



SHEFFIELD'S HEALTH SERVICES

Reduction in Infant Mortality Rate

FURTHER HOSPITAL PROVISION

By Councillor W. ASBURY, J.P.

[We reprint below, with the permission of the chairman, his foreword to the annual report of the Health Committee for 1937. It is an interesting and illuminating document, available in every public library, and well worth perusal.]

Top protection and improvement of the health of the community constitutes a large part of the responsibility and work of the City Council. The further progress and development recorded in this report indicates a clear recognition of that responsibility and evidence of work well done.

1.—MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

During the past ten years the infant mortality rate has been reduced from 73 per 1,000 live births to 55 per 1,000.

The number of deaths from all pre-natal causes was the lowest for the past five years. There was an increase in the number of deaths from abortion compared to 1935, the percentage of abortion from all pre-natal causes being 32.4. It should be specially noted that when these cases are disregarded the death rate becomes the comparatively low one of 2.29 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. One encouraging sign is a reduction of fifty-eight cases of abortion admitted to the City General Hospital, compared to 1036. It is sincerely hoped that we have passed the peak of such cases, and that in future there will be a rapid decline.

5,668 expectant mothers attended the various ante-natal clinics, representing 65 per cent. of the total notified births in the city.

2,064 women were confined in the City General and Nether Edge Maternity Hospitals, and 1,049 women were attended at confinement in their own homes by municipal midwives, a

total of 3,112 provided for by the municipality. In this connection it should be remembered that the Midwives Act, 1926, did not come into operation until July 30th, 1937.

It is reasonable to assume with a full year's working and the new maternity block available at the City General Hospital, the Health Committee will be providing for at least two-thirds of confinements taking place in the city during 1938.

The attendances at the post-natal clinics leave much to be desired, and it is unfortunate that a large number of patients fail to return, although every effort is made to induce them to do so.

Dr. Clark again draws attention, on page 73, to the number of chronic sick and infirm patients in hospital, who could have been discharged had suitable accommodation been available. The Public Assistance Committee have taken steps at Fir Vale House to provide additional accommodation, and this should give relief for a time, but it is apparent that a situation is bound to develop in the near future when further accommodation for this class of case will be necessary.

It is interesting to note from the information appearing on page 25, that the daily average of the sale of pasteurised milk in 1937 represented 45 per cent. of the total supply of milk to the city.

A great deal of sanitary work has been done in the Norton district, the total number of cesspools abolished in that area since its incorporation being 170.

In spite of the continued strain arising as a result of the slum clearance programme, the excellent standards in other sections of the department of the Medical Officer of Health have been well maintained.

2.—CLEANSING AND BATHS.

I pointed out in my foreword to the previous annual report of this section that owing to the continuously increasing quantity of refuse early consideration must be given to the provision of additional plant, and the City Council have now approved expenditure to the extent of £70,000 for this purpose. It is also clear that at a later stage consideration must be given to further decentralising this service, having regard to housing developments in the outer suburbs.

The first section of a five years' scheme for equipping the city with the dustless method of refuse collection has been put in hand, and when the full scheme is completed we should be proud of our efforts in environmental sanitation.

Upwards of 3,000,000 bathos were used our public baths during the year. It is hoped that it may be possible, during 1938, to provide two suburban swimming establishments with the money allocated by the City Council for this purpose.

It has been realised for some time that a number of additional public conveniences are necessary at various points in the city, and a sum of £35,000 has been approved, which should enable all our requirements to be met.

The five public wash-houses in the city are immensely popular, and fill a long-felt want, all being used to full capacity.

3.—WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The responsibilities of the department have again been increased during the year by new legislation. I do not think it is always sufficiently realised by the general public how much protection they are afforded by the activities of this section. Particular reference is made to the fact that the coal trade has attracted the attention of certain un-

desirables, and the committee are determined to stamp out these reprehensible practices.

4.—WELFARE OF THE BLIND.

It is noted with pleasure that the total sales of manufactured goods for the year was the highest yet recorded, and the committee are grateful to those members of the public who have helped to make this possible.

