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Industrial World Moves to Supply Demands of Peace

BY ALEX PRINGLE
Canadian Press Staff Writer

TORONTO, Dec. 30 —(CP)— This was a year of sail-trimming to the dangers and opportunities of sudden squalls for Canadian business.

The end of the war in Europe, the atomic bomb, bringing on the collapse of Japan a year sooner than was anticipated, the need for quick conversion of plants back to the demands of a peacetime population, the shortages of skilled help and the growing demands of labor for wage increases under a price ceiling economy kept the captains of industry thinking hard and shifting nervously.

Almost overnight the clear sailing in a sea of war orders and cost-plus returns was ended and the fight for profits in a competitive market and falling national income was on. For about two-thirds of the year business operated under almost full war conditions but in the final four months the war business faded out and production figures dropped sharply in some lines. Nevertheless authoritative estimates place the volume of business at the year end down only about 16 per cent from the figures for the end of 1944.

Manufacturing generally continued throughout the year the slow slump that started in 1944, interrupted by a short-lived rally in the spring of 1945. Plans for a flying start on motor-car production at the cessation of hostilities were snarled by the strike in the industry that began in September, affecting likewise dozens of plants producing accessories.

Had it not been for this development, over-all production had a good prospect of climbing out of the year-long decline late in 1945. The November drop in the total of production was the smallest since the end of the war.

Labor Problem

The total of unemployed in Canada is still growing and is likely to expand further before there is any contraction. It is estimated that the first two months fo 1946 will see the low and the start of an upturn as the conversion of plants to the production of civilian needs becomes an accomplished fact. Year-end reports indicate there were about 100,000 more workers than jobs with close to 40,000 ex-servicemen seeking employment. The situation was said to be more favorable than had been expected. Since V-J Day 350,000 war workers and 250,000 discharged servicemen have been thrown on the labor market.

National income has, of course, declined in recent months but the heavy distribution of money to discharged men has helped to maintain consumer purchasing at a high level. Retail trade was estimated to be eight per cent greater in 1942 than in 1944.

Iron and steel production recorded minor declines. Pig iron production in the first 10 months of 1941 totalled 1,108,100 tons compared with 1,366,100 tons in 1944, a drop of 3.7 per cent and steel production of 2,421,100 tons in the same period was down 2.3 per cent.

Shoe manufacturing plants achieved production greater by seven per cent than in the previous year and the textile mills held at a high rate of production close to the peak 1944 figures.

Farm income was off about 10 per cent from the 1944 total to an estimated $1,300,000,000 despite the higher price level. Nevertheless the total was the second best in Canada's history. Having greatly reduced their mortgage obligations in the last two year, farmers possibly found their net income improved in 1941. Cattle marketings increased 34 per cent and hog marketings were down 30 to 35 per cent.

Mining Awaits Manpower

The mining industry is still hampered by a shortage of help but the growing surplus of manpower should soon right that situation. Mineral production for 1945 was down about 10 per cent from the $485,800,000 total of 1944. There was a smaller production of nickel, copper, zinc and gold. Production of gold showed a drop of about 10 to 12 per cent but the final period of the year brought signs that the low had been reached and that gold production could be expected to expand in future. There also were indications in the final weeks of the year of an early improvement in the demand for copper and nickel for civilian needs.

Lumbering is also restricted by the help shortage although it is estimated there are thousands more men in the bush this winter than last. In Ontario and the eastern provinces the increase is estimated at 2,500.

Newsprint plants continued their high level of production in 1945, turning out 3,250,000 tons, a gain of nearly nine per cent over the 1944 production. Exports of newsprint for 11 months of 1945 totalled $163,610,000 a gain of 13 per cent over the total for the corresponding months of 1944.

Building proceeded on a "large scale. Contracts awarded showed a total greater by 30 per cent than in the preceding year and the total of permits issued was up 45 per cent. Cement production increased 15 per cent.

Sea fisheries expanded sharply when the war ended. The landed value of the haul was about 70 per cent more than the total for the previous year.

Canada's external trade was sharply affected by the conclusion of hostilities. The total of exports and imports for the year was down about nine per cent from 1944. Exports in the first 11 months totalled $2,983,504,000 compared with $3,173,074,000 in the same months of 1944, a drop of six per cent.

Railway carloading declined narrowly in recent months, showing a loss of about 1.5 per cent for the year and railway revenue suffered correspondingly.

