



Secretary of State George C. Marshall, in England for the Foreign Ministers' conference, walks with Public Orator Higham after receiving an honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Law at Oxford University. He told a crowd of cheering educators that the last war proved the democracies could meet the big tests when they came.

British Gov't Directs Labor Day Persuasion

By JOHN DAUPHINEE
Canadian Press Staff Writer

LONDON, Nov. 27 — (CP) — Limited direction of labor, forced by economic necessity against the stated dislike of the Labor government and trade unions, is Britain's method of building up the working force in vital industries.

The plan is to channel thousands of extra workers into agriculture, in planting, iron founding, cotton spinning and weaving, and into wool, silk, rayon and pottery plants.

"We stand on our feet by our performance in maintaining up these key industries," said Sir Stafford Cripps, minister for economic affairs.

For months after Prime Minister Attlee formed his government in August, 1945, cabinet ministers indicated a direction of labor, disconnected from the war, disconnected from the war, disconnected from the war, disconnected from the war.

Over-Employment

Britain has been experiencing "over-employment." And luxury and non-essential trades have been able to offer higher pay and better working conditions than the established basic industries in which the country's economy depends.

For nine months, despite government publicity campaigns, minimum needs in the activities to which men and women now will be directed has been standing almost still.

Sir Stafford said agriculture stands to lose most of its German prisoners-of-war by next summer. And needs of at least 80,000 recruits from this country by the middle of 1948. Civilian manpower has been declining slightly from the post-war peak of 7,100,000 at July 31 and now is fewer than 7,150,000.

Employment in iron founding, shipbuilding and steel sheet has been stationary since December, 1946, at about 193,000. Manpower in cotton, wool, silk and rayon totals about 484,000 compared with 478,000 at the end of 1946.

"The government hopes to secure a substantial redistribution of labor by persuasion," said Labor Minister George Isaacs in a parliamentary report. "It does not anticipate that much direction will be necessary."

Only persons who become unemployed and subject to direction under the new "Control of Engagement Order," and then only when they are men between 18 and 50 years old or women between 18 and 40. Women with small children are exempt and a few types of employment are excluded from this order's provisions.

"The order will not apply to persons already in work even though in an occupation which makes no contribution to the national effort," said Isaacs. He said employment offices will offer job applicants and choice of four positions before direction is applied.

"We shall not adopt general direction of labor," Sir Stafford Cripps told a press conference when asked whether the existing order will be extended.

Glasgow University Buys New Property

GLASGOW — (CP) — University of Glasgow is buying Garscube House, home of Sir George Campbell, and 125 acres of adjoining land to overcome a space shortage created by a sharp increase in student enrolment.

"There is plenty of room there to meet the needs of the university for perhaps the next 100 years," said principal Sir Hector Hetherington.

Garscube is about five miles from the heart of Glasgow. It will be used for residences, new scientific and medical stations and perhaps playing fields. The present city site is completely built up.

CHECKLEY, Staffordshire, England — (CP) — The nave roof of the 11th-century church here has been damaged by the death watch beetle.

Stamp Smuggling New Wrinkle In Currency Racket

By LESLIE BRODIE
Canadian Press Correspondent

SYDNEY, Australia, Nov. 27 — (CP) — Smuggling of valuable stamps from Australia is proving a lucrative business for racketeers out to beat the Commonwealth currency control regulations.

Expert smugglers who know their stamps have no difficulty in getting as much as \$6,000 for a parcel of from 20 to 100.

The size of the stamp makes it easy to conceal behind a luggage label or in the lining of a man's tie and such places.

Sydney stamp dealers declare that the government is being robbed of thousands of dollars yearly by a profitable trade in current issues and easily procurable issues of recent years.

Best stamp for the smuggler is the five shilling (80 cent) Kangaroo of 1914-15. They are purchased without much difficulty and are shipped to Britain where they have a value of £4 (\$16) each.

In the hard-to-get category the listed price for the 1950 Australian one-penny stamp is \$448. For the greyish blue two-penny stamp of that date the price is \$880.

These stamps are more for the money matters who are prepared to hunt for them and then make a good clean-up. But for the currency dodger who wants to take more than the \$800, the present regulations allow him when visiting non-sterling areas the best stamps are the unused five-shilling, 10 shilling and £10 (\$320) varieties in current use. These stamps are readily sold at their face value, and as there is nothing to prevent a man from buying as many as he wants he has an easy means at his disposal of defeating the regulations and taking as much as he can conceal from the Customs officials.



Smith

Big Increase Noted In Bank Of Nova Scotia Loans

TORONTO — An increase of more than \$85,000,000 in loans, the largest of any year in the bank's history, features the 116th annual statement of the Bank of Nova Scotia, released today.

Deposits and total assets are also shown at high levels in the statement which covers the fiscal year ended October 31, 1947.