It is distinctly encouraging that we have been able to provide so much useful employment for the sightless section of the community. However, I repeat the suggestion I made last year that those persons closely associated with blind welfare work throughout the country might be usefully engaged in endeavouring to reach conclusions as to what constitutes employment or occupation.

The scales of maintenance grants for trainees and domiciliary assistance afforded the unemployed blind were increased towards the end of the year, and we are now committed to further additional expenditure as a result of the passing of the Blind Persons Act, 1938.

As the report conveys, ample social and recreational facilities were placed at the disposal of the blind, during the year.

5.—MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

The Redmaids site will shortly be at our disposal for the erection of the Colony, the necessary expenditure on which has been authorized by the City Council. I am certain each member of the committee eagerly looks forward to the day when it will be an accomplished fact and when it will be possible to ensure the return of patients to the neighbourhood of their own home, many of whom are at present cared for in different parts of the country.

The year under review has been one of great activity in the Public Health Services of the city, and I desire to place on record my warm thanks for the loyalty and assistance I have received from all, whether members of the Council or officials, with whom I have come in contact in the course of my duties during the past twelve months.

W. ASBURY, Chairman.

MILLIONS SAVED FOR HOME

Members as well as workers are benefiting by the growing co-operative trade. Just as co-operative trade makes dividend, so dividends, when left in the "stores," make capital. Britain's co-operators all own, on an average, capital of £23 7s. 6p. in their co-operative societies. Many individuals of course, own much more.

Thanks to Britain's co-operative societies, no worker and no housewife need lack some small savings, without any sacrifice whatever.

Co-operative dividend, when it is spent, is generally used for the benefit of the house. Many millions of co-operative dividend help to maintain Britain's happiest home.

Hillsborough Parliamentary Division

Right Hon. **A. V. ALEXANDER, M.P.**
and Mr. **FRANK COLLINDRIDGE**

Will Address PUBLIC MEETINGS on M.P. (Barnsley)

FRIDAY, 7th October, 1938

At 7.30 p.m. in the

Burgoyne Road Council School

And at 8.0 p.m. in the

Bole Hill Council School

WALKLEY

Supported by Mr. LUTHER HOYLAND

Everybody Invited

TRANSFORMATION OF NEEPSEND WARD

COUNCILLOR STOKES AGAIN SELECTED TO STAND



COUNCILLOR F. W. R. STOKES.

Councillor F. W. R. Stokes has been re-nominated as the candidate for the Neepsend Ward. As well attended meeting at the Firhill Council School, presided over by Alderman J. A. Longden, J.P. (chairman of the Co-operative Party), unanimously resolved to give Councillor Stokes full support when inviting him to represent them once more on the Sheffield City Council.

Councillor Stokes gave a short account of his stewardship as a member of the Healthways, Seavoy, Public Assistance, Estates, and Housing Committee. He could only remember having missed three committee meetings, with the exception of a short illness and his holidays. He had stood loyalty with the Party in the Council Chamber and on committee.

He has been able to work in closest co-ordination with his colleagues in promoting the amenities of the Neepsend Ward. Neepsend—particularly the Southbay, Longley, and Norwood areas—was a ward of which to be proud. The new open-air bathing pool, the new schools, the layout of the houses, represented a miniature garden city. The re-laying of the Neepsend people on the Shircliffe estate was also proceeding apace, and he was happy to report that a new community centre would shortly be erected. It is hoped that the whole of Apple-street area will be cleared by the end of November.

Councillor Fisher paid a tribute to Councillor Stokes, mentioning the improved bus services and claiming that although Neepsend had been well represented for many years past. He had every confidence that Councillor Stokes would be returned for another three years if only as an expression of appreciation by the electors for the work Councillor Stokes had done in the last nine years.

MRS. M. OWEN FOR WOODSEATS

AN ABLE ADMINISTRATOR AND COURAGEOUS FIGHTER

Mrs. M. Owen, the Labour candidate for Woodseats Ward, is making a third attempt to win this difficult Ward for Labour, which is indicative of the undaunted and courageous spirit she possesses.

