

The Evening Times-Star

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., MAY 1, 1926.

BRITAIN'S PERIL

Great Britain today faces not only a general strike but more than the possibility of something like civil war. The walkout of a million miners has been followed by a decision of the general labor body to call out all the organized trades unionists on Tuesday next unless the Government makes concessions which are not at the moment believed possible. The Government has proclaimed that "a state of emergency exists" as a consequence of the coal strike, which means that England, Scotland and Wales are today practically under martial law.

The British have a way of surviving crises of this character, and frequently in the past, events of the gravest order have been averted at the last moment. It is not impossible to regard the situation with anything but deep anxiety, so vast are the forces opposed, and so resolute. Both the miners and mine owners are wrong, as Mr. Baldwin has told them, but disastrous as a prolonged struggle between these forces would be, that which is now predicted as almost certain to occur will far transcend any mere struggle between the mine workers and the mine operators over wages and hours.

If a general strike comes on Tuesday there will be, roughly, 6,000,000 organized workers at war with the state. The real cause of the mining trouble will be forgotten in the struggle for supremacy, the fundamental issue being whether any class can dictate to the people of Great Britain.

The safety of the state takes precedence necessarily over all other considerations. Mr. Baldwin has said repeatedly—and other members of the cabinet have backed up his words—that while he and his associates would make every possible effort to avert such a desperate struggle as now impends, nevertheless should conciliation and the appeal to reason fail, they would be ready to meet the challenge of those who defied the state's authority, and that a very great majority of the people of Britain would stand with the Government for law and order, at any sacrifice.

The subsidy by which the mining strike was averted six months ago was recognized at the time to be a palliative rather than a remedy. Mr. Baldwin fully realized that. He wanted a breathing spell during which it was hoped the opposing forces might be brought to some reasonable compromise. In order that this might be attempted over a period of six months he subsidized the industry at an immense cost to the taxpayer. That expenditure has ended, and to continue which would be substantially to bribe the miners and the mine owners to keep the peace, would be a fatal policy, and Mr. Baldwin is not the man, and the English are not the people, to live upon sufferance. They will have their tooth out, if need be, however painful the process. The last national coal strike in Great Britain, in 1921, cost the nation nearly \$250,000,000 in direct and indirect losses. Distasteful as that was, it is not to be mentioned in the same breath with the consequences that might flow from the existing conditions if 5,000,000 or 6,000,000 workers join the striking miners on Tuesday.

The government for many months past has been quietly making preparations to maintain transportation and other vital services, including the distribution of food, and it is welcome news that the unions are said to have agreed that, if a general strike comes, they will not interfere with services the interruption of which would mean something like starvation to some people at large. The value of any such promise remains to be seen. A general strike, in spite of the government's preparations, would mean for a time at least a paralysis of industry and temporary business chaos.

It is felt that if the miners could compel the government to nationalize the coal mining industry the time would not be long distant when they would follow up that victory by nationalizing shipping as well.

Coming developments will be followed throughout the British Empire with the utmost interest.

A HINT TO THE MARITIMES.

To what extent has blind devotion to partisan warfare kept the Maritimes from their proper place in the sun? The Maritime Free Press thinks that we here by the sea would do well to take a leaf out of the book of the Prairie Provinces, which, finding that they could not secure what they regarded as reasonable justice from Ottawa, decided to cry "A Plague on both your houses!" and form a western party which would play one of the old party organizations against the other until the prairie country got practically what it wanted.

The advice is worth examining, particularly as the Free Press fortifies it by a quotation from the recent editorial in the London Times devoted to Maritime Province problems. As the Free Press says in its production of 1921:

has borne very heavily on the Maritimes, helped to shut them out from the United States markets, and still given them no compensating markets in Central Canada. To some extent, therefore, our Western contemporary states for many of the conditions about which we have been complaining, and which, at last, we are making a united effort to remedy.

