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## Lack of Push Again

REPORTS from Southeastern Alaska indicate that the Alaska Road Commission desires to keep open its section of the Haines Highway, but that Canadian Army officials at Whitehorse are unwilling to reciprocate on their portion. Brigadier Connally is said to have observed that winter maintenance on the Haines Road would be "at the sacrifice of the main Alaska Highway itself."

This is more of the backward spirit—or lack of spirit—which has retarded the natural expansion of this great area.

The Haines Road is the sole link between the Alaska Highway and the Rupert-Juneau-Ketchikan tidewater region. It is a natural trucking link to Whitehorse and Fairbanks. Governor Gruening and Delegate Bartlett, both of Alaska, want the road kept open. But our Canadian officials at Whitehorse have ostensibly decided that winter maintenance is too rough.

The U.S. Army constructed this road at great expense during the war. Are we to be so indifferent to progress and expansion that we will not even keep rotary plows upon it during the winter months? Surely Canada is doing less than its share to open up the vast North Country, if we will not maintain what our sister nation has built.

As the writer, Richard Neuberger, pointed out here recently, it is over the Haines Road that automobiles from the Skeena Highway can make contact with the immense Alaskan interior. The Skeena Highway is on Canadian soil. Are our Canadian Army officials to let so vital a link go to seed? Some strong inquiries are necessary in Ottawa. It might be well that British Columbia should ask some pointed questions—now.

## ARGUMENT POSTPONED

IT LOOKS very much like an appeasement deal in the offing at Berlin. The Russians blockaded the German capital because they would not have the western powers' currency set-up. Now, from all indications, the blockade is about to be lifted on the arrangement that the Russian currency shall prevail. That means a complete surrender—an appeasement—on our side. It may be that the best thing is being done but it is, nevertheless, hard to take. Possibly, it is only a deferment of an argument. The Red dictators will become that much bolder and, the way they act, further crisis may be expected. The blockade may be lifted and we may think things are a little better again. The cold war, as a matter of fact, continues and the fact might as well be recognized that the score has not yet been settled. Only time has been won.

## DON'T FENCE ME IN

A LOT OF PEOPLE are either approving or bawling the leftish tinge apparent in the thinking of youth. Yet it is doubtful if there is ground for approval or reason for bawling. The young collegiate and college student is not so much championing a cause, as he is following a pattern. He is rebellious in the face of forces whose limitations he can see but cannot remedy. He is as yet untouched by the rude business of living. He is still under the leadership of idealists, whose idealism is not shaped and modified by the immediate and pressing competitive battle for survival. So youth becomes the natural hope of the leftish propagandists. It is also their surest check. Youth is their hope because of its quick acceptance of new and virtually untried doctrines, for that is the way of youth. It is their check because its real faith is represented better in what it does with its time, effort, and enthusiasm, when it is freely determining its own course for its own ends.

A young girl wins the applause of a world for her skill and, in the rinks of Timmins, Winnipeg, and Toronto, boys and girls go seriously about the business of producing another and better Barbara Ann Scott. Alone, or under the eyes of a teacher, they spend long hours practising their figure eights. They are paying the price of achievement, the price of their own conviction that they can advance beyond the crowd. In remote camps many husky and more or less erudite young men work by day and study by night. Why? To fit themselves into a set pattern? Who would believe that? It is to make a new pattern. In the mines, in the forest, in surveyors' gangs, in the cook-house or the resort or the farm; in a thousand occupations as varied as the localities and the circumstances in which they are found, youths are working hard and long to earn the money to provide the education that will enable them to be better men than the next, in their chosen work. Maybe they will come back, bronzed and tough-handed, once again to vote against free enterprise. So what! That is just lip service. In their acts there is no evidence of a brief in a creed that would fence them in. On the fighting line youth asks, not for security, but for its own chance.

## British Courage and Ideals Unimpaired

(Continued from Page One)

"Then there was the Sterling convertibility crisis of last summer . . . and world prices continued to rise sharply, especially in the U.S.A."