Mrs. Owen has been an active worker for Co-operation and Labour for 30 years. She is well fitted for City Council work, having had experience in administration on the old Board of Guardians, on the Court of Referees, and the Unemployment Assistance Board. She is a co-opted member on the Sheffield Libraries, Art Galleries, and Museums Committee.

Her work for humanity in general is shown by her joint secretaryship of the Sheffield Dispute Referee Committee and as a member of the Sheffield Committee for Spanish Relief.

Mrs. Owen is worthy of the full confidence of the Woodseats electors. We wish her success.

COUNCILLOR GILL TO RETIRE

LOSS TO EDUCATION IN SHEFFIELD

The many friends of Councillor James Gill will regret that he has found it necessary to tender his resignation as the representative of the Owlerton Ward.

Mr. Gill was appointed in November, 1926, and immediately he came into prominence as a member of the City Education Committee. Deputy-chairman of the full committee, Councillor Gill is a member of every one of the sub-committees of education in Sheffield, and as a retired whole of his leisure time to the work of education and the libraries.

As chairman of the Primary Sub-Committee, he has been responsible for a considerable time for over 70,000 children, 2,000 teachers, and a large number of schools.

His long experience as a teacher and headmaster, first in the West Riding, and for many years in Sheffield, has served him and the city in good stead in the provision of primary, secondary, and technical educational facilities in Sheffield.

In May of this year the city recognised Councillor Gill's fine service to education in asking him to open Beck-road Council School.



COUNCILLOR JAMES GILL.

At the meeting where Councillor Gill submitted his resignation tribute was paid by his colleague, Councillor Slack, Mr. Ballard, and others, and the hearty thanks and appreciation of the Co-operative Party organisation was conveyed in a unanimous resolution. Councillor Gill took the opportunity of handing Mr. Dinsley, the new candidate, to the ward, and thanked those present for their loyalty to him in every fight and during his service, which he was only too happy to render.

We trust that Councillor Gill will be with us for many years to come, confident that although he is not seeking re-election to the council he will continue to serve the community wherever opportunity offers.

WORKING MAN'S UNIVERSITY

The Sheffield Educational Settlement have forwarded an attractive programme of winter classes held at the Settlement, 51, Queen-street, off Oxford-street.

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, at 7.45 p.m., a class in European history, the entire course of lectures and discussions open to the screen with hundreds of epigrammatic pictures. Tuesdays, a class in nineteenth century English literature. There is a special series of talks for women only by Miss D. B. Barber on Tuesday afternoons on "Famous English Women"; and on Monday afternoons there are talks and discussions on "The Changing World" for unemployed men only.

The Settlement announce a production of "Twelfth Night" in the Little Theatre, Shire-street, Thursday, December 29th, to Saturday, January 7th.

Membership of the Settlement is 2d. per week for the unemployed and 3d. per week for those in work. The secretary will forward any particulars of classes, rambles, social evenings, &c.

OWLERTON'S NEW CANDIDATE

MR. P. DINSLEY SELECTED



MR. P. DINSLEY.

Mr. P. Dinsley has been chosen as the Co-operative candidate for Owlerton in place of Councillor James Gill, who is not seeking re-election.

Mr. Dinsley has been secretary of a Co-operative Men's Guild and held the chairmanship of a Ward Labour Party, although he has probably been more active in the trade union side of the Labour Movement; he is president of the Sheffield branch of the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers. He is manager of a co-operative butchery branch.

Mr. Dinsley has studied Local Government and Economics, and holds a diploma of the N.C.L.C. He regards the administration of this great city of ours as of supreme importance to everyone. He says the city's affairs during the last twelve years have been of a high order, and will stand as a monument to the wisdom and foresight of Labour's efficient administration, whose aims have been always towards the people's good as against private interests.

Owlerton electors will find Mr. Dinsley a man able and ready to carry on the fine work of the Co-operative and Labour majority in the Sheffield City Council.

HILLSBOROUGH CO-OPERATIVE FELLOWSHIP

The Hillsborough Fellowship, conducted by Councillor J. H. Bingham, J.P., will commence its eighteenth session at the Hillsborough Institute on Sunday, October 9th, at 11 a.m.

