

# The Russell Leader

RUSSELL, ONTARIO.

Established 1899

The Only Newspaper in Russell County

Published Every Thursday

GARLAND HALL, Manager.

Telephone 38.

Subscription Rates—\$1.00 to any address in Canada, if paid in advance; \$1.50 if not so paid. \$1.50 to any address in the United States payable in advance; \$2.00 if not so paid. Advertising Rates on application to this office.

## NEW HORIZONS NEEDED IN ANGLO-SAXON WORLD.

New Year soundoffs by prominent men in all walks of life across the American news front recently have contained unvaried reference to the need of effecting social justice for the millions of ill-kept humans below the border line of a decent standard of living and the growing menace of Fascism which appears to be gaining support in still other classes.

President Roosevelt told Congress at its opening Monday that "misuse of the powers of capital" must be ended, that the minority monopolistic monarchs must be shorn of their power "or the capitalistic system will destroy itself through its own abuses." He projected a plan to correct this undue and unhealthy sway of a half dozen families, to the benefit of business as a whole, and the body politic. He was not an enemy of business, declared the U.S. leader, "as these minority combines try to paint me," but was vitally concerned with policies which would benefit the majority of businessmen, workers, and farmers.

Coincidentally with President Roosevelt's State of the Union policy came a stirring appeal from a leading Catholic Church authority, Cardinal Mundelein, who called on 1,000,000 Catholics in the Chicago archdiocese, to take up the cudgels of the working man.

"Selfish employers of labor have flattered the church by calling it the greatest conservative force, and then called upon it to act as a police force while they paid but a pittance of wage to those who worked for them. There is danger of Communism but don't let others use it as a cloak to cover corrupt practices when they cry out against Communism and they themselves practice social injustice; when they fight against a minimum wage and we find girls and women trying to live on 10 and 15 cents an hour. This lip-service hypocrisy must be stopped."

Canada does not need to look across the line to find the wisdom in such words, and the recently enacted minimum wage laws of Quebec are only in time to nip the growth of a great Nationalistic and Fascistic movement in that Old World province. The elements of revolt are clearly present in our banner Prairie provinces, particularly Saskatchewan, where skilled and professional workers are living at a very much lower standard than is accorded those on relief in the most stringent Ontario municipality.

Ontario workers, on the whole, have very little reason for complaint at existing wage levels, although there is room for discussion on the total amount of money they may receive in any twelve-month period, yet even in this air of self-satisfaction and contentment with lot without thought to the other parties' burdens, we may look for the germ of Fascism to spread. Possibly, particularly in this group. And Fascism is the greatest curse and enemy facing the world today.

One of the most stirring clarion calls to a new evaluation of the worth of democracy and a timely warning that Anglo-Saxons may lose their perspective by seeking for new horizons or any virtues in the doctrine of Communism or Fascism, was contained in an editorial by Wilbur M. Philpott in a recent issue of Liberty.

After reviewing the mistakes and uncertainties of the past year, Mr. Philpott sees democracy and freedom standing on trial this year on the most colossal scale in history, as barbarous ways of living challenge a new way of life. He hears the thunder of the enemy at the gates of liberty of thought, speech and action:

"How well are we safeguarding that noble franchise of freedom, bought and paid for by generations of martyrs whose blood enriches the warp and woof of the British dream?"

"To what extent do we possess those enduring values by which all human progress must be weighed? Many have fallen prey to the heresies of our prize false prophets, who would have us believe that the only way to preserve our liberty is to surrender it. Thus has been acquired such a deflated valuation of freedom's franchise that disciples of these destructive creeds would waive all rights to it in exchange for the latest variety of imported isms. It is a foolhardy delusion that freedom can be plowed under in the hope that it may revive again a few generations hence."

"Democracy's real destroyers are the Huns and Vandals who work within our gates—false prophets who would superimpose the labels of Communism or Fascism upon our native culture. To follow them is but to cast a vote for voluntary enslavement. And those who vote for chains ought to wear them!"

"Constructive change under either system? Vicious nonsense! The basic difference between the old Russian grand duke and the new Soviet commissar is a slightly more discriminating taste in champagnes. The only dis-

cernible difference between Germany's old despotism and the new dictatorship is in a different style of mustaches." He dismisses the appeal of Communism as one of transient conversion, one whose evils can be too clearly perceived by all classes, and in the other finds the more evil and subtle strength of attraction:

"Fascism is our gravest menace, and growing greater day by day. Fascism, with its deepest roots in religious bigotries and racial intolerances. It is unthinkable in Canada, where the birth of our nation was achieved by the welding of two races, languages, and civil codes. The cornerstone of national greatness was squared and set within the lofty mold of racial and religious faith and freedom—a tradition that has been Canada's guiding star of destiny for centuries."

