DISCUSSION IN THE HOUSE OVER THE COST OF R. C. M. P.

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low was allowed to go free. One result was that the county goals were filled to their capacity. He had nothing to say against the members of the force, but many of them came from outside the province and were not familiar with conditions. He noticed that last year thirty-one cars had been purchased at a cost of $37,000 just before the transfer had been made to the Mounted Police. That transaction, he thought, should be explained.

Premier Explains

HON. MR. RICHARDS said that the change over to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police was made on April first of last year and hon. members must know that the government was operating under a contract. In view of that fact it was futile to talk about reducing the strength of the force. The contract was for a period of three years and the amount the province was to pay was fixed at $100,000. That contract had been approved by the House without a dissenting voice and it was hardly necessary to say that a good bargain had been made. All would remember that in 1925 the province paid out $60,000. for a prohibition force with no satisfactory results. The Provincial Police was organized in 1927 after the Intoxicating Liquor Act had been placed on the Statute Books. That force gave a protection to life and property hitherto unknown in New Brunswick. The force had attained a high state of efficiency and one of the inspectors had been taken to Nova Scotia to assist in organizing a similar force there. It was easy to criticize and talk about excessive zeal as that took well with the unthinking individual and those who did not appreciate the responsibility of maintaining law and order. All were aware that under present conditions it was not easy to carry on the administration of justice; there were many idle people and irritation was apt to spread quickly. There had been complaints of favouritism, but they were hard to substantiate. After two years experience with the police force of the province he had no hesitation in saying that it functioned very efficiently.

A Big Saving

The cost of the police force in 1930 had been $214,000; in 1931 it had cost $194,000. The cost in 1932 was $144,000, because the R. C. M. P. had functioned only part of the year. This year the total cost would be $100,000, which meant a 50 per cent reduction in two years. The cost of the R. C. M. P. in Nova Scotia was $150,000. Recently an arrangement had been made whereby thirty or forty men would be recruited in New Brunswick.

The Car Purchased

With reference to the item of cars and equipment taken over by the R. C. M. P. he said that an inventory showed that there were thirty seven cars and motor cycles valued at $19,000. Another item of $26,000 represented at the reputed value of thirty one new care. The contract for the purchase of those cars was entered into by the Commissioner on January first of last year. Part of the purchase price was paid at the time, and the old cars of the Provincial Police had been turned in the fall, so that repair work could be carried on during the winter months. He wished it understand that the contract was made before there was any thought of a transfer to the R. C. M. P.

Obligation Fulfilled

MR. MICHAUD: "Who made the contract?

HON. MR. RICHARDS said that it was made by Brig.-General Hill, who was then in charge of the police, and he (the Premier) had nothing to do with it. The new cars were not delivered until spring, and the balance of the cash price was then paid. Commissioner Salt carried out the obligation entered into by his predecessor. When the R.C.M.P. took over the work, it was agreed that the province should be reimbursed by the Dominion for the cars, but that agreement had not yet been carried out.

Financial Critic

MR. MICHAUD said that the Hon. Premier had been trying to shed light on the transaction, which had engaged the attention of the Public Accounts Committee. In that transaction it was quite apparent that the credit of the province had been pledged to the extent of the cost of thirty one automobiles. With regard to the used cars which had been turned in, it was evident they were not in good condition, as only two hundred dollars had been allowed for some of them on the wholesale price of the new cars. The accounts sbmitted to the committee bore an April date, and no contract acompanied them. They were certified to by Commissioner Salt, although the transaction had been made by his predecessor. He (Michaud) held that the contracts should have accompanied the documents when produced before the Accounts Committee.

HON. MR. RICHARDS said that they were available at any time.

More Criticism

MR. MICHAUD said that even if the contracts were available, they had the statement of the Attorney General that he had not authorized the transaction, yet the credit of the province had been pledged for a considerable amount. In his opinion such a transaction had a shady look. Regarding the change to the Mounted Police, he was at first opposed to it, and his hon. friend (the Premier) had taken the same attitude. He (Michaud) while opposed, took the ground that the change meant economy and might not be to the disadvantage of the province. The province now had a contract with the Dominion Government under which it agreed to purchase one hundred thousand dollars worth of police protection a year. He believed that it was more than the requirements of the province demanded and he would like to have the agreement reconsidered. If the service could be reduced by one-half, it would mean a saving of fifty thousand dollars a year, and the money was badly needed for other purposes. Part of it, he thought, might be used to provide school books for children, who might not be able to procure them during the coming year for lack of funds. The Government should try to have the cost of the police reduce and to spend the money on something worth while. At present there was too much equipment—too many cars, too much gold lace and spurs, which might be dispensed with in the interests of economy.