The Fellowship comprises co-operators and friends interested in the solution of economic problems and in the promotion of art, culture, a love of literature, music, and the spirit of fellowship amongst the common people.

The following is the syllabus for the next session:

- Oct. 9.—The Meaning of Democracy.
- " 16.—"Takings Things to Pieces.
- " 23.—Primitive Democracy.
- " 30.—Putting Things Together.
- Nov. 6.—Democracy at Athens.
- " 13.—Wheels and Levers.
- " 20.—The Democratic Element in Roman Government.
- " 27.—Adventure.
- Dec. 4.—Democratic Thought in the Middle-Ages.
- " 11.—War Amongst the Poets.
- " 18.—Democracy and the Reformation.
- 1929.
- Jan. 8.—Peace Amongst the Poets.
- " 15.—The French Revolution.
- " 22.—What is Physical Fitness?
- " 29.—Nineteenth Century Democracy.
- Feb. 5.—Songs and Apricots.
- " 12.—Strong and Weak Factors in British Political Democracy.
- " 19.—Things that Couldn't Wait.
- " 26.—Has Democracy a Future?

(Continued in next column.)

Look Out For Our Great Knitting Competition

Full details to be given in the November Issue

ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE AT THE WOOL DEPT., "THE ARCADE," GROUND FLOOR, FROM OCTOBER 1st

All the Popular Wools on sale in this department

SHEFFIELD AND ECCLESALL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD. "THE ARCADE," EGCCLESALL ROAD

(Continued from previous column)

- March 5.—The Parable of the Money Box.
- " 12.—Strong and Weak Factors in Dictatorships.
- " 19.—The Hand.
- " 26.—The Book and the Open Air.

In these troublesome days when Dictatorships seem to triumph, the consideration of the basic principles of Democracy and freedom should attract all serious-minded folk.

The usual features of contrasted singing, musical items, readings, &c., will make up an attractive programme for the whole session. There is no charge for admission to this brilliant and cheerful community. A pocket of light from the lectures can be obtained from the Fellowship secretary: Mr. G. Buttery, 15, Laid-drive.

COMMISSION PROVES FRANCO GUILTY OF BARBARISM

DELIBERATE AIR ATTACKS ON DEFENCELESS POPULATION

Franco and his German and Italian allies have made deliberate air attacks on the defenceless civilian population in Spain. That is the clear verdict of the impartial Commission for Investigation of Air Bombardment in Spain, whose report was issued by the British Foreign Office on September 1st.

The report covers investigations made, at the request of the Spanish Government, into recent air attacks on Barcelona and Alicante. Out of 46 raids on Alicante, the Commission found that 41 were deliberate attempts to hit the port area or the railway to that station. The Commission was satisfied that in Alicante there is no factory engaged in war work, no stocks of war material, no troops except 60 to 100 soldiers. The three stations are devoid of war material; the suburb, Vistahermosa, attacked in one of the raids, is a residential area, and there are no imports or exports there.

Of six raids specially examined, the report states that two were deliberate attacks on a civilian area; one was either a deliberate attack on a civilian area or a badly aimed attack on the port and marine station area; one was an unskilled squadron; one was probably aimed at the port area and best deflected by accurate anti-aircraft gunfire, with the result that bombs were dropped on a residential area; and two were attacks on the port and main railway station.

In one of the deliberate attacks on the civilian population, on August 2nd, 90 bombs were dropped, all falling on the town, and the casualties were 273 killed and 224 wounded. Thirty-one miles south of Alicante is Torrevieja, which was bombed on August 3rd. Its sole industry is salt. The Commission state that the town contains no military establishments, and is undefended against any form of aerial attack. The railway station is of no military importance. Fifty houses were damaged or destroyed in the raid, 17 people were killed, and 70 wounded.

On August 16th the Commission actually witnessed an attack on Barcelona in which 21 people were killed and 80 wounded. The report states that the night was clear and that "no military objectives" were in the area attacked, which was "the most densely populated part of the city, where the streets are narrow and the houses congested."

Sitges is a watering-place 25 miles west of Barcelona. It contains 3,000 children of refugees and soldiers, and a hospital with 400 wounded soldiers. There is no anti-aircraft defence. On August 8th two aircraft dropped over 20 bombs on an area containing a few scattered houses and a small civil hospital. Casualties were three dead and five wounded.

