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ENGLAND SYSTEMATIZES HER ECONOMIC LIFE

Government Direction and Control of All Activities—Country Redoubles Efforts to Become Self-Supporting

LONDON, Jan. 5.—England is just beginning to realize that the European war must be won by efficiency at home as well as in the trenches. While Germany many months ago learned this lesson, and began to co-ordinate every branch of her economic activities appointing a food dictator and feeding her people systematically, Great Britain has waited until now to follow her example.

But that England is at last fully alive to the necessity of Governmental direction and control, however, is now evident. The institution of restaurant meals to two courses, the appointment of a food controller with power to regulate the production as well as the consumption of foodstuffs, the prompt intervention of the Government in any wage dispute that threatens a factory or mine of any kind, and finally the selection of a Premier in Lloyd George, who admittedly stands for a paternalism in government—every recent action of Great Britain shows an intention of systematizing her economic life and directing everything from within the Government.

The almost absolute power which the Government has taken over to itself was well illustrated in the coal fields of South Wales not long ago, where a dispute over wages gave promise of a strike or a lockout. With it promptly the British Government seldom showed before the war or during its early months, the Board of Trade availed itself of the new powers conferred upon it by the latest Defense of the Realm Act, and undertook the operation of the mines itself. Any coal mines which this act applies shall pass into our possession, the board decreed, "and the owner, agent and manager of every such mine shall comply with our directions as to management and use of the mine, and if he fails to do so he shall be guilty of a summary offense against our regulations." As a matter of fact, although the board said "any coal mines to which the act applies," it applies to every coal mine and to practically every other commercial enterprise in England, and gives the Board of Trade unprecedented powers in the direction of business.

Government Control of Foodstuffs.

Of still more vital importance, however, is the Government's control of the consumption and production of foodstuffs. This control, formerly exercised to a slight extent by the Board of Trade, has been vastly increased and has been placed under the management of the newly created food controller, an office to which Lord Davenport has been appointed with the almost unlimited authority "to make orders in the interests of the public and for maintaining the supply of any article of commerce." This general statement gives him power to decree pretty nearly everything.

Specifically, the food controller may do the following things:

1. Prevent the waste or unnecessary destruction of any specified article.
2. Restrict and prescribe the use of any article.
3. Regulate the manufacture and production of articles so that the public may be supplied with those articles.

"TIZ" EASES TIRED, SORE, SWOLLEN FEET

INSTANT RELIEF FOR ACHING, PUFFED-UP CALLOUSED FEET AND CORNS.

Why go limping around with aching, puffed-up feet—feet so tired, chafed, sore and swollen you can hardly get your shoes on or off? Why don't you get a 25-cent box of "Tiz" from the drug store now and gladden your tortured feet?
"Tiz" makes your feet glow with comfort; takes down swellings and draws the soreness and misery right out of feet that chafe, smart and burn. "Tiz" instantly stops pain in corns, callouses and bunions. "Tiz" is glorious for tired, aching, sore feet. No more shoe tightness—no more foot torture.

articles "in the form most suitable in the circumstances."

4. Direct the mode of sale and distribution of articles.
5. Regulate "the market operations" in an article "with a view to preventing an unreasonable inflation of the price."
6. Prevent the sale of an article at a price exceeding an amount named.
7. Require the owners of stocks of articles to place them at the disposal of the board on terms to be determined by arbitration in default of agreement.

8. Compel a detailed return to be made of available supplies.
9. Enter premises where articles are "kept, stored, manufactured or produced" and examine the stock and test the accuracy of any return that may have been made.

Lord Davenport, in entering upon this important office, has been prompted to carry out the program which had been planned by Walter Runciman, former President of the Board of Trade and in charge of this work until the late Cabinet shake up. He is counting the potatoes, establishing a new standard of flour, and bread in order that nothing may be wasted, prohibiting the use of wheat in brewing, fixing maximum prices for milk and restricting meals in hotels and other places of public eating.

Submarine Warfare Makes England Redouble Efforts to Become Self-Supporting.

