this troubled international situation to put the fear of a foreign war into people's minds. The biggest boom is already under way. That is the building boom. The coming year, the prophets say, will see more new homes built than any previous year since the middle 1920's.

Industry is hiring more help. The number of unemployed workers has declined in the past few months. People are buying more cars than they were a year ago. The Christmas trade of the stores all over the country was reported as excellent. There is a new spirit of confidence in the air and in the minds of men of affairs. It is reported that new capital is coming out of hiding to finance great new enterprises.

There is no promise in all of this that everybody will become prosperous overnight. There is a distinct promise in the business outlook, as the experts see it, that another year will see us safely past the "emergency" period.

It is to be hoped that the last few years have not got so many people into the habit of looking to Governments for help that they have lost the habit of finding for themselves.

MAKE IT A SAFE 1939

It is not too late to make a resolution for more safety in 1939. Let us all resolve to do all possible to avoid accidents during the coming year. It is appalling to learn that there are between six and seven thousand deaths in a year as the result of accidents in Canada and it is the more distressing to realize that a great many of these—the large majority in fact—could have been avoided if a little foresight and care had been exercised.

It is not too late yet, now that the Christmas celebrations are over, to make a good resolution in connection with what statistics demonstrate clearly to be the most outstanding danger of the present age—from a domestic point of view, of course. We are not talking of war—the tragedy of Spain and China,—but rather of the worst danger that confronts us in the daily routine of our lives.

Accidents—the ever present danger of accidental death, of being hurt, or maimed for life; the threat of becoming a burden to ourselves, our families and the community in general; accidents are possible at every twist and turn of day and night. There is danger in our homes, at our places of business, everywhere, but the greatest menace of all is on the city street and the country highway. Death and injury face us, and we know it, from the moment we enter an automobile until our journey ends.

In the railway train and on the good ship at sea the danger is so comparatively slight that it hardly enters into our calculations when we purchase a transportation ticket, but on the road, even on the little driveway before we reach the road, in the car we so fondly prize and in which we start out so joyously, the prospect is hazardous. We talk glibly about the danger from "the other fellow", and make excuses for ourselves with that platitude, yet to him we are also "the other fellow." This is no idle talk. We shall present in a few minutes the fatal casualty figures and you will agree that they are alarming.

There is an automobile for every nine persons in Canada, which makes a huge total in proportion to population. We have about one and a quarter million registrations in a country of eleven million people.

A distinguished Ottawa clergyman who recently came to the Capital from a western city, speaking from his pulpit two Sundays ago, warned his hearers of this growing danger and urged upon them the resolution, phrased pithily, that they would go round the corners of life on four wheels and never on two.

Care is needed everywhere even in the church. A few years ago there was a remarkable accident in a Montreal place of worship. There had been a special party at which a lady had acted as Father Christmas. Dressed in her Santa Claus costume she went to the church basement to assist in the preparation of refreshments for the guests. While lighting the gas stove her costume caught fire, and she was badly burnt before the flames were subdued. She had to be rushed to a hospital to save her life.

HITLER AND THE KAISER

We have sometimes wondered just what the former emperor of Germany was thinking about the present Nazi regime in Germany. Here is an extract from an interview with the ex-Kaiser written by W. Burckhart in "Ken" magazine:

"He (Hitler) is a man alone, without family, without children, without God. Why should he be human? Oh, without a doubt he's sincere, but he is out of touch with men and realities. He builds legions but not a nation. A nation is created by families, a religion, tradition; it is made up out of the hearts of mothers, the wisdom of fathers, the joy and the exuberance of children. Germany today is an all-swallowing state, disdainful of human dignities and the ancient structure of our race.

"For a few months I was inclined to believe in national socialism. I thought it was a necessary fever. I was gratified to see that there were, associated with it for a time, some of the wisest and most outstanding Germans. But these one by one he has gotten rid of, or even killed—Papen, Schliecher, Neprath—and even Blomberg. He has nothing left but a bunch of shirted gangsters."

Why not deprive people who fail to go to the polls of their right to vote for a period of five years? asks the Windsor Star. Possibly they would then appreciate the importance and privilege of the ballot. What we have never been able to understand is why so many people who own much property and pay high taxes regularly stay away from the polls and allow those who pay little or no taxes to decide how the municipality shall be governed.