'NON-INTERVENTION' MOCKERY TO CONTINUE

PRIME MINISTER'S REPLY

Over 700 prominent British writers, artists, actors, and musicians have presented a petition to the Prime Minister asking for the restoration to the Spanish Government, on humanitarian grounds, of the right to purchase arms for its defence. The petition stresses the Spanish Government's need for anti-aircraft guns.

A reply sent on behalf of the Prime Minister stated that the Government had decided that the proposal was not one which it would be wise to adopt in dealing with the question of aerial bombardment. The reply added that the plan for the prevention of the arrival of all war material in Spain was the best means of dealing with the matter.

In view of Franco's rejection of the plan, and the counsel aid given to the rebels by Italy, the Prime Minister's refusal to reconsider the so-called "non-intervention" policy justified the belief that his idea of a "settlement" of the Spanish question is a victory for Franco,

GERMAN "PLEDGES" TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

"NO HOSTILE INTENTIONS"

An article in the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" on September 24th Hitler and other Nazi leaders in reference to both Austria and Czechoslovakia. On May 21st, 1935, Hitler declared that his intention was to bring about revision of the Versailles Treaty, inevitable in the course of time, only by the method of peaceful understanding. "In the same speech he declared: "Germany neither intends nor wishes to interfere in the internal affairs of Austria, to annex or to conclude a Anschluss."

On March 19th, 1938, Hitler annexed Austria. On the same evening the Czechoslovak Minister in Berlin conveyed to Field-Marshal Goring the apprehensions of the Czech Government. Goring assured him that Germany had no hostile intentions against Czechoslovakia. He added: "I give you my word of honour, and I can add that we wish only for better relations."

This assurance was repeated later at a banquet, Goring adding that he spoke as acting Head of the State. On March 17th, the assurance was again given by Baron von Neurath, who said he had been instructed by Hitler to tell the Czech Minister that Germany hoped that "this domestic question (Sudeten Germany) of the Czechoslovak States" might be satisfactorily settled. On March 13th yet another assurance was given in the same terms to the Czech Minister, and with the consent of the German Government these assurances were communicated by Mr. Chamberlain to the House of Commons on March 24th.

In 1925 the Treaty of Arbitration was concluded between Germany and Czechoslovakia as part of the Locarno Pact. This Treaty was specifically recognised as still valid by Germany when she signed the Locarno Pacts were discovered by Hitler. Baron von Neurath confirmed this on March 12th.

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST BUSINESS

Co-operative trade is forging ahead. In 1937 Britain's Biggest Business transacted retail sales totalling £251,393,047. Only once before has the British Co-operative Movement passed the £250,000,000 mark, and that was when prices were at their highest, in 1920. In actual goods the increase is enormous.

Last year's increase of £17,585,637 over the 1936 total is more than the Ten Year Plan required. The Plan quota demanded an increase of £15,000,000. This has been gained and more besides.

SCOTTISH JOKE—AND REALITY

Aberdeen's latest is the story of the Englishwoman in hospital who needed blood transfusions. A brave Scot volunteered. She paid him £50 for the first pint and £5 for the second. When it came to the third time she had by then so much Scottish blood in her veins, she just thanked him!

Although it may be true that jokes of Scottish thrift come from Scotland, it is certain that we have to travel north for examples of genuine thrift. The Co-operative Union's 1937 trade figures show that co-operators in the South of England spend, on an average, 9s. 10d. every week with their societies. In the Midlands they spend 12s. 11d. Up in Northumberland and Durham the figure is 12s. 3d. But when we cross the border we find that the Thrifty Scot spends 17d. 0d. per week with the co-operative stores.

335,000 WORKERS DRAW CO-OPERATIVE WAGES

While co-operative trade and membership have been going up, co-operative employment, too, has increased accordingly. In 1937 there were 319,000 co-operative workers. At the end of 1937 there were 335,673 on the co-operative pay-roll.

This is good for the nation, for everyone knows that co-operative wages and working conditions are vastly superior to the comparable level.

