

## ABOLISH THE SPOILS SYSTEM IN THE PROV. GOVERNMENT SERVICE

"Observer" Believes That Changes With New Government Impairs Efficiency of the Local Civil Service

A news item from Prince Edward Island announcing that the spoils system of awarding lucrative positions to those who have aided the party in power is about at an end. A long step has been made toward establishing a permanent civil service in that province, it is claimed. If this report is true, the island province is to be congratulated. We in this province have long witnessed the working of the spoils system, irrespective of what government happened to be in power at the time. The spectacle of efficient and honourable employees being dismissed, or asked for their resignations for no other reason than that they are adherents of another political party, is not an edifying one. If efficient service is not being rendered, that is another question; but it is remarkable how many cases of inefficiency are discovered just after an election.

It is not as though our provincial governments did not have the example set in other quarters of how a permanent civil service works. England has had its organization for a great many years. Candidates are admitted through examination irrespective of whether the politics of the candidate is the same as that of the party in power. When once appointed to a position in the government employ, that position is never affected by political changes. The advantages of such a system are too obvious to need mentioning. To put it all in one sentence, the country is assured of a continuity of efficient service, for inefficiency is the main cause of dismissal. It is understood that no member of the civil service shall engage in political campaigning at any time. This is only to be expected.

At Ottawa great progress has been made in recent years toward the establishment of such a service. In theory Canada has always had such a service, but in practice positions have been granted in what has been known as the "outside service," as rewards for political service. The outside service is distinguished from the inside service in that the former pertains to government positions outside Ottawa, while the latter refers to the civil service located in the capital itself. A movement is on foot at the present time to place the outside service on the same basis as the other.

In most of the provinces, however, we still cling to the outmoded method, and our own province is an outstanding example of this group. After a new government has taken office the papers are full of long lists of government employees who have "resigned" or been "dismissed for cause." In some cases, no doubt, cause has actually been given; for if a government employee hasn't got sense enough to keep quiet during an election campaign he deserves all he gets. But in a great many cases the cause is largely imaginary, if not manufactured out of whole cloth. The inquiry of the thing is this: In order to win an election the party has to win votes by every conceivable means. One of the most effective means of doing this is to promise jobs to all and sundry who are active in work for the party. It is self-evident that if the party gets in power there won't be enough jobs to go round, if these promises are to be carried out. The solution adopted, then, is to fire those already holding those jobs. It sometimes happens that even after a wholesale campaign of dismissals there are still some ac-

tive party workers left out in the cold. In that case the government has recourse to a policy of making jobs. It is quite easy to appoint an extra commissioner or vice-president, or what not to any government organization. One thing will suggest another. We now have a 'fair-wage officer' for example, appointed at a substantial salary. Why not a 'poor-wage officer' also? There's a suggestion for rewarding some poor faithful servant.

Of course, there are some whose services have been of such great value to the party that merely one job is not adequate. These favourites of fortune can be, and are rewarded by being given three or four jobs at once, with the combined salaries of them all. This is the spoils system 'par excellence,' and our province has one or two shining examples.

Again, where the spoils system prevails it is always possible to obtain government employ by enlisting the support of some 'big shot.' The seeker after the job may be, and often is of too lightweight a calibre to secure anything on his own merits, but if he can play up his devotion to the party to a sufficient extent, or point to some infinitesimal service performed for the party, the wheels may be set in motion for his benefit.

Why has this system hung on so persistently? Chiefly because the party speaking election claims that they cannot win unless they do promise rewards to their supporters. How then are elections won in countries where this system does not prevail? Let the supporters of the spoils system answer that; and if they can't or won't, I will.

It must be clear to my readers that I am not singling out any particular party as the object of these remarks. I mean both parties, all the time. Neither can point the finger of scorn at the other; the pot can't call the kettle black. Nor have I anything to say respecting the political platform of either of our provincial parties. I am trying to hold up for condemnation an abominable injustice in our provincial administration, and one that is practiced continuously. When will public opinion, the greatest force in any free country, demand that this practice shall cease?

OBSERVER.

### K. of P. PICNIC

The Fredericton Lodge No. 6, Knights of Pythias will hold a picnic at Harvey Station on July 30th. Recreations offered are, soft ball, tennis and swimming. The K. of P. Band will be in attendance and a delicious supper will be served on the grounds. Adults will be charged 35 cents and children only 20 cents. The day will be made complete by dancing in the evening.

