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Let's End It Quickly

WITH the two obstinate sides refusing under final pressure to yield and the government declining to take the responsibility of enforcing an end to the tie-up, Canadian Parliament, which opened today in special session, is faced with an unprecedented problem in dealing with the railway strike.

Maybe either or both sides to the dispute are to blame, maybe the government is to be criticized for not having met the situation more effectively, but these are questions which can be discussed later.

The thing now is to get the railways back in operation again as expeditiously as possible before further damage has been done—and there has been plenty already.

Possibly everybody was believing that it could not happen, that somebody was going to yield or do something. As it turned out nobody yielded sufficiently and nobody did anything. The strike came and, for better or for worse, was permitted to continue. Certainly, some one or perhaps more than one was to blame.

We have had a bitter experience in an already troubled time when we could ill afford to have such a demoralizing disruption—a disruption which has caused inconvenience and discomfort and, what is quite as bad, has shaken our confidence in the established machinery and the will to prevent such things.

On one thing all must be agreed and that is that the tie-up must end with a minimum of further delay even if drastic action has to be taken. It is a difficult situation and it may require a distasteful remedy which will have to be swallowed by the parties concerned.

In any case, the people themselves, through their elected representatives, have the matter in their own hands, and, no matter what mistakes may have so far been made, it is going to be settled in the democratic way.

And, apart from getting this crisis settled, there will be the problem of taking steps to ensure as effectively as possible that such a thing does not happen again. The nation cannot afford it.

A PRINCESS ARRIVES

A motherly woman who has half-dozed through the news from Korea and Lake Success turns the radio knob a touch higher as the announcer says something about Buckingham Palace.

A waitress, picking up a napkin, says, "I told you it was going to be a girl."

"Aw, that stuff!" says the town grouch. "You women!"

But a young father, wiping a smudge of truck grease off his chin, smiles indulgently.

It is the fairy story in the day's news. "Her Royal Highness . . . was safely delivered of a Princess . . . today" is the way the bulletin from Clarence House tells it.

And everybody is glad to hear that Princess Elizabeth is doing well and that little Prince Charles has a sister.

Because the British Royal Family have shown themselves wholesome and kindly, because we still like stories with castles and princes in them, and because everybody loves a baby—we all wish them well.—Christian Science Monitor.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE FOR TODAY

"Look unto Me, all ye ends of the earth, and be ye saved, for I am God, and there is none else." Isaiah 45: 22.

A REMINDER!

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IT TOOK A LONG TIME TO BUILD — Drawn by Vernon Jaques in the Toronto Globe and Mail (CP Photo)



As I See It

By ELMORE PHILPOTT Favors 40 Hour Week

THE BOYS in the post office in our town were chuckling over this:

A dear old lady went up to the wicket with a parcel. She was told that the Post Office could not accept it "because of the strike."

The old lady smiled and said gently: "O that's all right. I'll take it home. And I hope you get your raise in pay."

She apparently thought it was the Post Office was on strike too.

THE CORE OF the which has Canada in a creeping paralysis as this is written, is the 40-hour week. The employers want the 40 hour week beginning next year. The employees have conceded the 40 hour week to take effect near the end of next year.

Hence, in effect, the whole country is being tied up in knots over an argument as to mere time.

It would be better for all concerned to split the difference, and be done with it.

I AM 100% with the men and women, and with their families, in this request for long overdue justice. Unfair critics of the unions forget that those unions could have demanded and taken the 40 hour week—plus big pay increases to boot—had they chosen to do so during the second world war. Instead they loyally accepted the wage and hour freeze. They did so because that was their patriotic war duty.

But the government gave them, and all other workers, a clear promise that they would not suffer in future because of their "no strike" loyally during wartime. The government has not lived up to that promise. It has not only allowed prices to rise, faster than wages. But in many cases it has actually entered into arrangements to boost the cost of living higher than it would have been, under the so-called "law" of supply and demand.

There is another factor about the 40 hour week often forgotten. A human being is capable of doing only so much work in any one week. Naturally if people work 48 hours per week they can do more on some jobs, than they can if they work only 40 hours per week. But the difference is much less than one might expect, without actual test.

