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THE HUMAN SIDE OF OTTAWA AS SEEN ON PARLIAMENT HILL

Fur Flew When Hon. Mr. Hanson Was Chairman
of the House Committee—A Clash
Between Able Men

(By Wilfrid Eggleston, Daily Mail's
Correspondent)

The wheat inquiry recently con-
cluded was most fascinating from a
bystander's viewpoint because of the
clash of two outstandingly able men.

James R. Murray, chairman of the
wheat board, has a Celtic nimbleness
of wit which flashed repeatedly dur-
ing cross-examination by the leader
of the opposition. Some of the edge
of these encounters is lost in the of-
ficial record. It is necessary to be
there, to hear the thunder in the
counsel's voice, and the velvet smooth-
ness of Mr. Murray's rejoinders.

For example:

Mr. Bennett, accusingly: "Do you
mean to tell me that no minute was
made of that meeting?" (Enough to
make the most innocent man quail,
levied in those tones).

Mr. Murray, tartly: "I did not say
no minute was made of it."

Mr. Bennett, insisting: "I am ask-
ing you?"

Mr. Murray, equally firm: "I would
rather that you asked the simple
question. The question as you put it,
'Do you mean to tell me...?' is hardly
fair."

Mr. Bennett: "Anyway, I thought
you told Mr. Perley, who asked about
the minute, that there was not any?"

Mr. Murray: "No."

Mr. Bennett: "Was a minute kept
of the meeting?"

Mr. Murray: "There is a record of
it in the minutes, yes."

The atmosphere got pretty warm
on the Friday before the inquiry en-
ded, and the shorthand men took down
this:

Mr. Bennett: "You are not concern-
ed about that. Your business is this:
On these records did the Canadian
Co-operative Wheat Producers Lim-
ited buy that wheat or not?"

Mr. Murray: "I am glad to have you
tell me my business, but I did not
know it was a Dr. Jekyll and Mr.
Hyde act. I simply read from the
record."

Mr. Bennett: "You will not get
away with it that way. As a gentle-
man said the other day, there is no
reason why we should have a lecture
after each question?"

Mr. Murray: "Is there too much
competition?"

Mr. Bennett: "You may think you
are clever."

Mr. Murray: "No, I do not, sir."
A moment later Mr. Bennett object-
ed to the manner in which a question
was answered.

Mr. Gariepy (a member of the com-
mittee): "The witness has the right

to answer in his own way."

Mr. Bennett: "No, he has not. He
has the right to make the answer re-
sponsive to the question, and when I
ask him a question that can be an-
swered yes or no, he should not de-
liver a lecture."

Mr. Murray: "Is the witness lim-
ited to answering yes or no? If that
is so, I hope nobody will ask if I have
stopped beating my wife, to use an
old example."

There have been some exciting Fri-
days in that committee room before.
No one who was there at the press
table on Friday the 17th day of July
1931, will ever forget how, after a
few innocuous remarks about exca-
vations and canal measurements, Mr.
R. O. Sweezy was recalled to the
witness stand, and Peter White came
out with the following ominous sen-
tence:

"Mr. Sweezy, we have now arrived
at a stage in these proceedings when
I wish to take up with you the ques-
tion of contributions of campaign
funds."

Mr. Sweezy: "Yes."

I recall another Friday, and this
time it was the 13th, when the fur
flew. R. B. Hanson, of York-Sunbury,
was in the chair. Dr. Manion was
seated beside him. Mr. Fairweather,
economist of the Canadian National
Railways, was on the stand. The sub-
ject was a very touchy one, of the con-
tracts, allegedly given in some cases
as political favors. 'Chubby' Power,
'Commodore' Duff and other doughty
Liberals were down in the committee
members' seats, viewing the whole
business with disapproval. A state-
ment made by the witness failed to
agree with something the Minister of
Railways said, and the chairman
turned to the witness, curtly:

"Your information was faulty."

Mr. Fairweather, indignant, even if
it was going to cost him his job: "It
was not faulty."

Chairman: "Excuse me. It was
faulty."

An uproar followed. The chairman
then said, loudly: "No official of the
C.N.R. is going to come here and take
charge of this railway committee."

Several of the Liberals were on
their feet at once, protesting. It all
calmed down again, I remember when
Dr. Manion took the responsibility for
the failure of the statements to gibe.

It was in the committee room, too,
that a curious farce occurred which
probably is not in the records at all.

GERM KILLING RAYS ARE INVENTED FOR OPERATION ROOM

ROCHESTER, Minnesota, May 15
Invention of a new type of cool germ-
killing rays that destroy air-floating
bacteria about the patient on an op-
erating table was announced to the
American Society of Thoracoplasty
Surgeons here yesterday by Deryl
Hart, M. D., of Duke University Medi-
cal School.