"We ended the year 1947, with a deficit of six hundred and seventy-five million pounds. Almost half of this vast deficit was due to the high import prices and the worsening terms of trade, and the whole deficit lies entirely with the Western Hemisphere. In the rest of the world, including the Sterling Area, the United Kingdom had a surplus of \$5,000,000."

### DOLLAR SCARCITY CRUX OF SITUATION

"Here we come to the crux of the whole problem of dollar scarcity. Its solution does not depend on us alone. In Britain—and I wish to emphasize this—we have by enormous exertion recovered industrially to a remarkable degree. We are producing more and exporting more than before the war, just as Canada is. But world trade is desperately out of gear, and that is the fundamental ill. Before the war we balanced our accounts because the countries of Western Europe and the Far East who were our traditional customers, were able to produce and sell goods in a world market."

"But today, because of the ruin of the war, they cannot produce on a sufficient scale for the world markets and they cannot pay in full for the goods they are crying out for, nor can they let us have in return the badly needed goods we used to buy from them, and which we now have to buy in the dollar countries."

"Yes, 1947 was a year of cruel disappointment, and not to ourselves alone. The Old World as we knew it came very near to the edge of the abyss."

"But if Britain came near the edge of the abyss, she did not totter. Her belt, tightened by notches ever since the war, was tightened once again. Private motoring, which had been restored to a limited degree, was entirely eliminated and has only now been slightly restored—to the extent of 3 miles a day; travel, outside the Sterling Area, banned (except to certain countries in Europe since May 1st); further cuts imposed in food and tobacco; even the glamorous beauties of the American films temporarily flickered to a memory. More restrictions, more austerity, controls on labor aimed at increasing the overall labor force and distributing it to the most effective degree possible, and further controls on prices to prevent inflation."

Events had more than made it plain that there is nothing in common between Socialism in Britain and the Communism of the U.S.S.R., declared Mr. Bennett.

"It is not entirely a question in Britain today of all work and no play making Jack a dull boy. We are working harder than ever before, but we are making better use of our leisure time than ever before."

### VITAL FACTOR IN RECOVERY

The most vital single factor in Britain's recovery, Mr. Bennett defined as the progress of the export drive. The export target for this year is 150% of the export volume in 1938. The official figures for 1947 showed an overall rise in volume, despite all the troubles we had, of 8%. In June of this year the volume was 134%—one-third above the 1938 figure, and more than two-thirds of the way towards the end-1948 target.

"That record—especially

when you bear in mind the mighty export trade we did before the war—is, I think, not unimpressive," suggested the speaker. Here are a few examples of production figures which will show you how we are achieving these export results:

"Coal, as you know, is the key to our economy, and output is now running at about 4 million tons per week. Exports to a number of countries have already begun, and shipments are twice what they were in 1947."

"As for steel, Britain is breaking all her records, producing in June more than ever before in our history. We are the only country in Europe producing more steel than before the war—nearly 50% more than in 1938."

"As for our Merchant Marine and Shipbuilders, our shipyards are humming to the sound of more than two-and-a-half times as many vessels in the building as in 1938. More than half the ships being built in the whole world are being made in Britain, and the red ensign of Britain now flies over a quarter of the world's active tonnage."

"Textiles—so badly needed—have been one of our biggest problems. With its labor force dispersed, as a result of wartime drafting of men and woman power, the industry was almost knocked out. It has now so far recovered that it has been assigned a leading part in the 1948 production drive as the industry which offers the biggest opportunity of earning or saving dollars. The target to be reached is nearly double that of 1947 and it is hoped to export to Canada 15 times as much cotton goods as reached here last autumn."

"Automobiles are going abroad at nearly 4 times the rate they did before the war, and we hope by the end of 1948 to have exported on an average more than a thousand every working day."

"I think facts and figures such as these go a long way towards answering any doubts about Britain's efforts to restore herself by her own exertions."