Take the case of the woodworkers in British Columbia. What happened when they reduced hours from 44 to 40 per week? I cannot answer for all plants. But I do know what happened in one typical plywood operation.

The same men, with no new machinery produced MORE

under the 40 hour week than they had under the 44 hour stretch. Why? Obviously because their morale was better, their health was better.

There is no probable industry where the output per man-hour has increased over the years more than it has on our own Canadian railroads.

I could print reams of statistics to support this. But they all boil down to this:

It takes fewer man-hours of work to haul one ton of freight, or one passenger, one mile than it ever did before.

And if you measure the pay in what is REAL (like ham and eggs) and not in shrunken dollars, you find that the railway workers are achieving more and getting less for it, than ever before.

Duncan Kerr Is Honored

PRINCE GEORGE—Another year of faithful and efficient service by Duncan K. Kerr as secretary-treasurer of the Associated Boards of Trade of Central British Columbia was acknowledged at the closing banquet of the annual convention here Friday night. President W. J. Scott presented Mr. Kerr with a handsome electric razor and leather travelling case.

Aeros Probably Will Keep Port

Hopes that an "amicable settlement" of the difficulties which has Canada in a creeping paralysis as this is written, is the 40-hour week. The employers want the 40 hour week beginning next year. The employees have conceded the 40 hour week to take effect near the end of next year.

Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Wilford returned to the city last night from a 5000-mile motor trip. The highlight of which was a visit to Greybull, Ontario, where they attended the golden wedding anniversary of Mrs. Wilford's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Say. They were away two weeks and also visited the Okanagan.

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DOWN TO BUSINESS

Parliament has plenty to think about as the House sits today. The railway strike is purely domestic yet with no lack of points which call for careful thought and study. Korea and the army may be considered international, but not without risks that could expand present hostilities.

Shaking the Quills

No fewer than 450 mayors assembled in Saskatoon for the municipalities convention, shortly before the railway strike brought a shortage of room-cleaning and bed-making services. The mayors were therefore invited to make their own beds. A good many had their wives along, and these, presumably, provided the suggestions and insight.

The Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders are about to serve in Korea. A historic regiment. An army is that much better, when its' part of the show.

Sat Back and Listened

Sometimes when you're in the mood for a tune, a broadcast will sorely disappoint instead of pleasing. There come times when the more difficult is the spelling of the composer's name, the more tiresome the composition. Some may say that shows lack of musical education. Anyhow, the other evening, radio played a half hour of old time hits—"Sweet Rosie O' Grady," "Pack UP Your Troubles," "After The Ball," "In The Good Old Summer Time". Simple airs, one might think, yet more welcome than highbrow melody.

Nothing Obscure

The rail strike wage scale was printed in The News Saturday and this simplified what had many people been a matter of uncertainty. They knew what workers were drawing by the hour. Yet it did not tell everything, easily and quickly. The report in the paper did. Readers became aware of what everyone was being paid and could reach their own conclusions.

The best friends are strong

friends and the British are the best and the strongest that we Americans have. Thank God for them, and the best of luck to them. —Editor of Life.

Early Birds

Rat catching has been in the Dalton family, of London, for generations. Bill is the present head of the house, and goes home about dawn—same time as printers catch trams at Blackfriars Bridge. "They hand their papers round to each other says Bill "I suppose the news is much the same, but they do like to read the paper the other bloke's printed".

Philippines Quiet Today

MANILA — It was quiet in the Philippine capital today in sharp contrast to a week-end of terror in nearby communities, in which 78 persons were killed in guerrilla raids. Rumors that Communist-led guerrillas would attack Manila proved groundless.

SECRET WAS SIMPLE



"Isn't it amazing what children notice? Last night my little girl said, 'Mommy, why is Granny's washing whiter than yours?' I swallowed my pride and found out today. The secret's a swish or two of Reckitt's Blue in the final rinse for it's Reckitt's Blue that prevents clothes turning yellow. There is no pure white without blue. Costs only a few cents a month, and means I take no chances with anything that may damage fabric. It is the safe way to keep clothes snowy white." A-1-F

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