THE LIMITS OF SELF-DETERMINATION

WHAT IS AT STAKE TO-DAY

Writing in the "Manchester Guardian" on September 23rd, Mr. C. E. Black, Editor, points out the following pertinent points on the limits of self-determination:

In discussion of the claims of the "Germans" in Czechoslovakia there is a tendency, in the quarter which support Mr. Chamberlain's policy, as well as elsewhere, to forget that it is not "nationality" but a party which is making trouble. To identify the Nazis in Czechoslovakia with the "Germans" there and elsewhere is to play Hitler's game.

What is in dispute is not the right of a national minority, but the power of a party minority to persecute Jews, Socialists, and advocates of peace, and to attack at Christian Churches, as is the practice of the same party in Germany. The Nazis in Czechoslovakia are so certain that the territory they inhabit shall be made uninhabitable for anyone else. They desire "liberty" to suppress trade unionism and to persecute the workers. And they are supported in their demand for intolerance by high priests of intolerance in Germany.

The old absurdity is being used in arguments that "democracy" implies tolerance and that therefore democrats tolerate intolerance. It cannot be too often repeated that the principle of "self-determination" or national rights gives any group a right to determine the fate of its own country. But it is precisely what the Henlein party is claiming to do to people who live in the same street and village who do not agree with it.

The Czechoslovak Government was quite "democratic" it is using force to suppress intolerance; for democracy can tolerate everything but intolerance and incitement to intolerance. There is a natural reluctance in a democratic society to resort to armed force, even for the maintenance of public order. That reluctance gave the impetus to the Fascists and Nazis to found their systems. . . .

MAKING THE WORLD SAFE FOR INTOLERANCE

But the hesitation to use armed force in resisting the advocates of intolerance within a country may affect also international relations. No one wants war to-day. But the threat to peace in Europe comes from the armed forces of Germany and the presence on German territory of armed forces of Sudeten Nazis actually attacking Czechs. A policy of hesitation and dubious compromise is likely to have the same effects internationally as that policy had in Italy and Germany, when the policy of hesitation and dubious compromise of those countries fell into the hands of a party professing intolerance of all views but its own. For a hesitating position may not be defences of public order, nor of the rights of minorities within an area controlled by an intolerant party.

It is not a question for us whether we shall fight for Czechoslovakia. It is a question whether the area of tyranny and intolerance shall be extended by armed force or threats of armed force.

There are some who love "peace" so much that they will do nothing to prevent others being put into concentration camps. There were and are many such people in Germany to-day. And there are some people in England to-day who mean by "peace" an arrangement by which the bombs shall fall on any houses but their own. A policy based upon that kind of attitude will make the world safe for intolerance in an increasing number of countries, until at last we are all involved in new wars for religion between the advocates of intolerance on the Right and on the Left.

The only alternative policy is the maintenance by armed force of public order, internationally as well as within nations, in resistance to the spread of intolerance.

National Defence

sheds armaments

THIS is not the title of some utopian or impracticable scheme—it is a four-word summary of the role of the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd. Defending the interests of the people at the most vulnerable spot—their pocket—is, has been, and will continue to be the one purpose of the C.W.S.

The C.W.S. is the only manufacturing organisation in the country operated solely by the consumer in his own interest. As a consumer it is up to you to shop in co-operative stores and Buy C.W.S. Goods.



starts a new year

Yes, we are getting ready for the annual $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. Club pay-out and our new Club will commence on Monday, November 14th. You'll not be surprised to learn that again we shall top all previous records, for the total to be paid out this year will be over £97,000. Next year we shall beat even this figure; of this we are sure, for the Club is growing in popularity both amongst members and non-members. If you have any non-member friends, why not get them to participate in the scheme. It's so simple, each share costs $3\frac{1}{2}$ d., you can obtain them at any branch, there is no limit to the number you may have, and on each share you receive 3d. interest. It's an excellent idea and provides you with just that little extra that is so welcome as Christmas approaches. Join now and by Christmas, 1939, you'll have quite a nice lump sum to draw.

