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THE TWO ROADS

There are two methods of carrying on a war — the democratic and the totalitarian. We have chosen deliberately the democratic concept. It leaves something to the individual. He still retains, in large measure, his freedom of action.

In the totalitarian state it is different. Direction comes from the central authority. Men are placed in industry. They remain there until they are called to some other task. Industry takes care of the men engaged.

There are advantages in both lines of approach. If the conscious effort of the nation is to be devoted at all times to the task of war, to the enslavement of men — if the individual is always to be of relative insignificance and the state alone is the sole factor, then it may be admitted that for a time at least there is greater striking force and power within the totalitarian method.

We desire to live in freedom, to live under a democracy. We must mobilize the manpower and womanpower of the nation. That is the plan back of national registration, which opens on August 19. It is an effort to organize on a larger scale for earlier victory than might otherwise be achieved.

WAR AND UNEMPLOYMENT

What should be done in a struggle such as this? There is only one way by which we can assure success — throw what we have into the conflict. It involves all the strength of the nation, human, material and spiritual.

How far are we succeeding in this task? The present situation in regard to unemployment is the answer to that question. We are moving rapidly to full employment, and therefore towards a tremendous increase in production.

We have travelled a long way since the dark days of the depression. The national income is rising. Industry is seeking the worker. National registration is national stocktaking of the available human material.

MAN-POWER

We can estimate, as far as numbers are concerned the manpower and womanpower of the nation. A recent speech in the House of Commons gave the following figures. There are in Canada roughly 4,700,000 men and women between the ages of 18 and 44.

This is only a quantitative analysis — it tells us the numbers involved. We must also know the experience and training of the Canadian people. Within the ranks of the nation are men capable of filling almost every position.

That is why we hold, on August 19, 20 and 21, a national stock-taking of our human resources. It is a plain recognition of the fact that the veins of wealth do not lie in silver and gold, nor in bonds, stocks and bank balances, but in the producing power of the men and women of the nation.

National Registration is a necessary step in the assembling of all the resources of the country. It is necessary to help win the war which is the most important job at the moment of every man and woman in Canada.

It has been stated many times in the past and will be many times in the future that pedestrians on highways should not walk with the motor traffic but should travel on the opposite side of the road and facing the oncoming cars.

LOOKING BACKWARD

A WEEKLY GLIMPSE AT LOCAL HISTORY

By Paul L. Fox

About the year 1840 there lived in Richmond Hill a quaint old lady who lived in an ancient building which has of course been removed. She was the owner of a village lot, the products of which provided her with an honest livelihood.

The old lady was antique in manners and original in dress. She lived before Paris began to govern the world of fashion with its latest. Her designs were local, but none the less were distinguished.

Later the old lady died and as

was the custom in those days she was 'waked'. In those days wakes were very much more attended than they are nowadays.

On this occasion there was a large crowd of sympathizers. Towards midnight the hours became longer and all the current topics were exhausted.

The late lamented old lady was sitting upright in her bed her huge white cap with its inevitable frill perched on the top of her head and her favorite long clay pipe was in her mouth.

Around the bed were a number of half tipsy mourners convulsed with ill-suppressed laughter. The arrival of the coffin changed the scene.

What would now be thought the setting aside of the properties of modern society were then looked upon as the pranks of the thoughtless and among the humours of the day.

Men of the British Navy

By "Taffrail", the famous naval writer

In spite of the large number of ships that have been added to the British Navy since the war began and the need for a continuous supply of trained seamen, many hundreds more young men wish to join the Navy than the Navy can possibly absorb.

In the course of the last week I have visited two naval establishments in Britain where men are being trained for the Navy. One was a barracks which has been in existence for many years, and the other a hatted camp which did not exist at the beginning of the war.

At the camp I talked to a Royal Marine Officer who had rejoined at the outbreak of war, and was responsible for the physical training. He was something of a psychologist, and during his retirement had had a great deal to do with the training and welfare of the young.

At the barracks I saw a large number of men on parade who had been under training for a few days to a few weeks. Some, indeed, had not been kitted up beyond their uniform caps.

Australia, New Zealand, India and Canada have their own navies; but I saw men from Newfoundland, Trinidad, and other places abroad, including one who had a job at £700 a year in South America and who had worked his way home for the set purpose of joining the Navy as an ordinary seaman.

"We've men from every conceivable job ashore," I was told. "There are several commercial travellers, a civil servant, a taxicab proprietor, a men's outfitter and a dance band conductor."

