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## Lady Cripps On Christian Unity

OTTAWA, Sept. 23—Speaking at a Women's Canadian Club luncheon here today, Lady Cripps said:

**Hardships**

I would like to make it clear from the start, that all I say is my own personal approach, and in no way as the wife of the British Chancellor of the Exchequer!—then I shall feel safe from getting into trouble!

In telling you of things in Great Britain as I see them, I will do my best to give you an unbiased picture, but you must forgive me if my enthusiasm sometimes runs ahead of my reserve, because I find real inspiration in what I see and know is taking place.

I cannot give you detailed or expert information, but I felt I should like to talk to you simply about those things with which I am closest in touch in my own life.

At the end of the war, the women at home were very weary from all the strain and difficulties they had been through and, as never before, they had shouldered this burden of the nation at home. You will know already about their work in factories, offices on the land, in the services, the way they carried on during the bombing and other things. This is now past history. When the war ended, they looked for some relief and an easier time. Instead, except for the fact that the "killing" stopped—they were faced with even greater difficulties.

War-time conditions of overseas help were over, prices were rising, most of the household things they wanted were in short supply and rationing by coupons and points was still there.

There are many who do not realize what this means for thousands, who had no reserves to call upon when the war started—sheets and blankets were worn out, and one knows of cases where people were almost without any at all for a whole family. Curtains and covers were often in shreds and even if a few coupons could be spared, these things had to be on docket because of shortage and the vital need for exports. Dockets could only be given to the newly-weds settling up house, those who were bombed out, or for other special reasons.

Apart from this there was the arduous labour of queuing for food and eking out rations, especially for those living alone or with growing families.

Then came the terribly hard winter of a severity to which we are quite unaccustomed in Britain and the suffering caused was really intense.

**Grounds for Thankfulness**

So it was natural there should be grumbling—it is always difficult to get over to people the hard truths of an economic situation, and we have not been used to realizing we are a poor nation, with most of our overseas assets gone in our total war effort.

There was, and still is, not much "gaiety" in life for many, though as one goes about the country now, one is heartened by signs of bright fresh paint, and as I look out of my window at No. 11 Downing Street across the Horse Guards Square, the summer frocks of the crowd make gay splashes of colour.

We know our rations to be such to supply all, with a fair standard for health, but it is on a minimum basis. Apart from this the diet is pretty dull and monotonous, and often the already over-tired housewife has to search from place to place if she wants to get

variety for her family's fare.

It is here I would like to tell you what a tremendous boon and pleasure are the gift parcels which you have sent from Canada and I do thank you on behalf of us all.

During the last months, through effort on the part of the whole country, there has been an economic improvement, prices have steadied down and on the whole goods are more plentiful. This is most encouraging, but we know that a continual and great effort must be maintained, and that we must still further increase our exports, and deny our home market in order to live.

**Organization**

On July 9th. this year, my husband called a meeting at the Guildhall, London. It was attended by Lady Mayors (which means Mayors in their own right), Lady Mayoresses, Lady Provosts, Mayors, Women Representatives of Chairman of Urban and District Councils and representatives of 67 various organizations. They came from all over England and Scotland and Wales. This was something new and it was a most impressive gathering.

We welcomed them individually as they arrived and they had a cup of tea at one end of the lovely old hall which, sad to say, had its roof and panelling burnt out by incendiary bombs.

After an opening speech by my husband, Mrs. Cockcroft of Halifax got up and told us that when they began to realize the seriousness of the position in December was called by the National Council of Women and billed as "Halifax faces the Facts."

Many suggestions came in—this is a big textile area and there was a great lack of workpeople and yarn-spinners, which was work formerly done by juveniles. Now there are no juveniles to call upon, partly because of the raising of the school leaving age, and even if a few could be sent to the mills—spindles were idle—what could be done to bring home to people that it was noble work?

The Mayoress had an inspiration. During the war, women worked as Army Warden at night—the mills should they go in to the mills now?

They met at their luncheon club, immediately they had ten volunteers—at the end of the week fifty—later more. They came from all sections of the community, giving full rates of pay on piece work and had the full support of employers who gave them suitable pieces of work to do and were soon asking for more volunteers.

Then they started a camp for children during their holidays so that Mothers could continue to come for, anyway, part-time work. A lovely camp-site was found five miles from Halifax with woods and a shallow stream. 160 children during the day-time. University students from Oxford, London, Rome, Vienna and Stockholm came and joined with the local people in helping.

Dame Caroline Haslett spoke next, saying how, as she moved about the country, women had asked "Why don't they let us do the facts? Why don't they let the women help?" My husband went by saying he was asked for no rest—agendas for what women who must remain at home might do to help.