### MARSHAL AID HAS HELPED

"Despite all we have done, the outlook would indeed have been grim, for us and for the world, but for the adoption of the European Recovery Program—the Marshall Plan—that magnificent example of generosity and far-sighted statesmanship on the part of the United States of America, an event which has been fittingly

described by Sir Stafford Cripps as 'a light and a hope to the freedom-loving peoples of the world.'"

"Not that this great event alone can save either Britain or the world. It gives all of us a desperately needed tonic, psychologically and materially, a blessed breathing space—but a tonic and a breathing space which must lead to an intensification rather than a letting-up of our efforts to redress the balance between the Western Hemisphere and Western Europe."

"We are looking far ahead, and not only with a narrow view of the survival of our own small island. We believe and events have borne out and will bear out the belief, that Britain still has a mighty, a decisive part, to play in the history of mankind. Despite our situation, we have made enormous contributions to the reconstruction of Europe and the world."

"In the field of international relations, Britain has thrown full weight into the cause of European liberty and reconstruction. It was Britain that, with France, in June 1947 took the lead in welcoming the Marshall Plan and the initiative in bringing the nations of Europe into a workable scheme. I need not emphasize to you Britain's part in the developments which resulted in the signing of the Five-Power Treaty of Brussels on March 17—a development of epoch-making importance to the future of the world, which, as Mr. Bevin said, is not an end, but just a beginning, a foundation of a kind that has never been attempted before. It is the core of a building process aimed to preserve by united action in every field the common democratic heritage of the five countries, Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg and open to the accession of all other like-minded States."

"The British Commonwealth in which we are your equal partners, is itself a model for world order—a model of what can be done in the way of nations living together in peace and liberty."

And in our household, mighty events have moved. Since the War, India, Pakistan and Ceylon, vast territories which have developed their aims for democracy and nationhood under British guidance and with the ideals of British liberties, before their eyes, have achieved the status of equal partners by their own free will, with the United Kingdom, in the British

Commonwealth of Nations. Burma has parted company with us by mutual consent, and has gone her own way outside the Commonwealth. Some people have read these developments as indicative of Britain's slow decline and death as a world power. I do not think history will agree. Physically we may have left these lands, but we have left in friendship and wishing them well with all our hearts, and our colors flying and our heads high, with a mighty job done—for behind us we have left the stamp of our ideals of humanity, freedom, justice, political evolution, and orderly government by consent, mighty imperatives of mind and spirit for the shaping of the future history of the whole world. Our stock stands higher in the East than it ever has before, the friendship of those countless millions of people for us is greater, and it is to Britain that they and a great part of the world look, not as a tyrant to fear and placate or as a decadent world power to be ignored or despised, but as the leading exponent of the decent way of life and conduct between nations for which they aim.

Nor have we ceased in these bewildered years, and despite all discouragements, to strive for better understanding and co-operation with all nations, including those who have deceived, obstructed our efforts most of all.

We stand for humanity and reason in the Councils of the Nations, we have shown how new aspirations to nationhood can be reached by consultation and agreement. We want to live at peace with our neighbors and the world. We sometimes stand an awful lot of pushing around to achieve that aim. But let it never be forgotten that our basic liberties are to us life itself."

President D. C. Stevenson, Rotary President, was in the chair and the speaker was introduced by P. H. Linzey. Also in attendance was Edward Warner of Tacoma, Rotary district governor.