A Good Bargain

HON. MR. RICHARDS said that the Provincial Police had cost the province two hundred thousand dollars a year in round figures, and by an arrangement with Ottawa they were now getting an adequate police service for one-half that amount. He thought that what had been accompanied in the way of reduced expenditure might be one small ground for commendation on the part of his hon. friends opposite, but it was not forthcoming. His hon. friends opposite talked about economy, but gave no credit to the Government for reducing by fifty per cent. the cost of one important service by a stroke of the pen. The position of his hon. friends was illogical, and it seemed impossible to satisfy them. It would be ridiculous for the Government to go to Ottawa with a proposition such as that proposed by his hon. friend from Madawaska. It was true that he (the Premier) had been opposed to an arrangement for the services of the R. C. M. P., when it had first been mentioned during the session of 1932, but said if the change did take place, he would inisst on the province retaining control of the force.

Police Cars

He could say, in regard to the purchase of cars, that the same practice had been followed as in the case of the previous years. The contracts were made before there was any thought of a change, and the cars were turned into the garage for repairs. There was nothing to be concealed with regard to the matter, as the contracts could be produced whenever wanted.

MR. DYSART said the discussion over the item of one hundred thousand dollars for the police force had apparently upset the even tenor of his hon. friend the Premier, who seemed to smart under criticism. No doubt the Hon. Premier had forgotten the time when he sat on the opposition side of the House and criticised health legislation and other useful measures.

HON. MR. LEGER: "I thought you were Speaker at that time."

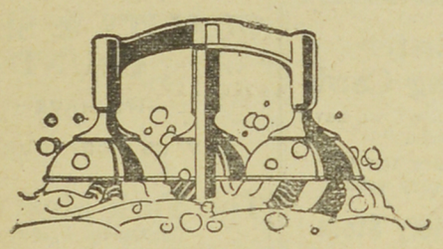
MR. DYSART said that the then opposition had attacked legislation designed for the well-being of the province, but the Hon. Premier seemed unwilling that others should adopt the standard which he himself had set up. While he had attempted to gloss over the transaction in automobiles, he must feel in his heart of hearts that it was not altogether justified. He could tell his hon. friend that if he went to Ottawa in that frame of mind he would be defeated before he started before he started. He (Dysart) would remind the committee that he was the first to suggest that to avoid overlapping and in the interests of economy, the work of the Provincail Police should be taken over by the R. C. M. P. He had noticed that it was being done in the western prominces, and thought it was worth giving a trial here. The Hon. Premier at the time, as would be shown by the Synoptic Report, had opposed the change, on the ground that it would not be good sportsmanship to put an additional burden on the shoulders of the Dominion of Canada. The clear cut statement of policy then made by the Hon. Premier showed that he had no regard at that time for economy. In his (Dysart's) opinion, it was the action of the party caucus that had caused the Hon. Premier to change his mind. So far as the R. C. M. P. were concerned, they employed some methods, such as the hiring of men to build up evidence, that did not have his (Dysart's) approval. He related several instances of that kind in support of his statement. The people of New Brunswick, he said, were as low-abiding as any in Canada, and such methods as he had described, did not promote their ideals or civilization. That sort of thing should be discontinued forthwith, and it was the duty of the Attorney-General to take action.

Free Service

In conclusion he would point out that the R. C. M. P. at one time gave their services free of charge at public gatherings and entertainments in rural districts, and it was much appreciated. At the present time, he was informed, they would only make such

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A New Perfected VACUUM CUP WASHER