England has always been loth to do things too systematically, and her resorting to Government control comes only because she has realized that her resources are by no means unlimited. More and more, British statesmen are admitting that German submarine warfare is seriously affecting their overseas source of supply, and, although the newspapers now give less space to the sink-batteries which have become too much a matter of fact to arouse excitement, the war, it is well known, that the submarines are more effectively destroying England's commerce than at any time before. It is anxiety regarding her food supply that has made England redouble her efforts to become self-supporting.

That there are thousands of acres lying idle in the island today which could be used for farming is well known. Two reasons are given for this waste. One is that much of the land belongs to the big estates, kept by wealthy men as game preserves, and stocked with various small animals for the lords to go out and shoot when they need recreation. Their estates, however, will probably go with the coming of Lloyd George into power. He has often in his speeches referred sarcastically to the enormous, liveried stables that populate these estates and do nothing, and now that he has become Premier, with powers such as no other British Premier has had, he will undoubtedly take steps to make these estates productive.

The other reason for the waste of land is a scarcity of labor. With most of the available men at the front or in the munitions factories, it is difficult to find farm hands. The women and children in the rural communities, have partially come to the rescue, but there are not enough of them.

One suggestion for solving the problem is to put German prisoners at work on the farms. The Earl of Crawford, president of the board of agriculture, speaking in the House of Commons last week, endorsed this idea. "German prisoners, in my opinion would work well and be faithful to their employers," he declared. "It is not to be supposed that these men, accustomed to work at home in agricultural pursuits, would, when put to the same occupation in this country, properly housed, well-treated and getting pocket money into the bargain, be anxious to return to the internment camp or to be repatriated to Germany to be sent back to the firing line."

The Board of Agriculture is doing its best to put women on the farms, but the large stretches of common lands cannot be cultivated because they are near no large towns and no labor can be procured. Wherever there is even a small plot of land near a town or city, however, the farmer is encouraged to cultivate it. Back-yard gardens are coming into fashion

in the larger cities like London.

Greatest Attention Being Given to Wheat Growing.

The greatest attention is being given by the government to wheat growing. At least 4,000,000 acres in England and Wales could be devoted to wheat growing. If farm hands and machinery can be found, and the Board of Agriculture is endeavoring to make use of it. Of the total area intended for wheat, barley three-fifths have as yet been sown, however, and it is doubtful whether the remainder can be used. The acreage of wheat planted this year is considerably smaller than that of last year, despite the efforts of the government to increase it, and the situation, though not exactly critical, is rather serious.

Another troublesome new factor in the food problem is the extensive slaughter of young pigs. The demand for pig-keeping is becoming unprofitable because of the loss of the pig to the depletion of the supply, with the result that pork and bacon will probably become almost prohibitive in price for next year. Moreover, the cost of feedstuffs has gone up so much that pig-keeping is becoming unprofitable. The pig-keepers have had to be forbidden many months ago, and it seems to the British authorities that it is time to extend the order to pigs. But no matter how many steps are taken to remedy these economic troubles and prevent a recurrence, the island can never be entirely self-sufficient and that she must continue to depend largely upon her merchant marine to bring her supplies from abroad. This feeling is largely accountable for the renewed agitation for the arming of merchant ships as a protection against submarines.

The London Times, in a recent editorial, advocates arming and declares that if neutral nations will not concede that ships armed for defensive purposes may still be merchant ships, England can still arm her vessels plying between her ports and the ports of her allies or colonies. "There seems to be general agreement that, though a gun in the stern is better than nothing, it is not sufficient."

"A gun in the stern means that direct by a ship lights an enemy ship, the gun is to be put up on any fight, maneuver to run away. The very act of manoeuvring exposes the merchantship to the fire of the enemy ship. There is then only one course open to the merchant ship—to continue to run away, firing, as the captain of the submarine, which is usually faster and more powerfully armed. The whole action is distasteful to British seamen."

"Were the merchant ships armed in the bows as well as in the stern their captains would then have the choice of action. The spirit of British seamen today is such that they have proved so over and over again that they would not hesitate to turn upon, instead of turning away from, those whom they rightly regard as the outlaws of the sea."

