

Directs Pointed Questions in Regard to Present Election

Politician With a Notebook Asks for Information.

A vivid picture of Mackenzie King, sitting on the locked government files, having scuttled Parliament rather than open them to Opposition questions, is painted in the current issue of Maclean's Magazine.

The issue, March 1, 1940, carries a story titled "Backstage at Ottawa," written by "A Politician With a Notebook." The story tells why the Canadian people face a confused issue, since the facts have been locked away, and indicates that many newspapers show similar confusion.

Note is, however, made of The Telegram's outspoken stand: "Only The Telegram," the writer records, "among all Conservative newspapers, really thunders for Manion."

Some Pointed Questions Noting the lack of real facts on the war effort, the story lists the following questions which are being asked:

1. Why, after revelations of mismanagement and bad business in the Defense Department, Mr. King kept Mr. Mackenzie as Minister of Defense, and then dropped him — why he kept him on so long if he thought him no good, or why he finally dropped him if he thought him good?

2. What happened to all the money Parliament voted for preparedness and defense during the years 1937, 1938 and 1939? Why, after appropriations of roughly \$150,000,000, the war found the Defense Department without boots or socks for soldiers, or without uniforms, or cloth for uniforms?

3. What happened to Mr. Mackenzie's plan—given to Parliament nearly three years ago and for which money was voted—to mechanize the army?

4. What happened to the money voted for anti-aircraft guns, tanks, other motorized equipment?

5. Why contracts let by Mr. Mackenzie had to be held up, or revised—or were found impossible of fulfillment?

Attacks Economy Lack 6. Why Mr. King, at last getting rid of Mr. Mackenzie, replaced him in the Defense Department with Mr. Rogers, a good economist and university professor, but without administrative or business experience?

7. Why, during war, with a strain on the national economy, the government hasn't economized in ordinary expenditure? And why, during wartime, patronage in the government departments hasn't been dispensed with?

Thus the dog-fight. The trouble with it, as said already, is that the public can't judge whether the questions are fair, or whether, if fair, the answers are accurate. The public has to take what the Prime Minister or some minor figure replies over the radio, or from the hustings, or what is said in some newspaper, or in some electioneering pamphlet. Elections being what they are—the mother of exaggerations, of special pleading and sophistries—the evidence is hardly satisfactory. Not dependable.

Lauds Telegram's Fight There is a real lack of public information on the election issues, the article states, then inquires into the part played by the newspapers of Can-

Millions of Dollars to Canada From Refugees

Ottawa, March 13—European refugees have brought "millions of dollars" into Canada in establishing industries in the Dominion, F. C. Blair, director of immigration, said recently.

Between 5,000 and 6,000 refugees from various European countries have been admitted to Canada during the past year.

"The outbreak of war has largely shut off the movement of refugees," said Mr. Blair. "Naturally it cannot continue now on the pre-war scale but there will still be some movement." The immigration branch is preparing a complete list of industries that are being established by refugees.

In the establishment of refugee industries in Canada, the immigration branch has sought to distinguish between new industries and those that are highly competitive. It is the new industries we are trying to get said Mr. Blair.

A refugee planning to establish an industry in the Dominion is encouraged to locate where it will be most advantageous with respect to power, labor, transportation and markets. These industries mostly start in a small way and most of them are new to Canada.

Mr. Blair told of one industry now in production, which was started by an Austrian refugee who had a formula for removing paint, described as "revolutionary." This Austrian got out of his country just after its annexation by Germany. He had little money but a wealthy brother in Switzerland financed him.

Most of the refugees came from Czechoslovakia, Germany, Austria and Hungary.

Present is No Time for "In-Between" War Effort

(From Halifax Herald)

Perhaps it was in a facetious mood that a Minister of the Crown, addressing a meeting of voters the other day, said as reported by The Canadian Press:

"First there is a group that does not wish to do anything (in Canada's war effort); then another group that wishes to do everything; and a third, a sort of in-between group. I hope I belong to the in-between group."

Perhaps it was intended merely as a jocular aside, a sort of "marginal epigram" to his speech proper. But the people of Canada, realizing the sober gravity of the situation, and that Canada in common with the Empire is engaged in a grim life-and-death struggle for Freedom and Democracy, have most decidedly no sympathy for any "in-between" war effort.

The demand from coast to coast is for the most vigorous prosecution of the national war effort—a resolute, determined, whole-hearted and united effort in which, obviously, there can be no room for half-way policies or "in-between" measures.

ada, deciding: "Adding to confusion—certainly doing little to dispel it—is the attitude of the press. Conservative newspapers, in particular, appear hopelessly demoralized. Mr. J. W. McConnell's Montreal Star is busy exclusively with Europe. Mr. John Basset's Montreal Gazette is as clearcut as a black cat on a moonless night in a coalbin. Mr. P. D. Ross' Ottawa Journal (at this writing) magisterially admonishes both sides. The London Free Press, once militantly Tory, is an anaemic neutral. Mr. George McCullagh's Globe and Mail is the Globe one day and the Mail the next. Only the Toronto Telegram, among all Conservative newspapers, really thunders for Manion.