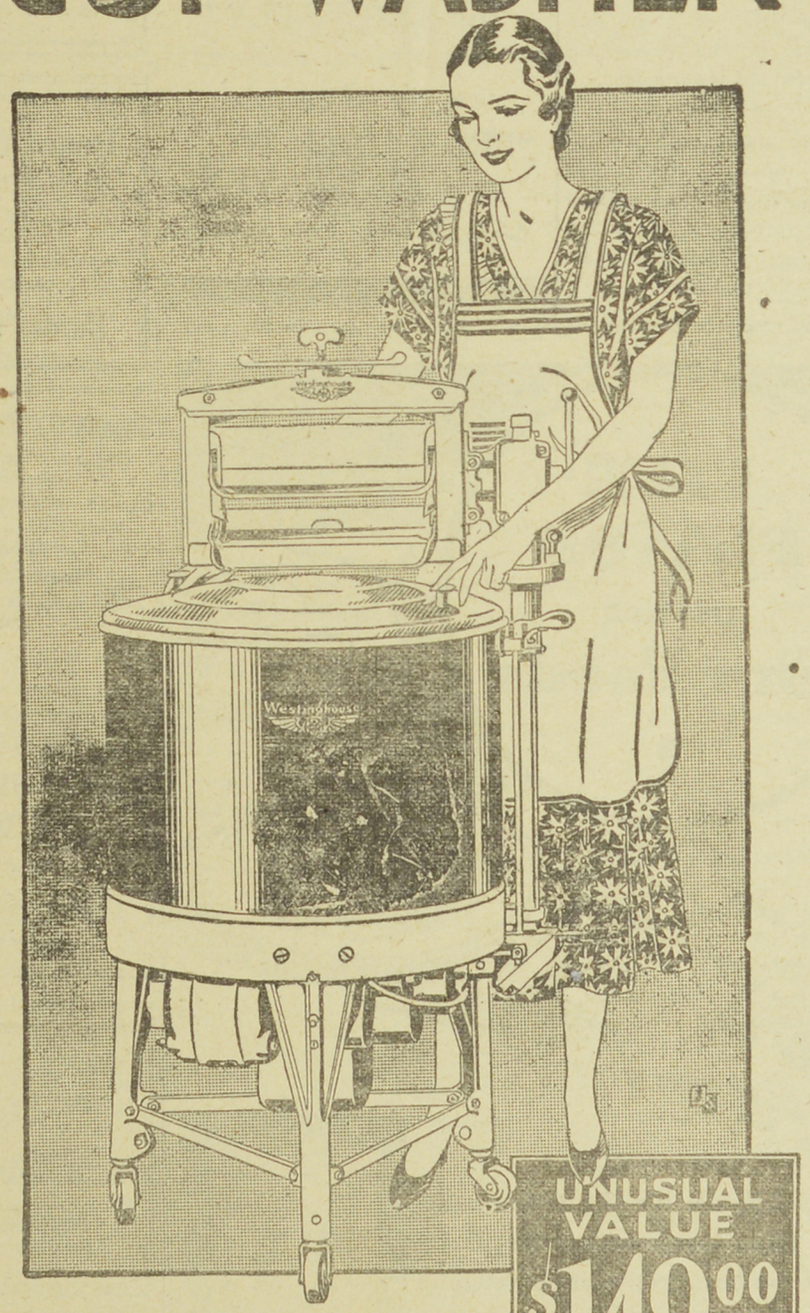
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Gently as human hands, yet irresistibly, the three powerful vacuum-cups force air and cleansing suds through every mesh and fibre of the fabric . . . without friction, without the slightest injury to the most delicate weaves.

Even deeply imbedded dirt cannot withstand the searching, thorough "Vacuum Cup" action.

Beautifully finished in smart, modern color combinations . . . Crystal Black, Coral and Silver . . . or Nile Green, Light Green and Silver . . . the new Westinghouse-Easy Vacuum Cup Washer presents a combination of important refinements found on no other machine, including hand height control lever, all enclosed oil-bath main gears, instant accessibility, single point oiling system and the wonderful Lowndes clutch (an exclusive feature on the new Westinghouse-Easy Vacuum Cup Washer) which removes forever the old risk of accidental damage through overload to motor or wringer.

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2.—What camera would you buy, for your own use, or to give to a son or daughter?
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4.—What face cream or shaving soap or cream, or tooth paste did you use today?
5.—What laundry soap (or flakes) is in your kitchen right now?
6.—What brand of tobacco would you buy if you were a user?
7.—The watch on your wrist—what name does it bear?
8.—What theatre is presenting the best program?
9.—Your life insurance policy--what company issued it?
10.—The ginger ale which you serve to guests—what brand is it?
11.—The tea which you buy regularly—what brand is it?
12.—The baked beans and the tomato catsup now on your pantry shelves—what brands are they?

YOU SEE! Whether or not you consciously or habitually read advertisements, you buy, by preference, what advertisements have recommended to your confidence and what experience has proven to be satisfactory.

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