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# The Daily Mail

WEATHER

Moderate to fresh westerly to northerly winds, fair with slightly lower temperature tonight and on Sunday.

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## The Municipalities Must Go To Provinces For Assistance

### Situation Seems To Be Involved But Deal Is Possible and Ottawa May Act.

OTTAWA, Ont., March 30—While Sir George Perley in replying to the delegation of Canadian Mayors here yesterday, gave only the briefest indication of the Government's attitude towards the request that it assume all direct relief costs, there is reason to believe that the Cabinet has very definite views on the subject.

The reason for the failure of the mayors to enlist Federal support is not that their problem is not recognized as serious, but that they came to the wrong place. They should have gone to the provincial government.

In the first place, it is pointed out here today, the mayors represented only 77 out of upwards of 5,000 municipalities in Canada, though they did speak for the urban centres where the problem is the worst. That fact prevented the Federal Government from conceding the representative character of their delegation, which was the point of fundamental importance in view of the logical results, which would have followed if the Federal Government had been prepared to crown their mission with success.

That result would have been an undertaking, by the Federal Government to supplant the provinces. For the municipalities are the creation of the provinces. It is in the provinces, as their creators, that they have sole resource in any of their difficulties. From a legal and constitutional aspect the Federal Government does not even know the municipalities. If it undertook to recognize them, it could only be in virtue of an apparent inability of the provinces to fulfil their responsibilities towards them and of the consequent necessity of some outside party intervening.

Would Involve End of Provinces

Such a situation, it is argued, would be tantamount to a break-down of the present Federal-provincial-municipal set-up and would be a prima facie argument for the abolition of the provinces on the ground that they were failing to discharge the primary purpose for which they existed.

If the provinces are prepared to admit their inability to occupy the field which the British North America Act definitely assigns them, then the Federal Government is willing to consider the situation thus created and to act accordingly. But it is not disposed to dispossess the provinces of their jurisdiction, or to take a step which would logically lead to its supplanting them altogether, on the instigation of 77 municipalities.

The visit of the mayors leaves the problem still an open question. If of the 5,000 odd Canadian municipalities are prepared to declare the provinces useless for their purposes, then the Federal Government is quite prepared to deal with the situation thus created. But it is not disposed to rush in and adopt a course which would mean the annihilation of the provinces on the request of 77 petitioners.

It is not imagined here, however, that the matter will be allowed to drop. If the Dominion cannot "treat" with the municipalities, it will continue to do so with the provinces, and, if the latter desire that their municipalities be relieved and the cost shared by the Dominion and themselves alone it is possible to conclude such an arrangement. Ontario and Quebec are favorable. The difficulty arises in the need of uniformity and the western provinces are unable to participate in such a plan unless the Dominion puts up the money for them, as it has been doing for some years.

### Traffic And The Commission

On Friday of last week, this paper called the attention of the Police Commission to the dangerous condition of Queen Street in regard to traffic. This condition is not so much in evidence just now as it will be in a few weeks from now and as it will be all through the summer months unless a change is made.

The Daily Mail pointed out that the danger existed anywhere on Queen Street to Regent Street. We pointed out that parking a car anywhere on Queen Street from York Street down to Regent Street left one liable for accidents. It is time that the parking of cars along Queen Street and other traffic matters connected with this street should be subject to some kind of regulation. In recent years there have been no satisfactory traffic regulations, or if there are any, they are not observed. In the first place, Queen Street is too narrow to allow—with the increased traffic which we now have—cars to be parked "straight up and down" on the business side. There will have to be some parking space arranged for, away from Queen Street or there will be a bad accident some of these days. This is the time of year for those who have charge of these things to get busy so that traffic will run smoothly as soon as the regular traffic season gets underway.

Another thing which The Daily Mail called attention to last year was that cars parked along the business side of Queen Street and left there by the hour are a nuisance especially on Saturday nights. These cars shut off the stores entirely to anyone wishing to approach them from the street. There is supposed to be a by-law against cars parking on the business side of Queen Street for more than 30 minutes at a time. This is not enforced, so that now it seems to be a dead letter, as anyone may park anywhere.

The Daily Mail made a suggestion last year regarding the use of Queen Street for loads of hay, heavy trucks and farm wagons. It was pointed out that these vehicles are a nuisance on Queen Street and a menace to their drivers as well as to all citizens who drive cars or bicycles. This newspaper suggested a remedy which was commended by several leading citizens but was passed over by those in authority.

The remedy was to route heavy traffic over Campbell Street. The day following that on which the article on traffic appeared in this paper The Daily Mail received several complimentary remarks on the suggestion. We received, however, from a leading professional man in this city a very striking letter which to our mind voices the opinion of many citizens. The letter says, in part:

"I have read your article in this evening's paper on this subject with a good deal of interest. The only trouble is that you are wasting your time and space in calling attention to the matter. Neither the Police Commission—who have the direction of traffic—nor the City Council, who should be interested in the matter, care a tinker's dam what conditions may prevail. The only thing a car driver has to watch out for is that he does not pull up on the wrong side of the street for half a minute to let a passenger out, because if one of the pavement pounders happens to see him, it will cost the driver \$10 and costs. The greatest danger to traffic are trucks. Not only are they too wide for our narrow streets when cars are parked on each side, but their drivers are notoriously careless and indifferent as to anyone else on the street. Not until there is a serious accident will anything be done by the powers that be to improve present conditions and you can hammer all you like in the meanwhile, but it won't get us anywhere."

