

Conference With Loan Companies Now Going on at Ottawa

May Have Far-Reaching Results for Mortgage-Burdened Farmers of the Dominion—Premier Bennett Playing An Important Part—May Scale Down Interest Rates.

OTTAWA, March 21—Conferences still in progress in Parliament between mortgage and loan companies and Premier Bennett may have far-reaching importance for the mortgage-burdened farmer of Canada. While no details have been worked out as yet, nor, indeed, has anything more than the difficulties involved been suggested, the basic idea which is being exploited is some method of scaling down interest rates on existing farm mortgages.

The suggestion is that the Government might be prepared to go a certain distance in guaranteeing the mortgages, if the loan companies would voluntarily reduce the interest rates. The trouble is that the loan companies, according to their statement to the Government, are only netting 4.67 per cent. on their operations after they charge up their losses, and are paying an average of five per cent. for their money.

The problem is one which admittedly bristles with difficulties, but it is being closely studied by Mr. Bennett in the hope that some way out may be found.

PREMIER TILLEY HOST AT DINNER LAST EVENING

Premier Tilley was the host at an enjoyable dinner at the Barker House last evening at which the members of his cabinet and legislative supporters were the guests. Covers were laid for thirty and an excellent full course dinner was served in Landford Coleman's best style. At the conclusion of the repast Mr. Agar of Saint John, the senior private member of the House, thanked the Premier for his bounteous hospitality and assured him that it was greatly appreciated by all. The premier replied in suitable terms.

Prior to the dinner the Premier and Mrs. Tilley held an impromptu reception in the hotel parlor, which was featured by the presentation of a bouquet of roses to Mrs. Tilley. Mr. Agar made the presentation and the members were graciously thanked by Mrs. Tilley for their kindness.

At nine o'clock the members repaired to the executive council chamber, where a caucus was held, with Mr. Taylor of Sunbury, in the chair. It was featured by a pleasing incident, when J. M. Scott, the veteran member for York on behalf of his fellow members, presented the Premier with a beautiful gold headed cane. The premier, although taken completely by surprise by the manifestation of good-will towards him, returned his thanks in a neat speech. The caucus broke at 11:30 P. M.

ROME: Premier Mussolini's Fascist party was pointed today toward a 65 year plan of expansion, designed to raise Italy to internationally pre-eminence by the year 2000.

BERLIN: — Wilhelm Meyer-Foerster, 72, author of the stage hit, "Alt Heidelberg", known in the United States as "The Student Prince", is dead here.

The bleached blonde hasn't a fair chance of keeping her lighted headness a dark secret.

GILBERT JORDAN IS ARRAIGNED IN LOCAL COURT

Gilbert Jordan, 60 year old Barker's Point resident, was arraigned before Magistrate Walter Limerick in the police court this morning, charged with the murder of Clara Alberta Jordan, aged 45, his wife. Without pleading the aged man was remanded till Wednesday, March 23, for preliminary hearing.

He was escorted to the police court from the York County jail this morning by officers of the R. C. M. P. and immediately after his remand he was whisked by auto back to the jail. He appeared wan and pale and was swathed in bandages which completely hid his chin and throat. The man is about six feet six inches in height weighing close to 200 pounds.

C. R. Hawkins represented the accused while C. L. Dougherty appeared for the Crown.

A large crowd of people were in front of the police station this morning to see Jordan, but they were not allowed into the court room. Six witnesses are expected to be called at the preliminary hearing which commences at eleven o'clock on Wednesday of next week.

MOSCOW:—The Russian air hero Liapidevsky, missing five days, has been located safe and well at Cape Van Karen. He was forced down by engine trouble six miles from Kolu-china Island after hopping to rescue a party of 89 stranded on cracking ice floes in the Bering Sea.

PARIS:—French missionaries in Indo China are urging the Vatican to reply favorably and promptly to the dispensation request of Marie Nguyen Huahoa, French educated Indo Chinese girl, so she, a Catholic, can marry Emperor Bao Dai. The emperor has arranged for the marriage this week.

COLD WINTER AND NOW THE REASON WHY

D. J. McLeod Delivers Last of Series of Popular Scientific Lectures; Moving Pictures Shown

The final lecture of a series of popular scientific lectures was given last night by D. J. McLeod, plant pathologist of the Dominion Experimental Station, Fredericton. The lecture last evening was featured by the showing of several of motion pictures depicting weather phenomena. In his remarks Mr. McLeod briefly explained the cause of this winter's extreme weather. As a rule, the cold carrying storms from the North come south through the McKenzie River basin and spend themselves as they reach the Northern United States. As a result winters in Idaho and Montana are usually pretty severe. This year, however, reports are to the effect that in these States farmers are ploughing and plants are budding and in leaf. It has been no less than fifty-five years since a similar winter season has been experienced there. This year, however, the cold carrying storms came south through the Hudson's Bay region. New Brunswick and other territory in the path of such a cold wave lose little time in squeezing the mercury almost out of sight. It is hard to realize, as the speaker pointed out, that many a bronzed flower of the South would find her ears white with temperatures in Virginia and Texas comparable with the temperatures of an average winter in Quebec.

Good Pictures

The moving pictures proved of great interest. The work of the sun in causing air currents and transportation of moisture was admirably depicted.

The heavy rainfall in British Columbia and areas west of the Rockies is responsible for the heavy timber growth in that region. While storms having crossed the Rockies on their way East are comparatively dry and the resulting rainfall is light. The vegetation is chuffy grass and the net result is the plains of the West. Similar areas throughout the world were likewise explained.

