

# RADIO LICENSE SHOULD BE ABOLISHED IN CANADA

The Canadian Programmes Are Amateurish Stuff and Not Worth the Money

Nothing loses the Government more votes than the radio license fee which is now being exacted at the source.

That is to say the purchaser of a radio set is charged two dollars when he buys it—the dealer cannot sell it unless he acts as the involuntary agent in a transaction which looks at its worst like a hold-up and at its best like a betrayed of confidence.

It is a poor way to help business recovery—to slap it in the face when the customer is making a gesture of good will.

The radio license should be abolished for two good reasons, the first of which is that the entertainment is not worth the money.

The Canadian programmes furnished by the Radio Commission are, with two or three exceptions, crude, amateurish stuff.

By this we mean the sustaining programmes which are the test of the Radio Commission's efforts on the public behalf.

While the commercial programmes, with which the Radio Commission has nothing to do save to provide means of transmission, range from poor to excellent, the sustaining programmes which are the Radio Commission's own children, so to speak, are almost uniformly inferior.

It may be that the Commission does not pay enough to get first class talent or it may be that there is no first class talent to get.

At all events whatever is the matter the Canadian talent the Radio Commission gets is not such as enchants the ear and causes the listener to gasp for the sheer beauty of it.

The singing is raw, the humor, if any, is the old five-a-day vaudeville stuff which the popular taste rejected some years ago, and the attempts at culture are ludicrous.

If it were not for the assistance of the N.B.C. of which our Radio Commission is inclined to boast, the Canadian radio listener would be in a bad way and the N.B.C. thank heaven, he can get without calling for help from Ottawa simply by dialing the stations where the good N.B.C. programmes are in progress.

So far as the public can see all the Radio Commission does with our North American air facilities is to horn in and then claim credit for making two bites of a cherry.

Such being the case it would appear advisable to lift this two dollar outrage on the public and if it is necessary to get rid of the Commission in order to get rid of the tax we have little or no hesitation in saying get rid of the Commission.

All it does is get in the way and trip over its own feet.

It never would be missed save as an obstacle happily removed from the path of progress.

Radio entertainment is one of those things in which nature should take its course if the best results are to be obtained.

Left to its own devices radio will adjust itself to the public taste, which, believe it or not, is slowly but surely improving.

At any rate it asks no arbiter elegantiarum in the shape of a Commission to tell it what to like.

Another reason for scrapping the radio license is most psychological. It has to do with the effect on the radio fan's soul when he is asked to pay for using the air.

As free as air!

What a mockery at two dollars a year!

Why, even the filling stations that charge for everything including the bright smile of the attendant haven't the nerve to put a price on air.

They supply it for nothing—four tires of it gratis, as often as you please, enough, one imagines, to keep Hansard in wind for a session of Parliament.—Montreal Standard.

## SOVIET TO DROP SYSTEM OF BREAD RATIONING

May Also Do Away with Dispensation of Other Edibles Soon

MOSCOW, U. S. R. R., Dec. 19—Important considerations, both economic and moral, have led the soviet government to decide upon the abolition of the bread-card system January 1, with the added announcement that the ration system for other edibles may be abolished in the near future.

Bread cards, after being abolished in 1921 at the beginning of the "new economic policy", were reintroduced in 1928, when the supply of foodstuffs was at a bare minimum and it was necessary to dole out what food there was in careful fashion.

Two good harvests and the establishment of order on the agricultural front have now given the government a sufficient surplus for the future so that restrictions may once again be removed. The government this year succeeded in collecting between 24,000,000 and 25,000,000 tons of grain.

Premier Viacheslav Molotov announced in connection with the decision.

**Farm Plan Wins**

The government's feeling that collectivized agriculture is established on a solid basis is reflected in a second decree published simultaneously, according to which the 3,368 political sections which were established in the years to supervise the collective and state farms will be absorbed into the regular party and administrative organizations.

