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CANADA LEADS THE WAY

Canadians in general have been sadly disappointed at the way that political chicanery has been able to bedevil a full war effort on the part of this country. At the present moment there is a hope in the hearts of many that better days are in store for this country in this respect. Indeed, in what at first glance seems a sad disunity there may be the germ of the seed that will grow to the full tree of national unity. If still another part of a party drops away, as it threatens to do, from the plant of the powers-that-be, the result may force a new two-party alignment along present day lines—an alignment of all who wish an all-out war effort as the one party, with the second party comprised of those who are thinking of other things. This would mean a National Government, the one thing needed and absolutely vital to the full entry of Canada into the war.

Up to the present the country has had to lead the government—prod the administration into effort and activity. There is one place, however, where the government has given the touch of leadership, and thanks to the remarkable response of the people in general, a historic success has been achieved. This is in the matter of preventing inflation and carrying on the business of the war and the country without the danger of chaos and ruin. The credit must go to the Wartime Trades and Prices Board and its official head, and to the Minister of Finance under whose department the plan was inaugurated. As Mr. LaBourdais told the Timmins Retail Merchants' Association some months ago the plan attempted was an experiment never before tried by any democratic nation. It restricted some measure of individual and class freedom for the advantage of the nation as a whole. By rigid control of wages and prices, it was designed to serve the needs of the people and at the same time keep labour, industry and business on an even keel. Without this control, wages and prices threatened to start circles of evil influence that would mean scarcity, false values, and general confusion and injury. It was admitted that the method planned could not be a success without the sincere co-operation of all. There was no proof that the plan would work even then, for there were no precedents for it. It is not too early to suggest that the plan has been a success. Of course, there have been mistakes made, perhaps some injustice and some hardship. In the main, however, there has been a general earnestness and honesty and a sincere desire to make the method work if at all possible. On the one hand the Wartime Prices and Trade Board have appeared anxious to remedy any errors made, while on the other hand the people have shown a spirit of co-operation that is most heartening. The record shows the result. In general there has been no unnecessary scarcity and profiteering has been avoided to a remarkable extent. The figures provided by the Bureau of Statistics show that the cost of living has remained practically unchanged. It is not too soon now to class the experiment as a success. If it has carried along successfully for two, three, four months, there is no reason to believe that it will not continue as a successful procedure. Indeed, the longer it continues the more chances there are for its continued success, as mistakes can be righted and the natural tendency is for the method to work the more smoothly and effectively the longer it is in force. The decision of the United States government to adopt the Canadian plan in regard to "ceiling" prices and the other procedure of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board appears to be the final proof of its success. It does appear that in this particular matter Canada has reason for pride and satisfaction in its leadership and original solution of an age-old problem.

UNREPRESENTED RIDINGS

During the past few days there has been general interest in the province in the threat of the C.C.F. party to institute legal proceedings to force the calling of elections in the six constituencies in Ontario that are without representation in the Legislature. There is particular interest in the matter in this part of the North because the riding of South Cochrane is one of the six unfortunate ridings that has been without representation literally for years. On several occasions The Advance has urged the government to take steps to fill the vacant seat here. There is no doubt at all but that any riding suffers seriously when it is unrepresented in parliament. It is idle to talk about members for other ridings looking after the interests of this particular riding, and equally untrue that any committee of party followers can effectively do the work, with the best will in the world. There have been times here when there would have been little cost or confusion caused in this riding by a bye-election, as the vacancy would have been filled by an acclamation. The long delay in filling the office, however, has made it very doubtful if a strenuous battle will be avoided

now. That a riding should continue year in and year out without representation in the parliament of the province can not fail to foster a feeling of bitterness against those responsible. The argument that there is a war on and all expense and division should be avoided does not answer the question. The ready reply to such an argument is to suggest that the matter be carried to its logical conclusion and all expense and division be avoided by doing without all representatives in the Ontario Legislature for the duration. The disrespect into which parliamentary representation has fallen in this country is evidenced by the fact that a large number of people would agree with the proposition to do away with all members in the province for the duration—and, perhaps, longer. There are a large number of vital questions affecting this riding, and there should be a member for this constituency to look after the interests and the needs here. Not only is it an injustice to the riding to keep it year after year without any parliamentary representative, but it is handing free to the C.C.F. party a very strong campaign platform. In these days of political skulduggery this latter minor matter may seem the more important.

MILLIONS AND THE RED CROSS

The present campaign for funds for the Canadian Red Cross asks for nine million dollars from the people of Canada.

Even in these days of war, nine million dollars may seem a lot of money to a lot of people, but a glance at the record shows how well justified the Red Cross is in talking in millions. The record shows that the Red Cross has made a business of dealing in millions of benefits and services, and helping millions of people.

Speaking of millions and the Canadian Red Cross, a few facts may not be out of place. Nearly nine million articles of comforts and supplies for the armed forces, military hospitals and civilian relief have been sent to Britain by the Canadian Red Cross.