Last Year Will Be Notable One In History and War Clouds Still Are Hovering Over World for Year 1939

Growing Power of Dictator States Outstanding Feature of 1938 — Wars in Spain and China Cause Concern To Peace Loving Nations

The year 1938 is gone and we have entered upon a brand new year. The year which came to an end will be a black one in the histories of the future. It was a year of wars, rumors of wars and alarms. One crisis succeeded another. The world teetered on the brink of Armageddon. It was a year of reaction. It saw the rising power of dictators in Europe and a growing challenge to democracy. Freedom and liberty were trampled in the dust in a large part of the world. The League of Nations during the past year lost all prestige and standing. Collective security is just an empty symbol and in a world, living in constant fear, there has been a mad armament race, the end of which is not in sight. There will be few mourners for the passing of 1938.

The outstanding feature of 1938 was the growing power of Hitler and the German Empire. Twenty years ago, when the world celebrated the passing of 1918, Germany was a country reduced to a second-rate power; she was crushed, it was believed, for a century, if not for all time. And yet only two decades later we have a Germany stronger than ever, defying her old enemies, with more territory in Europe than in the days of the Kaiser, dominant in Central Europe and ambitious to press through to the Black Sea. Last year saw the seizure of Austria by the Nazis before the eyes of an astounded and almost stunned world. From Austria Hitler marched triumphantly against Czechoslovakia. The present generation will long remember that hectic week when it seemed nothing on earth could prevent a second Great War. All Europe was prepared for the worst. London feverishly dug feeble trenches in its great parks, pathetically piled sand bags against its public buildings and prepared to evacuate the women and children of the metropolis in readiness for the raids from Berlin, which it was expected would occur the minute war broke out. The conference at Munich saved Europe from calamity.

But developments since have made the democratic world wonder if it was a peace bought at too great a price. Hitler triumphantly annexed the Sudetenland and proceeded to make Czechoslovakia a German principality. The democracy which was established at Versailles with such high hopes was sacrificed to save the capitals of Europe.

German officialdom has never understood the psychology of democracies. If after the handshaking at Munich and the feeling of relief that there was to be no war Hitler had accepted Chamberlain's policy of appeasement, he would easily have won the good will of the world. He might even have obtained the return of some of the old German colonies. But he initiated on the slenderest pretext a policy of brutal persecution of the Jews. Not since the Middle Ages has there been such deliberately cruel treatment of these unhappy people, as has been pursued by the Nazi regime. His merciless policy shocked the people of Great Britain and the United States.

If Hitler had intentionally set out to alienate the people of the democracies he could not have adopted a better course. His policy united the people of Great Britain of all parties and classes against any further concessions to the German dictator. It brought France and Great Britain into the closest alliance they have ever had in days of actual peace. But most striking of all, the policy of isolation of the United States from Europe was swept into the discard. The people of the Republic are more unanimous to-day, than in the Great War, in their opposition to the German Government. If war should come there is no question where the United States would stand. Hitler has trampled underfoot every principle of freedom, liberty, justice and fair play which Englishmen and Americans, as well as Canadians, hold dear. The close of 1938 sees the democracies united and determined to stand firm against the rising tide of reaction.

The aroused democratic nations realize today there is only one argument which dictators can understand and that is the argument of force. Hence, tragic as it is, they are re-arming on a colossal scale ready for any emergency.

But so much for Germany. It is not the only country which has upset the equilibrium of the world during the past year. In the Far East Germany's ally, Japan, has been

slowly crushing China. Today the Chinese war leaders and armies have been chased into the interior and Japan on paper, at least, controls the richest and most populous portions of the Chinese Empire. Japan, taking her cue from Germany, has become more defiant of the democratic powers. The open door is to be open in future to Japan alone. But China is still far from crushed. A guerilla warfare is being carried on which may in the end drag down Japan. The economic and financial pressure at home is growing tighter. If the United States and Britain will lend their financial aid, and lately there have been evidences this policy is to be pursued, China may so ruin Japan that she will call quits.