"It has been argued that merchant vessels must not be armed in the bows as well as in the stern, because of the construction which certain neutral nations would put upon it. Assuming this to be sound, and the view is very widely held among business men that the British case if not been previously put before neutrals, it is realized that many British ships never touch a neutral port? Business men are not aware of any reason of principle why all those British vessels which trade between the various ports of the British Empire should not be fully armed in self-defense. If a ship usually employed in emigration trade were to be diverted to a neutral port, where on some 'juridical nicety,' objection might be taken to it, the gun could be removed. If there are not at present sufficient guns available to arm merchant ships fully, that is a reason which business men can appreciate and one which they imagine will be overcome."

"British owners, encouraged by the pack of the officers and men of the merchant service, would tolerate no half-hearted measure towards the submarine campaign. They are convinced that, accorded sympathetic consideration in official quarters, they could, by taking advantage of the shipbuilding resources of the dominions, assure themselves an immense output of suitable craft within a few months. It is in this spirit that owners and the officers and men of the British mercantile marine are determined to vindicate their right to do their business on the seas irrespective of the steadily outrageous of the destroyers of the Lusitania."

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COL. CANTLEY'S TRAIN

Sir,—You seem to be frequently referring to the necessity for contributing to the patriotic and other funds. As to the patriotic fund I don't think it will be much use appealing to the country, as the way the first fund was handled sickened most of us, who did give. As to the other funds I think that what the people of P. E. Island have subscribed shows that they have not done too bad. But, it seems to me there are others in high places who ought to take a leaf out of the Finance Minister's recent homily on thrift. I have just come across a clipping from the Montreal Herald that seems to be in tune with what I am writing.

A Colonel Thomas Cantley, president of some company in Nova Scotia, on reaching St. John, late on Christmas eve from England found he would be too late to reach New Glasgow in time to eat his Christmas dinner with his family if he waited for the regular train, so to get there he hired a special train for the small sum of \$266.00 to get home to the bosom of his family for Christmas. Now, I don't know whether he was a Sam Hughes Colonel, or one of those other ones who have been lumbering up the sidewalks in England while the men they took over have gone to the front and with "occupation gone" coming back for a new pull. I think it is altogether likely he is president of a munition factory and by looking at the price he paid for his ticket, he must be able to "cough up," considerably towards patriotic funds. I see that the "occupation gone" is being in only two rooms, while his palace is occupied by wounded soldiers. Since you are appealing to the public so forcibly (and I may say patriotically) get in touch with Sir Thomas White, and put him wise where to put the screws on.

I just figured it up, and that \$266.00 paid for the special train would have fed eight Belgian families for a year at \$2.50 per week. Please think this over and take a crack just for a change at those who are bawling and fattening out of the special privileges that are rampant in Canada today. I am, sir, etc.

A. A. McNEILL.

O'Leary, Jan. 4.

(Mr. McNeill does not explain what he means by "the way the first fund was handled" for the fact as Prince Edward Island is concerned the fund has been handled in the most just and equitable manner possible, and the books are open for inspection at any time by any responsible person who cares to call upon Mr. Justice Fitzgerald, Chairman of the Relief Committee. No public fund has ever been handled with more care and discretion than has the local patriotic fund. Nor do we understand what Mr. McNeill means by his reference to Colonel Cantley as he has no connection whatever with P. E. Island. What we do know about the Colonel is that he was one of the first members appointed to the Canadian Shell Committee and that he was selected by Lord Rhoads, then Mr. D. A. Thomas, the special representative of Mr. Lloyd George, in connection with the Canadian Munitions Resources Commission. As Col. Cantley is President and General Manager of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Co. Ltd., New Glasgow, probably he would save more to his firm by saving a day and night than he paid for his special train. We have only the ipse dixit of the Montreal Herald that it was with a view to spending Christmas with his family that Col. Cantley hired a special train. In any case it has nothing to do with the performance of our duty here in connection with the Patriotic Fund.

12 NEW RECRUITS THURSDAY NIGHT

Recruiting meetings were held last night at Malpeque, Clifton, Hope River, Granville, Summerfield, French River, Indian River and Irishtown. The weather was fine and the meetings on the whole, were well attended. Twelve recruits in all, were secured.