The camp I mentioned was built on about 250 acres of what had been meadowland at the outbreak of war. Huts and buildings began to spring up; but on January 10, when it was commissioned as a man-of-war with about 400 trainees, it still looked rather like a devastated area.

framework of huts, and a huge cinema and canteen, rising out of a sea of mud.

And now that camp has four great blocks of huts each complete in itself with messroom, kitchen, sleeping quarters and washing accommodation. It has its cinema to seat a thousand, offices, canteen, sick bay, officers' block, food and clothing stores, and a huge concrete parade ground.

It takes on an average of 230 new entries a week for an intensive ten weeks' course in discipline, drill, seamanship including boatwork, and gunnery. There were about 2,500 men there under training at the time of my visit; but the eventual total will be larger, for the place is still being added to.

Likely men of all ages between 17½ and 40, many of them volunteers, but some enrolled under the National Service Act, have been taken into the Navy for the war. I watched them at drill under arms on the parade ground, at gun drill with 4-inch and 12-pounders, on the rifle range, and in the gymnasiums engaged upon those recreational exercises which encourage mental and physical alertness.

The men under training represented a true cross-section of Britain's population. Practically every sort of calling and profession was represented. There were architects and surveyors, a sign writer, a music-hall comedian, an operatic tenor, and a man who had been in an acrobatic troupe since the age of fourteen.

A football player from a famous league team mingled with three undergraduates who had been studying theology at Cambridge University, and a man who had worked on the fish dock at Hull. There was a professional ratcatcher from the West Country; a man who had earned the Polar medal for Antarctic exploration; another who had been in the Black Watch, that famous Scottish regiment, for ten years and had risen to the rank of sergeant; and a gallant Canadian who had served in the British Army in the last war, and had joined the Navy for this.

What so struck me was the keenness and vitality of the whole establishment, keenness which had infected the contractor's workmen still employed about the place who insisted on doing voluntary drill four nights a week to make themselves efficient in the use of arms.

Yes. The whole atmosphere of the place was refreshing and full of bustling energy with every officer and man out to do his best for the country.

Knowing a little about these things I realised the tremendous effort that was being put into the task of turning out these men for the Navy, and the forethought and work that had gone to produce the results I saw not only in the men themselves; but

also in the camp, which had virtually started from nothing.

Many of the officers came from the retired list, with others from the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. Most of the petty officer instructors were pensioners. I particularly noted the way they spoke to and treated the men under training — as comrades serving in a common cause, not as raw recruits to be barked at and chivvied.

I came away greatly impressed. The men I saw under training were splendid material, as the Royal Marine officer had told me. What neither he nor the Commodore in command had mentioned was the truly magnificent work that was being done by the officers and permanent staff of the establishment.

WOODBRIDGE COUNCIL IN AUGUST SESSION

In session Tuesday night Woodbridge village council moved to clear up uncertainty regarding action on the school board's proposed school extension building program. As a result, Clerk E. W. Brown received formal instructions in a unanimously approved motion, to request the school board for an immediate confirmation or denial to reports that the building program will not be carried out this summer.

Council's action may result in a lower 1940 tax rate, the members having decided on a special session to be held within a few days. It was forecast that a new and lower budget would be adopted, eliminating the item for building purposes, unless a statement from the board promises definite action on the proposed work.

During the session, considerable debate centred around enforcement of a parks control by-law. Alleged lack of life saving equipment on the Humber river caused Councillor C. Shannon, police committee chairman, to ask the council's authorization for enforcement of the by-law's provisions. "It's going to be too late after we have another drowning," he declared. Chief C. F. Lewis reported life saving equipment is not provided on the river banks and indicated the by-law calls for "adequate" equipment.

Complaints from citizens regarding noisy swimming parties as late as 3 a.m., made to Councillor J. Watson, brought a suggestion that a late police patrol of the river should be inaugurated.

Discussing the government's civil guard plan, Reeve Wallace advocated giving "50, 60 or 100" local men a chance to train in their home town if they wished to do so. He reported the government plan is based on 1/2 of 1 per cent of the population. "We have a thousand people," he said, "which means we could only appoint five guards and they would have to train somewhere else in the county." The village had earlier been advised they could not form a local unit.

WILLKIE'S WAY

The way one man has regenerated the Republican party is one of the marvels of the day. — (From the Argonaut.)

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