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WHEN WILL THE DOOR BE OPENED?

In former years this country depended upon the British Isles as a source of supplying immigrants and new Citizens, but today Britain needs all her own man-power, and we cannot look forward to any great number of British people being allowed to leave their country during the next five to ten years. It has been reported that nearly one quarter of a million Britishers have signified their desire to immigrate to various parts of the Commonwealth, but the man-power situation is so acute that the British Government is not likely to issue many exit visas.

If Canada is to aid her man-power shortage and increase her population she must open her doors to the best available type of worker and citizen. Looking at figures, Canada is three and a half million square miles, or fifty per cent larger than Continental Europe, which is 2,116,000 square miles in area. While Europe supports 400,000,000 people, there are approximately 12,000,000 people in Canada. It might be interesting to note that the unoccupied agricultural land of Canada amounts to 293,000 square miles, or 80,000 square miles more than the area occupied at the present time. The population has a distribution of 3.7 inhabitants per square mile, as compared with Belgium with 802 inhabitants per square mile. At the present rate of increase, a recent report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics shows that the population of this country is not likely to exceed 16,000,000, at the end of the present century.

In Europe today there are some 4,000,000 people who are existing under conditions of unparalleled misery. Europe has been reduced to poverty and famine, her cities are in ruins, her industries smashed, her transportation shattered and her communications disrupted. Even the soil has been injured to some extent by minefields and shellfire. Her people are anxious to start life anew, they are clamouring to come to Canada, yet this country is still afraid to open her door.

One of the main fears that the people hold against the open door policy, is that their jobs will be jeopardised and their business ruined by an influx of competitors.

At the present time there is also a fear that the political trend in Europe would bring into this country a new influx of anti-Canadian minded citizens, who, in time, would destroy the liberties that Canadians have fought so hard to preserve. The past has proven that among our most loyal and zealous citizens are those who came from lands of misery and oppression. They have proven invaluable in the heavy industries such as construction, mining, and logging. Their value as domestics has never been questioned, and our agricultural districts have profited by their labour. Economists tell us that in order to provide a domestic market and maintain our exports, we must increase our population. We cannot expect to export unless we are in the position to do some importing as well.

It is therefore evident that if we are to prosper as a Nation, our population must be increased, but we cannot prosper if we maintain the present immigration quota system, nor can we hope to encourage new people so long as our housing, hospital, clinic, transportation and school problems remain in the acute position we find them today.

Under the new policy recently outlined by the Government, many of our fellow citizens here in Timmins, look forward to the day when their relatives in Europe will be able to join them, however, unless the Government is prepared to put housing and essential building on a war footing, and make it as important as were the tanks, planes, guns and ships in 1940, then they cannot expect to offer a home to any number, no matter how great our need, or how great our sympathy towards them in their misery. The overcrowded conditions within the Town, the lack of hospitalization and clinical facilities would only tend to discourage the newcomer rather than provide him with hope. The same situation prevails from Atlantic to Pacific, and must remain so until the Government solves the problem of building.

We can carry on with the food, clothes and consumer goods that are available. We can exaggerate the importance of some scarcities, but we cannot ignore the lack of homes or the backyard shacks that are mushrooming up due to the shortage.

WORLD OUTLOOK UNSETTLED

Almost daily we read, or hear, of the tightening or easing of the international tension, but peacemaking and the preparation for war still march together.

Great statesmen speak wisely and soothingly. The voice of Stalin, though seldom heard, always states that Russia does not desire war but wishes to continue in peace. From South Africa we hear the voice of General Smuts calling to the leaders of the Nations to make a fresh start. On the surface it would therefore seem that the fight for peace will be won, that the fate of millions of human beings, and of civilization itself, will be saved from destruction.

At the same time, we may be excused for wondering why the powers that have publically renounced war do not prove the honesty of their intentions by scrapping the weapons of attack. Here in Canada we do not believe that the United States wants another war. We believe that she abhors the idea as much as we do ourselves, yet we cannot blind ourselves to the fact that never before have American Scientists been kept so busy perfecting and improving weapons of destruction and of mass extermination as they are today, in the atomic and bacteriological fields.