### REPORT NOT CONFIRMED

A report today that a man named Lorette who is at present serving a sentence in the York county jail on a liquor conviction, had escaped this morning, was declared to be untrue today by Deputy Sheriff Harry Maston. The report was that the man was picked up by local police when he attempted to hide in the bushes near the Union Station.

## PICNIC ST. ANTHONY'S CONGREGATION DEVON

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Games, Band Music,  
Refreshments  
Valuable Prizes

Supper prepared and served by women of the congregation  
25c and 35c

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## SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

Mrs. H. F. McLeod has returned from Jacquet River where she was the guest for the past two weeks of Mrs. C. L. Sanderson. While away Mrs. McLeod was guest of honor at several social functions.

Miss Elizabeth Taylor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Taylor of Lansdowne Avenue, left this morning for Chipman, where she and several other young girls are going under canvas at Camp Wegesegum.

Miss Mary Barker is leaving today for Saint John to be the guest of Miss Mary Evelyn Lawson.

Mrs. George Black, M.P., who spent a short time in Winnipeg, visiting her son, Captain Lyman Black, and Mrs. Black, is now in Vancouver for a few days, and will sail today by the Princess Louise to return to Dawson, Yukon Territory.

The Calgary Branch of the Canadian Authors' Association held a reception on a recent evening at the home of Mrs. F. G. Garbutt, in Calgary, in honor of Sir Charles G. D. Roberts, who has been visiting Calgary en route to the Authors' Convention in Vancouver.

Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell C. G. Meighen entertained recently at their residence in Saint John, in honor of Mrs. Arthur Meighen of Toronto and Mr. Theodore Meighen of Montreal. Later Mr. and Mrs. Meighen and their guests attended the dance at the Riverside Golf and Country Club.

A dinner in honor of the Marquess of Willingdon, late Viceroy of India, and the Marchioness of Willingdon was given at the Carlton Hotel, London, recently by the Maharaj Kumar of Vizianagram, captain of the All-India cricket team.

### Out of Town Guests at Girls Tea

The out of town guests present at the Girls tea given yesterday afternoon by Miss Elizabeth Taylor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Taylor, included Miss Margaret Parent, of Lennoxville; Miss Isabelle Enslie, of Montreal; Miss Helene Blondin, of Quebec City; and Miss Monique Savoie, also of Quebec City. The local young girls present included Miss Jean King, daughter of Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Mrs. J. K. King; Miss Jean Wood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Wood; Miss Nan MacKenzie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. F. MacKenzie and Miss Mary Neville.

### Dinner Dance

The dinner dance given last evening at D-Coy Inn was most enjoyable. About thirty couples were present. Following dinner dancing was enjoyed, an orchestra being present.

### Luncheon for Ladies C.S.T.A.

The ladies attending the C.S.T.A. convention were entertained at luncheon at D-Coy Inn today by the members of the local branches. Covers were laid for seventy guests and the tables had roses and other garden flowers.

### V. O. N. Board Meeting

The regular July meeting of the Victorian Order Board was held yesterday with Ald. Ivan C. MacKnight in the chair. A good attendance of members was present, and the nurses' report showed a busy month. 79 cases having been nursed of which 79 were maternity cases. 286 nursing visits have been made. 6 of the maternity cases were free. 122 visits were free.

In the school work 1 free school vaccination clinic free had been held. The attendance at well-babies conferences has been good. In Devon the W.I. have served tea and in Fredericton the Bliss Carmen Chapter I.O. D.E., 17 babies have been referred to own physicians for the greater part new cases. Feeling reference was made to the passing of 2 good friends of the V. O. Mrs. MacLaren, wife of the Lieutenant-Governor and H. W. Woods. Miss McArthur, V. O. N., is having her month's holidays. Some routine business was talked about.

### FREDERICTON LODGE NO. 6 Knights of Pythias

## PICNIC

HARVEY STATION

JULY 30, 1936

Softball, Tennis  
Swimming and  
Other Attractions

K. of P. Band in Attendance

Supper—Adults, 35c  
Children, 20c

Dancing in Evening  
Come and enjoy a good afternoon  
and evening.

Miss Mary McLeod is visiting friends in Saint John.

J. P. Whelan, of Bathurst is among those registered today at the Queen hotel.

Miss J. Y. Cornfoot and J. G. Withers, who have been guests of the former's sister, Mrs. B. A. Walling, have returned to Montreal.

