

THE JARVIS RECORD

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WHY EXCLUDE PRESS?

At the February meeting of the Welland County Children's Aid Society on Thursday of last week, the newspaper reporters were by resolution asked to retire, which they did. And then they later had a report sent to the press, which our contemporary, the Welland Tribune and Telegraph, refused to print. Brer. Duff is right. There is no public body in Canada which needs more the support of the press than the Children's Aid Society. As our neighbor says, they transact public business and spend public money, and they cannot do it in private. The press can be trusted to discriminate as to what to print and what not to print, and we'll venture to say that the action of the majority at this particular meeting did not reflect the mature judgment of the members of the Society as a whole.—Chronicle.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT

The decision of the Federal Government that they cannot vote money for the direct relief of unemployment appears to have created a good deal of bad feeling in certain sections of the country, but to those who are prepared to study the question from a broad point of view, it is obvious that the Prime Minister's decision is the correct one. We, in this country, must keep clear of what is known in England as the "dole system." Although conditions are very different in the Old Country, there is no doubt that doles have done a good deal of harm to the morale of the people. The whole trouble with us is that we leave the solution of the problem each year until the eleventh hour, and with the coming of spring and the opening up of shipping, we shove the subject until the following winter.

There is only one way in which unemployment can be guarded against, and that is by the organization of public works which can be undertaken during the winter months, and which will be of benefit to the community. No one will deny that the problem is a difficult one; but it is one that is peculiar to this country in many aspects and one which we must face without hesitation.

The Federal Government must be prepared to assist on proper lines, but it should not be called upon to initiate a system of doles which would undermine the self-respect of all concerned. The issue, in our opinion, would appear to be one for Provincial action. It would be unfair to place the onus solely on the municipalities, for the simple reason that the unemployed crowd into the cities and towns during the winter. Take for example the position in Toronto and Montreal. Men come from all parts of the country to these cities and it would be unfair for the city tax payers to be mulcted for the relief of men who have no call on them.

There is one aspect of the unemployment question which redounds to the credit of all concerned, and that is, the magnificent way in which private citizens come forward to help their more unfortunate fellows.—The Listening Post.

PIPING DAYS OF BUNK

In the course of a speech that should be read by every farmer, Mr. Huston told his listeners at the General Session of Farmers Week, at Lansing,

Michigan, that the daily press is reporting in headlines the advance in the price of wheat and commented that this is undoubtedly splendid news for the farmer who has not already sold his wheat.

The speaker added that simultaneously the press is carrying, in much smaller type and space, the announcement that the cost of living is gradually advancing, according to reports of the Department of Labor.

"Between these statements we can read, to a certain extent, the fate of the American farmer. Suppose the prices of his farm products continue to rise and are maintained on a high level. May not all the benefit derived be taken away if, in his individual capacity, he has no power to affect the price of the necessities he must buy?"

It is to be hoped the speech will be given the wide distribution it merits. The speaker touched on the point of the propagandizing through the daily press. He was liberal when he said they printed the figures concerning the advancing costs of living. They simply do not do it.

The daily press uses all the means of suppression and propaganda spread known to the profession.

One of the most effective methods of diverting the minds of readers is through the cartoons carried. The cartoonist is usually a man with a very superficial mind. He catches the policy of the paper and reflects it. Recently he has been reveling in pictures—his grotesque and irrational concept of the farmer. Opulence and self complacency is the theme. Immense crops at immense prices, prosperity, wealth, extravagance and luxuries are part of the scene.

The cotton farmer and the wheat farmer who has long ago disposed of his product at the lowest figure, pressed by his banker and his creditors, must look at these pictures with unraised emotions. He knows they are falsehoods spread for propaganda purposes.

The city man, the artisans, the workers in factories, mills and mines, on railroads and in shops are given the idea the farmer is making tremendous profits and that he is responsible for the advanced cost of living.

Later we will have cartoons of the artists' stupid concept of the skilled worker, with his silly little paper hat and a dinner pail overflowing with currency and coin, with a caption and a cut line indicating the marvellous prosperity of the worker and the farmer will be invited to believe that the burden he bears in high prices of his commodities is because the city working men are so frightfully overpaid.

In the meantime there is another chap who doesn't get his pictures in these newspapers. The exploiters are able to keep carefully out of sight.

Verily this is an era of bunk and the daily newspapers are the greatest artists at the game.

NEWSPAPERS

Any person who takes a paper regularly from the post office, whether addressed in his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for payment. If a person orders his paper discontinued he must pay all arrears or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and then collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken or not. The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers or periodicals from the post office, or removing and leaving them unpaid, is prima facie evidence of intention of fraud.

—ON PARLIAMENTARY BILL—

By a Member of the Parliamentary Press Gallery

OTTAWA, Feb. 29, 1925.—A large and representative delegation from the Maritime Provinces which presented its claims for a larger share of the country's prosperity; and illuminating debates on revision of House rules and the two-party system of parliamentary government. The Rock Mountain scale of freight rates and divorce, three diverse questions, were the features of the past week in the Canadian Parliament. Of particular interest was the discussion of the two-party system in Federal politics, for it gave to Hon. Geo. F. Graham, Minister of Railways and Canals, to Mr. Hon. Arthur M'Gee and to two or three members of the Progressive group an opportunity to state clearly the attitude of the various groups to the present political system.

By more than one speaker in this discussion which occurred on Monday it was intimated that there was a tendency on the part of the Progressives on main issues to lean toward the liberals. This afforded an opening for Mr. Graham who made good use of it in showing how natural, how almost inevitable such a course was. "The suggestion has been made," said Mr. Graham, "that the Progressive party has favored this Government. Well, really I do not see how they could help it, and I am in earnest in that. The Progressive measures of this Government, though called Liberal, are still Progressive, a great many of them, and although on occasions the Liberal Government and its supporters could not see their way to go all the distance with the Progressives, sometimes perhaps only a short distance, at all events the Government went further than hon. gentlemen opposite, and consequently if the Progressives voted at all they would have to support those who came nearer to their ideals. I do not see how a Progressive could go home and ask Progressive electors for their support if he had done anything else."

THE ALL-CANADA VIEWPOINT

"I agree with the leader of the Opposition," continued Mr. Graham, "to a large extent that all over Canada, even among members of the two former parties there is a disposition to form ourselves into geographical units. Deputations come to the Government every day from different parts of Canada with sectional views. I am not using the word in any derogatory sense, but we seem to have got away from the idea of the old Fathers of Confederation that we are to make a great Canada of this country, by, if you will, a policy of compromises, so far as that is necessary, between the different parts of this country. I think we are making a great mistake; I do not say it is the Progressive party that is doing it, but day by day ministers of the crown are approached from the angle of only one part of Canada."

At the outset of Mr. Graham's

speech there was an interesting colloquy between him, Mr. M'Gee, Mr. Forke and Mr. Caldwell, another Progressive. "Perhaps I am in favor of the two old parties," said Mr. Graham, "or of two parties at all events, the 'old' ones, because I think they are as young as those that are called younger; but I am in favor of two parties as the best system of government. But that is for the people to say, not for me."

Mr. Forke, Progressive Leader—Of course, you mean your own party to be one of them.

Mr. Graham—I was just going to make an explanation. So far as the interests of the country are concerned, the group system would not make much difference so long as the Liberal party had a majority over the other

(Continued on last page)

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