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EACH AFTER THEIR FASHION

In an address at Toronto Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, urged a closer unity between the several parts of the British Empire, so that the British Empire might be a great nation in the coming world, as she has been in the past — powerful in her own protection and valuable for the good of the whole world. He pointed out that if the Empire, as an Empire, had a unified foreign policy — speaking as a single nation or union of nations — then the British Commonwealth of Nations would take its proper place in the world alongside of other great united nations like the United States, Russia and China. On the other hand if the policy of isolation and lack of unity among the various parts of the Empire were to prevail, then there would be neither safety nor progress for any section. Although he did not say so, Lord Halifax was simply warning against such a condition as would obtain if each state in the United States were to insist on following a policy of isolation within the confederation. It is necessary that all the several states of the United States should be agreed on a foreign policy for the United States as a whole. It is absurd to argue that Louisiana could be neutral like Elre while the United States faced war or economic crisis. Lord Halifax might well have added that the present war owes some of its origin to the fact that there has been altogether too much talk and theorizing as to whether all parts of the British Commonwealth really are part of the Empire. Hitler and his fellow gangsters built much of their hopes on the belief that outlying parts of the Commonwealth would not rally to the support of the Empire as a whole. "Divide and conquer" was Hitler's theory in this as in other cases.

The reactions of different men to the address of Lord Halifax illustrates the different types of people that are alive to-day — all of them owing their very lives to the same British Commonwealth of Nations so complacently discussed.

Knowing from past cases the tendency of some public men at Ottawa, the reaction of Hon. John Bracken, Progressive Conservative leader, was to issue an urgent appeal that the words of Lord Halifax should not be debased to a political football. No doubt Hon. Mr. Bracken recalled the ease with which some politicians dare to jockey with National issues if by misrepresentation and treasonable falsehood they may hope to gain some petty political ends. It would have been still better if Hon. John Bracken had expressed his faith and belief in closer unity and purpose among all parts of the Empire. Whether he could agree with Lord Halifax's plans for achieving the ends sought or not, it would have been an appropriate moment to proclaim the loyalty and unity and earnest co-operation of all parts of the Empire. There is altogether too much pussyfooting about questions such as this. There are actually people who appear afraid or ashamed to come out flatfooted and say they are loyal and determined that the British Empire shall be able to face the world, if need be. It is only a few short years ago that Britain had to face a world in arms — alone. Had the Empire been unable to stand then — alone — the outlying parts of the Empire would have been in a sorry plight. At the present moment Canada and other distant parts of the Empire are doing their share in the war, it is well to remember that in peace and in other wars the might of the Empire protected all the parts of the Empire — too often to the chief cost of the centre.

The reaction of M. J. Coldwell, the Dominion C. F. leader, was what might be expected. He is more interested in foreign economic theories than he is in the Empire that assures him the liberty he never fails to take. In the early days of the present war he opposed Canada's participation, though it is difficult to understand how an honest intelligent man could fail to see that even on the most selfish grounds there was no other option for Canada. It was a case of fight or die. While Hitler flourishes Canada, apart from the Empire, would have no more than an equal chance with Czechoslovakia or Belgium.

Of course, no one would expect any other reaction from the Bloc Populaire type of reactionary isolationists than has been shown. At least they are open and honest, no matter how misguided. They admit they would prefer a Little Canada to a Great Britain. They entirely overlook the fact that but for Great Britain they would not be able to spout about Little Canada.

Probably the most expected reaction of all was that evidenced by Premier King. It is so typical of the man and his policies. It recalls to mind the incident after the last war when misrepresentation of the action of a Governor-General was made the basis for a slogan to win an election. Beneath all the fine phrases so carefully worded about world interests and international unity, can be seen the hope to reclaim ground, cultivated so assiduously for years, but recently lost through the indirect ravages of the present war. If the

Premier were to be taken seriously in his recent address in the House of Commons in reference to the suggestion of Lord Halifax, the Canadian Premier might well be asked how it could be possible to attain world unity and co-operation by smashing national amity and friendship; how a world could be unified by severing the bonds of nationality; how the family of nations could arrive at peace by discord and disunion among the nations. The reaction of General Smuts, the great South African leader, is in striking contrast to the attitude of the so-called Canadian leaders. General Smuts, with the wisdom of experience and loyalty, would bind more closely together the various parts of the great Empire. He would have them speak in one voice — for their own safety and for the welfare of the world.