FAMOUS HOSPITAL WILL BE REBUILT

LONDON, Dec. 30 —(C P)—A new St Thomas' Hospital is to to rise from the ashes of the old. A special reconstruction committee of governors and staff is planning a new 1,100-bed hospital on the site of the old—badly damaged by bombs.

In spite of bombing the work of the 800-year-old hospital never ceased during the war. Within three months of the 1940 blitz disaster, St. Thomas' established a country branch near Godalming, Surrey. The medical school was evacuated to the same district; the training school for nurses went first to Shamley Green and then to Edinburgh; the massage school to Manchester.

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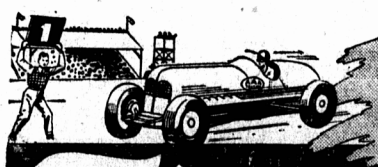

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Find Hitler's Private Will, Marriage Contract

By NOLAND NORGAARD

NUERNBERG, Dec. 30 — (AP) —Adolf Hitler married his mistress Eva Braun April 29 as Russian shells rained on their Reichschancellery bunker, and dictated a private will declaring that "myself and my wife choose death to escape the disgrace of being forced to resign or surrender," United States 3rd Army Headquarters disclosed Saturday night.

The original copies of the marriage contract, the private will and a "political testament" designating a new cabinet to carry on the war—all dated April 29, 1945—were discovered in a suitcase by 3rd Army intelligence agents.

To the last, the political testament disclosed, Hitler blamed "international Jewry" for the world conflagration, and called down upon "international Jewry and its assistants" the hatred of the German people for centuries.

The testament, dated three days before Russian troops overran the Reichschancellery, declared that Hitler himself never wanted war. He claimed he tried to induce Britain to accept a solution to the German-Polish dispute, which he said was rejected by Britain "partly driven by propaganda arranged by international Jewry."

The private will directed that he and his 35-year-old bride, with whom he said he had "enjoyed many years of true friendship," be cremated together. This document seemed to eliminate doubts that Hitler perished with his Third Reich.

Simultaneously, British counter-intelligence officers announced the arrest of the man to whom the documents had been entrusted — Friedeich Wilhelm Paustin, identified as adjutant to Hitler's missing deputy, Martin Bormann.

Hitler, in what he described as "my private will," expressed the desire that he and Eva be cremated "immediately, at the place I have done the greatest part of my works during the 12 years of service to my people."

He referred, apparently to the Reichschancellery, where he is believed to have spent his last hours.

The marriage contract showed the marriage was performed April 29, with Walter Wagner, Berlin city councillor, officiating.

Hitler, Propaganda Minister Goebbels and Bormann signed the document. Then Eva, employing her marriage name for the first time, started to scrawl the letter "B" after her first name. She scratched it out and wrote in a bold hand: "Eva Hitler, Geboren (born) Braun."

The political testament, to which headquarters said Hitler "scrawled a contracted and feeble signature," named Germans he described as "honorable men as members of a new cabinet to continue the war with all means."

To direct the hopelessly lost war, Hitler designated Grand Admiral Doenitz as president, and Goebbels as chancellor. Goebbels' charred body was identified in the ruins by Red Army men a few days later.

Third Army intelligence officers also seized a letter of transmittal, written by Bormann and intended to accompany the two testaments. It was addressed to Doenitz, now a defendant at the Nuernberg trials, where Bormann is being tried in absentia.

This letter, scrawled hastily in ink by Bormann, said: "Since all divisions failed, our situation seems to be beyond hope. The Fuehrer dictated the attached political testament last night. Hail Hitler."

All the documents were found in one of Paustin's suitcases, hidden in the home of a friend in the village of Tergensee near 3rd Army Headquarters.

With the documents the Americans found three photographs, two probably of Eva, the third of an unidentified boy of about 12—another mystery child in the Hitler story. Last month discovery of Eva's belongings disclosed the existence of a small girl identified only as "Uschi."

Discovery of these documents lends credence to the reports that Hitler and Eva killed themselves even as Russian guns pounded the chancellery, and that their bodies were saturated with gasoline and burned.

Bataan Survivor Fatally Wounded

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 — (AP) — Army Capt. Archie B. Miller, 25, of Bellevue, Texas, unshaven and wearing a rumpled blue civilian suit, stood silently in Felony Court today and heard himself arraigned on a charge of homicide in the fatal shooting of a man his wife told police she hoped to marry after obtaining a divorce.

