SEEK TRUCE N SPANISH IVIL WAR

Mussolini Reported Preparing for Active Intervention on Behalf of Franco.

LONDON, Dec. 9—As Britain joined France in a supreme effort to end the Spanish war danger, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden today announced in the House of Commons that he is urging aid to Spain's stricken population through the League of Nations.

Britain has appealed for an early meeting of the League's International Relief Union, created to deal with disasters of exceptional gravity, "for the purpose of formulating a scheme for the immediate relief of suffering resulting from military operations in any part of Spain," Eden disclosed.

The Foreign Office meanwhile issued an official communique on the Anglo-French plan to shut off all foreign intervention in Spain, with peaceful mediation and urge a national plebiscite to decide the matter i sue. The communique said:

"His Majesty's Government of the United Kingdom and the French Government exchanged views last week on the situation created by the prolongation of the civil war in Spain and the danger to European peace involved.

"Having established the identity of their views in this respect, they invited the German, Italian, Portuguese and Soviet Governments on Dec. 4 to join with them in declaring their absolute determination to renounce strictly all direct or indirect action which might in any way be calculated to lead to foreign intervention in the conflict.

"They have further asked the other governments to put an end to the armed conflict in Spain by means of an offer of mediation with the object of enabling Spain to give a united expression of its national will."

Eden made his Commons statement on the eve of tomorrow's session of the League Council at Geneva, called in response to the Spanish Government's protest against a "threat of war" implied by Italo-German recognition of the Franco Junta as Spain's legal government.

AWAIT REPLIES

PARIS, Dec. 9—(C. P. Havas)—Great Britain, France and the Soviet Union tonight awaited the answer of Germany and Italy to an international diplomatic move to halt all forms of foreign interference in the Spanish civil war and effect a truce.

An Anglo-French agreement to seek cessation of hostilities and settlement of the Spanish conflict by a national plebiscite brought Moscow's reply it was willing to join in the plan if the other powers involved did likewise.

MARKETS AT A GLANCE

(By The Canadian Press)

Toronto and Montreal—Industrial stocks higher.

Toronto Mines—Higher.

New York—Stocks closed higher.

Winnipeg—Wheat 1-4 cent higher to 1-2 cent lower.

New York—Cotton higher; sugar lower.

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AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRIES APPEAL TO GENERAL PUBLIC

TORONTO, Ont. Dec. 10—Urging that Canadian industry as a matter of immediate national importance undertake a new public function which, for some, would be a complete reversal of past policy and for all, would involve a new educational technique, J. L. Stewart, speaking for the automotive industries of Canada told an executive group of those industries here last night that the function to which he referred could be described as "taking the public into its confidence."

The meeting was held following the sessions of the Automotive Transport Association which closed on Saturday. It marked the formal launching today of closer relationships between the automotive industries and the general public throughout the Dominion. Newspapers from coast to coast constitute the medium through which this development is to be accomplished. In his address, Mr. Stewart was presenting the results of a detailed survey of the subject which he has just completed.

Mr. Stewart first explained what he meant by industry taking the public into its confidence. It was as simple as it might sound but a procedure which had not been carried out in the past in anything but the most modified form. It was not a question of issuing unexplained sheaves of statistics. It was something which except indirectly, was likely to be completely divorced from sales. This was a problem of interpreting Canadian industry to Canadians in shirt-sleeve phrases. It was not so much a question of stating what industry was doing or how much it was doing but rather a case of explaining how it was doing it, why it was doing it and what effect all this had on the life of John Smith.

"In the past, industry has suffered because the public was not in its confidence," the speaker declared. "There was even the feeling in some quarters that industrial activity was to a degree mysterious and carried on behind closed doors. It is not going too far to say that this attitude of mind was encouraged in an earlier era. But the time for that brand of secrecy is gone. It is definitely injurious. All it can achieve is to breed misunderstanding and place an industry in the same relative position as the man who complains of lack of appreciation on the part of his best friend and most severe critic."

Mr. Stewart then went on to emphasize that it was not primarily from the viewpoint of industry itself that he urged these radical departures in business policy.

"The reason for their necessity at the present time is partly a matter of vital national concern and partly for the benefit of that mythical personage, the man on the street, who is entitled to know," Mr. Stewart said. "The automotive industries, for instance, through payrols, purchases, taxes and export trade, exercise an influence even on the life of the man who does not own a car and has no direct link with them. In only one way can such a man learn what this influence is and that way is by the automotive industries interpreting it for him and explaining it to him. Certainly in such an interpretation, the Canadian newspaper is a key factor.

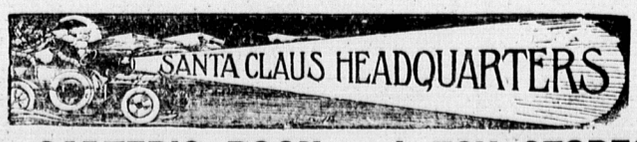
"If the general public has an intelligent insight into current conditions,—which can only be secured if industry takes the general public into its confidence, — then both nationally and individually, Canadians will be in the best position to win all the advantages that are accruing now that the tide of business is rising rapidly.

"A vital consideration which our current studies have revealed is the present public attitude," Mr. Stewart stated. "Not only is it advisable to let the general public in on industry's activities as a matter of policy but there is a very definite desire for such information and a keen interest in it. Recently, this has been growing so rapidly that one might almost suggest that its advance could be measured. We hear a good deal about adult education. It is possible that even our educational authorities are in error if they believe this should mean education in the formal, stereotyped and standardized subjects of study curricula. I think it would be well worthwhile to establish whether it might not be more beneficial if such adult education had to do with changing and moving subjects such as the inside stories of industry which have a direct and far-reaching influence on daily life."

Mr. Stewart illustrated from his own research the case of the mining industry as one where the relationship with the public was much closer than average. The romantic aspects of this branch of business had given the movement its original incentive but this had been followed by a policy of revealing details of processes, developments and results. In the automotive industries, the constant news interest in models which was the natural reflection of public interest, provided a similar stepping-stone from which to begin.

In his report, Mr. Stewart noted that the growing belief in the importance of keeping the public informed was not confined to Canada but was a general one. But in this country, it did have certain special aspects. With a relatively small population by world standards, the Dominion's industrial output was by comparison, enormous. The fact that as a leading trading nation, Canada did business all over the world and that this business meant, in effect, money in the pockets of every Canadian citizen, gave the matter both its increased importance here and its distinctly different complexion in this country.

"We have just, during recent years of economic disturbance had a most clear-cut, if distressing demonstration of how closely-patterned and complicated the fabric of our national life has become. The layman now understands the way in which, if perhaps two or three threads become loosened, the unravelling may spread through the pattern until it can eventually effect it all. Now that we recognize how an economic condition which may at first glance seem localized, has the power to influence adversely the lives of those who may have felt themselves to be separated from it altogether, we must likewise appreciate that the reverse is equally true," Mr. Stewart said in conclusion.



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