

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1942

Nazi Financing

Germany is facing increasing difficulties in maintaining its anti-inflationary wage and price stabilization structure, according to an article appearing in the International Labor Review, authoritative monthly publication of the International Labor Office.

New measures taken at the end of 1941, which included the imposition of compulsory savings, the article says, "indicate at once increasing difficulty in maintaining the policy of wage and price stabilization in the face of growing shortages of labor, other production factors and finished goods—paralleled, however, by a readiness to intensify and extend the restrictions designed to hold in check incipient tendencies to inflation."

The study, whose author is Rene Livchen of the Economic and Statistical Section of the I. L. O., points out that the main principles of German wage and price control policy were laid down soon after the Nazis came to power. Nevertheless, it says, new problems began to arise for the price and wage control authorities in 1940 and 1941, and "many measures have had to be taken to prevent wages from increasing in spite of the strong tendency to rise which was the natural result of intensified production and labor shortage."

The study shows that on one hand these measures included decrees to enforce compulsory saving, and on the other, steps to halt an inflationary rise in prices.

Mr. Livchen finds that up to the end of 1939 the Government's wage and price stabilization policy had on the whole succeeded. But by the beginning of 1941, he says, cracks were beginning to appear in the stabilization structure. Complaints were frequently made, he says, that the discipline and sense of responsibility among workers and employers was not up to the standard expected of them. The basis of these complaints, he finds, was that "the growing shortage of manpower and the comparatively generous margin for profits had led to repeated difficulties in the application of the principle of wage stabilization." Contravention of the regulations began to be frequent, and new measures were introduced to close loopholes in them. Late in 1941, moreover, a system of compulsory savings was introduced by which fixed amounts are deducted from wages and salaries and paid into accounts which are blocked until after the war. The author says it is difficult, on the basis of available information, to estimate the total deduction from a German worker's wage, but he cites the case of a white collar worker with gross monthly earnings of 338.50 marks and deductions totalling 101.25 marks, made up of the wage tax, and church tax and contributions to social insurance, the Labor Front and the Winter Help Fund. This case, the study says, must be regarded as an exception since the average gross monthly earnings of skilled adult workers fell somewhere between 175 and 225 marks at the end of 1941.

Bacon for United Kingdom

G. R. Paterson, Animal Products Trade Commissioner, London, England, has issued a report to the Department of Trade and Commerce outlining conditions in Great Britain in connection with Canadian bacon imports. It is of course well understood that the bulk of the United Kingdom's imports of bacon in normal times was from Denmark. Now these have been entirely cut off, and Canada holds a very strong place in the British market, and as a contributor towards the rations of the troops.

Out of a total pre-war consumption of approximately 10,500,000 long cwt. (of 112 lbs) per annum, Canada provided in 1938 only 1,507,656 cwt. Following the outbreak of war, it seemed reasonably certain that increased quantities of bacon would likely be required from Canada. When the European countries were overrun by the enemy, Canada immediately became the principal source of supply. The Dominion has increased her production to the point where during the present year she is supplying 5,357,143 cwt., the equivalent of approximately 5,000,000 hogs, in the form of Wiltshire-sides, hams and a small amount of other cuts. It is stated that of the bacon now consumed by the United Kingdom, 67 per cent originated in Canada.

In pre-war years, as has been stated, Canadian exporters had to face an almost traditional competition from Denmark. Danish bacon was favored owing to a number of factors, chief among which were the following: the proximity of Denmark to the United Kingdom market; the high degree of uniformity in quality of Danish bacon; continuity of supply of a product that suited the taste of the majority of the people.

The geographical disadvantages affecting Canadian supplies are still there, and they have been accentuated by wartime shipping problems. Nevertheless, with minor exceptions, the Canadian product has arrived in the United Kingdom in first-class condition. In general, it is of uniformly better quality, butchering methods have been improved, deliveries have been made as required, within the limits of wartime shipping irregularities, and the trade and consumers have

expressed general satisfaction with the Canadian product. This may suggest that much of the pre-war preference for Danish bacon was over-emphasized. As a matter of fact, during the First Great War, when Canada also ranked first in importance as the United Kingdom supplier, too little attention was paid to quality. Therefore when the war finished, the British trade and consumers welcomed the return of the then Danish superior product. "A recurrence of this situation," says Mr. Paterson, "must not be allowed to interfere with Canada's continuing to occupy her rightful place in the coming post-war period."

