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**New Strike Threats Appear In Italy**

D'Italia said there were new rumors that the Communists would call a general strike in Italy Wednesday or Thursday. The Communists, the newspaper added, would justify the strike by "political incidents."

This is the second report that Italy might be paralyzed by a general strike. Previously the rightist press said the country would be strikebound today, along with a similar walkout in France.

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SYDNEY MINES, N.S.

**Smart Girl**

By George F. Worts

**CHAPTER VI**

Sally porter had the cab stop at a drug store at fifty-ninth and Madison. She went in and telephoned the Evening Globe and asked for Benson Hodge.

"Ben, it's Sally. What do you know about a man named Eric Larsen?"

"Is this a game?" the dramatic critic asked. "Are you and Eric in some evil cocktail bar playing pranks?"

"I just met him."

"So he just mentioned. Aren't you together?"

"No."

"You ought to be."

"I'm really serious. Benny. Tell me about him."

"All right, divinely. Eligible is the word for Eric. He is probably the most desirable young man on Manhattan Island. His father is Senator Larsen, the air conditioning king. His family goes back unservingly to the Vikings. Socially, he is tops. Debts cry for him. Fond mothers pray he'll launch their daughters socially by merely glancing favorably at them. He is not the best-dressed man on Broadway, as some columnists claim, but something about the way he wears his clothes makes him the most imitated. Observe the angle at which all smart young men are wearing their hats today. It's homage to Eric Larsen."

"I am not joking, Benny. The young man is not only popular and brilliant, but he's one of the dearest eggs I know. You ought to be familiar with his reputation as a producer. He's so young, yet still won't take him seriously, but they will, Sally, they will! He has the rarest thing on Broadway—artistic integrity. And the people who work with him and for him claim he is the most generous, decent, honest man in the show business. He's wide-gauge. And all the time I thought you were in love with Barney Teel. I told you you were marrying Barney Teel next week. Did I commit a typographical error?"

"No, Benny. It's supposed to be an office secret, but it doesn't matter now. And thanks so much."

"Don't forget that the Benson Hodge lonely hearts department is open at all hours to clients in good standing."

Eric returned to his apartment. He was having a hard time reconciling Sally Porter with all that he had learned about her. It was mystifying. If she was in at deeply with Stefan Zorane as she appeared to be, why had she phoned the account of his get-away to Barney Teel? If she was as nice as she appeared to be, why was she running dangerous errands for Zorane and letting her column be used for instructing all labor agitators scattered about the country?

The telephone began to ring.

"It's Jim. Mr. Larsen. I'm at Fifty-seventh and Madison. She stopped to telephone in a drug store at Fifty-ninth. I slipped into the next booth. She talked to some guy named Ben and asked him a lot of questions about you. Then she got back in the cab and went down to Fifty-seventh, to Van Arden's apartment. She's there now."

"Okay," Eric said. "Drop it. Go to the Newark airport and meet the senator. He took the three o'clock plane from Washington. He's bringing the alligator briefcase. You'd better be armed. Don't say anything to him about this girl. Not a word! I'm handling her myself."

When Barney Teel entered the lavish reception room of the Kresco Construction Company, he had the slightly feverish, mirthful air of a man in the throes of a secret, pleasurable excitement.

The receptionist said gaily, "Go right in, Mr. Teel." And she followed his tall, trim figure with approval and speculation. Slim, attractive, audacious, he was just like the interestingly ruthless reporters she saw on the screen.

Barney Teel went jauntily into Pop Kresco's cream, cork and chromium office. He still glowed from the handsome things Hurly, his city editor, had said because he had beat the field on the latest development in the Zorane-Kresco feud. Pop Kresco's comments should make good follow-up. Pop Kresco would probably blow up.

The contractor was seated at his immense desk as incongruous as a frog on a debutante's dressing table. He did not look at all friendly. With his gray hair short and bristly and showing the white scar running diagonally across his skull, and with his thick, self-indulgent lips and his cornflower-blue eyes that always looked at your shoes when you were talking, a heritage perhaps of his day in the ring, Pop Kresco was not a man to inspire confidence when he looked unfriendly.

The reporter said breezily, "Hello pop! Well, I hear Zorane took a powder."

"Yeah, sit down." An injury to his Adam's apple, in the pugilistic era had left his voice soft and whispery.

The cornflower-blue eyes were cold. The heavy lower lip was pendulous.

