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Seems Impossible

IT IS inconceivable that the national disaster of a railroad strike should come to pass in Canada although there now appears to be every possibility of such an eventuality ten days hence with August 22 set as the date for walk-out by 125,000 members of non-operating unions in the wages and hours dispute.

Somehow or other, however, we cannot but hopefully anticipate that something will occur in the eleventh hour to avert such a catastrophe to the nation as a tie-up of the vital transportation service would be, if only for a short time.

We recall how such a strike came perilously near two years ago but was settled almost on the deadline.

It would be a weighty responsibility to precipitate such a calamity in which every citizen of Canada would suffer but none more than the employees themselves.

The ironic part of it is—and this can be confirmed if one talks to railway employees even in Prince Rupert—that even the employees themselves do not want the strike and, notwithstanding the fact that they may have voted for it themselves, dread the hour of its approach. They do not want it yet they voted for it—probably inwardly thinking that it would never happen anyway.

Here is a situation where the parties concerned should devote themselves to every avenue of compromise and mediation to head off national disaster.

Of course, the government could and would have to take over itself and operate the railway services possibly in an arbitrary manner but this, in the long run, would be no satisfactory outcome.

Meanwhile the growing possibility of such a strike cannot help but already have a disturbing effect on the business and economy of the nation in which the railways play such a vital role.

NO MATERIAL VICTORY

THE physical destruction of modern war has become so great that no nation or group of nations can win a material victory.

The only good that can come out of wars is law which may be established and maintained by the nations that are determined to uphold the principles of the charter of the United Nations.

Free men throughout the world now have no alternative but slavery to the sacrifices which may be necessary to preserve freedom and to establish law and order. Either we unite and succeed in keeping the road of progress open or we fail to use our common powers and lose our chance to achieve civilization.

The stark reality of the present demands the highest and best that democratic people have in them. What there is to win is worthy of all that good men can give. The free world must be prepared to give all or give up.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE FOR TODAY

But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Luke 22: 32.

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'Hard Core' of Refugees Begins to Soften



Among the refugees living in camps operated in Europe by the International Refugee Organization (IRO), a United Nations Specialized Agency, are some 25,000 old and sick persons, the "hard core" which has the greatest difficulty finding new homes. In recent months, however, homes have been provided for some of them. In the left hand photo, an aged refugee, one of 980

offered homes by a Roman Catholic order in France, talks to a French priest about the new life ahead. At the right, a blind refugee (left) discusses the prospect of a new life in Norway, where 100 sightless persons and an equal number of their families have been accepted. With him is a camp official of the International Refugee Organization (center) and a Norwegian representative.



As I See It

By ELMORE PHILPOTT
HE KNOWS KOREA

For the second year I have met the retired Anglican Bishop of Korea, the Rt. Rev. Hugh Embley. Ordinarily Bishop Embley lives at New Denver.

Bishop Embley knows Korea "like a book" as the saying is. He tells me that we should not be surprised at the number of experienced soldiers that the North Koreans have put in the field. A vast number of them fought as part of the Chinese Communist armies which, as we all know, have been fighting more or less continuously for thirty years.

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TAKING the long range view of Asia, Bishop Embley thinks it is absurd to try to deny the existence of the Communist regime in China. He has faith that a basis of live-and-let-live will sooner or later be worked out between the New Asia and the peoples of the western part of the world.

He smiles at the suggestion that Russia will ever be able to establish herself as permanent overlord of China.

After talking with the Bishop for a few hours, I wish that the big allied governments had him "sitting in" on their policy-making conferences re Korea. For he has such a balanced and moderate approach to the whole business out there.

ALL THESE MOUNTAIN resorts have suffered because of the war in Korea—and the fear that it is merely the preliminary to worse troubles to come—maybe even world war three. But actually you hear very little war talk in the pool, or on hotel verandahs.

The Americans I meet are almost all the friendly type—good neighborly folks. But I did hear an amusing story of one loud-mouthed visitor who began to "sound off" against Canadians in a store not too many miles from here.

"Our men have been fighting a whole month in Korea—and where are the Canadians? You haven't got a man over there and you don't seem in any hurry to get any there either."

The proprietor of that establishment had the makings of a real diplomatist. Without once raising his voice he told the irate visitor that we here in Canada could certainly sympathize with them below the border.

He told how we felt in 1914, then how we felt in 1915, and again in 1916 and till April 1917.

Then he explained how we felt that same way again in 1939, 1940, and again in 1941—till Pearl Harbor.

As he developed the theme without a trace of bitterness, the visitor more and more deflated like a balloon with a slow leak in it.

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WE IN CANADA would be the world's prize dumbbells if we carried that tit-for-tat argument too far. I sometimes wonder if we learned anything from either the first or second world war—except how to make an even worse hell of a mess in a third.

The lesson of world war one, to me at least, was that the system of national sovereignty was all washed up. Long before Hitler started world war two there were many of us who knew—and plainly wrote and said in speeches that there was only one salvation for the western demo-

cracies—that was to form one vast "federation of the free." Had the U.S.A., British Commonwealth, France and kindred democracies like the Scandinavians formed themselves into one out-and-out federation no aggressor on earth would have dreamed of attacking them.

It would have been suicide for Hitler to have attempted to do so.

Now because we failed to form such a federation even after world war two—we find ourselves facing a far more formidable challenger. The part of the world we have a chance to federate is shrinking year by year.

Modern Etiquette

Q. Having finished eating, where should one place the knife and fork?

A. They are placed a little to the right of the centre of the dinner plate. The tines of the fork should point upward, and the cutting edge of the knife should face toward the centre of the plate.

Q. Which aisle should be used by the wedding party, if the church has two main aisles?

A. One of the aisles may be disregarded, using the other aisle for both the procession and recession.

Q. In the salutary phrase of a letter, may one use an abbreviation such as "Dear Dr. Smith?"

A. No; write "Dear Doctor Smith."

FOREIGN TRADE

Approximately one-third of Canada's national income is derived from foreign trade, a degree of dependence on external economic conditions equalled in only two or three other countries in the world.

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HOW CAN I ? ? ?

Q. How can I prevent the iron from sticking to the clothes when pressing out starched pieces?

A. Try using soapy water as a starch foundation. Use one tablespoonful of soap jelly to each quart of water. Then add the necessary amount of starch.

Q. How can I harden earthenware?

A. Place it in a pan of cold water and bring it very slowly to the boiling point. Then allow it to cool slowly.

Q. How can I keep apples for a long time?

A. Apples will keep for a long time without decaying if they are packed in sawdust.

Better English

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "This is a preventative against such action."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "ridiculous"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Contemporary, contentuous, contemptuous.
4. What does the word "posterity" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with eq that means "evenness of mind"?

Answers

1. Say preventive. There is no such word as preventative. 2. Pronounce ri-dik-u-lus, both r's as in it, and four syllables (not ri-dik-lus). 3. Contentious. 4. Descendants; all succeeding generations; future time. "Posterity gives to every man his true honor."—Tacitus. 5. Equanimity.

FIRST CENSUS

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