Mr. Paterson also has something to say about the suggestion that producers might be better advised to increase the weight of hogs delivered to the Canadian packing plants for processing and shipment as bacon to the United Kingdom. He does not agree with this suggestion in general.

"While it may be reasonable and correct to say that the average weight of hogs might be increased slightly in order to prevent lightweight and unfinished pigs being delivered for processing," he states, "at the same time it must be borne in mind that once a hog has been finished at around 200-220 pounds live weight, it should, if it is the right type and has been properly fed, have attained the best weight at which it can be converted into the most desirable kind of Wiltshire. United Kingdom consumers have a very definite preference for bacon from a Wiltshire of the proper weight. They do not favor overly fat bacon."

In conclusion Mr. Paterson says: "Aside from these points, the post-war potentialities of this market as an outlet for a substantial volume of Canadian bacon must remain uppermost in the minds of all concerned."

EDITORIAL NOTES

No vote for anything for this province except the absolute essentials.

Our ideal naval harbour has only one booster in Parliament and he from Ontario.

Many homes will be happy today in the knowledge that their loved ones have arrived safely overseas.

Col. J. L. Ralston's war record was quoted in the House as follows—overseas as major in 1916, continuous service in France until after the Armistice, gazetted lieutenant-colonel in August, 1918, while serving in France, received D.S.O., with bar C.M.G., two mentions in despatches; gazetted colonel in 1924 and was Canada's delegate to the London Naval Conference of 1930.

A cable from London says that Canadian military authorities overseas have ordained that no Canadian soldier may have for his individual consumption more than a thousand cigarettes a month. If the lucky soldier receives more than the thousand he must surrender the surplus to his Commanding Officer for distribution among men not receiving the quota. As soldiers are prone to share their luxuries, the rule may not have been necessary. Nevertheless, as it ensures smokes for everyone, it sounds like good practice.

In Great Britain social leaders and workers are tackling the problem of juvenile delinquency, which has greatly increased as a result of the war. Households have been broken up and youngsters have gone to work early in their teens. With the slackening of parental control and the earning of good wages juveniles in many instances have run wild, girls being included among the delinquents. Every effort is being made to control this tendency, including the development of the Boy Scout and Girl Guide Movements, Cadets, etc.

Added to the list of exceptions to the dollar delivery clause are goods sold to fill medical doctors' prescriptions. The complete list of exceptions now includes: Eggs, fish, except when canned; fresh fruits and vegetables; bread and bakery products such as cakes and pastries; dairy products, including milk, butter, cream, cheese and ice cream; fuel in any form; meat, except when canned, and including cooked or prepared meats, lard and shortening; goods from a drug store to fill a medical doctor's prescription; articles such as cement, sand, ice and those too cumbersome or too heavy for the customer to carry; any article in cases where the customer claims he is too ill or otherwise incapable of calling for the goods or carrying them home; deliveries by freight express or parcel post; newspapers or magazines delivered by a retailer over a regular route; box lunches or soft drinks delivered therewith; photographs, blueprints or photostatic copies. Retailers are now also permitted to deliver items worth less than \$1 to replace goods delivered by mistake or forming part of an order previously given and valued at \$1 or over.

There is grave confusion in the Government over farm labour problems. The Agricultural Minister, Hon. James Gardiner, pointed out in the House to the tangle produced by the seasonal demand for farm labor, to the need of one province for farm help occurring at a time when the need was not so urgent in another, and the consequent necessity of moving farm help not only from one province to another but also from one province to another. He again urged that a partial solution of the farm problem could be found in fuller use of people in neighboring towns and villages. Defence Minister J. L. Ralston plainly told the House that it would not be fair to expect the army to help on farms, implying that he was having enough trouble now getting sufficient men for military needs. This recalls his recent speech in the manpower debate when he vigorously denied the army was being built up at the expense of war plants and farms, and he declared that under the present system the army was only able to get the residue after all other manpower requirements were met. Labor Minister Humphrey Mitchell reminded the House that arrangements were made with the provinces to meet the farm labor problem, but he admitted that if it were possible for any government, federal or provincial, to exercise control over farm wages there might be a chance of solving the puzzle.