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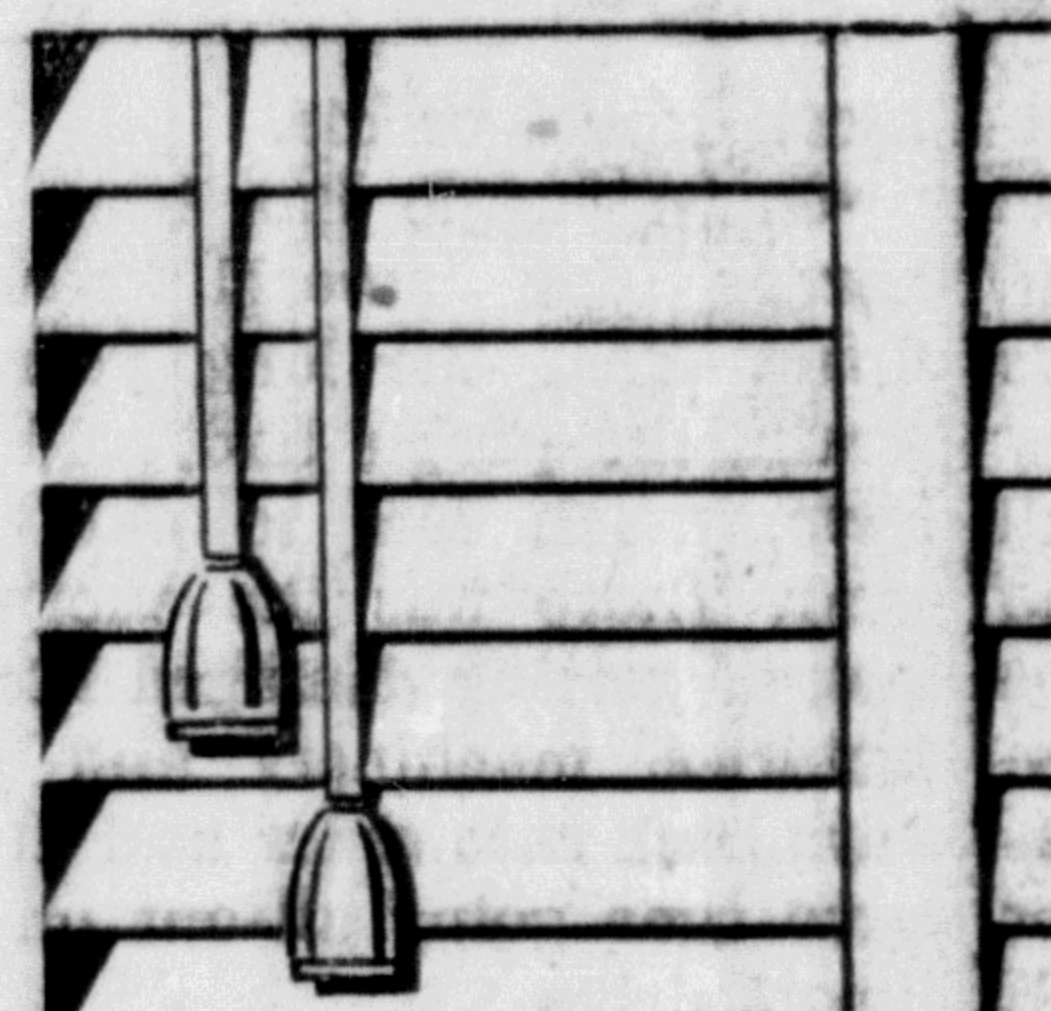
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Mr and Mrs. N. R. Young and two children, Miss Mary Nelson and Norman Baker have returned to the city after a two weeks' motor holiday trip which took them as far as Lac la Hache in the Cariboo.

Larry Moore sailed last night on the Prince Rupert for Seattle to pay a visit with his sister.

Constable has been force here is now leaving last night for Vancouver, today several alla.

**THE SALVATION ARMY**  
**ANNUAL CONGRESS MEETINGS—September**  
Conducted By—COMMISSIONER CHARLES (Territorial Commander for Canada, New Zealand and Bermuda)  
Assisted By—COLONEL G. BEST (Public Meeting)  
FRIDAY Sept. 3rd.—8 p.m.—Devotional Leaders and Delegates  
SATURDAY Sept. 4th.—8 p.m.—Devotional Leaders and Delegates  
SUNDAY Sept. 5th.—11 a.m., 3 p.m.—Congress Rally. Address by the Commissioner the Cross Roads" Brigadier and Mrs. Gifford  
MONDAY Sept. 6th.—7:30 p.m.—P.M. the new Divisional Commanders, Sr. Major Warrander, Vancouver. You are invited to

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