Mrs. L. A. Cliff, Somerville, Mass., is spending the summer months with her son, Fred Cliff and Mrs. Cliff, North Devon.

Miss Muriel M. Thomas and her niece Miss Muriel Lumsden of Moncton are guests of H. E. Harrison at his home on University Avenue.

Archie Vyvian, superintendent of the Eastern Townships for the Bell Telephone Company, is expected here on Saturday to spend his vacation. Mr. Vyvian has been here for the past couple of weeks.

Miss Kathleen McKnight, daughter of Ald. Ivan McKnight left this morning for Chipman, where she will spend the next ten days at Camp Wegesegum.

Mr. and Mrs. Alphie Bourgeois of Edmundston, passed through the city today on their return home from a few days' visit in Moncton. They were accompanied by Miss Rosie Bourgeois of Moncton, who will be their guest for the next week.

Mr. and Mrs. James Walsh, of Caracquet formerly of Montreal, announce the engagement of their daughter, Amelia Anita, (Billie) to Roland Arthur, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Plimpton, of Montreal. The marriage is to take place in Montreal on August 15.

Mrs. J. M. Lemont and her guest Mrs. Arthur Johnson of Mobile, Alabama, left this morning for Brown's Plains where they will be the guest for a few days of Miss Bessie Thompson of Saint John at her summer home.

Dr. Frank Wishart, who has been spending the past few days in the city with his parents, is returning today to River Glade Sanatorium where he is assistant superintendent. Dr. Wishart is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wishart of Grey Street.

Mrs. J. M. Lemont entertained at the tea-hour yesterday in honor of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Arthur Johnson of Mobile, Alabama, who is her guest. The tea and coffee cups were presided over by Mrs. Eleanor King, and Mrs. D. E. Crowe. Others assisting were Miss Miriam Colter who ushered and Miss Eleanor Colter who replenished and serving were Miss Sampson, Miss Eleanor Weddall and Miss Hazel Allen.

Recent guests of S. A. Young, manager of the Maritime Electric Co. in this city and Mrs. Young at their home on Lansdowne Avenue were: Mrs. A. H. Rudolph, Mrs. Norman Zwicker and Mrs. Dora McKiel of Lunenburg, N. S. These ladies are daughters of the late Rev. Mr. McKiel and Mrs. McKiel, formerly rector at Keswick Ridge, and have many friends in the city and other points in York county. During their visit here they were also entertained by Mrs. G. N. C. Hawkins of this city and Mrs. O. E. Morehouse at Upper Keswick.

### At Camp Wegesegum

A group of young girls from the city and surrounding districts left this morning for Chipman, where they will spend the next ten days at the Canadian Girls in Training Camp. This camp is conducted by the Maritime Religious Education Council and is called Camp Wegesegum. Among those who left are Miss Kathleen McKnight, Miss Geraldine Chapman, Miss Betty McKnight, Miss Ruth Mavor, Miss Jean King, Miss Elizabeth Taylor, Miss Ina B. Nugent, Miss Marion Bird, Miss Vivian Lemihan and Miss Irene Fenety of this city, and Miss Mary Kesson of North Devon.

### MARKET PRICES TODAY

Strawberries are nearing the end of the season and prices were 8 cents by the crate and 10 cents by the single box at the city market today. Other prices were: Cordwood, \$6.50 per cord; new potatoes, 60 cents a peck; eggs, 25 cents a dozen; butter, 20 cents a pound; salmon, 18 cents a pound; beets, 8 cents; onions, 8 cents; sage, 5 cents; lettuce, 5 cents; lamb, 15 and 25 cents; veal, 6 and 10 cents; cauliflower, 15 cents a head; peas, 30 cents a quart.

Mrs. N. Rattenbury, Jr., of Halifax, N.S., is a visitor to the city today.

Among those registered at the Queen hotel today is Miss L. A. Robinson, of Providence, R. I.

## FISHERIES IN CANADA AT HIGH VALUE

OTTAWA, July 15.—The value of the Canadian fisheries in 1936 was \$34,427,854, compared with \$34,022,323 in the preceding year, representing the value of the fish as marketed, whether sold for consumption fresh, or canned, cured or otherwise prepared. The 1936 value is the highest recorded during the five year period 1931 to 1935. The total value of the fisheries output in 1935 is divided between sea and inland as follows: sea fisheries \$29,175,400; inland fisheries, \$5,252,454. The former shows a decrease compared with the preceding year, and the latter an increase.