NOTES BY THE WAY

John Ringling North, president of the Ringling Bros. circus, has announced that "the big show" has given up all thought of reinstating its forty-one musicians and will depend hereafter on canned music and its calliope. The circus band in the "big tent" and the side-show were called out on strike by the American Federation of Musicians when the circus management refused a \$2.50 weekly pay increase after their old contract expired. Members of the band, headed by veteran Merle Evans, said they were "perfectly satisfied" with the old scale of \$47.50, but were forced to quit by the union. North indicated that since the union proved that the circus could get along without the musicians, the show will go through the present season—and possibly all future seasons—without musicians. —Motion Picture Daily.

Mussolini continues to prepare for a future in exile. He is buying through an intermediary in Switzerland a house and estate just outside Lucerne. It is known as "Chalet du Diable" and twenty acres of land go with it. News of this deal has been publicly announced in Spain but suppressed in Italy. It has been reported in Rome. Italian Foreign Office is lodging a complaint about the revelation, which is increasing Italian sensitiveness. We revealed some time ago that Mussolini had intended to his deposit of foreign currency in Switzerland. We learn this now amounts to about 150,000 Swiss francs. It is reported that transfer of deposits brought from South American countries that have broken relations with the Axis. —London Daily Sketch.

"Fifty percent of motorists throw away nearly half the fuel they pour in their gas tanks," says Austin Elmore, nationally known United States test engineer, who averaged 38.3 miles per gallon on an economy run from Los Angeles to San Francisco in his stock eight cylinder car. "When you want to make a quick getaway," Elmore explains to those who complain of poor mileage, "you should start by clearing down to the floor, giving the engine more gasoline than it needs for maximum power. But the engine develops just as much power and runs nearly twice as long at half throttle. Another thing, you drive the car as fast as it can be driven in the lower gears, while in the gear you should be in, you shift into high at twenty-five miles an hour. That allows me to save fifty cubic centimeters of gas. Also, you should be careful to beat the normal flow of traffic. Speeding faster than the regular traffic flow necessitates an engine idling at high speeds, and you throw away most of the gasoline that was used to get the car up to the speed. Last of all, don't race the motor while standing still, and don't race the motor while standing still." —Bragdon Sun.

The story has often been told of the French peasant ploughing on the outskirts of a battle of 1870, a reminder, as it was then held, that destruction was an affair of hours but the life of the land everlasting. In the award of the Victoria Medal and two British Empire Medals to a farmer, his wife, and a woman farm-worker we have a fine example of the kind of heroism it is the battle that may go on for days and the farm which may be under fire for weeks on end. The award was made in 1914, and yet all through those dreary months of August, September, 1940, when clouds of German aircraft swept over the Channel to bomb and machine-gun, and the men of the farm were engaged in milking of stock were carried on without interruption, though the farmer and his assistants had at times to shelter under the machine-gun bullets. —Manchester Guardian.

General election talk has recently been heard in different quarters. Elections are about to be held in two Canadian provinces, Ontario and Saskatchewan. It seems probable however that neither government is in a hurry to submit its record to the people. Not that there is anything inherently disturbing in the party situation in either province but the parties in power having substantial majorities it would seem as well not to tempt the fates until they have to. The fact is a rumor recently that Prime Minister King's government might bring on an election for the purpose of clearing up some contentious questions. But with more than two years to go to run and considering the great majority it enjoys in the house, it is difficult to see why an appeal should be made to the voters. Now is there anything extraordinarily difficult in the situation at Ottawa. —Glace Bay Gazette.

Parliament at Ottawa witnessed an innovation one day recently when, for the first time in its history, a lady presided over proceedings. The honor fell to Mrs. F. C. Casselman, of Edmonton East. The compliments she received were apparently well deserved since she took charge with evident capacity and within half an hour had called Hon. C. G. Power to order, an experience which has rarely fallen to him in a long parliamentary career. "I have never," Mr. Power admitted, "been called to order in a manner which I appreciate as much as I do in this case." —Toronto Telegram.