Net profits for the year after Dominion and Provincial Government taxes of \$2,095,000 and depreciation of \$399,433 were \$1,992,277. This compares with \$1,588,453 in 1946. After dividends of \$1,440,000 and provision for extra distribution of \$240,000 as compared with dividends of \$1,280,000 last year, \$312,277 was carried forward to profit and loss account.

The statement shows total assets at an all-time high of \$714,441,000, as compared with \$696,175,000 a year ago. Liquid position continues strong. Cash, clearings and balances due from other banks of \$125,565,000 represent 18.5 per cent of total liabilities to the public. Quick assets amount to \$434,679,607 and represent 64.32 per cent of liabilities to the public.

Total loans at the year end were \$257,862,842 as against \$172,234,605 in 1946. The greater part of the increase was in current loans which, at \$226,664,994 were up more than \$70,000,000 while call loans advanced to \$19,325,019 from \$13,666,256 a year ago. Loans to provincial governments amounted to \$8,948,649 as compared with \$1,569,387, and loans to municipalities and school districts \$2,935,859 as compared with \$1,283,002.

Reflecting lessened need for short term financing by the Dominion Government, and also as a result of employment of a larger amount of the bank's funds in loans, investment holdings were reduced by \$70,750,000 to \$289,789,297 during the year. Dominion Government securities are \$221,136,225 as compared with \$283,138,771 in 1946. Securities of provincial governments, however, are slightly higher than a year ago at \$24,497,813.

Municipal securities are shown at \$7,772,168; public securities other than Canadian at \$13,776,333; and other bonds, debentures and stocks at \$22,586,958. All securities are carried at amounts not exceeding market value.

Urge More Freedom For English Bobby

LONDON — (CP) — Lifting of restrictions on a policeman's freedom to marry and abolition of pay parades is urged by a committee which investigated local conditions of police service in England and Wales.

The committee said there was no serious dissatisfaction, but the chief complaint "was the element of restriction on the freedom of a member of a police force to marry when and whom he wished."

Pay parades were sometimes made an excuse for drill practice the committee said.



Bohlen Kennan

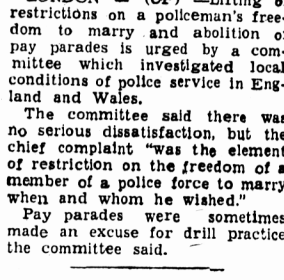
Secretary of State George C. Marshall's three top-ranking experts on Soviet affairs will assist him at the London meeting of the Big Four foreign ministers. The parley will be another attempt at drafting German and Austrian peace treaties. They are ambassador to Russia Walter Bedell Smith; Charles E. Bohlen, Russian-language expert, now State Department counselor; and George F. Kennan, chief of Marshall's foreign policy planning staff.

Maori Tot Walks 13 Miles Daily

TE WHAITI, N. Z., Nov. 27 — (CP) — In one of the wildest and least settled parts of New Zealand a five-year-old girl walks 13 miles on the round trip to and from school every day. She is Lilya Dougherty, a Maori girl who makes the trip to the Te Whaiti school in the heart of the forested Urewera country in the North Island with her three sisters and brothers, all under 10.

The road is rough and winds over a 900-foot hill and in the winter the children have to leave home before dawn and do not get back until after dark. There is little traffic on the road so the children seldom get a lift. They never ask for one. Efforts have been made to get a school bus along this road for the Dougherty children and others who live at a lesser distance but the road is in such bad condition that none of the local transport operators will undertake the contract.

Most children in New Zealand in similar circumstances are sent to school by bus or by government correspondence school, but they must have help from their parents in these lessons. This is impossible in the case of the Dougherty children, as their mother knows very little English.



Curious spectators watch two Italian boys trying to peddle their pups on a street in Rome. They asked 8000 lire (\$16) for the animals. (Photo by NEA-Acme staff correspondent Albert Bissetti.)

Old Sail Loft Going Strong In 71st Year

By John Mosher
Canadian Press Staff Writer

SAINT JOHN, N. B., Nov. 27 — (CP) — Most businesses that grew up as sidelines of Saint John's wooden shipbuilding industry faded from the scene long ago but the 70-year-old sail loft of George Z. Holder is still going strong.

Seven decades of history and three generations of the Holder family have made the loft an institution in this seacoast city. An odd blend of the old and new — of windjammer memories and modern machinery — the establishment is known to seafaring men around the world.

Its atmosphere unorks reminiscences, and captivates like to visit the place. Marine pictures, snowy canvases and coils of rope and cord provide a background for stirring stories of adventurous voyages.

"Instead of sewing 'suits' for proud warships, the sailmakers now are more likely to be stitching gaily-colored awnings for stores, theatres, hotels and homes, or covers for trucks and tarpaulins for freighters. But they cling to the tradition of their craft, and their speech is laced with nautical terms."