"More outspoken (or should it be more partisan?) is the Liberal press. The Winnipeg Free Press, at first mildly shocked over the torpedoing of Parliament (what a roar J. W. Daffoe would have sent up had it been done by the Tories) is now out in full cry for the Government. So is the Vancouver Sun; so the Toronto Star; so the Halifax Chronicle—so practically every Quebec French newspaper from Montreal to Gaspe.

"From such a press—struck dumb on one side partisanly articulate on the other—can come little light or leading."

BOMBED BY NAZIS, MINESWEEPER SINKS



Shown in this dramatic picture is one of the few instances in which German aerial attacks have been successful against a ship carrying armaments. The ship is the minesweeper 'Minesweeper', being towed into port after it was bombed by Nazi planes in the North Sea.

Canada Northern Power Reports Satisfactory Year

Gross Earnings, Output, Number of Customers at New High Level. Substantial Rate Reductions.

Another year of satisfactory growth in volume of business is recorded by Canada Northern Power Corporation, Limited, in the annual financial statement covering operations for the fiscal year ended December 31st last.

Gross earnings, power output and number of customers served all showed increases, but substantial rate reductions resulted in a slight decline in net earnings. A further reduction in power rates went into effect January 1st, 1940, but these reductions, it is pointed out, have been of great benefit to the mining industry and the development of the area served by the Company.

Gross earnings for 1939 amounted to \$5,265,054, as compared with \$5,146,009 for 1938, an increase of \$119,045. Operating expenses which include taxes, maintenance, purchased power and operations, were \$2,044,647 higher at \$2,509,669, leaving net earnings of \$2,755,385, as compared with \$2,840,984 for the previous year. After deducting bond interest, bad debts, subsidiary preferred dividends, and making an allowance of \$725,000 for depreciation, earnings on the Company's preferred stock were equal to \$20.92 as against \$22.81 for the previous year. After payment of preferred dividends at the rate of 7%, there remained the equivalent of \$1.97, as compared with \$2.17 and as against dividend payment on the Common Stock of \$1.20 per share per annum.

The balance sheet shows that a strong working capital position has been maintained, total current assets being \$3,948,553, as against total current liabilities of \$1,132,191, indicating net working capital of \$2,816,362 against \$2,619,622 a year ago, an increase of \$196,740. Included in current assets are cash and call loans of \$1,569,593 as against \$1,308,507 and marketable securities of \$1,131,357 (market value \$1,199,969). During the year funded debt was reduced by \$461,000, making total retirement of bonds to date \$2,168,000.

Power demand in 1939 totalled 749,904,042 k.w.h., an increase of 49,055,431 k.w.h. over 1938, while the number of customers increased during the year by 2,641 to a total of 25,209.

In his report to the shareholders, Mr. A. J. Nesbitt, the president, discusses taxation and states that "the burden of taxation continues to rank as the most difficult problem demanding the attention of your Directors, as the proportion of earnings necessary to meet the requirements of the various governmental departments becomes greater each year and increases the discrimination endured by both the shareholders and customers of privately owned companies. It is pointed out that not only does this unfair method of taxation increase the difficulties of securing business, but it also penalizes the returns from earnings by compelling a contribution towards the administration of the country's affairs from which publicly owned institutions are free."

Taxation paid in 1939 amounted to \$543,891, exclusive of sundry miscellaneous taxes, and was equal to 19.7% of the Company's net earnings. Mr. Nesbitt points out that during the year under review, "a substantial reduction in the rates for power to mine customers went into effect, which brought the rate for the first 8,000 horsepower to \$3.33 per horsepower per month net, for the next 3,000 horsepower to \$1.67 per horsepower per month net, and for the next 9,000 horsepower to \$1.25 per horsepower per month net. A further reduction was put into effect on January 1st, 1940, by which his rate for power for mines is as follows:

"For the first 10,000 h.p.—\$3.00 per h.p. per month.
"For each of the next 10,000 h.p.—\$1.25 per h.p. per month.

These reductions have been of great benefit to the mining industry and the development of the area served by the company, and furnish a clear illustration of the fact that when the item of taxation is taken into consideration the cost of power supplied by the Company is as low as the cost of the users of power furnished by any organization supplying similar service on the continent. This is further borne out by a comparison of the total kilowatt hour output of the Company with the gross

electric revenue, from which it will be seen that we receive sixty-nine one-hundredths of a cent per kilowatt hour before considering taxes, and after these taxes amounting to \$543,891 are deducted only six-two one-hundredths of a cent per kilowatt hour."