Desire to simplify the system of food distribution and establish a one-price system is another impelling reason for the decision. Elimination of bread cards will save 300,000,000 rubles annually in administrative costs, it being estimated that every one of the 40,300,000 soviet citizens in possession of bread cards costs the state 6 rubles a year. Under the new system there will no longer be "open market" and "co-operative" "price for bread and presumably the sale of bread as the "Kolkhoz bazaars" 'at high prices will cease.

Speculation on breadstuffs will automatically cease at the same time.

# WASHINGTON WAS A RADICAL, SAYS FR. COUGHLIN

Radio Priest Speaks To Christian Students' Association—No Pussy-footing.

Detroit, Dec. 19—With his hands in his pockets, the Rev. Fr. Charles E. Coughlin settled down to comfortable informality with some 1,200 students of Wayne University, and confided he was going to use some "Honest-to-God American slang."

Fr. Coughlin stood before the second meeting of the religious forum sponsored by the Students' Christian Association, Tuesday, and discussed the role of religion in "the wheels of change" that are known as social reform.

**Washington a Radical**

He spoke extemporaneously and bluntly and when the radio priest was done, the students recalled some of the following Coughlinisms:

"George Washington was a radical. He was a wealthy man who had enough intestinal fortitude to forget his wealth and profits for the welfare of his compatriots.

"I am constantly sticking my nose out and getting it clouted....Thanks to God I am young, healthy and foolish....

"When the bishops made King John sign the Magna Charta, the church evidently was butting into politics. The Smiths and Raskobs, the Jouette Shouses and the duPonts are the modern King Johns of finance....

"The American youth is all dressed up in an education with no place to go....

"It's easier to be a Socialist and a Catholic, than to be a Catholic and a capitalist....

**There are Pussyfooters.**

"The Catholic Church doesn't pussy-foot about the evils of capitalism, despite the fact there are pussyfooters in the Catholic Church.

"The laws of economics are a lot of stage play....

"We're not suffering from too much democracy, but too little democracy by which the plutocrats have grabbed off the plums years ago....

"The original plutocrat was Alexander Hamilton, the biggest Benedict Arnold in American history.....

"The poor dumbbell people only have a chance to vote for tweedle-dee and tweedle-dum. They never have a chance to vote for principles. They have no choice between a poor Democrat like Wilson and a poor Republican like Hoover.....

"I hope you will interest yourselves in economics. Your fathers didn't and look what happened to your fathers."

Back of the spreading contract cards The club klutizer stands, And then he tells each player How they should have played their hands.

**Reaction On Peasants**

One question which arises immediately is how the decree will affect the peasants who are now entitled to sell their surplus gain on the "Holhoz Bazaar" at high open-market prices. Due to government competition, the peasants will have to sell their surplus grain at prices far below those now received.

How the decree will affect the average city dweller it is difficult to say. It is announced that bread prices will be raised by various amounts in different sections of the country, while in the central part of Russia, including Moscow, the price of black bread will increase from sixty kopeks a kilogram to one ruble. This increases the monthly black bread bill of the single factory worker by twelve rubles and the factory workers with two dependents, who are now entitled to two kilograms daily, by twenty-four rubles.

The workers with two dependents who has a wage of 147 rubles a month which is the average wage throughout the soviet union, would therefore have a 17 per cent increase in wages to compensate for the increase in his bread bill.

Although the price increases may cause a loss to some individuals, the government has carefully worked out a system of wage increases which is intended to eliminate hardship in the majority of cases.

# JR. HIGH SCHOOL TO PROVIDE COURSE IN FISHING LESSONS

More Practical Than Many Things Found In Different High Schools Throughout Canada.

(Philadelphia Bulletin)

News from Kansas City that a junior high school there is about to provide a course in fishing shows that at last education is on the right track.

There has been almost universal complaint that the schools impart a great deal of useless information. A boy learns the date of the battle of Agincourt, and how X, Y and Z divide a property so that one has three-fourths as much as another and would have ten times as much as the two others combined if he had 42 more acres, and the circumstances under which Caesar crossed the Rubicon, and how to spell Popocatepetl, and how far it is from Toledo to Memphis and then he becomes the operator of a filling station or third baseman of a bush league team and finds that much of the time he expended in acquiring facts was wasted. Even a big butter and egg man has little use for mythology, botany and geometry. If a man is capable of making money after he leaves school he need not even know how to spell, because he can hire a stenographer and buy her a dictionary.