Saint John was digging out of the ruins left by the great fire of 1877 when George E. Holder founded the firm. First situated at Reed's Point and then on McLeod's wharf, the loft was moved 40 years ago to its present quarters on Water Street.

When George E. Holder started out, Saint John had 16 shipyards, five sail lofts, five rigging lofts and a rope walk. Of all these enterprises, this is the only survivor. Mr. Holder died in 1932. His partner son, William H. Holder, took his own son Harold R. into part partnership in 1939.

Modernized Sewing

At first all the sewing was done by hand. About 53 years ago the firm put in machinery with one needle, and much later the third generation introduced larger machinery with two needles.

During the war a flood of rush orders came. They were for gun covers, awnings and windbreaks for naval craft, tarpaulins for landing barges and scores of other similar items. One order alone called for rapid delivery of 900 heavy and oversized tarpaulins for landing barges. With canvas contributing to victory, the staff had to be increased but all personnel have been retained.

An instance of their wide variety of work was equipping the C. N. S. Lady Rodney with new canvas from stem to stern while making a Nova Scotia flag for presentation to Halifax by the C.P.R.

William H. Holder can look back to the days when he and his father had just 14 months to turn out suits for nine full-rigged ships, 14 schooners and 16 St. John River woodboats. Some men, racing against time could sew 22 yards an hour with 3 1-2 stitches to the inch. Stresses and strains, angles and curves, the stretch of the canvas — all had to be figured with complicated mathematical equations.

The firm sewed a suit of 9,000 square yards for a four-master barque built in Scotland. They made the sails for the famed Highlands, a barque which went from New York to Liverpool in 9 1-2 days, one of the fastest voyages on record. Hundreds upon hundreds of suits went from the lofts to sweep successful windships over the seven seas. Special sails were made for different parts of the world where winds varied.

Astle from use by yachts, about the only other sails made here now are for plodding auxiliary schooners.



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Jack Of All Trades Starts His 80th. Job

PORT ERIE, Ont., Nov. 27 — (CP) — George Bond, called "Pop" by most people in the Peace River bridge area, thinks there's nothing like steady work, but he prepared to take his 80th job he indicated the likes a bit of variety too.

His last job—ticket taker at the women's bathing beach at Crystal Beach—was the best, he thinks, but now he has gone to work at the chemical plant here.

George has kept a record of every job he has done and they range from printer's devil, steel worker and railway man to street-car conductor. He was content to leave the list at 79 and spent the winter at ease, but when his friends told him he could not run the count to an even 80, he said he begged to differ.

Now he's a pill minker.

Experts Baffled By Duck Disease

PRETORIA, South Africa, Nov. 27 — (CP) — Research experts at Onderstepoort experimental laboratories near here are still puzzling over the mystery disease which made its appearance among Muscovy ducks in Natal about six months ago.

The disease seems to be unknown in any other part of the world, and this has made it difficult to isolate and treat it with any success. The germs are presumed to be carried by a certain species of mosquito, but this has still to be proved.

So far the experts have found that the malady affects the Muscovy duck's entire body. The incubation period lasts two days, during which the body temperature rises rapidly to 110 degrees. Two hours later the first visible symptoms are followed by a fatal discharge of blood-flecked foam from the duck's nostril-vents.

Film Producer Asks Industry Be Probed

LONDON, Nov. 27 — (CP) — An inquiry into the British movie industry was urged by Paul Rotha, film producer, addressing a teachers' conference.

"I believe one would have been set up already if the film industry had not loomed so largely in Anglo-American trade relations," he said. Rotha said there had been "frightening examples of physical violence in British films." Recent gangster films shown in London, were copies of American psychological crime thrillers, said Rotha, who quoted one producer as saying, "Sadism is safe box-office for two years."

Wet Country Dry Throats

GREYMOUTH, N. Z., Nov. 27 — (CP) — In a place in New Zealand recently has been a West Coast Province, in the South Island, where the rainfall is about 200 inches a year, easily the heaviest in the country.

Traditionally hearty drinkers, the West Coasters have been grimly observing a beer boycott as a protest against an increase in price of two cents a glass. The boycott was declared by the Trades Council, controlling trade union body in the district and has been observed by most unionists, though tempers have become frayed as a result and there have been several clashes.

One sawmill had to close down for a time. A bushman felling trees for the mill refused to observe the boycott and continued to buy his beer after work. Envious members of his gang stood it for a while and then refused to work with him. It was several days before they could be persuaded to return to work to enable the mill to resume.

LIDINGTON, Bedfordshire, England — (CP) — A wooden leg was attached to a chicken after one of its injured legs had been amputated.

CHELMSFORD, England — (CP) — The names of civilian victims of the war are to be included on Chelmsford's centenary.

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