Reviewing the construction activities of the Company during 1939 the report states:—

"The past year has been a comparatively uneventful year insofar as construction is concerned, no major projects having been undertaken. Work in this department has been confined to the building of comparatively short distribution lines in order to serve new mining customers and the extension of facilities in several of the towns served by the Company. The longest of the mine feeders to be built was that to the property of Malartic Gold Fields, which is five miles in length. At the town of Timmins, Ontario, the increased growth of the domestic and commercial load necessitated an addition of 3,000 k.v.a. to the substation transformer capacity, which was effected by the substitution of 3-1,500 k.v.a. transformers for 3 of 500 k.v.a. capacity each that sufficed hitherto. At Kirkland Lake, owing to the development of new sub-divisions and expansion of business premises, it was necessary to provide two new feeders from the substation to the business section and install further transformer capacity at the substation. Early in the year the most easterly distribution system of the Company was inaugurated at Paskauski, Quebec, a new town designed to serve the Perron and Cournoir mine area. This point is ninety-six miles east of the Ontario-Quebec boundary.

"Contracts for the supply of power were entered into with the following mines in Quebec: Senore Gold Mines, located in the Paskauski area; West Malartic Gold Mines in Cadillac Township; Skocoe Gold Mines, situate in Dubuisson Township; Senator-Rouyn Mines in Rouyn Township, and Mac-Mac Mines, Limited, whose property is in Bousquet Township.

"During the year two municipal franchises expired, which were each renewed for a ten-year period. They were for the towns of Elk Lake and Earleton, Ontario."

Consolidated statement of Income and Expenditure compares as follows: Year Ended December 31st

Table with 2 columns: 1939, 1938. Rows include Elec. rev., Misc. rev., Gross earn., Purch. power, Operation, Maintenance, Taxes, Net earn., Paid debts, Interest, Balance, Deprec., Net profit, Pfd. divs., Balance, Common divs., Surplus, Prev. Surplus, Total, Prem. Bond expense, P. & L. Balance, Earn. on Common, Working capital position compares as follows: 1939, 1938. Rows include Curr. Assets, Curr. Liabilities, Work. Capital, Adjusted for prior year charges.

Table with 2 columns: 1939, 1938. Rows include Balance sheet figures compare as follows: December 31— ASSETS. Rows include Plant, etc., Cash, Call Loans, Market secs., Other secs., Notes rec., Accts. rec., Inventory, Prepaid, etc., S.F. Bonds, Bond red. acct., Totals.

Table with 2 columns: 1939, 1938. Rows include Totals, Market value \$1,199,969, Market value \$1,324,115.

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Meeting of Schumacher Ladies' Anglican Guild

The Schumacher Ladies' Anglican Guild met at the home of Mrs. Erylfson 105A Cedar St., on Tuesday evening. During the evening plans were completed for an Easter bazaar to be held in the Dafood Hall on Tuesday, March 20 from 3 to 6 p.m. afternoon tea will be served and the sewing and bake tables should find much of interest for the housewives.

The next meeting of the Ladies' Guild will be held on Tuesday evening, April 9th, at the Teachers' Residence. After the meeting a tasty lunch was served by the hostesses.

Cobalt Lady Makes Record in Knitting for Soldiers

Cobalt, March 14—(Special to The Advance)—A record of twenty pairs of socks and nine pairs of wristlets, all knitted since the Christmas season as her contribution to the work of the Cobalt branch of the Red Cross Society, has been established by Mrs. Robert Boyle, pioneer resident of the camp who will celebrate her 85th birthday at her home here on Saturday. Mrs. Boyle, whose maiden name was Margaret McAuley, is a native of Renfrew county, and she was born in Alice township, near Pembroke, on March 16, 1855. She has been living in Cobalt since 1907. In

fair health for her years, Mrs. Boyle does most of her own housework. A brother, William, two years older than herself, lives and is in good health on the old homestead in Alice township. Two of her sons, James E. and Hugh Boyle, at one time lived in South Porcupine, and the former was reeve of Tisdale township for a term, while two daughters, Mrs. Walter Armitage and Mrs. M. A. Ellis, are former residents of Timmins.

Toronto Telegram.—Nowadays it seems a country is either bombing or booming.

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Tickets to U.S. Destinations sold subject to passengers meeting Immigration Requirements of U.S.A. and Canada. GOING & RETURNING Bargain Excursion tickets NOT GOOD on Pool Trains Nos. 6 and 15, between Toronto and points East thereof.

Bargain excursion tickets to Peterboro good only on C. N. R. exclusive trains between Toronto and Peterboro.

Bargain excursion tickets NOT GOOD on "The Northland"—Trains 49 and 50.

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