But fishing is elementary. It is indispensable accomplishment. And one can no more acquire the art of fishing by self-instruction than learn to play a Chopin nocturne by strumming on the piano with one finger. The educational authorities have heretofore assumed that angling is merely baiting a hook attached to a line and dropping it into the water. This is as native as to believe that you can give a man a pot of paint and a brush and expect him to turn out a creditable landscape.

We have no idea how many fish there are in the sea and the rivers and the lakes, because we never got any higher in mathematics than the study of relief expenditures, which usually stop at ten figures; but we do know that 99.9 per cent. of all the fish—to make a very low estimate—are laughing at humanity. For an immense proportion of all anglers are inexperienced, do not understand the psychology of fish and utterly waste their time in trying to lure specimens that were smarter when spawned than a human is at the age of 90. And for every fish caught by a practiced hand there are hundred that have inspected the lure beneath the surface of the water and turned up their noses at it, swimming off to warn all and sundry that some nitwit is trying to pass counterfeit money or its equivalent, synthetic food.

We are not sure that fishing should be taught in junior high schools, but it should certainly be a required subject in the senior high school year and in all colleges. Hunting is likewise an important branch of education that has been sorely neglected. Both of these subjects are so useful in all walks of practical life that they should be given precedence over other studies.

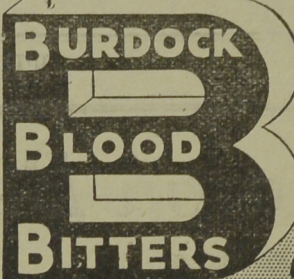
We are familiar with the argument that the teaching of seemingly useless branches of learning trains the student to think. But if you are going to think you must have practice. When and where is there a better opportunity for thought, introspective or otherwise, than when you are sitting on the bank of a lake or stream, or in a boat, patiently waiting for fish to bite? We seem to remember that Izaak Walton built up quite a reputation for thinking, and we doubt if he developed it behind a school desk.

The college boy majoring in fishing and hunting, and passing with honors, could always get a job—and if he didn't he should worry. There is always an opening in the water or the woods where such a one could practice his profession.

Those who play cards for money want a good deal.

Bridge is one game where honor counts.

## PIMPLES DISAPPEAR-HEALTH IMPROVES



Those aggravating and disgusting pimples or blemishes on your skin are probably caused by bad blood. The remedy is simple—BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS. This Great Blood Purifier tones the blood stream, regulates the inner system and your skin becomes clear and smooth again.

for THE STOMACH BLOOD AND SKIN

## HOME MERCHANTS

Home owned stores that The Daily Mail would like to see patronized.

- AMUSEMENTS:**  
Gaiety Theatre.  
Capitol Theatre.  
Capital Billiard Parlor.
- AUTOMOBILES:**  
Phillips & Pringle.  
J. Clark & Son.  
Capital Garage.
- BAKERS:**  
Royal Bakery.
- DRUGGISTS:**  
Kenneth Staples.
- DRY GOODS:**  
R. L. Black.  
Joseph Kileel.  
J. J. Weddall & Son.
- ELECTRICAL WORK:**  
Clarence Mills.  
Harry C. Moore.
- FARM MACHINERY:**  
J. Clark & Son.
- GROCERS:**  
Harold Yerxa, York Street.
- HABERDASHERS:**  
J. H. Fleming.
- HARDWARE:**  
J. S. Neill & Sons, Ltd.  
E. M. Young.
- HOUSE FURNISHINGS:**  
Colwell & Jennings, Ltd.
- HARNESS MAKERS:**  
H. A. Burt.
- HOTELS:**  
Waverly.  
Queen.
- INSURANCE:**  
H. H. Blair.
- INVESTMENTS:**  
Consolidated Investments, Ltd.
- JEWELLERS:**  
Shute & Co.  
Mavor Bros.
- LADIES' WEAR:**  
Mrs. J. E. Johnston.
- MEAT STORES:**  
W. C. Lee.  
York Meat Market.
- MEN'S GOODS & SHOES:**  
Joseph Kileel.
- PLUMBING:**  
Arthur F. Betts.
- PHOTOGRAPHS:**  
Harvey Studio.
- RADIO SERVICE:**  
J. Brown Maxwell, Jr.
- RESTAURANTS:**  
Lannan's.
- SHOE REPAIRS:**  
Carl Bilensky.
- STATIONERY & BOOKS:**  
C. W. Hall.  
McMurray Book & Stationery Co. Ltd.
- TAILORS:**  
T. M. Boyd.  
F. G. Foster.  
Karl Walker.
- UNDERTAKERS:**  
Shaw & Terry.  
H. R. Adams.
- WOODWORK:**  
J. C. Risteen Co., Ltd.