Would they go back to their own localities, look round and use their own initiative? It was an opportunity to overcome frustration in all sorts of ways, small and big.

He had called into consultation with Government Departments, the National Council of Women, Women's Institutes, Townswomen's Guild, Co-operative Women, Business and Professional Women, and they were all learning to work together in their own localities on a non-sectarian, non-party basis.

In the hosiery centre of Leicester encouragement was given to women, some of whom were timid at first about going to work in factories. They organized an exhibition, showing the kind of jobs women could do and produced a little document trying to answer ten practical questions such as, "What happens to the children when I am away at work?" "How do I get on with my shopping?" etc. We all left that meeting strengthened by the realising of co-operation and helpfulness.

Before turning to quite another subject I would like to say in passing how much is being done to better relationships in industry by joint consultation between employers, trades union, representatives, and employees. This is having a very definite effect on production.

During the war, it was my privilege to go over hundreds of factories, with my husband and I saw a good deal of the personnel and social developments. It is being more and more fully realized that we have gone very far towards perfecting machinery, but that the human being is the most delicately poised machine of all, and needs not only wise, but warm and thoughtful understanding.

I will just touch on two more important points. We have always been very interested in Young People and have a large family circle of our own. During the last year or so I have been so busy with many things that I have not had as much close personal contact as I should wish but before I left I had a long

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### LIVESTOCK AND FEED

Although the greater part of the world's livestock is fed from production—particularly in some countries before the war purchased extensively from abroad the coarse grains and oilcake needed to round out their livestock feeding programs. In part this was obtained from milled imported bread grains and crushing imported oil seeds.

Since the war there has been a drastic reduction in world shipments of these commodities, particularly of oil seeds, and in addition, because of a higher

extraction rate of bread grains in many countries, livestock by-products have been reduced substantially. In some countries the shortage of bread grains, has made it necessary to use more coarse grains for human consumption, again reducing feed which would otherwise be used for livestock.

This feed shortage, and local drought conditions in some instances, has forced the slaughter of cattle in Europe since the war. Though this has helped to ease the meat shortage temporarily, it has obviously retarded the rebuilding of the European livestock industry.

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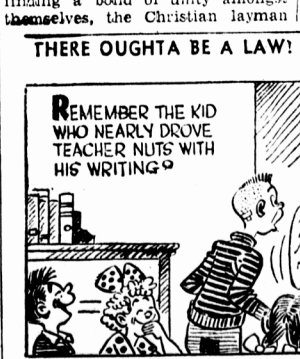
### Laymen Unity

There are some who are apt to be critical of the young people of today, but after my talk I found that my friend and I had a similarity of view. The war and post-war years have been a terribly stern and disturbing influence and these are turbulent and insecure days. As a whole our young people are facing things with deeper thought and a desire to learn about life in all its aspects. There is a growing tendency in both boys and girls to give thought to choosing what they require of their partners in marriage and what kind of families they want to have—there is a greater frankness of discussion and the girls want to learn about homecraft and child care.

Boys too want to have knowledge of these things and it is surprising and pleasing to find in how many young families the partners take equal shares even to bathing and helping to care for their babies!

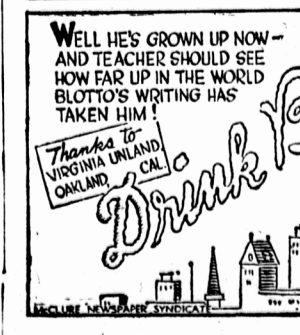
There is an increasing desire to understand the meaning of good citizenship and, though there is criticism of young people not being interested in church dogma, there is searching and recognition that material values are not enough. Somehow or other the Churches must learn how to meet this spiritual hunger.

### THERE OUGHTA TO BE A LAW!



REMEMBER THE KID WHO NEARLY DROVE TEACHER NUTS WITH HIS WRITING!

BLOTTO, IS THIS SUPPOSED TO BE HANDWRITING OR WHEN TRACKS YOU'RE HOPELESS! YOU'LL NEVER GET UP IN THE WORLD WITH WRITING LIKE THIS!



WELL HE'S GROWN UP NOW—AND TEACHER SHOULD SEE HOW FAR UP IN THE WORLD BLOTTO'S WRITING HAS TAKEN HIM!

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**Drink Burpola**

### and to awaken in them the realization and urgency of this need.

During the last year, a feeling gained hold that because of the difficulties of the Churches in finding a bond of unity amongst themselves, the Christian layman should take action in trying to find a way. It was not to be a new movement of any kind, but an attempt to draw people to act through their own demonstrations.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, (Continued on Page 16)

By Fagaly and Shorten