Of chief importance is the salmon with a marketed value in 1935 of \$12,540,307, or 36 per cent of the value of output of the whole of the fisheries in that year. To the total value of the salmon output, British Columbia contributed 96 per cent. The chief item in the salmon output is the canned product, which had a total value of \$9,663,305.

The lobster fishery is second to the salmon in importance with a total production value of \$4,378,742, and the cod fishery is third with a value of \$2,758,140. The lobster production shows an increase over 1934 of 108.978, while the cod value shows a decrease of \$569,367. All of the lobsters and 98 per cent of the cod come from the Atlantic coast. Other important commercial fishes are herring, whitefish, sardines, halibut and haddock.

Among the provinces, British Columbia occupies first place, owing to the large output of salmon in that province, while Nova Scotia is second and New Brunswick third. In Nova Scotia, the chief fishery is the lobster and in New Brunswick the sardine.

The total quantity of fish of all kinds, including shell fish, caught and landed during the year was 9,532,017 cwt., and the value to the fishermen at the point of landing \$20,755,787, compared with a total catch in 1934 of 9,330,869 cwt., and a value to the fishermen of \$19,714,935.

## Church Camp At Davidson Lake Ends

The church camp for boys held at Davidson Lake for the past two weeks, sponsored by the Men's Work Board of the Brunswick street Baptist church, ended last evening and the boys returned to this city. Rev. G. W. Gaulin was captain of the camp; William Hall and Major I. B. Rouse supplying for the first as captains respectively. G. C. Elgee was big chief and the little chiefs were Bert Burgess, Bud Lynch and George Markey. Vernon Bastin, an assistant chief forester with the New Brunswick government, was honorary big chief, he attending the camp on courtesy of the government to give courses in junior forest wardens. Nineteen boys received the second class badge and twelve boys the first class badge. The camp routine consisted of water activities and field sports also and every one of the forty boys who was lucky enough to attend the camp returned in fine spirits. Fred Saunders and wife were in charge of the cooking and rationing. On Thursday the camp opens for junior girls. Lawrence Hall and Cedric Baird are staying on acting as supply attendants for the camps to follow.

## Convocation

(Continued from Page Eight)  
which will be followed by an address, "The Influence of the University of New Brunswick in Canadian Life and Letters," by Hon. J. B. McNair, K. C., attorney-general. The presentation of the candidates for honorary degrees will be by Prof. Robert E. D. Cattle, B. A., M. A., which will be followed by the conferring of the degrees.

An address by Mr. Newman will follow, and then at three o'clock Sir Edward Beatty will deliver an address, and will be introduced by the president of the Canadian Society of Technical Agriculturists, Dr. Brittain.

This will be a most unusual occurrence as it has not been since 1900 that such a ceremony has taken place. On that date the centenary of the University of New Brunswick was observed when degrees were conferred upon a great many Old Country people.

## Fur Farms

(Continued from Page One)  
duction of finer pelts is boosting cost of furs, to the betterment of the industry."

Oldroyd predicted that within a few years fur farmers will stabilize the Alaska fur industry to such an extent the trapping season will have slight effect on it.

Fur farms are rapidly springing up throughout southeastern Alaska, while fox islands in the Aleutian Islands have been leased by the Alaska Game Commission for years to raisers of domestic fur.

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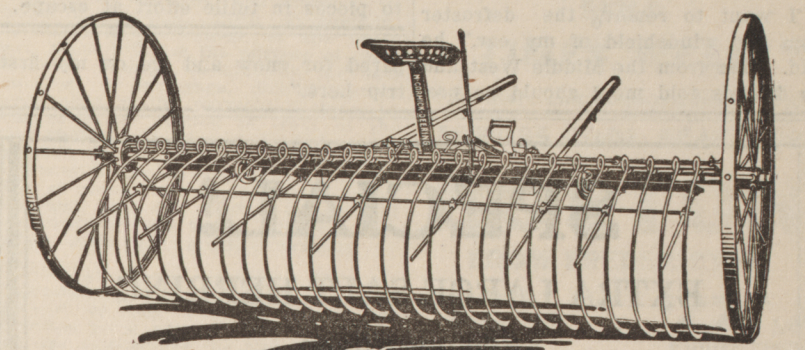
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" Fredericton 4 p.m.  
" Cross Creek 5.45 p.m.  
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