Then the Spanish war is dragging into its third year. The Spanish Government forces hang grimly on despite the overwhelming strength of the insurgent forces, backed by Italy and Germany. General Franco today is making a desperate effort for victory. The spearhead of his attack consists of Italian troops. Mussolini wants to secure a triumph in Spain for the Fascist forces to strengthen his position at home. But in doing so he may upset the Anglo-Italian treaty. Chamberlain can only go so far and keep his supporters in line.

In the meantime Il Duce has been stirring up trouble in the Mediterranean. Emulating Hitler's successful strategy he evidently felt if he made enough noise and bluster and issued enough threats he might obtain some of France's Mediterranean colonies. But France is not Austria and the democracies have come to the conclusion that it is time to call a halt. So Mussolini's bluff has been called and he will not likely get far.

It has been a black and dreary year which now passes into history. What about the future? In these strange days no one dares predict. History has shown that dictatorships run their course and that reaction has its day. The course of human liberty over the centuries has been steadily forward. Whether 1939 will see the sagging of reaction time alone can tell. Certainly if the three democracies, Great Britain, France and the United States, will work in co-operation to maintain peace, and stand firm, 1939 should see no war.

NEWTONBROOK

The Auxiliary of the W.M.S. will hold its January meeting next Tuesday, January 17th at 2.30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. A. W. Galbraith. The theme for this meeting will be "Christian Stewardship" and will be under the direction of Mrs. James Murray. It is expected that Mrs. J. C. Murray of Toronto will be the guest speaker. This will be a membership meeting so kindly bring your membership fee. Each member is asked to bring a new member. Visitors welcome.

The Girls' Mission Circle will hold their regular meeting next Tuesday evening, January 17th at 8 o'clock at the Parsonage. The new officers will be in charge. Start off the New Year by attending every meeting. There will be an interesting program. The third chapter of the new Study Book will be reviewed by Miss Cora Good. The young ladies of the community are cordially invited.

Newtonbrook United Church intend to hold their annual congregational meeting on Thursday evening, January 26th and will take the form of a supper meeting at 6.30 o'clock. A Communion Service was held last Sunday morning in the United Church with a large attendance. It was followed by a Reception Service.

The Young People's Union met for their regular meeting in the S. S. hall last Monday evening with the second vice-president, Miss Doris Newson in the chair. Reg. Hewitt read the scripture lesson. Interesting lantern slides were shown of a student missionary's work in Algoma. Rev. Halbert also added a few remarks and told of his experience during his student days in the same district near Sudbury. An executive meeting followed and plans were made for the coming season.

There will be a special Young People's Service held in the Newtonbrook United Church next Sunday evening conducted by the pastor, when there will be an Installation Service for the new officers of the Y.P.U. A cordial welcome is extended to all the young people in the community.

Next Monday promises to be a very interesting one in the Young People's Union when Judge Mott of

Boy Leaves Hospital Under His Own Power After Four Long Years

Lad's Parents Don't Pay Cent For Expert Care and Treatment

Eight-year-old Jim has gone back to the north country after four years in the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto. He walked out, carrying his own handbag.

Four years earlier, when he was hardly more than a baby, his parents made the long journey down to Toronto, bringing Jim with them. They appeared in the out-patients' clinic at the Hospital for Sick Children and told the doctor that Jim had a sore back.

As they do with thousands of other patients every year, the doctors at the clinic gave the little boy a thorough examination. Some of the ablest physicians and surgeons in Toronto were there. They took X-rays, made blood tests and "sections," and found that Jim had a tubercular spine. They took him upstairs and put him to bed, while his father and mother stayed around for a few days and then went back up north.

Privately, the doctors thought that Jim had scarcely a chance to get better. But they worked over him unceasingly, turned loose all the magic of modern medicine—for four long years, while the little boy ticked off his birthdays.

Well, it worked. Jim did get better, and he walked out of the hospital with a strong back set on two sturdy legs. He's up home again, in the bush country of Northern Ontario.