**AND REMEMBER THE B&C $3\frac{1}{2}$ d CLUB
IS OPEN TO MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS ALIKE**

MUSSOLINI'S GERMAN MINORITY

Mussolini has declared that a plebiscite for all minorities within Czechoslovakia which desire one is the only solution of the international crisis. But he was careful to prevent that part of his speech from being read by the German-speaking minority under his rule. Nor has Hitler seen fit to include this minority in his demands—yet.

By the Versailles Treaty, Italy took from Austria-Hungary the South Tyrol with its large German-speaking population. Until the Rome-Berlin axis was formed, many of these people were jailed by Mussolini for their Nazi activities. The present position was described by a special correspondent of the "Sunday Pictorial" on September 15th, writing from the South Tyrol on the previous day, stated:—

"While the world awaits the result of the Hitler-Chamberlain talks, I have found here a German-speaking minority of a quarter-of-a-million people who, encouraged by the Czechoslovakian outcry, will soon be clamouring for the right to return to the shelter of the German eagle's wings.

"There exists here a situation which may eventually split the Rome-Berlin axis wide open, driving a wedge of bitterness in the already difficult friendship between the two great Fascist Powers . . .

"I have collected from a number of Austrians living here evidence of injustice and civil oppression which action I must expect to produce drastic action from Hitler, evidence which has already been laid before him. The only action was an assurance from the abductor that Mussolini that he will for ever. Now the Tyroleans, looking to Czechoslovakia as a shining example, have new hope, new plans. I have heard of secret organisations formed to start agitators both inside and outside the Tyrol.

"The principal ground for complaint is the entire absence of any provision for teaching the German language and culture. Anybody found teaching German privately to more than three children is liable to a penalty equivalent to £12 with the alternative of imprisonment. Several young people have defied this plan and have given secret lessons in their homes, and they have been sent to gaol.

A CONTRAST WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA

"In response to a fear that Germany might begin to take notice, Italy has made a slight concession. In some schools it is permitted for the Austrian priest to teach the scholars German, but not for more than two hours in any one week, and in many cases the maximum is one hour.

"Compare that with Sudetenland,

where admittedly there are many German schools under Czech rule as there were under the rule of Austria before the war.

"There are no Austrian policemen in the Tyrol, only a few civil servants in minor posts. All the Austrian westerners on the railway have been ejected from their posts to make room for Italians.

"Austrian farmers can be turned out of their farms by the Italian Government on the pretext that they have not looked after their land properly. . . . There are villages where the whole population do not know Italian, and the priest, or one of the more cruties villagers, spends a great deal of his time translating official documents to the people, who receive their income tax and rate demands in a language they do not understand."

THE PRICE OF MILK HOW THE CONSUMER PAYS

The new contract milk terms agreed upon by the Milk Marketing Board and the Central Milk Distributive Committee provide for a uniform retail price during the year of pd. per quart in London. Prices will thus be higher than those originally arranged for 1937-38 before the emergency increase in July—which themselves showed an increase on the previous year. A

corresponding rise in price has been arranged for districts other than London.

"Whereas in rural districts and towns with less than 10,000 people, the 1937-38 contract provided for a retail price of 58. per gallon for all months except December and January, when the price was increased by 2d. per gallon, the new contract prescribes 25. per gallon for most of the year, but raises the price to 28. 4d. for November, December, and January.

"Commenting on these facts, the "Economist" for September 3rd says:—

"In London the emergency price-level of the present year is perpetuated, and outside London there are actual increases in price. It is still true that under the Milk Marketing Board the annual determination of price has resulted in a steadily higher average cost of milk to the consumer. This is bad enough; but the real state of affairs is illustrated when each year's price is compared merely with the preceding year's price.

"The facts upon which judgment should be based are that the price of milk in this country is the highest in Europe, while the consumption of milk in liquid form is among the lowest. The fact that the production of milk on the farm is nevertheless not an unduly profitable business is no sort of answer. It is more properly a challenge, and one which the present organisations of the milk industry cannot successfully refuse to face."

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Rail and Road Enquiry Office
L.M.S. STATION
Dial 21969

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CIRCULAR TOUR TICKETS

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Route 49. Buses from Leopold Street
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