The Free Press quotes as follows from the London Times article in question:

"Does the blame lie at the door of the Dominion Government? Not only is it powerless to break down the high fence of the Fordney tariff, but the people of the Maritime Provinces themselves have helped to shape the protectionist policy of Canada. They gave a majority to the Conservative government which established protection forty-seven years ago. In 1891, when unrestricted reciprocity with the United States was the main issue of the election, they cast their votes against the Liberals who had fathered the policy. And in 1911 they were sharply divided on the question of the trade agreement with Washington that paved the way to Laurier's defeat."

How much is there in what the London Times says? The Maritime Free Press sums it up by saying that "on three critical occasions the people of the Maritime Provinces were more interested in playing politics than in furthering their interests. This course was very gratifying to the politicians who profited thereby, but it has landed the Maritime Provinces in the quagmire in which they now find themselves."

Then comes the lesson: "The people of the Prairie Provinces, who also have their own fiscal problems, decided a few years ago to forget about traditional politics and send people to Ottawa free to fight to the limit for their interests. For this they have been roundly condemned by those to whom this course proved inconvenient, but time has proved thoroughly vindicated their insurrection."

It might well have been thought, the Free Press observes, that we in the Maritimes would have profited by this western example, "but its only visible result has been to send a contingent of partisans to Ottawa who seem to be more interested in making Mr. McKeighen Premier than they are in righting Maritime wrongs."

The Conservative delegation from the Maritime Provinces at Ottawa, numbering the Liberals from this section by five or six to one, was probably very much more interested in their motives or their conduct, yet they must be judged by what they do rather than by what they say they are trying to do, or by what they say they are thinking. They have been quite right in opposing the Maritime case strongly upon the Government; they have been justified in saying that the Government in former years neglected these provinces, and that the most conspicuous result of that neglect was the political revolution here in October last. So far, good. But in their attitude toward the Government's policy in creating the Duncan Commission, and in referring to the Railway Commission not only the question of Maritime freight rates but also the great national issue of shipping up in the diversion of Canadian traffic from our ports, the Conservatives from the Maritimes have left themselves open to the charge that they have preferred party to the interests of their constituencies.

On the other hand, the Liberals from the Maritime Provinces have, in their own way, been quite as partisan as their opponents. For them, however, the excuse is advanced that they had what they regarded as satisfactory assurances that the Government at last was prepared to do something substantial to redress the injustices from which the Maritimes have suffered in the matter of federal policies. How good the excuse is we shall know only when the Duncan Commission has made its report, when the Railway Commission has brought down its judgments in connection with the promotion of export and import trade through Canadian harbors—and when the supplementary estimates are tabled some weeks hence.

Should the Maritimes at that time still have cause to complain that they have been denied reasonable satisfaction by the federal authorities, it may be expected that the people in these three provinces—or at least a very large majority of them—will be quite ready to adopt the Maritime Free Press' advice and form a Maritime party after the fashion of the Progressives, the sole purpose of which would be to advance Maritime interests with total disregard of the effect of such a course upon either the Liberal or the Conservative organization.

SLAYER SENTENCED.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 1.—Geo. E. Osborne, milk wagon driver, who shot and killed James F. Hartley, a butcher, when Osborne unexpectedly came home and found him embracing Mrs. Osborne, was yesterday sentenced to from three to six years' imprisonment.

Just Fun

"DON'T you think long hair makes a man look intellectual?"
"It depends. My wife found a long hair on my coat sleeve yesterday, and I looked a perfect ass."

OUR neighbor has a dog that is a howling success.

MOST of us can have a servant working for us; our savings.

NO FISHING HERE
With red and red and hook and line

I sat me down beneath a sign
That read: "No Fishing Here."
I fished from early morn till night,
But didn't get a single bite.
Then changed that sign with all
my might
To read: "No Fish in Here."

THE smart things we might have said but didn't have saved us many a friend.

BARBER—Do you want a hair cut?
MR. NEXT—No, I want them all cut.

BARBER—Any particular way, sir?
MR. NEXT—Yes, sir.

RADIO critic said that the instruments of a certain ukelele orchestra were out of tune. But he did not say that.

A NOTED bond holder was caught last week. He went into a store to buy some new shoes and they pinched him.

HE HACKLED THE DUMMY!
JOHN: "I heard Bill was kicked off the football squad."
JACK: "How so?"
JOHN: "He was told to tackle the dummy and he tackled the dummy."