The only weakness in Mr. Philpott's reasoning in this paragraph is that "it is unthinkable in Canada", for its very adoption in the control of a free press has already been inaugurated in Quebec and Alberta. The real tragedy is that most of their peoples so casually let it go. They have become careless of their heritage in the dying hours of this golden age of freedom. And so with us all, who talk merely of recovery instead of renaissance.

As others are being taught to be hard and self-sacrificing for dictatorship, should we not be equally zealous in behalf of our democracy? One cannot meet the blood purge of Italy and Germany without a complete mental purge of our indifference, nor the implications back of the Orient's philosophy with a spirit of passive pacifism.

"We must draw upon that mighty reservoir which has nourished the memorable continuity of freedom for our race. Our roots are not of yesterday, nor of the day before. They have been fed, throughout the centuries, by the spiritual discipline of a common cause: The preservation of faith and freedom. And we are but the degenerate sons and daughters of valiant crusaders in the cause of human progress if we do not fight in the teeth of these savage doctrines which unleash new tides of hatred in our midst. They are creeds that were old, tired, and burned out long before the first New Year, A.D."

"You still point with pride to progress under dictatorship? Then remember this: A certain type of progress is always fastest downhill."

## NOTES AND COMMENT

James D. Mooney, General Motors' efficiency expert, cut sharply to a deep fundamental the other day with: "My idea is to make everybody work like hell and then pay them more than they could get anywhere else." Many theorists today believe that that isn't good, healthy fun.

Eastern Ontario was treated to an unusual blizzard of no mean proportions on New Year's Eve, but up in a little town out of North Bay they report it was so cold and blustery that night that Mr. Stork, who had a scheduled call to make, laid off and sent a Penguin in his stead.—With apologies to Bob "Robin" Burns.

In business circles there is considerable speculation as to the inspiration for Mr. Hepburn's gloomy outlook on world business, as revealed in correspondence recently in connection with the St. Lawrence Waterways-Niagara power squabble. In a letter dated Nov. 25th last, Mr. Hepburn remarks that European and Asiatic countries will collapse with the continued dissipation of gold reserves for armament purposes, and that this continent, will, as a consequence, "witness an era of depression comparable with the one through which we have just passed." But the premier does not say when it will come, which sounds quite Wall Streetish and quite Amateurish for a man in the position Mr. Hepburn is.

Tales of hardship and privation among Saskatchewan school teachers were many at the annual conference of that federation Christmas week, and they indicated that stories related by many of the fine new settlers recently come into Eastern Ontario from that Prairie province have not been exaggerated. Instances were cited of teachers repairing shoes with cardboard soles; of possessing but one pair of much-mended trousers, many with even the patches patched; of receiving as little as \$35 for five months' work and of many taking on the janitor's job in order to earn an extra dollar a week. And these instances were not from backwoods' schools but from those having attendances of over 50 and 100 pupils. We wonder how our legislators can look forward to election times with equanimity and sleep at nights with peace of mind.

Former Attorney-General Arthur Roebuck and many prominent clergymen of the Queen City are leading a movement to have the Provincial Government curtail the hours for vending liquor just prior to holidays. Premier Hepburn's order to allow liquor stores two hours longer for business New Year's Eve and beverage rooms full sway on New Year's Day has only added fuel to the agitation. The Christmas record in Toronto, both in the courts and in the morgues, is unenviable. But Toronto the Good's 1932 Christmas history, which we imagine will be a hard job to live down, is not duplicated in any other Ontario centre "not so good", and we have a sneaking idea that Premier Hepburn was only paying out a little more of the proverbial rope used at certain "necking parties" and that he hasn't any great concern whether the Tory Queen City performs the deed herself or not. However, it is a situation that calls for greater thought by all temperant and serious-minded persons.

# The Ottawa Spotlight

By Spectator

Ottawa, January 4.—The coming year may well go down into history as one of the eventful periods. In the opinion of many Canadian observers, Confederation is on trial. There are forces making for unity, recovery, and adjustment to modern demands. Other forces appear to be of a disintegrating nature. In the tug between these, a new Canada may well be born. The original Confederation, so historians say, was the product of a troublous period of internal dissension, threat of external aggression, hunger for expanding markets, fear of loss of existing markets. Out of the unpromising era of the 1860's came the beginnings of the modern Canada; it is quite possible that out of the welter of these days may emerge a Dominion more noted than now for its equity, its tolerance, its cooperation and its justice.

Not a bad New Year's resolution for Canadians, that in the coming year we shall bend our efforts to remove the causes of inequity, distress and dissension!

## An Opportunity

The Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations is providing an opportunity for the various interests and representative groups across Canada to make suggestions looking toward a happier state of affairs. The provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan have already laid their case before the commission. Other provinces are busily engaged in preparing briefs, and a great deal of work is being done by private associations and organizations for same purpose. Before the Commission concludes its hearings six months from now, it is hope to have before it an adequate cross-section of Canadian sentiment, bolstered up by an impressive body of facts on the current situation.

