

MR. R. B. HANSON, M.P., WANTS FAIR PLAY FOR MILK PRODUCERS OF EASTERN CANADA

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, F. H. Pickel, Conservative member for Brome, P.Q. moved the following resolution which he supported in an able speech:

That in the opinion of this house, the agricultural committee would give much better satisfaction if it were divided into two sections: (a) agricultural section; (b) wheat section.

Those who spoke on the resolution included R. B. Hanson, member for York-Sunbury whose remarks were reported in Hansard as follows:

Mr. R. B. Hanson (York-Sunbury): Mr. Speaker, because I have the honor to represent one of the finest agricultural constituencies in New Brunswick and because I am extremely interested in the farmers of my constituency, as I have shown on many occasions in a practical way, especially during the last four years, I rise to support this motion and to congratulate the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi (Mr. Pickel) on having brought forward this motion as a first practical step towards a study of the situation which confronts us as the representatives of these farmers.

"I have been a member of the house for twelve or more years and I have never been honoured with representation on the committee of agriculture. While I do not pretend to be a farmer, I can claim to be a son of the soil, and because I am a son of the soil I have the deepest sympathy for the farmers and their problems; I have studied their problems and I know the conditions under which they are labouring. I know further the remedies are very difficult of achievement. Nevertheless I congratulate the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi (Mr. Pickel) on having brought forward this motion and intend to support it; I ask that every hon. member support it or show cause why he should not do so.

The Grain Growers

I have no quarrel with the grain growers and their representation in the house; they are doing exactly right when they come down here, discuss their problems and ask parliament to pass legislation which will assist them in the solution of those problems. We certainly have heard enough about them. I remember the session of 1922 when wheat was king in this house and the question of freight rates on wheat was uppermost in the mind of every hon. member.

I know the question of distribution is one of the most difficult with which any legislative body can deal and under our constitution that difficulty is doubled and trebled. The hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi has referred to the situation respecting the marketing of milk in Montreal. What he has said with respect to that is duplicated in every city and large municipality throughout the whole dominion and is something that should certainly engage the attention to those who, under our constitution, are primarily charged with the responsibility. I take it that they are the provincial authorities, but there is much that the federal authorities can do in a co-operative way in respect of this matter. In the city of Saint John, which is the largest municipality in New Brunswick, the consumer of milk pays ten cents a quart delivered, while the distributors of milk pay twenty-five cents for an eight quart can, or a fraction over three cents a quart, delivered in Saint John. It will be seen at once that there is a spread of nearly seven cents between the cost of the distributor for milk delivered at his depot and the cost to the consumer. I say—and I say it with great confidence—that anyone who studies the question will agree with me that the cost of distribution is entirely too great and no blame is to be attached to either the consumer or the producer, but the fault lies with our method of distribution. I am not going on to say, as my colleague from Brome-Missisquoi has done, that these gentlemen are highwaymen and robbers; unquestionably they are in business for a profit, but there is a way of handling this proposition and it is by the co-operative method.

Mr. Power: Political cooperation.

Mr. Hanson (York-Sunbury): I do not mean political co-operative method as suggested by the hon. member for Quebec South. I think he and I are pretty much in agreement as to that. There is a way, but it takes somebody to point it out to the farmer. It is through the different departments of agriculture and I make this as a constructive suggestion. In the meantime attempts should be made to have the question investigated. We have a Combines Investigation Act.

Mr. Mackenzie (Vancouver): Which is working overtime.

Mr. Hanson (York-Sunbury): I do

not know it is working overtime on coal.

Mr. Mackenzie (Vancouver): It is working on coal.

A Large Field

Mr. Hanson (York-Sunbury): I am not going to suggest it should not, but there is a large field of investigation with regard to the distribution of milk. The trouble with the act is that a foundation charge has to be laid by some private individual. It is not the business of any public functionary to start in motion the machinery of the law. That was the weakness of the act from the very beginning.

Mr. Heenan: It is not necessary to wait for an information to be laid.

Mr. Hanson (York-Sunbury): I do not recall whether or not the hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River (Mr. Heenan) was the father of the act; perhaps it was his predecessor.

Mr. Heenan: I just want to point out that my experience in connection with the act is that it is not necessary to wait for an information to be laid. If a case is drawn to the attention of the minister, he may take action.

Mr. Hanson (York-Sunbury): Some private individual has to bring it to the attention of the minister. I do not know what the experience of the ex-Minister of Labour (Mr. Heenan) may have been in connection with the act, but I know the results achieved under him have been actually nil, especially in regard to milk, and he was Minister of Labour for five years under the late government. We have heard a great deal of his sympathy for consumers, but when he was in a position to do something for the producers of milk and when this condition must have been known to him, because it has prevailed for years, he sat strangely silent.

The resolution, in my opinion, does not go quite far enough. It suggests that, in the opinion of this house, a special committee or another select standing committee on agriculture should be set up which will not deal with the problems of the grain growers.

Mr. Vallance: How is the house going to become acquainted with them?

Mr. Hanson (York-Sunbury): May I suggest that as long as the hon. gentleman is in the house, we shall be acquainted with them? I do not find any fault with his attitude in that respect. In what he is doing he is carrying out his full duty to his constituents. Nobody will complain about that. There is no doubt that the eastern agriculturists has been strangely silent in this house, and that opportunities should be given to him to ventilate the grievances he unquestionably has. This is the first step towards his attaining that end.

I commend the resolution to the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Weir). I hope he will support it, and if he does I believe he will receive the thanks of thousands of agriculturists in eastern Canada, who, after all, outnumber by far the agriculturists of western Canada, and who are the backbone of our dominion.