A HAPPY WORLD
If we noticed little pleasures
If we forgot our losses
And remembered all our gains;
If we looked for people's virtues,
And the faults refused to see,
What a happy, comfortable, cheerful
Place this world would be.

THE universal language—D-O-L-L-A-R.

"PA, Willie's jabbing me in the eye with his joke book."
"Don't poke fun at your brother, Willie," advised the stern father.

WE like the barber best who says: "It's not half as thin as mine."

"TIS better to have loved a short guy and lost than never to have loved a tall."

ONCE poets stood in the gutter and looked at the stars; now they stand on the stars and look in the gutter.

WHO'S WHO

IN THE DAYS NEWS

JAMES L. GARVIN.

THE new editor of the Encyclopedia Britannica, James L. Garvin, was called "the greatest living journalist" by the late Lord Northcliffe, prominent British publisher.

During the war Garvin wrote a page a week on the war situation for "The Observer," which was widely read both in England and America and considered one of the outstanding pieces of wartime journalism.

Looked upon as one of the leading interpreters of the American point of view to England he plans to preserve an international viewpoint in the Britannica, feeling that "in the spirit of knowledge no national prejudice can be allowed to exist for all nations help to accumulate what may be called the common stock of civilization."

It is at the urging of American members of the Britannica board that he takes the post.

He was born in Cheshire, Eng., in 1868. He was educated at Eton, England, and New College, Oxford.

He left his business career at 23 to accept a position as proofreader on "The Newcastle Chronicle." Within six weeks he was writing editorials for the paper and soon contributed to other magazines.

In 1907, Lord Northcliffe asked him to become editor of "The Observer." Under the guidance of Garvin the combined magazine and newspaper gained a circulation of a quarter of a million copies.

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COURTESY IN BUSINESS

(Oshawa Reformer.)
Good advertising must be supported and reinforced, not only by good value but by adequate courtesy. True, some customers are trying to frayed nerves, but it is one of the finest of games to please such and to send them away smiling. "A soft answer turneth away wrath," and it also sells goods. Like mercy, courtesy blesses him that gives as well as him that takes. It makes the day brighter for the clerk as well as for the customer. Courtesy is one of the merchant's chief assets.

The steamer Marburn is due at Quebec tomorrow from Antwerp with a large passenger list.

FOLEY'S PREPARED FIRECLAY FOR LINING YOUR OWN STOVE
Sold by Hardware Dealers.

Phone your Want Ads.

The Coal Scuttle on the Anvil



Coal-Scuttle (to Village Blacksmith Baldwin): "When you've licked me into shape, old man, you'll have earned a night's repose."
—From the News of the World.

POEMS I LOVE

BY CHARLES HANSON TOWNIE

"One Day I Wrote Her Name," by Edmund Spenser

IN THIS series of articles I purpose to move from one age to another, from day to day, in order that those who follow the poems may contrast them. It is interesting to see how styles, but not values, change, in poetry. The sonnet is a fixed and rigid form of verse; and from time to time I try to prove that some of those written in our own day are as rich and beautiful as can be found anywhere.

Spenser, who came just before Shakespeare, does not always make easy reading for the student; but, like Burns, he is worth the effort that it undoubtedly requires to reach his levelness. This sonnet is simple and is a good proof, with others, before digging into "The Faerie Queen."

One day I wrote her name upon the strand;
But came the waves and washed it
Again I wrote it with a second hand,
But came the tide and made my pains
Vain; man's said she, that dost in vain
Assay
A mortal thing to immortalize;
For I myself shall like to this decay,
And eke my name be wiped out like
this.
Not so, quoth I; let base things de-
vise
To die in dust, but you shall live by
mine.
My verse your virtues rare shall eterni-
ze,
And in the heavens write your glori-
ous name.
Where, whereas death shall all world
dew,
Our love shall live, and later life re-
new.