Russia answers the reports from America by announcing that she too will soon have an atomic bomb, and it has become known that she is now intensively mining a northern spur of the famous Joachimsthal uranium ore deposit on the site where Professor Pierre & Madame Marie Curie obtained their first uranium for radium. While from Sweden come reports of strange unidentified rocket projectiles which seem to appear from nowhere.

The United States also reports the building of two new airports designed to carry the largest and most deadly aircraft that they have yet built. One of these airports is to be constructed at Mile Twenty Six, near Fairbanks, Alaska, within easy flying distance of Russia's eastern boundaries.

These reports do not encourage the thought of continuous peace, and it does not yet seem that the world has recovered from its sickness, nor has the greed of man for power been diminished by the fate of those found guilty of having started the last catastrophe.

SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK

By R. J. SCOTT



The Nation's Business

The reason for the interest shown here in the International trade talks now going on at Geneva, Switzerland is well illustrated in the exhibit which the Canadian government has at the "British Industries Fair" which opened May 5 and will continue until May 16. The 5 point outline of Canada's position gives emphasis to the claim that 35c out of every Canadian dollar comes from external trade and touches all sections of our people.

Our Trade Interests
Canadians are portrayed first as important customers. Because of our climate and geography which limits the variety of our production we will always be customers for a large number of items of quality goods at fair prices if we are to maintain our standard of living.

As producers we will more and more require external markets for the surpluses we will always be able to produce as farmers, fishermen, lumbermen, miners and, in some lines, manufacturers.

Our country is outlined as a land of industrial opportunity, a land of many still undeveloped resources which can be developed, to offer more employment and to produce more goods that will further improve our standard of living. Next, Canada is shown as a world trader — situated on the highways of the world's established trade channels — with easy access to the United States, to Britain and the Far East.

Fifth and not least important is Canada's position as Britain's Butcher, Baker and Grocer. Britain has, for years, been our chief external market for a wide variety of foods, ranging from wheat in bulk to prepared sweets, including meat and fish products. In the first full year of peace Canadians supplied 86% of Britain's foreign requirements of wheat and flour, 73% of her external supply of bacon and ham, as well as 45% of the eggs and 26% of the cheese which landed at British ports (figures supplied by the Department of Trade and Commerce).

Impressive reasons for the interest each of us have in world peace and world trade.

Paralysis and Unrest
There is much interest shown in discussions here on the report of the representative of one of our leading dailies on the political and economic situation in New Zealand. "It is not that material conditions are bad, although the North Island is in the throws of an electric power famine. The trouble is really spiritual — a kind of post-war malaise which is getting worse." The general election was held in November, 1946 and no session of parliament has yet been called. Strikes are having a bad effect on the national morale and national pride is particularly hurt because of a strike of 200 ratings of the Royal New Zealand Navy.

No one contends that Canada is altogether free from the unrest that pervades the world but some point to a recent Gallup poll to show that we have achieved a real measure of confidence and unity. The poll showed that 61% of our voters do not want an election now and feel that the government should live out its term. A majority of the voters all in all parties concurred in this indication of some measure of satisfaction. 21% gave no opinion which perhaps indicates a lack of any major grievance. Only 18% wanted an election this year.

Dealers in Disaster
To what extent is our economic life threatened by those who continually foresee disaster? One of Canada's leading business men recently criticized very sharply those who "glory in working themselves into a state of gloom and hysteria" and particularly advised business men to take a constructive and progressive attitude.

Economists all seem to agree that confidence is an important factor in our continuing prosperity and if confidence is shaken by unfair and unjustified fears, great harm could be done. The extreme left wing political minds are the greatest offenders, perhaps because they predicted a depression. Their favorite topic is "I hope there is not going to be a depression, but..."

His statement that "Canada has remained sound through a great deal of world instability and unrest and can continue to do so" would seem to be justified.

Love Canada First

By R. J. Deachman

Is there a national point of view — is it ever presented?

What do I mean by a national point of view? One which considers the economy as a whole.

The general interest is the basis of prosperity. Prosperous individuals cannot be numerous unless the national economy is on a sound basis.

Take the case of oleomargarine, it has been under discussion in the last few weeks. The farmers of Canada have been low tariff advocates as long as we have had farmers and tariffs. Yet, here they are in favor, not only of tariffs on imports but prohibition of production of the product which competes against them.