At Malpeque, Rev. J. M. Murchison presided. The hall was filled to the doors. The speakers were the Chairman, Judge Stewart, J. A. McDonald, Director of National Service, Lieut. E. H. Strong. An excellent musical programme, which included solos by young ladies and Gr. Dawson, was rendered. Four recruits were secured, namely—H. A. Manderson, Malpeque, Everett Burke and John Riley, Balfour, Earl McKay, Irishtown. Mr. Manderson has given four sons to the cause; one has been killed in action, another is at the front and two have enlisted. Rev. R. G. Fulton presided and the speakers were: The Chairman, Rev.



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Enough to say that we were promised this lot many months ago—before prices advanced. They've just arrived—they're beauties—finest lot we've ever handled.

Only one of a kind--every color combination you could think of--all beauties:

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\$5.00 down comforts for	..\$4.00	\$14.00 down comforts for	..\$11.00
6.25 down comforts for	..5.00	16.75 down comforts for	..13.00
7.50 down comforts for	..6.00	17.00 down comforts for	..13.60
9.00 down comforts for	..7.20	18.00 down comforts for	..14.40
10.50 down comforts for	..8.40	22.00 down comforts for	..17.50
11.00 down comforts for	..8.80	25.00 down comforts for	..20.00
12.00 down comforts for	..9.60	35.00 down comforts for	..28.00

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Beer & Weeks

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Geo. Irving, Lt. White. There was a musical entertainment by Prof. Hinton Miss Robertson and others. Two recruits were secured:—David Mahoney for the 105th, and Kenneth Frizzell for Garrison Duty at Halifax.

At Hope River there was a good attendance. The speakers were:—Dr. McMillan, ex-Governor McKinnon, and Dr. Ross. The musical programme included solos by Dr. Gauthier and dancing by one of the soldiers. There was of the Red Cross and \$17.25 was realized. At Clifton, the meeting was well attended. Martin Doyle for the 105th.

At Granville, Geo. S. Inman presided at a large meeting. The speakers, besides Mr. Inman were:—Rev. Geo. Morris, W. W. Stanley, Gr. Dorion, and Hon. Murdoch Kennedy. The musical programme included selections by choir, (Miss Taylor presiding at the piano) and a recitation by Gwen McLeod. There was a sale of candy in aid in the drafts now on the island.

At Summerfield there was another large meeting. The speakers were James Paton, M. L. A., who presided, J. E. B. McCready, Sergt. Colpitts, and Jno. E. Sinclair. There was a good musical programme. One recruit was secured, William Bryant, Emerald.

At French River, the speakers were, Col. Jenkins, John Anderson, and G. H. Holbrook. There was a good musical programme and the meeting was well attended. There were no recruits.

At Indian River, James Pendergast presided over a large meeting. The other speakers were Rev. J. J. McDonald, Rev. A. J. McIntyre, Mgr. Gillis, and Captain Campbell. The programme also included choruses by the Indian

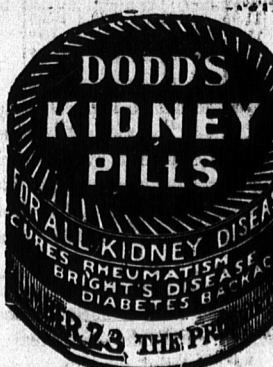
River Club, and a solo by Mr. T. W. Bentley of Kensington, who was heartily endorsed. One recruit—Neil J. McKinnon enlisted for the 105th.

At Irishtown Rev. Dr. Fullerton was chairman of a well attended meeting. The other speakers were Mr. J. D. Stewart and Private Lockerie. A musical programme was rendered by Professor Barlow, Lester McNeill, Misses Fullerton and Agnew. There were no recruits.

MARINE DISASTERS

(Special to the Guardian)

LONDON, Jan. 5.—The Lloyds Agency announces the sinking of the Spanish steamer San Leandro 1,619 tons and the Greek steamers Dimitrios Goulnadis of 3,755 tons, and Aristoteles Giannou.



BRINGING UP FATHER