Westerly winds off the coast of Africa causes a drift of surface water in the ocean towards the Caribbean and the several forces acting on this current give it a definite course. This "river," which is one hundred and fifty miles wide, arising in the torrid zone, is warm. Winds crossing it are warmed as they cross and the shores of the countries eaved by this stream are of an even temperature. Great

UNCOVERED OPERATIONS OF A WORLD SPY RING

New York City Centre of a World-Wide Organization

EAST ORANGE, N.J., CAUGHT IN SCOOP

Enquiry May Extend to All Parts of the Universe

Paris, France March 2—Magistrate Andre Benon declared yesterday that Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gordon Switz of East Orange, New Jersey, had disclosed that an international spy gang operated in New York and sent them as agents to France.

Benon said that Switz, a former salesman, had uncovered the gang's operation and the part that he and his wife played in its work.

He said that they came here on a salary of \$5,000 francs,—about \$335—a month.

The examining magistrate who has quizzed the couple since their arrest last December indicated, the Americans would benefit from their revelation by referring to Article 10 of the New French espionage law which lightens the punishment in cases where "voluntary in" information is given.

The judge said ten inspectors had been working on the case since last June.

He said that their inquiry has already or will in the future reach the entire world and touch virtually all.

The examining magistrate said Switz told him the names of all the members he knew in the organization and the duties of each.

Britain Affected

Spying against Great Britain, the United States and France was charged.

Investigators said Germany and Soviet Russia had been the beneficiaries of what authorities described as a vast international espionage syndicate.

Police of Great Britain and the United States have been co-operating in the investigation of the spy ring, it was explained, and it is largely through their efforts that the tangled skien of the mystery of the so-called plot finally is commencing to be unravelled.

Fontainebleau:—The third victim in the Stavisky banking scandal, Emile Blanchard, high official of the ministry of agriculture, died in a hospital of complications arising from a suicide attempt.

Britain, lying as it does in the course of this stream, has mild weather although its latitude is the same as that of Labrador. The "Gulf Stream," as it is called because of its passage through the Gulf of Mexico s the greatest river in the world, being of great width and some 2,000 miles in extent.

A Quebec Woman Faces Trial on a Serious Charge

Mrs. A. Dagenais Accused of Causing the Death of Two Children by Sending Poisoned Candy Through the Mail—Much Interest Being Displayed in the Case.

ST. JEROME, Que., March 21—Protesting that Gregoire Raymond did not, according to his own evidence, actually know who sent the fatal package of chocolates to his house and that his opinions and recollections of the card which accompanied it was not legal evidence, as they could never be checked, Oscar Gagnon, K.C., battled throughout Tuesday morning in the court house here in defence of Mrs. Aurore Dagenais, charged with the murder of Philippe and Jacques Raymond, sons of the Lachute butcher and alderman.

Another tilt between counsel occurred and witness was finally allowed to finish his answer and said: "The words written on the card made me think that it came from the accused."

Crowds packed the court room and corridors of the court house, but the accused, who arrived by auto from Montreal, came into the room almost unobserved and was seated between her lawyer and a police matron.

She sat quietly throughout the proceedings, her eyes fixed on a picture of the Sacred Heart in the pages of a small prayer book.

She was entirely in black, but showed no emotion, though she followed every word closely.

WAR WIDOWS WED, AND LOSE THEIR PENSIONS

London, March 20—Because a thousand war widows married again last year Neville Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will save more than \$250,000 in his coming budget.

The widows had the option of choosing between their pensions of \$5 a week and would-be-husbands. One thousand chose husbands.

This fact is revealed in the annual report of the Minister of Pensions. It shows that twenty years after the outbreak of the war there are still 1,107,000 persons in receipt of war pensions or allowances.

Another reduction has resulted from the fact that 46,500 'war babies' reached the age of sixteen during the year. Their allowances automatically ceased.

Since establishment of the Ministry of Pensions the total expenditure has been \$5,235,000.

Bruce E. Robbie, of the Moncton Transcript staff is a guest at the Barker House.

PUBLIC ACCTS. COMMITTEE HEARS OF PICTURE EVILS

At a meeting of the Public Accounts committee of the Legislature this morning the effect of the motion picture on public morals was discussed at some length. W. S. Anderson, Northumberland, Opposition, expressed an opinion that it was time the province called a halt to the showing of objectionable films, and that the committee should bring the matter to the attention of the House.

Mr. Anderson believed, however, that the present Board of Motion Picture censors was doing good work. Dr. W. W. White, Saint John, Government, said that the matter could safely be left in the hands of the Board of Censors.

The cost of printing various government reports was dealt with by the committee. In the connection W. A. Loudoun, comptroller general, reports of the accounts of the Department of the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer, where presented to the Committee. A. D. Taylor, Sunbury, Government, the chairman, presided at this morning's meeting.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK DEBATERS



Left to Right—Miss Rebecca Munroe, Malden, Mass.; Miss Alice Kean, Miss Bernice Green, of Fredericton, N.B.

ICE HOCKEY IS GAINING FAVOR IN ENGLAND

London, Eng., March 21 — A year ago practically unknown except among university folk, ice hockey now is well on the way to becoming one of England's regular and most popular winter sports. Visits from American and Canadian teams and formation of a league have aroused such enthusiasm that existing rinks are too small to house the thousands wishing to see first rate matches. The largest rinks in Great Britain are at Oxford and the suburb of Streatham. Each hold about 4,000 spectators, but another, under construction at Wembley, will seat 9,000.