I was in Iowa, a few years ago, when the discussion on the issue was at its sharpest. A college professor had made an investigation of the subject and published a report suggesting abolition of restrictions. He could see no danger to the dairy industry in this program. The farmers had him fired. A bright young chap with whom I discussed the issue told me that the farmers sold their butter at good prices bought "oleo" for their own consumption. "They were," he said, "stoutly in favor of protecting the butter industry nor Saturday night to Saturday noon. On Saturday afternoon they bought their "oleo" and they wanted it at the lowest possible price."

The farmers, of course, are not an exception to the general rule. Labor has precisely the same code. Labor wants controls on everything but wage rates. Only recently one of the leaders came out with the statement that if prices were going up labor would demand higher wage rates, a warning to farmers and others that labor would seek its own interests, nothing else mattered. Yet common sense should tell them that, in Canada, a prosperous agriculture is the surest basis for full employment of labor.

I am making a guess that 98% of those who do not own houses and so must pay rent want the retention of rent control. Why? It means lower rents. They are not in the slightest interested in the landlord, to them he is Shylock, the villain in the piece. How are we going to have more houses if prices of all other products rise while rents are held down? Has anybody asked that question? If so, I have not heard the answer. Some now are suggesting bonused housing. This means that they would rather pay rent to the government in taxes than to the home-builder in rent. That they must pay, in some form is self evident.

When I was a boy we believed that the ostrich when pursued, stuck its head in the sand believing that because it could not see it could not be seen. We know better now, man is the only animal which does that. Of course, like the others, I do not want to pay more rent, but I am quite certain that the continuance of the present system will prove costly and in the end I shall pay dearly or a policy which discriminates against one group while the earnings of others continue to rise.

Writing of housing, isn't it surprising how little we know? How much has the cost of housing risen since 1939? If we had the total we might get a breakdown of the details. Suppose we ask a simple question. Here is a house which could, in 1939, be built for 6,000, how much would have to be paid for the building of it today. Strange isn't it, how, in those things in which we are so intensely interested, we know so little!

I come back to my question: Is there a national point of view? In making a decision does the average man, or woman consider the effect of his conduct upon the nation as a whole? Would it be better if he did? This is indeed hard to answer. I leave it with you. Still over the years we have made tremendous progress, at least in the material sense — it might be greater if, in considering our own interests, we thought, at times, of the consequences of our actions upon the lives of others.

Then followed bills from the grocer, wine merchant, local stableman, and a host of others, all of which the noble lord settled by his own peculiar method of proportionate figuring. As each allotment had been made Howard had bowed low and murmured: "Yes, milord; thank you, milord."

NEWS & VIEWS OF T.H.&V.S

(By Edgar Roy)

Another school year is slowly drawing to a close. With the arrival of the Grade XIII May Exams next week extracurricular activities in T. H. & V. will greatly decrease because, it is true, the Upper School leads the remainder of the school in practically all events. The last items on the Students' after four time table are now mainly, Volleyball, the coming Field Day and perhaps a few softball games — when and if the weather begins to be weather.

Before we began to be swamped with studies we thought that we should interview one or two of the Leaders in the School. The first person on our list was the Student Prime Minister, John Kenneth Langdon, a Grade XIII student. We asked him what he thought the new Student Parliament had accomplished or had not accomplished. This is what he had to say:

"The Student Parliament is an endeavour on the part of the Students of this school to acquaint themselves more fully with the process and application of Democratic Government. I wish I could say that we have been entirely successful in our enterprise but unfortunately such is not the case. We have found that the majority of students are apathetic towards their school government. Of the balance there are a large number who are interested to varying degrees but are unwilling to accept the responsibilities of office. Despite this fact we are not greatly discouraged. We have enough supporters to keep this Government alive and powerful, and we feel that we have made great strides in our one year of office. Finance has been completely centralized allowing a just and equitable distribution of money to the various student organizations. Parties and Dances have been infinitely better organized — to such an extent that we have realized almost a quarter again as much money on them as was made last year with no difference in cost to the student. For the first time in at least the past six years we have had an active Welfare Committee to look after the Recreation of Students. Many of our dreams lie unfulfilled — notably the new gymnasium and a weekly canteen for Students; but these endeavours were beyond our scope and all that was possible was done.

We have four types of students in this school, in regards to Student Government: the zealous, the interested, the disinterested and the lazy, but I am sincerely pleased to state that the School has produced no anti-democrats. All our opposition has come from the right source — the elected opposition. This is our Canadian way of life. We are proud of it!"