Minister Speaks

Hon. Robert Weir, Minister of Agriculture in concluding a brief speech said:

"After listening to the discussion, I can not see any problem in connection with the division of the committee on agriculture. All hon. members from eastern Canada who have spoken have expressed themselves of a fuller discussion of the problems of eastern Canadian agriculture, or agriculture apart from wheat; therefore they are agreed. And I believe that all western speakers have also spoken in favour of at least a perfectly full discussion of eastern problems in agriculture. Personally I think that there is ample room and opportunity within the committee on agriculture, as it is at present constituted, to discuss all these problems. The east will get the benefit of suggestions from the west, and the west will receive some suggestions from the older and more experienced agriculturists in the east. Therefore I should like to see this matter left as it is and brought up before the committee on agriculture, because no one listening to the discussion this afternoon can have any opinion but one, and that is the necessity for co-operation and for a full discussion of any agricultural problems that are placed before the committee."

Anyway, it's inconceivable that such a self-swollen person as Hitler would set up a mere emperor to boss him.

Chivalry is rarely observed if it isn't invited.

USES THE KID'S TOYS TO MAKE PEDDLERS STEP

(New York Sun)

The young mistress of a suburban house has a way of putting almost anything to practical use, and the children's toys in the establishment since Christmas are her meat.

It was not until Santa Claus, came in fact, that she found just what she needed to get rid quickly of house-to-house peddlers whose wares she did not want.

She is one of those housewives who fly about efficiently getting the house cleaned as the radio prods her with lively music. When she sees a peddler coming she turns the radio up loud; steps into an adjoining room and picks up the children's tiny microphone.

"No, I don't want any fresh country eggs today," the radio shouts through the glass front door. No peddles yet has stopped to insist or even to investigate.

WILKINS WILL MAKE ANOTHER TRY FOR POLE

Philadelphia, Feb. 11— Convinced the "submarine" is the only safe vessel for polar exploration, Sir Hubert Wilkins said today he not only is planning a second trip under the Arctic ice, but expects to take his wife along.

The Nautilus II, in addition to being designed for polar exploration, will have many more comforts than the craft in which Wilkins made his previous venture, he said.

In the meantime, Sir Hubert said, he plans to fly across the Antarctic continent with Lincoln Ellsworth and Bernt Balchen, this expedition starting south in August.

Abilene, Texas., Feb. 10—A bold intruder who dared to stand at the front gate of a farm home and stare while a farmer held him at bay with a gun turned out to be only a dummy when officers summoned by a frantic telephone call from the farmer's wife, investigated.

"Well, I'll be durned," said the man on the porch, "probably the ones who put it there have robbed our smoke-house."

Nothing was missing.

Murfreesboro, Ark., Feb. 10—Arkansas is the only state that can boast of a diamond mine, or diamond deposits—yet, little is known of this industry even by residents.

There are diamonds in Pike County, Arkansas, that blind the eye with their brilliance and beauty and as fine as those mined from the Kimberleys in Africa.

The largest stone taken from the Arkansas soil weighed 48 carats. Thousands of the finest quality have been sold.

As early as 1889 the Geological Survey of Arkansas published an article on the peridotite of Pike County. It was not taken seriously. In fact, the matter was laughed at.

However, in 1906 when John Hudleston picked up two glittering pebbles from his farm near here and took them to Little Rock where they were examined by the jewelers who pronounced them genuine diamonds, the Doubting Thomases began to dig too.

Later these stones were sent to New York, where they were cut and polished. They weighed approximately three carats.

One company alone has marketed over 5,000 diamonds. They range as large as 20½ carats.

Besides diamonds Arkansas has other valuable gems, chief among which are pearls. There are produced from fresh water molluscs or mussels of White River and Black River and occasionally one is found in Little River.

Notice of Legislation

Notice is hereby given that application will be made by the Municipality of York to the Legislature of the Province of New Brunswick at the next Session thereof for the passing of an Act to amend Chapter 36 of the Acts of 1922 so as to increase the amount of the Bank Loan under the said Act to an amount of \$60,000.

Dated the 24th day of January, 1933.

C. D. RICHARDS, Solicitor Municipality of York

Notice of Legislation

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application will be made at the next Session of the Legislature of New Brunswick for the passage of an Act authorizing Frederickton Exhibition, Limited, to issue bonds or debentures in a sum not exceeding \$15,000, principal to be payable in ten years from the issue thereof, and to bear interest at a rate not exceeding 5½ per cent per annum, payable semi-annually, payment of both principal and interest to be guaranteed by the City of Fredericton. The lands and buildings now owned by said Frederickton Exhibition, Limited, are to be conveyed to the said City. The proceeds of the said bonds are to be used to repay monies borrowed by said Frederickton Exhibition, Limited, and advances made and to be made by the said City.

Authority will also be sought by said Act to enable the said City to guarantee accounts of said Frederickton Exhibition, Limited, which may be contracted in any year in connection with the holding of an exhibition in a sum not exceeding \$5,000, said accounts to be paid by said Frederickton Exhibition, Limited, after the close of the said exhibition each year.

Dated the Thirtieth day of January, A. D. 1933.

C. L. SYMPHER, Sect'y, Frederickton Exhibition, Limited

It takes as much energy to keep still as it does to talk

Assessment Notice

The Board of Assessors of Taxes for the City of Fredericton hereby require all persons liable to be rated for the 1933. Forthwith to furnish to the Assessors true statements of all their personal estate and income, which is assessable under The City of Fredericton Assessment Act 1926, and true statements of wages or salaries paid to employees, and hereby Give Notice that Blank Forms on which such statements may be furnished may be obtained at the office of the Chairman of the Board of Assessors, and that such statements must be perfected under oath and filed in said office on or before the Fifteenth day of February, 1933.

Dated this Fourteenth day of January, 1933.

PETER FARRELL, Chairman of the Board of Assessors and Taxes

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