In contrast, too, is the stand of Prime Minister Fraser, of New Zealand. Hon. Mr. Fraser points out that there is an "Anzac Agreement" which applies to the accepted principles of partnership and unity which characterizes the British Commonwealth. Although New Zealand and Australia act independently, they aim at a common Empire policy. He agreed with Lord Halifax that there should be a unified policy on foreign affairs, defence, economic and colonial questions and communications, and that it should be the whole British Commonwealth and not the United Kingdom alone that should act conjointly after the war with the United States, Russia and China to arrange world peace.

Hon. J. R. Menzies, former premier of Australia, is equally frank and loyal, as might be expected. He states that it is "crystal clear that the Empire nations must stand together or the Empire ends." He adds that a dominion — neutral in a British war leaves the Empire.

The question may be asked whether Canada is less loyal than other parts of the Empire. The answer has already been given in this war, as it was in the last, when thousands on land and on the water and in the air have risked all, given all that Britain — the Empire of their liberty, their faith their love — may live on.

It is true that politicians often adopt an attitude that they believe will appeal to large sections of the people. At the present moment there are evidences here and elsewhere of an attempt to cater to the New Canadians by fulsome praise about other lands than the British Empire. As a matter of fact such an appeal touches the interest of only a small percentage of New Canadians. Ninety per cent at least of the New Canadians are intensely loyal to the British Empire. Bitter experience in other lands has taught them the value of British liberty and the British way of life. Other Canadians may not parade their feelings in the matter, but in their hearts they are loyal to the limit to the British Empire of which they are a part. It might be well to have a general show-down. The result is a foregone conclusion. New Canadians and other Canadians are not fools. They may be misled once through specious arguments and fine spun theories. But once aroused and fully aware of the attempt to deceive them, the traitors and the quillings and the political tricksters will be left in no doubt of the loyalty and love of Canada for the Empire.

ROOM IN THE MUSEUM FOR MAN!

There used to be a saying that there is always a woman at the bottom of everything. That certainly is true enough to-day. Moreover, there's a woman at the top of most things these days. And a half a dozen in between. Mere man to-day is getting merer and merer. Women are into everything. They are doing everything from driving locomotives to serving beer in beverage rooms. The Advance years ago thought it was far in advance when it had girls as "newsboys." A few years later girls replaced men as ushers in the theatres here. Then girls driving delivery rigs seemed an extension of the sphere of women in this land that was supposed to be particularly a man's country.

The Advance has never worried about the expansion of women's activities. The new girls on The Advance staff have all turned out especially valuable citizens. Some of them took up the school teaching profession; others proved excellent wives and mothers; some are to-day making munitions; while others are taking the places of men in the Army, the Air Force and the Navy, so that men may be released for combat service. The girls have graduated into every profession, every trade, every calling, every walk of life. And what about it? They are doing the work as well as men, and they are a lot easier on the eyes. Some people ask what is going to happen after the war is over to all the women now at work. It might be just as timely to worry as to what is going to happen to all the men who will have to compete with women when the war is won. The women will be able to do the work as well as men, and so the only chance the men will have will be in those cases where the women run the employment service.

But why worry? Of course, there are those who are anxious and alarmed. For instance, there is the bulletin of the Royal Ontario Museum. This bulletin, which is always bright and up-to-date even when touching on the most ancient affairs, sees cause for alarm among men at the modern situation. "Women folk are taking over job after job once exclusively performed by the stronger sex." According to the Royal Ontario Museum Bulletin the animals are following the same line as is occurring among humans. The Museum has an antlered white-tailed doe from Algonquin Park. While there have been antlered does before, the antlers usually have been either undeveloped or

malformed. The doe from Algonquin Park is not like that. The antlers of this doe are symmetrical in form, have a spread of nineteen inches, and equal or excel the average antlers of the ordinary buck.