"I thought we were good friends."

"Aren't we?"

The contractor's lids were heavy. "Why are you double-crossing me?"

Barney Teel raised his dark eyebrows quickly, then brought them down. His features seemed to sharpen as his eyes brightened.

"Did I double-cross you, Pop?"

The pale blue eyes in their fatty creases seemed to freeze solid. The

**Conservative Address**

(Continued from Page 5)

problems of unemployment and relief. It possessed huge revenues such as no previous Government had ever enjoyed: it was political in line with the Liberal Government at Ottawa, and we are told by Liberal speakers that this is a situation greatly to be desired. It is without question, therefore, that all the circumstances and conditions surrounding its terms of office were the best that the Government could have asked for, and were highly favourable to successful accomplishment. Therefore, if there has been failure, that failure can be attributed to no outside factor, but only to the ineptitude of the Government itself.

I am confident that the general consensus of opinion is with me when I say that there has been failure and that the Government's record has been one of uncertainty, inaction and neglect. That, I feel, is the opinion of every independent elector, an opinion arrived at from day to day observation of the Government's conduct, and arrived at also by a consideration of the present condition of our public services and most important industries. A detailed review of the Government's activities and record in the various departments is of course impossible in the short time given to me, but I might refer briefly to the two great spending departments, the Department of Public Works, and the Department of Education. These may be taken as typical of the others.

No one could accuse the Provincial Department of Public Works of inactivity or inattention during the past few months. Just as soon as an election became imminent, this giant, which had been sleeping for four years, awoke to vigorous action. During those four months there has been very great activity in the construction and repair of highways in many sections of the Province, but every elector knows that for four years our secondary roads and many of our relatively important highways have been without attention or repair.

In the Department of Education, while the Government has talked and promised in reference to its elaborate but extremely vague plans for a Provincial system of regional composite high schools, the primary schools of the Province, basic and essential under any system, have been allowed to retrograde and decline.

In its manifesto which appears as an advertisement in the Charlottetown Guardian the Government has set forth a list of what it refers to as its accomplishments. The first item on this list, there evidently because it is considered by the Government to be its major accomplishment, is a reference to the recent Dominion-Provincial agreement which provides for a new financial arrangement between this Province and the Dominion of Canada. The question of financial arrangements between the Province and the Dominion is very large and important. It works into much political history and is not capable of being discussed fully in a short radio broadcast.

**Background Outlined**

I shall endeavor to state very briefly the broad background of this question. Under our original agreement with the Dominion we were to receive from Ottawa upon certain conditions certain subsidies and the Dominion undertook to establish and maintain for us certain services. One of the most important of these services was the transportation connection between the Province and the Dominion. Large claims accrued to the Province against the Dominion, arising from various circumstances, including overcharges by the Dominion of the Confederation pact.

Our statement of the old days were alive to these claims, they pressed for settlement of them from time to time, and at intervals partial settlements were made. The most comprehensive presentation of our claims was made by the late Chief Justice Matheson, then Premier, resulting in what was then considered a substantial increase in subsidy. Later, under the late Premier J.D. Stewart working in co-operation with the other Maritime Premiers, our claims were presented to the Duncan Commission, which tribunal recommended an interim increase in subsidy and an assessment of the various unsettled claims.

Again, in 1935, in co-operation with the other Maritime Premiers, the MacMillan Government succeeded in obtaining the appointment of the White Commission to assess the Maritime claims which had been established by the earlier Duncan report. As a result of the findings of this latter Commission, a further increase in subsidy was obtained.

This last increase, while most welcome at the time was never accepted by the Province as a full settlement, and a way to the preservation and further consideration of our unsettled claims was kept open by the minority report of the late Chief Justice Matheson, who was a member of the White Commission. From 1935 until the recent Dominion-Provincial conference, no further subsidy increase had been obtained, except for the temporary arrangement made after the commencement of the late war, when the Province, at the request of the Dominion, vacated certain Provincial taxation fields for the Dominion.

In the meantime, our old unsettled claims remained and the amount of these claims was greatly increased by the war.

Thick lips scarcely moved for their whisper. "You see," Pop Kresco said, "I know who delivered that internee suit to Zorane."

(To Be Continued)

**War Years**

Increased during recent years because of further breaches by the Dominion of the Confederation pact, especially in reference to transportation. It will be recalled that after the sinking of our second Car Ferry, Premier Jones, speaking in the Legislature, emphasized the magnitude of our claims in this regard.