That is the opinion of the Student who was chosen by the entire Student Body of T. H. & V. to govern their activities. As we write this column each week we try to remain unprejudiced but as the "loyal" opposition we feel that we should state our opinion. We are very sincere when we say that the P.M. has brought about a greater interest in Student Government than we have ever seen to date. Even though we have co-operated with the P.M. practically all of the time we have had to criticize but the criticisms have always brought an even greater co-operation between the two Parties than we had before. The Students are awakening! They are beginning to realize that George is not going to do it all and that they must give a hand if they wish to have their aims accomplished.

ARMY CADETS

Cadet Captains George Harper (Cadet C.O.) and William Gordon (Cadet Adjutant) supplied us with the following information on various Cadet activities. The inter-class Rifle Shooting Competition wound up in great style last week. Each form entered a team in the event and G XII B ranked first. Members of this team included: George Harper (Capt.) Jack Tyrrell, Ken Jackson, Leonard Bostrom, and Bruce Helperin. Each member of this Team won a Silver Dollar and a Theatre Pass. G XII C and G XI AB were tied for second place. The elimination "battle" ended with the former team in second place. Members on this team were: Bill Gordon (Capt.), George Taylor, Rudolph Desaulniers, Bob Gavin, and Bob Armstrong. The members of the above team won a Theatre pass each. The presentations were made by Mr. A. Hartman during the Senior Assembly. The highest aggregate scorer was George Harper, who had a total score of 59% out of a possible 615. Recreational Shooting for the Senior forms is now in progress. Seems as next Fall we'll have quite a few 'Big Game Hunters' in our midst!

Here are a few of the promotions which were announced last week: Cadet Sergeants Edwin Day and Roy Dishlevoy to Cadet Lieutenants, David Rose, Bob Gavin, Peter Burke, Carlyle Dunbar, Branko Erdeljac, and Herb Schroeder to Cadet Sergeant.

The Cadet Inspection is scheduled for June 4th and as soon as the weather permits (again!) the Cadets will begin their Ceremonial practice on the School Campus.

Cadet Captain George Taylor, instructor of the Timmins Boys' Bugle Band tells us that the Band has begun practicing their Ceremonial and Marches for the Inspection. There are approximately 25 Members in the Band. Mr. Alex Taylor and Mr. Hank Bielek are the adult instructors.

Volleyball is the fad around the School lately. With three games left to play G XIII and G XII C have three games to their Credit and G XII A,

and B, and XII have two games chalking up. These are all the Senior Boys' Interform Volleyball. The Junior Girls are also playing but when you see how many Junior Girls' Teams there are you'll know why they are not listed here.

The Annual Students Government Dance is scheduled for Tomorrow night. Students are in for a riotous (literal, that is) evening, so get your harness on and don't forget — T. H. & V. is the rendezvous for students tomorrow night.

Bow Waves

(By Allan McCullough)

Allow me to introduce myself. Your former writer has graduated. He is now a working man. The corps is losing a very fine cadet. P.O. Archer was, duty bugler and petty officer of the band.

The new scribe is Leading Hand Allan McCullough. The corp is now preparing for inspection. The men with the bell bottoms can be seen parading around Birch Street School. The rifle squad is progressing very rapidly. The first aid squad is putting the finishing touches on their operations.

The boat house is almost completed. It was moved last week to the river. Sub-Lieutenants Doucette and Nelson have put a lot of time in at the new location.

If any of you readers happen to see Jim Fraser about, ask him how his new pen pal is.

Mr. Wilkins took some pictures of

the corps the other night. They were on sale Tuesday. Almost all of the fellows obtained at least one. You should see the looks on some of the cadets faces.

If you know of any cadet that has not been out to parade for some time get him out.

Be seeing you next Thursday.

The class was having a lesson in botany and the little dears sat with open mouths drinking in the words of their dear teacher. She explained to them exactly when and why leaves change their color and all the children nodded their heads with great intelligence.

"Now," she asked the class as the lesson drew to an end, "when do leaves turn red?"

"In the autumn," came the reply in chorus.

"And why do leaves turn red in the autumn?" she pursued.

There was silence for a time, and then a small voice was heard from the back.

"Please, miss they're blushing to think how green they've been all summer."



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