In this freak of nature the Museum bulletin sees the doom of mere man. The bulletin forgets the case of the "bearded lady." Everything might be so much worse. Does may be growing antlers, but no young ladies have yet started growing beards. "Move over, Mr. Man, and make room in the doghouse for Mr. Buck to lower his once-proud antlered head," say the bulletin of the Museum. The answer to all this must be: "Move over, yourself, and make room in the Museum for any mere man that may survive."

WHEN THE WAR WILL END

Only a few months ago there were people who apparently looked for a very early end of the war. In the North Land there were wagers made that the war would be over by Christmas. People in higher places seemed to share this view. The collapse of Italy gave these optimists more grounds for their hopes. Premier King appeared to be among the optimists when he proposed a general celebration of the collapse of Italy. Someone told him something further, however, and the suggestion was cancelled from Ottawa, but not before many towns had planned celebrations, which were actually carried out as if victory had been reached, at least in Italy. To-day Premier King is not nearly so hopeful. In the House of Commons this week he referred to the severe phases yet to come in the war and even suggested that the battle might last beyond June of 1945.

The hopeful words of high-ranking army officers in the Allied Nations and of leading public men should not be taken too literally. All are agreed that every effort should be continued to every angle of war work. For sustaining morale at home or lessening confidence in enemy countries hopeful words are often deemed necessary.

People, however, are still liable to persist in asking when the war is likely to end. The soldiers on active service would appear to be a good source for answer to that question. Ted Thompson writing from Italy to his father at New Liskeard, recently concluded his letter with these words:

Kiwanis Take Leading Part in All Community Work

Interesting List Prepared by Secretary W. H. Wilson.

Along with the bulletin announcing the Twentieth Anniversary meeting of the Timmins Kiwanis Club, Secretary, W. H. Wilson sent a very interesting list. While this list was admittedly incomplete, it was designed to show that Kiwanians are leaders in youth, community and patriotic work. The list gave members taking valuable and effective part in various community enterprises. The following is the list:—

Town Council—Karl A. Eyre, councillor.
Children's Aid Society—P. H. Laporte, vice-president and past president; Geo. S. Drew, member of district executive.
Board of Trustees of High and Vocational School—Claude Desaulniers, G. S. Drew, A. G. Irving, W. O. Langdon, A. W. Pickering, H. R. Rowe.
Public School Board—W. R. Rinn, chairman.
Soldiers' Dependents' Board Advisory Committee—G. S. Drew, P. H. Laporte, Canadian Legion Trustees—G. S. Drew, A. F. McDowell, H. J. Quinn.
Civilian Defence Corps (A.R.P.)—W. H. Burnes, G. S. Drew, O. E. Walli.
National War Finance Committee—K. A. Eyre, J. W. Jackson, H. R. Rowe, W. H. Wilson.
Cochrane District Citizens' Committee—W. O. Langdon, chairman.
Timmins Board of Trade—W. J. Doran, president; Z. J. Ostrowski, vice-president; W. H. Burnes and O. R. Kenzie, executive committee; W. O. Langdon, executive committee and past president.
Timmins Retail Merchants' Association—Z. J. Ostrowski, president.
Associated Board of Trade of Northern Ontario—W. O. Langdon, president.
Victorian Order of Nurses—J. L. Fulton, A. Gillies.
To these may be added:—
Timmins Branch of Red Cross—A. W. Pickering, president A. F. McDowell, first vice-president.
Schumacher Red Cross—John Beattie one of the honorary presidents.

Confederation Life Made Excellent Progress in 1943

Warning Given Against Political Schemes to Jeopardise Insurance.