Over five million surgical dressings have gone from the Red Cross in Canada to the hospitals and dressing stations overseas.

Well over three million articles of relief clothing have helped the desperate plight of the victims of war in the Old Land.

More than a million comforts and supplies for the forces in training or stationed in Canada have been given by the Canadian Red Cross.

Nearly two million dollars have been expended by the Canadian Red Cross for parcels for prisoners-of-war in enemy camps.

Over a million dollars were spent last year for outpost hospitals and stations, work for returned soldiers, home nursing, nutrition classes, health work, relief work and other features of what is termed the peacetime services of the Red Cross in Canada.

Nine million dollars is the amount asked for by the Canadian Red Cross, and here is the way, in which that nine million dollars will be spent:—

Three million, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for food parcels for British prisoners-of-war in Europe, with two-fifths of a million dollars for Canadian prisoners in the Far East.

Three million, five hundred and fifty thousand dollars in all for the prisoners-of-war.

Three and three-quarter million dollars for hospital supplies and merchandise purchases for comforts for the armed forces and civilians in the war zones.

One million dollars for disaster and emergency.

A fifth of a million dollars for blood donor service.

A total of eight and a half million dollars for war services.

To this amount should be added many millions more to represent the clever and skilled but free services of innumerable loyal men, women and children who are daily giving their time and services and supplies to the great cause.

It is only in the expenses of campaign and publicity and in administration that the Red Cross keeps to small figures. Of the nine million dollars only a little over two cents in the dollar will go for the campaign and publicity, and only three and a third per cent. for all the arduous and difficult work of administration.

Dropping for a moment the million mark classification, even the smaller figures for services and supplies are equally impressive, and, of course in the aggregate total their own millions. For example the Canadian Red Cross has sent to Britain:—77,021 cases of canned goods, honey, biscuits, coffee, jam, butter, cigarettes, tobacco, etc.; 232 ambulances, 9 station wagons, 3 trucks, 1 automobile, 69 cases of spare parts; 1,135 cases of hospital supplies, comforts, and relief clothing for allied Red Cross Societies and evacuee children; 14 Utilicon vans at a cost of \$20,000.00; \$215,000.00 to British Red Cross war relief, besides large quantities of materials and supplies.

Moreover the Canadian Red Cross has built, furnished and equipped a 600-bed military hospital in England; presented to British fire fighters no less than 35 mobile kitchen units, equipped to go into bombed areas and feed 250 workers at a time; organized a band of visitors in Britain who make sure no Canadian patient is lonely or his needs unfilled; provided sailors with comforts and supplies through substantial assistance to other organizations; operated the Maple Leaf Club as a popular home and recreational centre in London for men on leave; established enquiry bureaus in

Canada and Britain to obtain information of relatives and friends who are missing, wounded or prisoners-of-war. Still another activity of the Canadian Red Cross worthy of special mention is the blood donor service, nearly 2,600 donations a week being shipped overseas to be used for transfusion purposes.

In a word the Red Cross has been always present and ready wherever there was a need. With all the astonishing and unexpected emergencies the Red Cross has never failed the people once. The people should not now fail the Red Cross. The Red Cross has been in the million class in services and ready aid—the people should be in the million category in support.

The nine millions asked for Canada should be more than reached. This district can not provide it all, but it certainly should meet its fullest quota. Eastern Porcupine has already subscribed its quota. The objective for Timmins is \$45,000.00. This amount should be oversubscribed. Schumacher's quota is \$20,000.00. This should be met in full, or more. The Red Cross—the greatest triumph of democracy—has done its full part, is doing its full part, will do its full part. It remains only for the people to respond, as they no doubt will, with the true Red Cross spirit of readiness, service, sacrifice and successful effort.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

No, Judith, they are not called "ceiling" prices, because they make some people "hit the ceiling."

"Still stands the motto of the King:—

"Put into your task whatever it may be, all the

Taxicab Operators May Lose Licenses for Wasting Gasoline

Oil Controller Suggests that Operators Get Together and Work Out Zoning Plan.

The field representative of the North Bay regional office of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board has forwarded the following memorandum to The Advance:—

"Taxicab operators who are found to be wasting gasoline by letting their engines idle while awaiting passengers, may lose their gasoline licenses. It was announced this week by the department of Munitions and Supply.

"According to G. R. Cottrelle, Oil Controller, reports have come in from all parts of Canada that the taxi operators have not taken seriously the warnings regarding shortages of gasoline and rubber. "I have received complaints from many citizens that taxi operators are making unnecessary trips, speeding, racing their engines, letting the engines run while the cars are parked, and in other ways wasting gasoline," he said. "These practices must stop at once or the taxi operators will lose their gasoline licenses."