Capt. Eugene Dale, 27-year-old Enid, Okla., army flier who had survived the Bataan death march and 2 1-2 years of Japanese imprisonment, died in hospital Saturday, about 31 hours after being shot three times in the apartment of Mrs. Fay Hancock Miller, an attractive former model who came from Jonesboro, N.C.

Detective John Kennedy said that before Capt. Dale died he identified Miller as the assailant and that Miller had admitted the shooting.

Magistrate Morris Rothenberg fixed Jan. 14 for a further hearing.

Nellie McClung Reviews Career in Latest Book

BY JEAN THOMPSON
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Women with hobbies have brighter outlooks than those without them, Nellie L. McClung discovered in the early years of her married life in Manitou, Manitoba. Her own double hobby of consuming interest in public life and writing is vividly reflected in The Stream Runs Fast, (Thomas Allen), the second volume of her autobiography.

Picking up the thread of her life where the first volume, Clearing the West, left off, Mrs. McClung carried her own story through almost 50 years, from 1896, the year she was married, to 1945 when she wrote the closing chapter of The Stream Runs Fast in her present home at Lantern Lane, near Victoria, B.C. She surveys her work as homemaker, crusader for women's rights, Alberta legislator and author of eight books.

The book reflects the rugged life of the prairie and the women who make homes there. It carries with it the atmosphere of the land's "purple twilights, her phantom breezes, the smell of burning leaves, the ripe tints of autumn, the slanting snow . . . a land of sudden changes of weather and killing frosts."

There are human and heartening incidents—the reading of Dickens' Christmas Carol in Manitou Orange Hall, a draughty place heated by one stove in the middle of the room, the stirring of Mrs. McClung's ambition to be a public speaker after making an address of welcome to a W.C.T.U. convention and the successful petition to the privy council by five Canadian women headed by Judge Emily Murphy to have women declared persons.

No woman who reads The Stream Runs Fast can fail to be stirred by the sincerity and energy with which Nellie McClung approached every adventure and opportunity which her crowded life offered. Rich in experiences of Western Canadian life, this straightforward, modest book traces not only the years but also the growth of a philosophy of life based upon concern of others and the ideal of a better world.

Most of all, the book is witness to the author's conviction that "Canada is destined to be one of the great nations of the world and Canadian women must be ready for citizenship. No nation ever rises higher than its women."

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QUICKIES By Ken Reynolds

"There's something wrong with that car you sold me three years ago with a Guardian Want Ad—it 'pings' when I hit eighty!"

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Koreans Displeased With Big Three Plans

SEOUL, Korea, Dec. 30 — (AP) —Koreans stoned American soldiers, fought one another in the streets and engaged in mass work stoppages Saturday in a medley of internal political dissent and objection to the Big Three's five-year trusteeship program for this independence-hungry country.

American military authorities, who control the southern half of Korea, clapped on an 8 p.m. curfew, but the resentment against the program announced in Moscow, plus conflict between rightists and leftists, made it possible that more serious trouble might develop.

In Memoriam

MR. J. WALTER McEWEN

His home community was shocked, and many business friends saddened when word was received on December 20th that the gentle spirit of J. Walter McEwen had returned to its Creator.

For many years the late Mr. McEwen had conducted a general store business at Bristol, Lot 40, where in his dealings with his customers he had established a reputation for honesty and integrity enjoyed by few men. In him they placed absolute confidence, and his passing was the passing of a trusted friend and advisor.

Sincere regret was also expressed by the representatives of wholesale firms who had the pleasure of calling on him from time to time. They were always greeted with a genial smile, and hearty handshake and their business relations were lifted above the cold and calculating to that of warm personal friendship. Whenever travellers reminisced Walter McEwen was always referred to as one of the real gentlemen of the trade with whom it was a pleasure and privilege to transact business.

Words are woefully inadequate to do justice to his personal character. He was one of God's Noblemen. A man of unswerving devotion to a high sense of moral responsibility. His outlook on life was that of a philosopher and a Christian; to talk with him was to realize that here was a man in whom reposed all that was great and good. His influence was always directed toward the fulfillment of those things which go to exalt a nation. An indulgent father, a loving, devoted and faithful husband, his family will rise up and call him blessed. Society can ill afford to lose such a man at a time like this, when the world is so greatly in need of wise counsel, and calm judgment.

He is not dead. Such men as he die not. They but depart this mortal sense of life to go forward to greater service, leaving behind a glorious example to emulate, an influence on the community which will live forever.

—P.W.

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