Toronto — An over-all picture of excellent progress made by Confederation Life Association in 1943, was presented by Mr. R. S. Waldie, vice-president, at the 72nd annual meeting held in Toronto. He said the association is now in a much stronger position than at the beginning of the war. Over 50% of the company's assets are now invested in Government bonds; and if holdings of municipal bonds are added, over 65%. While total assets have increased since the beginning of the war by about 30 million dollars, the association has invested approximately 50 million dollars in the war bonds of Canada, United Kingdom and United

"We hope the war will soon be over, but we do not expect any sudden collapse for at least another year." This appears to be a common opinion of soldiers on active service. It is generally believed that the Nazis will collapse suddenly as they did in the last war, but that collapse is still some distance away. After the collapse of Germany an even more stubborn foe will have to be dealt with in the barbarous Japanese. Even the most optimistic should settle down to several more months of war.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

After the last war there was bold talk of a combination of nations to prevent any further war. What was the result? There was disarmament by the peaceful nations and preparedness by the gangsters. When the present war came along the peaceful nations were caught utterly unprepared and the results have been disastrous. Yet there are people who would repeat the process all over again. The lesson appears to be plain that those who value liberty and the right must be prepared to defend it at all times. A strong and prepared British Empire and a ready United States will do more to hold the world in peace than all the talk between here and Heligoland.

Still stands the motto of the King:

"Put into your task whatever it may be, all the courage and purpose of which you are capable. Keep your hearts proud and your resolve unshaken. Let us go forward to that task as one man, a smile on our lips and our heads held high and with God's help we shall not fail."

Progressive Conservative House Leader Graydon criticizes the Speech from the Throne for its many omissions. One of these is the fact that there is no reference to Canada's part in air service after the war. After the war the plane may easily take a vital place not only in opening up Canada but also in keeping Canada in key position with the rest of the world. There was disappointment after the last war that Canada did not make full use of the possibilities of the aeroplane. There will be still greater disappointment if the chance is missed again. There appears, however, to be a tendency to sidetrack this vital matter in Canada. Why?

Kirkland Mine Councils Merge with the A. U. of C.

Kirkland Lake started a consolidation of labour forces in opposition to the C. I. O. form of control last week, when five mines of the camp decided to join the Amalgamated Unions of Canada and the other Workers' Council at Kirkland Lake are considering the question, the proposed amalgamation was approved last week by the Workers' Councils at Lake Shore, Wright-Hargreaves, Upper Canada, Kirkland Lake Gold and Consolidated Matachewan. It is under consideration at the Bidgood, Kerr-Addison, Macassa and Sylvanite. These Councils are said to be likely to accept the plan. It is also reported as probable to be accepted at Geraldton and Long Lac camps. The plan is described thus:—The new unions being organized in Kirkland Lake and district will be branches of the Amalgamated Unions of Canada, of which the president is D. V. Mitchell, an officer of the National Union of Railwaymen and formerly a director of the Canadian Federation of Labour. The Amalgamated Unions of Canada differs from other national and international unions in the fact that each local union is supreme in its own field and does not have to take order

from the parent body. While headquarters always show willingness to give advice or other help the local runs its own affairs. This includes the idea that fellow workers are better to negotiate with employers than men who are not. This thought has been impressed on Kirkland Lake men recently by the improvements in conditions secured by the Workers' Council. Morris Cline, president of Lake Shore Workers' Council, was quoted last week by The Northern News as saying:—"As far as Kirkland Lake is concerned, this has been done for the last 18 months, and while the bargaining of the Workers' Council has not been 100 per cent, perfect the Councils have gained more for the miners by their inside positions in those 18 months than outside pressure got the workers in the last 20 years."

REVENGE IS SWEET

Nurse (suspiciously): "What have you been doing, Joan?"
Joan: "Rover's eaten my dolly's slippers, so I've been punishing him."
"How?"
"I've been to his kennel and drunk his milk."—Kapusking Tribune.

SOMETHING IN THAT

"No Willie," said his mother, "no more candy tonight. Don't you know you can't sleep on a full stomach?"
"That's all right, mamma," said Willie; "I can sleep on my back can't I?"—Sudbury Star.

North Bay Nugget: Adolf didn't bite off more than Joe could chew.



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