During the war years, the Dominion Government had been given exclusive control of the fields of income and corporation taxation. As you too well know, these Provincial taxation fields were exploited by the Dominion Government to the fullest extent. After the end of the war, the Dominion desired to retain exclusive control of these fields, and desired also exclusive control of the field of Succession-Duty taxation. The Dominion-Provincial conference was summoned in an effort to arrive at a general agreement between the Dominion and all of the Provinces covering these fiscal and taxation matters.

Considered against this historical background and put in its briefest and simplest form, it may be said that our claims against the Dominion at the recent conference fell into four broad categories:

First—the claims which we had in common with all of the other Provinces of Canada for compensation in respect of those profitable fields of taxation such as income tax, succession duties and corporation tax, which the Dominion was asking us to vacate for their exclusive use.

Second—the special statutory subsidies authorized by the Confederation pact and as subsequently enlarged.

Third—our special Provincial claims which had never been settled, and including those which had arisen out of the Dominion's failure to honor the spirit of the Confederation agreement, especially in reference to transportation.

Fourth—our claims on the basis of fiscal need, that is, whatever additional amount was necessary after satisfying the first three categories to provide adequately for our minimum Provincial requirements.

**Some Treatment**

In respect of the first category of claims, we received by virtue of the new agreement with Ottawa, substantially the same treatment as that offered to every other Province. We received what automatically came to us by virtue of an undertaking of some further concessions. It was, as I have just said, an automatic settlement requiring no special representation by this Province. It could not have been a very advantageous settlement, as it was refused by Ontario and Quebec and so long resisted by Nova Scotia.

As to the second category of claims, that is, the subsidies payable under the Confederation agreement and enlarged over the years by the efforts of the Matheson, Stewart and MacMillan Governments, we are assured by Premier Jones that these subsidies have not been lost.

There is no suggestion that they have been increased. As to the third category of claims, that is, those claims which had never been settled and which had been increasing in amount over the years, and which had been referred to by Premier Jones in the Legislature in connection with the Car Ferry failure, we received not one single cent from Ottawa, and no recognition and no promise of any future recognition.

As to the fourth category, no one will think of suggesting that the settlement is adequate in reference to our minimum fiscal needs. In the result, therefore, this honest agreement with Ottawa brought us nothing which we did not have before. We received, with the other Provinces, our per capita subsidy for surrendering to the Dominion exclusive tenure of our most important fields of taxation. We are assured that we retained our old subsidies for which Premier Matheson, Stewart and MacMillan had fought so valiantly.

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**Cigarets To Cost More**

MONTREAL, Dec. 1 — (CP)—The cigarette smoker took a belt in the pocketbook today with the announcement by leading cigarette makers of an increase in price of two cents on each package of 20 smokes.

The initial announcement came from Imperial Tobacco Co. Ltd., followed almost immediately by a similar announcement from the Tuckett Company in Hamilton. MacDonnell's too, were expected to fall in line with the price climb, although no decision was announced immediately.

The increase applied to new stocks being sold today and was not intended to reach the general public until stores' stocks on hand at the opening of today's business were exhausted.

The price hike meant a retail price of 38 cents a package in Quebec, 35 in Ontario, 33 in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and 35 in Nova Scotia. Provincial or municipal taxes accounted for the variation in price. There will be no increase in the price of pipe or cigarette tobacco, company officials explained.

**Paramount Importance**

This matter of our fiscal arrangements with the Dominion surpasses in its importance any other matter of Provincial policy. More and more we have come to rely for our revenue on Dominion subsidies. We have surrendered to this election, Ottawa will have every reason to believe that we are satisfied with what they have given us, and the way to a just settlement will be irrevocably cut off.

If you wish to retain these claims, if you wish to elect a Government which will fight for our just rights in this important matter, you will use your best efforts for the election of the Progressive Conservative candidates on December 11th.

RYE, Sussex, England — (CP) — The ancient custom of throwing hot coppers to the children was observed on the town's mayor making day.

**QUICKIES**

By Ken Reynolds

"Frankly, if it wasn't for us 'ring Guardian Want Ads—we'd have to sell our business with a Guardian Want Ad!"

For Christmas GIVE

**Winchester**  
CIGARETTES  
They're Blended Right!