"The Controller suggested that taxi companies in the larger centres should accept the suggestion of G. S. Gray, Transit Controller, that they work out a pool system for handling calls. "It

is very wasteful of gasoline and tires for a cab to travel from one end of a city to another to pick up a fare," he said. "There is no reason why the operators should not get together and work out a plan for zoning their businesses."

Plans Completed for Kinette Bake Sale Saturday, May 16th

Event to Take Place in Style Shoppe Furriers. All Proceeds for H.M.S. Thornwick Bay.

Mrs. J. Dalton Jr., of 7 Cedar street south opened her lovely home to the Kinette knitting group on Monday evening, when a large number of members met to discuss final plans for the sale of home-baking which will be held in the Style Shoppe Furriers on Saturday, May 16th.

It was also decided that another parcel of knitted articles and small treats will be sent to the men of the ship "Thornwick Bay", adopted several months ago by the group. This parcel will be packed in the near future, and it is hoped that members will send all completed articles to Mrs. Les Marshall, wool convener. A new shipment of wool will be ordered, so that work may begin on articles for the next shipment.

Mrs. Les Marshall presided at the tea table during the serving of a deli-

cious lunch, with Mrs. Henry Hudson and Mrs. J. M. Cartan assisting the hostess in serving. To round out the pleasant evening, Mrs. Frank Fillion played several piano selections, the group joining in the singing of the popular numbers.

Among those present were: Mrs. Wm. Alexander, Mrs. Les Marshall, Mrs. Henry Hudson, Mrs. J. M. Cartan, Mrs. Chas. Kerr, Mrs. O. F. Carter, Mrs. Henry Ostrosser, Mrs. Roy Hardy, Mrs. Frank Fillion, Mrs. Russ Thompkins, Mrs. Joe Colquhoun, Mrs. H. J. Kelneck, and the hostess, Mrs. J. Dalton Jr.

Plans were made to hold the meeting on Monday, May 18th, at the home of Mrs. L. Spears, 135 Main avenue.

Try The Advance Want Advertisements

Alouette Cycle Club Holds Picnic at Bob's Lake

Over Fifty Members in Newly-Organized Society.

The Alouette Cycle Club organized only a few weeks ago, met at the Notre Dames des Lourdes Church on Sunday at 10:30 o'clock, members cycling to Golden City and on to Bob's Lake where they enjoyed a picnic. About fifty young people are members of the club, but only a few took advantage of this opportunity to spend a thoroughly fine afternoon.

Among those present were: Laurent Belanger, Albert Bois, Gilbert Lafleur, Jean-Louis Leroux, Marcel Gauthier, Alphonse Blain, Anita Giguere, Aline Lapalme, Germaine Jalette, Estelle Gauthier, and Jeanne Camie.

Letters Received by Mattagami Ladies From Men Overseas

Mrs. R. Lazenby is Hostess at Weekly Meeting. Mrs. Ellis Once Again Winner of Draw.

Mrs. R. Lazenby, 125 Main avenue, entertained the Mattagami Ladies Club on Monday evening when the members spent a very enjoyable evening, each person knitting an article for the men in the armed forces.

Mrs. G. Allison read letters of thanks for boxes received by the men overseas, each in their own way expressing thanks to the club for the contents which arrived in excellent condition. Letters were received from Sgt. M. Cooper of the Royal Canadian Engineers; Spr. Nick Salamone of the Royal Canadian Engineers; Pte. T. G. Lazenby, of the Royal Canadian Medical Corps; Pte. P. Turner, of the Lone Scots Regiment.

The hostess served a delicious lunch, Mrs. G. Allison assisting her in the serving. Mrs. D. Ellis won the weekly raffle, two small old fashioned lamps, the winning ticket being drawn by Mr. R. Lazenby.

Plans were made to hold the meeting on Monday, May 18th, at the home of Mrs. L. Spears, 135 Main avenue.



"Of course I'm going to-night!"

Yes, it's our busiest season at the office but still I'm not a bit tired. You see, I wear glasses all day and I find they completely relieve the strain on my eyes. Before Mr. Curtis fitted me with glasses though, I was ready for bed by seven o'clock. Now, I feel fine all the time, day or night.

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MINING IN WARTIME

MODERN war is more than the old-time clash of armed men. Modern war is mechanized war. In a sense the war raging to-day is a war of metals, including gold which is used to pay for it all.

The defense of the Empire may in a sense be said to begin at the mines where iron, nickel, copper, lead and gold are blasted from the rocks. By our resources in metals as well as in men, the British Empire fights this war, and Canada's mines are contributing an important share. In gold alone Canada's contribution last year represented more than one-fifth of the British Empire's total production.

By our surplus mining products available for export Canada builds credit for necessary purchases abroad, and helps keep her exchange situation in hand.

This Bank has been distinguished as "the mining man's bank" from the first days of Cobalt. With the demand for metals what it is to-day, the services of Imperial Bank of Canada in the mining districts takes on added significance. With branch offices situated in all the producing areas our facilities will be found adequate to meet war-time requirements.

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