PARENTS DIDN'T PAY CENT And because to-day's hospitals are organized in an especially marvellous way, Jim's parents didn't pay a single cent for the four years of expert care and treatment. His municipality paid the Hospital for Sick Children the Public Ward rate of \$1.75 a day for every day the sick youngster was laid up and the Ontario Government paid the statutory rate of 60¢. But it cost the hospital at least \$1.00 a day more than the \$2.35. The Hospital for Sick Children invested \$1,400.00 of its own money in Jim's recovery.

They do things like that every day in the week. The doctors who looked after Jim for four years donated their services, as they are continually doing for helpless youngsters who come to them with bad tonsils, poor eyes, weak chests, hereditary diseases and a hundred other ailments.

Broken bones come in for setting. Babies who aren't feeding properly, and older children whose teeth haven't been attended to since they were born, are looked after. The biggest men on the hospital's staff carry on their daily clinic in the morning, diagnose troubles, and give the delicate operations and care to those who are already in hospital. Last year, for instance, the highly skilled physicians and surgeons on the staff of the Hospital for Sick Children gave free of charge more than 40,000 hours of their valuable time. Put a value on it—say \$5.00 an hour, which is too little—and you have more than \$200,000 worth of medical services given away in a single hospital.

MOST IN PUBLIC WARDS Joseph Bower, Superintendent of the Hospital, listened alertly to the

question, "How about it, now; don't the doctors and hospital make some of this back from the private patients who can afford to pay?"

"Would it be news," he asked, "that out of the 434 beds in the Hospital for Sick Children, 414 are in public wards? We had 9,000 patients last year, and less than five per cent. of these were private patients."

"We are a public hospital, and like every public hospital, we are required by law to accept any patient who comes to our doors in need of treatment. We give them everything they need, and it's not unusual for the hospital to furnish from \$300 to \$400 worth of serum to a single patient suffering from pneumonia. Whatever the cost to us, we get only our regular allowance of \$2.35 a day, per patient."

Some serums are given free to the hospitals by the Provincial Department of Health; the others, not on the free list, must be paid for.

It's pretty obvious, then, that the hospital has to make up its operating loss some other way.

This is the reason for the regular annual appeal to humane and charitable citizens for donations.

The out-patients' clinic was crowded by 9:30 this morning. Waiting room and corridors were filled with parents and children from infants to adolescents. Several hundred come here every day, many from outside Toronto.

Of all the hundreds of fathers and mothers who brought in their ailing youngsters, a few, who could, paid 50 cents. There might be bills a little higher for X-ray and other special work, but the majority paid less and many nothing at all.

Look closely into the heart of the Hospital for Sick Children, and you'll find not only kindness and superb skill but an organization that is almost unique in the world. It is a children's hospital for everyone in Ontario, drawing its patients from every municipality even to the farthest corners of the province.

100,000 VISITS A YEAR

"There is no statutory provision for establishing an out-patients' department in any hospital," said Mr. Bower. "But municipalities throughout the province have come to realize the importance of our out-patients department, since a very large proportion of the patients treated there would otherwise be occupying beds in the hospital. And that would result in a much increased financial load for the municipalities."

So there is one reason for the size of the great daily clinic, which hunts out the ills of thousands of youngsters and results in upwards of 100,000 visits a year.

The Hospital for Sick Children does not share in the funds collected by the Toronto Federation for Community Service because patients are admitted from all over Ontario.

Over \$83,000.00 is needed this year to meet the unavoidable deficit. Even small gifts are not only welcomed and appreciated but are the Hospital's assurance from the people of Ontario that they should continue the great work of serving sick and crippled children without regard as to race, creed or financial circumstance.

Your gift should be mailed to the Appeal Secretary, The Hospital for Sick Children, 67 College Street, Toronto.

Toronto is expected to be the guest speaker. The meeting will be in charge of Miss Helen Tranter, the third vice-president. Everybody welcome.

The United Church Sunday School held its annual business meeting last Thursday evening. Very interesting and encouraging reports were given by the various departments which showed progress during the year. There was a substantial balance in the treasury. At the close of the business meeting Rev. A. H. Halbert conducted the election of officers for 1939.

A beautiful bouquet of flowers was placed in front of the pulpit last Sunday morning by the members of the C.G.I.T. group in memory of one of their former members, Miss Grace Copeland, who passed away just a year ago.

J. FOX

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