THE SPIRIT OF YOUTH

renew our spirits, for we are really growing old. For—
"It is the glory of the present age that in it one can be young," says Bourne. "Our times give no check to the radical tendencies of youth. On the contrary, they give the directed stimulus. A middle of a world and a brave outlook combine to inspire us to the bravest of radicalisms. Great issues have been borne in the last century and are now loose in the world."

"The secret of life is then that this first of all spirits should never be lost. Out of the turbulence of youth should come this fine precipitate, a sane, aggressive spirit of daring and doing. It must be a flexible, growing spirit, with a hospitality to new ideas, and a keen insight into experience. To keep one's reactions warm and true is to have found the secret of perpetual youth, and perpetual youth is salvation."

But if we cannot keep young physically, how about our minds? Do they have to grow old and falter with the body? Isn't there an attitude of mind that makes the matter of thinning locks and slowing steps of no particular importance? What is this spirit of youth? The late Randolph S. Bourne, in his essay on "Youth and Life" says that

"Youth puts the remorseless questions to everything that is old and established—Why? What is this thing good for? And when it gets the mumbled, evasive answers of the defenders, it applies its own fresh, clean spirit of reason to institutions, customs and ideas, and, finding them lame, or poisonous, turns instinctively to overthrow them and build in their place the things with which its visions teem. This is the youthful radicalism of Jesus, and His words sound across the ages 'calling civilization ever back to sound bases.' With him, youth eternally repudiates the ruling generation—'O ye of little faith! There is so much to be done in the world; so much could be done if you were only as I am.' You seem to be doing so little to cure the waste and muddle and lethargy all around you. Don't you really care, or are you only faint-hearted? If you do not care, it must be because you do not know; let us bind magazine and newspaper gained a circulation of a quarter of a million copies."

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The Very Idea!

By Bill Cochran

AND THEN—

EACH week end, when your work is done, you plan on havin' heaps of fun. You'll take the family out somewhere, and just drink in the open air. You get the old car fixed up right, and then real late on Friday night, you crawl yourself upon the floor and look up road maps by the score.

"Course moon has had the happy hunch to pack a peachy picnic! Few she's fixed some salad; cooked a ham, made sandwiches of bread and jam. The kids, long since, to bed have gone. They plan to wake up with the dawn. You've worked a lot and feel quite worn, but fun will come tomorrow morn."

On Saturday all things are set. And, are you all enthused? You bet! You're or your way—then fate breaks loose. It starts to rain! like the deuce.

The man who invests in real estate has lots to talk about.

** The fellow who gets in the **
** habit of saying "I can't" even- **
** tually finds out it's true. **

There's no use in putting a plug penny in a socket 'cause you can't get a weight with it.

They'd toss the tennis ball up high, then about each time they'd smack it.

But no one worried 'bout the noise. 'Twas just a tennis racket.

One of married life's great troubles is that many men marry seakins wives on a market's salary.

Speaking of civility—A pretty girl or an elderly woman always get a seat on a street car, if there are plenty of vacant ones when they board it.

Mother takes father to the "dearest place imaginable" for a vacation. And the bills start coming in he finds that's just what it is.

FABLES IN FACT

ONCE THERE WAS A CONGRESSMAN WHO CALLED HIMSELF AN OLD FRIEND OF HIS ON RIOD AFTER AN ENJOYABLE EVENING HE REMARKED TO THE HUSBAND-THAT HE WAS SURPRISED TO FIND HOW MUCH THE MRS. KNEW ABOUT PARLIAMENTARY LAW. PERIOD QUOTATION MARK WHY COMMA QUOTATION MARK REMARKED THE HUSBAND-THAT HE WAS SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE EVER SINCE WE'VE BEEN MARRIED PERIOD QUOTATION MARK

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Two piece styles, in plain and figured crepe with trimmings in contrasting colors. Sizes 3 to 14 years.

Medium, large and extra large sizes, good droomy cut, set-in gusset. Colors white, pink, mauve, peach.

UMBRELLAS—Short, stubby styles, good quality covers, amber tips, 12 ribs. Colors are green, navy \$2.98 purple

WOMEN'S CORSETTES—Specially made of heavy brocaded coutil, wide elastic inserts at hips, boned in front. Long hips, sizes 32 to 40. Very special \$1.79

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