This is the first time the air of
an operating room has been contin-
uously sterilized. It is the final step in
safety from infection which began
with Joseph Lister's inauguration of
antiseptic surgery in 1865.

The rays come from long, slender
tubes framing the light above the op-
erating table. The tubes are cool,
only 8 to 10 degrees above room tem-
perature. Their rays are screened
wave-lengths of ultra-violet, which kill
germs in 60 seconds, but do not burn
human beings.

CHINESE FIND CHEAP WAY TO BUILD ROADS

NANKIN, May 15—A new wrinkle
in road-building has been put into
operation along a fifteen-mile stretch
of Szechuen Province's main trunk
highway. More than 27,000 workers
are engaged. They are not paid
wages, but are given food.

It was after the high tariff increases
of late '30 and early '31. Clamorings
for public hearings, either of a Tariff
Board, or something else, had been
met at last by Mr. Bennett with the
announcement that he would appear
in the railway committee room, on a
given date, to hear representations
against existing schedules.

Members of the press gathered ex-
pectantly. The hearings were to
start, I think, at ten o'clock. Mr. Ben-
nett, 'Bob' Breadner and others were
there five minutes or so early.

Big Ben boomed ten times.
Mr. Bennett said: "Does anyone
here wish to make representations
against existing tariffs?" (or words
to that effect).

No one rose.

Mr. Bennett: "There being no re-
presentations, we shall adjourn."

Followed by 'Bob' Breadner and
others, he thereupon set off down the
Hall of Fame, meeting en route a
dozen lawyers with bulging brief
cases in hand, hurrying toward the
Railway Committee room for a Tariff
hearing which had adjourned.

I suppose the moral of that one is:
It pays to be punctual!

VALEDICTORY OF 1936 CLASS VICT. HOSP. TRAINING SCHOOL

Miss Minnie Stableford Bids Farewell For This
Year's Class at Exercises This Week

The valedictory of the 1936 gradu-
ating class of the Victoria Hospital
training school for nurses, delivered
by Miss Minnie Stableford, of Sussex,
at the closing exercises this week, is
as follows:

"Mr. Chairman, Members of the
Board of Trustees, Members of the
Medical Staff, Mrs. Woodcock, Fel-
low Classmates, Ladies and Gentle-
men:

Tonight we, the graduating class
of 1936 have come to the second turn
in our road through life. Three years
ago we approached our first curve in
life's highway, when we received our
high school diplomas and chose the
nursing profession for further study
and advancement.

Starting at the bottom of the ladder
as probationers and getting a good
foundation through experience, we
have become seniors and are now an-
ticipating our new calling, that of
Graduate Nurse.

Sad at Heart

We are joyous and exceedingly
happy, yet sad at heart as we say
Farewell. We are glad as our parents
and friends rejoice with us in our
happiness and success, but with all
that it means to us that we have at-
tained our goal and are now ready to
be of service to humanity. We are re-
luctant to depart from our bonds here.
However, duty calls and it would be a
grave error if we should forget the
pledge which holds our professional
standard so high, The Florence
Nightingale Pledge.

In bidding adieu to instructresses
and doctors we must remember that
we cannot put away our text books
and forget them, but we must and
will, keep up our studies and when-
ever possible attend lectures and
meetings that will advance and im-
prove our knowledge and keep our
methods as modern as possible.

Our knowledge of drugs and their
administration, medicine and its ap-
plication, surgery and its benefits, to-
gether with our practical household
and general nursing experience are
not enough to give us our degree.
Therefore we have obtained greater
things, as honesty, loyalty, patience,
sympathy and integrity combined
with the word service and with these
characteristics we are well fitted and
ready to go out into the world render-
ing aid, relieving suffering and being
benefactors to those in distress. It
will be well for us to remember that
the Great Benefactor many times was
greatly abused, yet He continued to
do good, and if we follow His example
we will do no ill.

Farewell to All

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DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED INTO P. E. ISLAND

(Special to The Daily Mail)

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., May
15—Effective today the importation of
dogs into Prince Edward Island is
prohibited unless January 1st next,
the embargo being due to the fear of
distemper spreading from any infec-
ted dogs among the fox farms. The

same embargo was in effect last sum-
mer but this year the prohibition has
been made earlier in the season. Spe-
cial instructions have been issued to
baggage agents of the Canadian Na-
tional Railways that dogs must not be
checked to points on Prince Edward
Island in line with embargo regula-
tions.

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