One member of the Police Commission told The Daily Mail today that he was a car driver and that he used Queen Street days and Saturday nights and that conditions now were all right without any change and that he did not propose to take anybody's opinion "and they had been thinking the thing over." When you get a commission composed of mentality like that what can you do, as the writer of the letter said, "you are wasting your time." The Police Commission may be responsible morally, if not legally, when a serious accident happens on Queen Street unless they take some steps to relieve the situation as it was last year. We are supposed to be a democratic people governed by an elected body of representatives but such is not the case. We are rapidly coming to the stage where we are being governed by commissions. We have a Control Board to administer our liquor.... a Trustee Board to handle our schools.... Police Commission to handle traffic.... and so on.... a Workmen's Compensation Board.... an Hospital Board, and dear knows, how many more. These are all closed corporations so far as the general public is concerned. They meet when they like, do as they like and keep everything private, if they like, and the public be damned. All the public has to do is to pay the bills. The government appoints good citizens to go on these committees. But they stay on them year after year until they think that they own the whole works and that the public has no rights whatever. After a while the average citizen comes to believe the same thing. He thinks that he dare not say anything to the Police Commission or to the School Board for fear that he will be arrested and hanged. They used to say of the poorer class of people, who were here before responsible government, that when they approached some of the old "big wigs" who had a high hat job they took off their hats and bowed three times before starting to talk. We thought the fathers of Responsible Government did away with this but we are still serfs in a way. We allow these various commissions, committees and trustee boards to do as they like with our affairs privately and against our wishes. One reason why most of us allow this is—as one man said—"because it has always been that way."

Someone says these men and women are giving freely of their time to these matters. That's all right, but if they don't want to serve let them get out. If they do serve they should take the public into their confidence. Some of them seem well pleased to hang on to these committee appointments. Everybody appreciates the fact that they are giving their services to the public but they should be willing to serve in the right spirit.

The most useless thing in the way of commissions to our way of thinking is the Police Commission. If it is doing anything no person has yet heard, what is it? The Police Commission will have a chance now to remedy the dangerous traffic conditions on Queen Street. WILL THEY DO SO? This is a good way to judge what they are like. When one of the members of the Commission says that there is no danger and that the merchants' stores are not blocked in on Saturday night by cars parked in front of them, there is not much hope.

## THE QUEBEC ELECTION GOSSIP INCREASES

### Mercier May Head Electrical Commission, Is Rumor

QUEBEC, March 30—While the Government and the Opposition are fencing over major and minor problems in order to show their devotion to the cause of the people, gossipers are busy discussing the date of the provincial elections.

When the Legislature assembled in January, it was practically decided that the elections would be held early in the summer, even if the Federal Government decided to hold the Dominion elections later in the year. Since then, apparently, there has been a change of mind, and it seems certain that Quebec elections will not be held before the Federal elections, whatever delay that may entail.

According to reliable information, conferences between the Federal and Provincial Liberal chieftains took place lately with the object of deciding the matter, and Mackenzie King has asked that Premier Taschereau await the result of the Dominion election before going to the people, it is claimed.

Premier Taschereau explained, according to the same reports, that the Federal elections might not take place before September or October. In this case, he said, it might be convenient to hold the provincial elections immediately afterwards, before the winter season, November being considered the proper month for the event. Others say that the provincial government might delay the election till next year and hold a fifth session of the present Legislature. But the first version seems better accredited.

Changes Foreseen

Whatever the date of the next provincial elections and their result, there is no doubt that many who now sit in the Lower House, or who have sat there after the last provincial elections, will not be there when the next Legislature meets.

On the Government benches, if the Government is returned, there are bound to be some changes. It is strongly predicted that Hon. Honore Mercier will leave active politics after this session to become president of the Electrical Commission about to be created by act of the Legislature. Some say that Hon. C. J. Arcand, Minister of Labor, will be promoted to the Upper House, as a reward for the services he has rendered to the working classes during the last four years. Gossip has it that Hon. T. D. Bouchard, now Speaker, having obtained practically all that he insisted upon as regards the municipalization of electricity, might be induced to enter the Government. If the Government is returned, there will certainly be a re-organization of the Cabinet, with the object of bringing in new and younger elements.

Cackled Too Well But Not Wisely

PORTLAND, Oregon, March 30 — Because Stephen Fink, 57, is so adept at imitating the cackling of a chicken, he faces deportation from the United States.

State police came upon him near Bedford. He had hidden in a ditch near a farm, they said, had covered himself with brush, and by an amazingly lifelike cackle was enticing the farm chickens within range and popping them into a bag. He was serving 30 days in jail when immigration officers looked in on him.