Soviet Russia is said to be pressing for the opening of a second front in France. The invasion of Moscow in this regard is understandable, and no doubt London and Washington are just as deeply concerned. The one thing, however, about which the latter two are certain is that the launching of a counter-invasion is thoroughly organized. To make the attempt and fail would be far more disastrous than not to try at all. —Brantford Expositor.

An elderly London lady complained to the Archbishop of Canterbury about the drinking in cafes after midnight on Saturdays. "Don't you agree that such drinking should be banned," she suggested, "because drinking after midnight, on Saturday, really is drinking on Sunday?" "My good woman," replied the Archbishop, "it all depends on whether the Good Lord is operating on Double British Summer Time, or Green, or Mean Time." —New York Post.



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When A Government Pays

(Globe and Mail) A Toronto educationalist is the highest academic circles has been looking at the fees charged by three lawyers for services at the Hong Kong investigation, has drawn some conclusions, and asked some questions which we believe are especially pertinent these days. He has advanced a thought which probably has not occurred to most people, namely that men who are able to rise to high positions because of the advantages of an educational system supported by tax-payers have a duty to consider their special training as a public trust in times of emergency. With regard to money, it is an old saying that "easy come, easy go." A Government gets money, it can spend it, and it goes more easily than from any supply. This letter to The Globe and Mail from a college professor ought to be read by Governmental authorities, as well as by those who take all the traffic will bear, and those who pay the bills: "A recent newspaper despatch from Ottawa gave the following interesting information. The Royal Commission which investigated the Hong Kong affair required the services of four counsels to insure that the evidence was well tied up in legal red tape. The men so engaged by the Government and the fees they charged the people of Canada are: "Colonel George A. Drew of Toronto. Colonel Drew considered it a duty and was not paid for his service or his expenses. George A. Campbell of Montreal ... \$9,568 R. L. Kellogg of Toronto ... 7,288 B.M. Fowler of Toronto ... 4,081 \$20,950

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When A Government Pays

like yours to equal this sum. \$20,950. To those who denied themselves in order to buy a \$50 bond last year—remember that your money and that of 422 others like yours was necessary to pay these men. "The three men mentioned above are not alone in this pernicious practice of charging the Government all the traffic will bear, but your conduct in this case is in such glaring contrast to the patriotic conduct of Colonel Drew that it cannot go unnoticed. "You men are members of a privileged class of our country. In this class you belong to one of the great professions—but how did you get where you are? By study and hard work undoubtedly. The money supplied the educational institutions that enabled you to get where you are. Do you ever look back and consider why the people of the country, who themselves have no chance of becoming what you are, should set up public institutions so that you can achieve an exalted position which is denied to them? The answer is plain for any one who wishes to see it. They established an educated and privileged class so that leaders might arise from among those who had received the most education and training. They were willing that you should enjoy certain privileges in the hope that you would consider your special training in the nature of a trust, to be administered for the good of the country in times of emergency. "At present we are living in times of emergency, and from time to time we have need of the services

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WORDS OF CHALLENGE

"We cannot fight and win this war without making still further sacrifices." — G. C. Bateman, Metals Controller.

The Poet's Corner FROM: HALLOWED GROUND What hallows ground where heroes sleep? 'Tis not the sculptured piles yon heap! In dew that heavens far distant weep Their turf may bloom; Or Geml' trine beneath the deep Their coral tomb. But strew his ashes to the wind Whose sword or voice has served mankind— And is he dead, whose glorious life shines on high?— To live in hearts we leave behind Is not to die. Is't death to fall for Freedom's right? He's dead alone that lacks her light! And murder sullies in Heaven's light The sword he draws:— What can alone ennoble fight? A noble cause! Give that!—and welcome War's embrace Her drums! and rend Heaven's robes! In space! The colors planted face to face, The charging cheer, Though Death's pale horse lead on the chase Shall still be dear. —Thomas Campbell

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