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Warns Britain Cannot Afford Work Stoppages

By JOHN DAUFHINE (CP) — (Advance) — A wave of "unofficial" strikes, called in defiance of union instructions, has drawn warnings from Labor government spokesmen that Britain cannot afford work stoppages while she is struggling to regain pre-war prosperity.

Transport industries such as automobile manufacturing have been most affected, at a time when sales abroad are vital to recovery.

"We cannot afford to waste our strength in quarrels over wages, hours and conditions," said Prime Minister Attlee in a Birmingham speech urging strict self-discipline in Labor's ranks.

"We must realize that what is at stake is our standard of life, and we cannot afford unnecessary stoppages of work," said Sir Harley Shawcross, attorney-general, said at St. Helen's, Hampshire, that unofficial strikes would undermine the official negotiating machinery.

War-time policy of the Trades Union Congress, embracing "no-strike" unions, was to guarantee maximum output by avoiding strikes at all costs, and that a Labor government is in-

...elected largely by the working class. The T.U.C. has carried that policy into the reconstruction period.

There has been no official strike since the war began. Union leaders rely on negotiation and arbitration to settle disputes.

"But there is no denying there is a more impatient attitude among union members than there was during the war," said a T.U.C. spokesman.

"They want quicker action on their complaints than they can get through the official machinery."

These are among reasons given by union representatives to account for post-war strikes.

War-weariness, causing irritability now that the war emergency is over, and unsatisfactory living conditions through reconstruction; a change in the attitude of employers toward wage matters following cancellation of war contracts and reduction in excess profits tax from 100 to 60 per cent.

4. Feeling that the T.U.C. has become a quasi-government agency, more concerned with furthering official policy than in fighting the battles of its members.

Measures Underway To Ease Acute Food Shortage

By The Canadian Press — Measures to fill the world's insufficiently-stocked food larder were under way today with producing countries striving to increase production and belt-tightening plans proposed.

In London Prime Minister Attlee Thursday reiterated Britain's offer to institute bread rationing "if the supplying nations are agreed to do the same." This was a significant statement Wednesday night to ration bread if the United States would do so.

Attlee's statement was taken in London to mean Britain's offer was conditioned upon the same sacrifices by grain-producers such as Canada and Argentina.

At Manchester Foreign Secretary Bevin of Britain said his government was investigating the serious shortage of edible fats in Britain. As one long-range means of meeting this problem Britain plans

later this year to send to the Antarctic a whaling fleet equipped with the latest radar devices and using planes as spotter for whales. Whale oil is an important ingredient in Britain's margarine supplies.

In London Britain's food minister, Sir Ben Smith, said Britain is ready to make further sacrifices to help alleviate the world food situation but added it would be "an impossibility" to reduce the present seven-ounce weekly ration of edible fats.

In Washington, President Truman reported an improvement in world food prospects. He said if the world could get by for the next 90 days everything will go well.

Mr. Truman told a press conference that rains in India, improved spring and winter wheat prospects in the United States and expectation of greater production in North Africa and France were factors in the improved outlook.

TALES OF WILD WEST SCARED LADIES

YORKTOWN, Sask. April 9. — (CP) — In 1883, four young women crossed the Qu'Appelle valley on a ferry. Three of them, including Mrs. E. Salisbury of Yorkton, were English brides. They were travelling to their new home at Crescent City where they were to meet their husbands who arrived earlier.

Mrs. Salisbury was then 17 years old. She arrived in Canada the previous year from England but she and her husband had remained in the east for some months. "The stories about the west scared us so badly we were afraid to come," she said.

When they arrived in their new homes, the women found they were the only white women in the district. Crescent City had a population of about 30 people. Seven years later, when the railroad was routed through Salford, Sask., the settlers pulled up stakes and today their first Western Canadian home has only a hilltop cabin to mark the site.

Mrs. Salisbury says housekeeping was confined to raking out the sawdust each Saturday and replacing it with

clean material.

Her second son, William, was born in the tent and was the first white boy born in the district.

Then, Mr. Salisbury built a combined rooming house and store from home-sawn logs, and the family also ran the post-office. The nearest settlement for supplies was Broadview, 60 miles away.

Mrs. Salisbury also remembers the Riel rebellion and Chief Little Bones but, right now it seems like a long way off—with good reason. Mrs. Salisbury will be 82 years old next October.

"FRAMEWORKING"

In the spring of 1942 experiments were started at the Dominion Experimental Station at Kenville, N.S., on the method of overworking apple trees, known as "frameworking". Briefly, the difference between "frameworking" and the old-fashioned method of grafting called "topworking" lies in the fact that in "topworking" almost all the tree top is cut away, while in "frameworking" practically the whole top of framework is retained. Only branched tips, small lateral spurs, and undesirable larger branches are removed. The experiments are continuing.

Care Lessens Shock When Transplants Are Set Out



Four starter solution over the bare roots of transplants, before setting in new location.

Whenever a plant is moved from one location to another it suffers a shock and growth is checked until the plant recovers. Much study has been devoted to finding ways to lessen this shock. The points on which most authorities agree are:

1. When plants are moved the shorter the time between lifting and replanting the better.

2. Roots should not be disturbed more than is necessary; even to spread them out.

3. Water in which plants food has been dissolved to make a weak nutritive solution should be poured over bare roots before the plant is set and poured on the soil after planting when pot plants are used.

4. Leaves should not be pruned, as this increases shock; only those that die need be sacrificed.

For the amateur, who has relatively few plants to set out, care taken in this task will be repaid by speed if recovery. A hole sufficiently large to contain the roots without crowding should be dug. At the bottom, mix a tablespoonful of balanced plant food with the soil, and throw in an inch of fresh soil to cover it. Then set the plant a little lower than it stood in the flat or pot, and fill in fine soil around the

roots so that air pockets are excluded, and there is firm contact between the roots and soil. But merely firm, do not pound the soil, as compacting can be overdone.

By planting in cloudy weather, or in the evening, wilting may be avoided. If a considerable area of leaves is removed the shock to the plant will be increased.

In handling pot plants, or those started in plant bands, disturb the roots as little as possible. Do not compress the soil in which they are growing. This is usually moist, and the temptation to mould it into a little mud ball is strong; but you may form a hard ball of soil from which the roots will be slow to emerge, with the result that the plant is stunted.

To prepare the nutrient starter solution, which will stimulate the plant and speed recovery from shock, stir a handful of your usual balanced plant food in a bucket of water. Pour a cupful of this over the bare roots of transplants, holding the plant over the hole in which it is to be set. In the case of pot plants, with soil undisturbed about the roots, pour on the starter solution after it has been planted.

NEVER HAD CENSUS

Agriculture, including forestry, is and always has been, since colonial days the principal industry and source of livelihood in the Republic of Ecuador, which lies across the equator on the northwestern coast of South America between Colombia and Peru. One peculiar thing about Ecuador is that it never has had a population census. The population is estimated about 3,000,000, comprised of 10 per cent white, 38 per cent Indian, 41 per cent mestizo, 5 per cent Negro and mulatto, and 5 per cent other.

PROTECTION FOR FLIES

LONDON. — (CP) — To safeguard Britain's airfields, the Ministry of Town and Country Planning requires special notification of all buildings more than 10 feet high within two miles of airports.

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