In the light of this accumulation of facts, supplemented by research being undertaken by notable authorities, the Royal Commission will seek to draw the plans for a more satisfactory division of taxing powers and social responsibilities.

Beginning January 17th, the Royal Commission will sit at Ottawa for several days, hearing from about a score of national organizations and associations, representing the interests of the farmer, the labour unions, the construction associations, bankers, doctors, tax association, etc.

The program then calls for a visit to the Maritimes. Later on, the Commissions will go to the far west and sit at Edmonton and Victoria. On their return there will be hearings at Toronto and Quebec City.

## Gathering at Ottawa

Some time early in the summer there will be, it is expected an important gathering at Ottawa, of representatives of the nine provincial governments, and of the federal government. By that time the provincial cases will all have been aired, each province will know what the other is asking, and what it is prepared to give up. All government bodies will have the opportunity of supplementing their early representations, or of correcting any inaccurate impressions which they may feel have been permitted to grow up.

The Dominion-Provincial sittings can hardly help enjoying some historic prominence, in view of the magnitude of the issues involved.

Then will come the difficult task of writing a report. The Commissioners will, according to the instructions, recommend what in their opinion should be done to re-allocate the taxing powers and legislative responsibilities of all governments in Canada, in such a way as to bring about the wisest and best division.

The report, of course, will have no executive authority. It will, rather provide a basis for discussion and negotiation between Dominion and Provincial statesmen. When adequate opportunity has been given for its perusal, some sort of Constitutional Convention—a notable gathering of our great men—will very likely be called in an effort to draft a new order of Canadian affairs.

With such events in the offing, 1933 counts as a big year.

**THAT'S WHAT I CALL A FRIEND**  
One whose grip is a little tighter,  
One whose smile is a little brighter,  
One whose deeds are a little whiter,  
That's what I call a friend.

One who'll lend as quick as he'll borrow,  
One who's the same today as tomorrow,  
One who will share your joy—and sorrow,  
That's what I call a friend.

One whose thoughts are a little cleaner,  
One whose mind is a little keener,  
One who avoids those things that are meaner,  
That's what I call a friend.

One, when you're gone who'll miss you sadly,  
One who'll welcome you back again gladly,  
One, who, though angered, will not speak madly,  
That's what I call a friend.

One who is always willing to aid you,  
One whose advice has always paid you,  
One who defended when others flayed you,  
That's what I call a friend.

One who has been fine when life seemed rotten,  
One whose ideals you have not forgotten,  
One who has given you more than he's gotten,  
That's what I call a friend.

—John Burroughs

# BOOKS THAT MATTER

A Weekly Feature Furnished by the Assoc'n. of Canadian Bookmen and the Weekly Newspapers' Assoc'n.

## CANADA AND HER FOREIGN POLICY

By Claris Edwin Silcox

Canada, The Pacific and War: By William Strange: (Toronto: Thomas Nelson & Son). Price, \$1.75.

World Currents and Canada's Course: Lectures given at the Canadian Institute on Economics and Politics: (Toronto: Thomas Nelson & Son). Price, \$1.50.

It is only in recent years that Canada has become conscious of the necessity of some kind of foreign policy. From the standpoint of population, we may not be a great power, but from the standpoint of the total volume of international trade we stand fifth although a large part of this is with the United Kingdom and the United States. Moreover, we have reached our age of 'majority', politically speaking. We do not wish to continue longer as a mere minor tied to our Mother's foreign policy, nor to be utterly subservient to the foreign policy of our colossal neighbour, the United States. How independent we can be is another matter. Often we take refuge in our self-assumed role as the link between the two great English-speaking peoples, but if we are to play that role aright, we must avoid the fate of many would-be mediators and refuse to put ourselves in a position where both the other parties regard us as a nuisance.

In our uncertainty, any books written from a distinctly Canadian point of view and primarily for a Canadian clientele which interpret the implications of our relationships with other countries or continents are important and deserve a place in the libraries of all thoughtful citizens of the Dominion. These books are remarkably few and most volumes dealing with international affairs barely mention Canada, and few of them even go so far as to mention her "among those also present." Hence Canadians should be indebted to Thomas Nelson & Sons for publishing these two books, and to the organizations which, officially or unofficially, sponsor them, the Canadian Institute of International Affairs and the National Council of the Young Men's Christian Association.