"A sane fourth" is rare in a bridge game.

**ELECTRIC MOTOR and GENERATOR REPAIRS**  
OF ALL CLASSES  
**Harry C. Moore, E.E.**  
360 KING STREET

Untearable paper has been invented in Japan but if you think treaties will be written on it you are a little silly.

Your family doctor is concerned in you as well as your "case".

## LANNAN'S Restaurant

Are We Going To Serve a Special CHRISTMAS DINNER?

I say we are...on SATURDAY and MONDAY, too. Turkey? Yes, Turkey, Goose and Chicken.

Plum Pudding and Hot Mince Pie  
Our Christmas Menu in The Daily Mail Friday

## A HOTEL YOU WILL LIKE

At Moderate Rates  
Conveniently Situated For Xmas Shoppers

**WAVERLY HOTEL**  
H. E. DEWAR & SON, Prop.  
Regent Street Fredericton

## J. C. RISTEEN CO.

NOW is the time to put in your  
**Hardwood Floors**  
At LOW PRICES  
Large stock of birch in three different thicknesses just unloaded  
Call 266 and give us your order.

## PROFESSIONAL

**DR. J. C. McMULLEN**  
Dentist

X - RAY  
Hours: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 2 p.m.-5.30 p.m.  
Phone 504 Loyalist Building

**G. I. NUGENT, M. D.**  
333 BRUNSWICK STREET  
Phone 808.  
FREDERICTON, N. B.

**Hanson, Dougherty and West**

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, Etc.  
Carleton Chambers,  
61 Carleton St. : Fredericton

## DR. G. R. LISTER

: Dentist :  
Burchill-Wilkinson Building  
QUEEN STREET : Below Regent  
Phone 531-11

WHEN THE OCCASION REQUIRES THE PURCHASE OF A FUNERAL Those who investigate will find our prices lowest. Prompt and efficient service. Complete stock and equipment. Complete funeral including motor hearse and services \$50, \$75, \$100 and upward. No extra charge for delivering to rural districts.

**H. R. ADAMS**  
459-461 KING STREET  
(Next Wilmot Church)

# H INSURANCE R HOWARD H. BLAIR

RELIABLE BRITISH AND CANADIAN COMPANIES  
PHONES—Office 291-21  
Residence 345-11  
68 YORK STREET  
—You Can Rest Assured—

## XMAS GROCERIES

WE HAVE A CAREFULLY SELECTED STOCK OF THE BEST!  
Also  
CONFECTIONERY NUTS Etc.  
We have just received a nice lot of  
CALIFORNIA ORANGES, GRAPE FRUIT, GRAPES, TOMATOES,  
ICEBERG LETTUCE AND CRANBERRIES  
**REASONABLE PRICES**  
**A. E. EARDLEY** Phone 618 and Be Satisfied.  
Home-owned Store  
Corner Brunswick and St. John Streets

## SPECIAL

SEEDLESS RAISINS—10c per lb.

EVERYTHING FOR THE CHRISTMAS CAKE OR PUDDING.  
Selling at the Lowest Prices for such High Quality Merchandise.

TRY US WITH YOUR NEXT GROCERY ORDER

**HAROLD YERXA**  
PHONE 305 89 YORK STREET