Royce Norene, immigration inspector, said Fink, an Austrian, had entered the United States illegally three times since 1889.

Continued improvement is noted in the condition of E. J. Kingsley, well known resident of Marysville, who has been ill for some time with pneumonia.

## Ottawa Pacts Enter Into Moscow Talks

### IS THIS RIGHT?

The editorial staff of the Daily Mail scratched their respective heads today. A morning paper had announced its perplexity over a two-letter word meaning corpse. The whole thing originated in a cross-word puzzle and even the local undertakers found no solution. One of this profession pondered as far as his 89th two-letter word combination and was still unable to find solution. A two-letter word meaning corpse?

The editor was adamant. "Find the answer," he thundered to his staff. The city editor ransacked the dictionary. He pleaded with his associates. Even a professor of Greek at the University was bewildered.

"Could it be Ob, short for obituary?" queried the city ed. No. "I worked it out many times and it always comes to 'Es'" sweetly suggested a feminine associate after a busy period in seeking the solution. And right or wrong the staff accepted it, for time was short and there was today's issue of the Daily Mail to get out on the street.

### Russian Timber Question is Raised — May Pave Way For Future Anglo-Soviet Trade Treaty.

MOSCOW, March 30—It was understood here today that economic questions entered into the Anglo-Russian talks now being conducted here, including the export of Russian timber to Great Britain.

The problem of credits for Russia and the effect of the Ottawa Anglo-Canadian trade agreement on trade between Britain and Russia were said to have been taken up. While no agreement was understood to be contemplated at the moment, it was understood that the discussion may prepare the way for a future and perhaps conclusive conference on the Anglo-Russian trade treaty.

## BLOODHOUNDS NOT SANCTIONED IN NOVA SCOTIA

### So Mounties in Sister Province Will Have to Follow Trails Without Dogs.

OTTAWA, March 30—Use of bloodhounds in tracking down criminals is not sanctioned by the federal government. Hon. Hugh Guthrie, minister of justice, told the House of Commons today.

The minister was answering a question from J. S. Woodsworth (Labor, Winnipeg North Centre), who called attention to a report from Halifax that Royal Canadian Mounted Police proposed to use bloodhounds to assist in finding persons lost in the Nova Scotia woods and also in tracking escaped criminals.

"I should like to ask," said Mr. Woodsworth, "whether since we are prohibiting use of dogs in hunting deer the full cabinet approves their use in hunting criminals."

"The answer is in the negative," said Mr. Guthrie.

"Does the government give its sanction to this method?" pressed the Labor member.

"It does not," said the minister.

### James P. Sherry Died at Memramcook, Well Known Here

Word has been received in this city of the death yesterday at his home in Memramcook of James P. Sherry, former prominent merchant and farmer at Memramcook, died at his home there this morning following a brief illness. Mr. Sherry was born in Memramcook, son of the late Onen Sherry, and spent his entire life in that district, taking a prominent part in the affairs of the community. He is survived by one sister, Miss Cassie Sherry, at home. The funeral will be held there Monday morning from St. Thomas' Church at nine o'clock.

The late Mr. Sherry has been a frequent visitor to this city and has many friends here who will regret to learn of his death.

### Mrs. Josiah Wood's Condition is Critical

SACKVILLE, N. B., March 30—The condition of Mrs. Josiah Wood, C. B. E., ill at her home here, was reported last night to be critical. Mrs. Wood suffered a broken hip in a fall recently and since then her condition has been serious.

## U.S. RUM ROW RETURNS TO REAP NEW PROFITS

### Raids on Stills Forces Bootleggers Far Afield

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 30—Rum row is back. A possibility of reaping profits up to 700 per cent, officials said yesterday, has brought approximately a score of vessels back to the shores of the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico, laden with alcohol, chiefly from Holland and Belgium.

This explanation was given by Stephen B. Gibbons, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury: "The alcohol tax unit has been raiding stills at the rate of about 1,200 a month. So the bootleggers saw that it would be cheaper if they could bring the alcohol in from abroad."

"Most of it is shipped from Holland and Belgium to St. Pierre Miquelon or Belize in British Honduras. There it is transferred to other ships. They lie a few miles off the American coast where the stuff is put on contact boats and pushed to shore."

## YOUNG PHYSICIAN DIES IN MONTREAL

### Dr. E. M. Casey, Born In Milltown, Passes Away At An Early Age

MONTREAL, P. Q., March 30—Dr. E. M. Casey, 35, prominent young Montreal physician, a native of Milltown, N. B., died here yesterday after a lengthy illness.

Dr. Casey received his early education in Milltown and graduated with an arts degree from St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, N. S. He came to Montreal and obtained his medical degree at McGill University, where he was for a term president of the Students' Council.

He was well known in military circles, being a captain in the Canadian Army Medical Corps, attached to the 17th Duke of York Regiment, Royal Canadian Hussars.

He is survived by his wife, formerly Miss Ino Chisholm, Antigonish and four children.