William Strange, though a Canadian, was born abroad and has lived for some time in the Far East. He is well-known in the Dominion as a literary critic and in the field of radio. Selected to prepare this book by the Canadian Institute of International Affairs which, however, is not responsible for the opinions of the writer, he has done an excellent piece of work in condensing the vast backgrounds of the Far Eastern question in a few chapters, against which he then proceeds to deal with what all that means today to Canada. Here, indeed, one may find the whole vexed question of Chinese and Japanese immigration succinctly treated, estimates of the extent of Canadian investments in Far East summaries of trade between Japan and Canada, and various alternative courses which might be pursued in case Canada could choose. He reminds us also that Canadian political leaders played a significant part in dissuading the British Cabinet from renewing the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, and that out of that decision came the Naval Limitations Treaty which has definitely prevented Great Britain from exerting the influence in the Pacific which it might otherwise have had. We are reminded that a war on the Pacific would seriously involve Canada, even though the defence of the British Columbia coast might perhaps be achieved, despite our limited resources, because of the contour of the coast and the province.

Mr. Strange finds that Japan's industrialization has been accompanied with an unfortunate retention of an internal economy, "basically feudal" and this makes her economic situation quite distinctive. Also, he finds that Japan produces nothing that cannot be secured elsewhere, and this renders her peculiarly vulnerable, but if she acquires large tracts in China, this fundamental weakness may be corrected. "Where the fortunately placed nations seek markets for surplus production, Japan seeks them in order to keep going at all." Again, "economic needs point to the mainland. The army is in the saddle. The goal is China."

What happens next may, Mr. Strange says "conceivably determine the whole course of world history." If we may be permitted to make a prophecy, we may see arise the greatest empire the world has ever known: Japan will probably organize China in spite of her resistance, then seek to conciliate her and bind her closely to herself against all the encroachments, military or financial, of those white races that have dreamed time and again of

"yellow perils." In supporting Japan, Germany and Italy have probably sealed the fate of European dominance in Asia. But we have only ourselves and the stupidity of the white peoples to thank for it. We taught Japan that in a world dominated by occidental civilization, the final arbiter was force, and Japan learned the lesson thoroughly. When Rabindrath Tagore, in a lecture at Tokio, urged Japan not to follow the Occident in the emulation of force but rather to be true to the spiritual culture of Asia, the Japanese newspapers reported that "Mr. Tagore's poetry is very beautiful, but it is the poetry of a defeated race." Then, at Versailles, the Japanese put President Wilson's oracular morality at a disadvantage by raising the "race equality" issue. President Wilson was treed; he could not possibly carry the League of Nations so conditioned in the Southern States with its fear of Negro dominance nor in the West with its addiction to the "yellow-peril" scare. The Japanese diplomats were the real victors at Versailles and outwitted all their rivals. However, we shall learn to grant them full racial equality in time—but too late!

"World Currents and Canada's Course" contains the most significant papers given last summer at the Conference at Lake Couchiching. The quality of these conferences has impressed all who have attended them, and those who heard Dr. Hans Simons and Lord Eustace Percy know that the standard set in previous years is being constantly raised. It is perhaps true that the various lectures have a certain lack of continuity, but it is something to have Lord Eustace Percy's great paper on "The Foreign Policy of the United Kingdom" which, Dr. Hans Simons said, was the finest exposition of British foreign policy which he had ever heard.

A considerable section in this book is also devoted to the Far East and Canada's stake in it, to the European scene in 1937 (being the material presented by that highly objective interpreter Dr. Simons) and to the ideology of Christian Pacifism by Rev. Leighton Richards. Dr. Richards is always stimulating, even when he fails to convince. A most valuable part of this report contains the addresses made by Leon Mercier, Gouin and others from Quebec on "The French Canadians, Their Past, and Their Aspirations." In bringing our fellow-Canadians of French racial origin within the inner circle at Couchiching, the committee has rendered a great service to the whole of Canada, and the French Canadians were worthily represented.

Two valuable books which every thoughtful Canadian should master and own! Dr. Daffoe, of Winnipeg, contributes the introduction to Mr. Strange's books, while Sir Robert Falconer, as President of the Canadian Institute on Economics and Politics furnishes the preface for the other volume.

## A SPELLING LESSON

We'll begin with box; the plural is boxes,  
But the plural of ox should be oxen,  
not oxes.  
One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese.  
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.  
You may find a lone mouse, or a whole nest of mice.  
But the plural of house is houses,  
not hiee.  
The cow in the plural may be called cows, or kine;  
But a bow, if repeated, is never called bine;  
And the plural of vow is vows,  
never vine.  
If I speak of a foot and show my two feet,  
And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?  
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth.  
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?  
If the singular's this, and the plural is these.  
Should the plural of kiss ever be written keesse?  
Then one may be that, and the two would be those.  
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose.  
And the plural of cat is cats, not cose.  
We speak of a brother and also of brethren.  
But though we say mother, we never say methren,  
Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,  
But imagine the feminine she, shis and shim.  
So that English, I think you all will agree,  
Is the funniest language you ever did see.—John O'London's Weekly.

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