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FREDERICTON, FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1936

Only Ten Per Cent for the Farmers

The Provincial Government will, no doubt, take into favorable consideration the suggestion made by its own supporters in the Legislature in regard to Agriculture. The remark of Gaspard Boucher, M.P.P. for Madawaska, that only one tenth of the amount voted for Agriculture goes to the benefit of the farmer. The other ninety per cent would seem to be devoted to overhead. In other words for one hundred dollars voted to the farmer it takes ninety dollars to administer it and the farmers get the ten dollars. This is not the fault of the present government, who have only been in office for a short time, but it sounds tough for the farmers just the same. There is no doubt that the present administration will go into the whole routine of the department and see where an effort can be made to remedy matters. Nobody can blame the present government for this condition which if true, is serious.

Our Illiteracy

A member of the Nova Scotia Legislature, in an attack on the school system of that Province, estimated that 8 per cent of the population was illiterate. In one section, he learned, there were twenty-five young men unable to read a newspaper. He reported an instance where two school trustees were elected who could not read or write, and another case where one trustee was similarly illiterate.

If he is correct in his estimate, the Province has retrogressed seriously since the 1931 census was taken, or the census returns are inaccurate. The illiterate population 10 years of age and over—that is, those unable to read or write—is given at 4.26 per cent. Among males it was 4.92 per cent and among females 3.50.

In this respect Nova Scotia had a much better rating than New Brunswick where illiteracy was placed at 6.91 per cent; also Quebec and Manitoba, where the percentages were 4.76 and 4.46, respectively. Ontario was lowest with 2.30 per cent, Prince Edward Island next with 2.65, and Alberta third with 3.44. In British Columbia the percentage was 3.96 and in Saskatchewan 4.13.

Although these percentages do not appear alarming, the fact that there were more than 300,000 persons in Canada 10 years of age and over—omitting Yukon and the Northwest Territories—who could neither read nor write reveals a situation capable of great improvement. It is not inconceivable that one Nova Scotia school section contained twenty-five illiterate young men—there were 17,138 of both sexes in the Province. New Brunswick contained 21,440; Quebec, 103,212; Ontario, 64,157; and the four Western Provinces more than 75,000.

If an excuse were sought for failing to teach all youths the two elementary and utilitarian subjects it should not be in the older-established sections of the East. The minimum percentage of illiteracy in the country—2.30 in Ontario—is bad enough. Why should New Brunswick run it up to 6.91, Quebec to 4.76, and even Nova Scotia to 4.26?

Why, in fact, should there be any great disparity between Provinces in educational opportunities and attainments if the youth across the country are expected to have equal chance in life's competition? During recent months there has been considerable talk about the necessity for uniformity in social and industrial legislation. Essential as this may be, is it nearly as urgent as uniformity in education? Illiteracy ought to be virtually unknown throughout the settled portions of Canada, and the children of one province should not have a less favorable opportunity than those of another.

Koki Hirota Astride Two Horses

Japan offers peace to the world—at the end of a bayonet. The new Japanese government, formed after the assassinations of last month, has announced its policy. Premier Koki Hirota, with the approval of Emperor Hirohito, formally tells the world that Japan will have a "positive foreign policy," with "full provision for national defense."

Here is seen the hand of the militarists, who dictated extensive revisions during preparation of the announcement. Expressing a desire to "contribute to world peace and to the well-being of mankind," the announcement also emphasizes Japan's "mission as a stabilizing force in East Asia."

The announcement of policy is vague indeed, due perhaps to the fact that its publication was delayed several hours for revision because army and navy leaders thought the original, unpublished message "too mild."

Premier Hirota, heading the new Government, is neither a jingo nor a liberal and therefore unlikely to satisfy either the military group or the civilians who in the last election so strongly voted against the military-fascist clique.

Hirota usually tries to ride two horses. Insisting that Japan should buy and not seize Russia's Chinese eastern railway, Hirota nevertheless backed the China expedition of Japan's forces.

About the best that can be said of the prospect is that it is somewhat better for the world that Middle-of-the-Road Hirota heads the government rather than the man the Feb. 26th assassins hoped to place in the premiership—the extremist Gen. Araki. The Emperor, too, leans a bit toward the moderates. Civilians and big business and financial leaders are rapidly tiring of Japan's expensive military adventures.

SNAPSHOTS

J. G. Boucher, member of the Legislature, Deputy Speaker, newspaper man, and graduate of Guelph Agricultural College, has a keen sense of agricultural financing as it relates to our present department.

E. W. Stairs of Southampton, one of our local M.P.P.s, remembered the press gallery at the House when he passed around the sweets. Just like Ottawa where the press are entertained by every one from the Governor General to the Women's Press Club.

The Gloucester County member, Mr. Doucette, says that his people up there are afraid of the big bear, the little bear and the middle sized bear. He did not say anything about the big bad wolf.

Edward VIII intimates that if he gets married he will need money. For a bachelor he catches on fast.

A Chicago woman has spent two years in jail rather than talk. At least they say it's a woman.

Do you remember—Away back when a corporation head who was such a good business man that he could pile up a surplus was considered pretty smart?

That was a typically English incident that saw Queen Mary's automobile, proceeding in the wrong direction on a one-way street, turned back by a dutiful but very red-faced bobby. In England the law is the law.

There was almost certain to be a catch in it somewhere. Alberta's recall bill requires 66 2/3 per cent of the names on an electoral list to be signed to a recall petition within forty days in order to receive consideration. It would appear that the only way to meet this speed will be by keeping petitions standing.

Finding itself being bested in a battle with a cormorant, whose main defense is diving, an octopus in an aquarium in England is reported to have pulled out the plug holding the water in its tank and thereupon to have won the fight. The cormorant, you know, is a bird, and so is the fellow who wrote this story.

A. Bannister Gave Statement Jan. 9th

(Continued from Page One)
he had seen this at the Bannister home in the possession of Daniel Bannister.

Powell was cross-examined at some length and said he had purchased food stuffs and had given money to the Bannisters simply to give them "a helping hand."

Mr. Lambert questioned the witness concerning the Sunday school operated by Powell at the Bannister home and also about his interest in the Bannister girls, which the witness said was simply as a friend.

Omer Lutes

The first witness called yesterday was Omer Lutes, C.N.R. station agent at Pacific Junction. He told of Otto Blakney coming to the station on Jan. 6 last and of accompanying Blakney out the ballast pit road and to the burned debris of the Lake cabin.

The witness was examined by Mr. Bridges, and continuing his direct examination, Mr. Lutes said he knew Lake and his wife and had been to the Lake cabin. On the night of Jan. 2, witness said, he and his nephew, Carl Horseman of Fredericton, walked from Berry Mills to Pacific Junction on leaving the Maritime Express.

About half way between Berry Mills and Pacific Junction they met two young people. One looked like a girl in boy's clothing and the other was a young man.

"The last time I saw Philip Lake alive was on Saturday, Jan. 4," said Mr. Lutes. While being questioned by Mr. Bridges concerning the bodies of Lake, his wife and Jackie, the witness showed signs of breaking down and tears came to his eyes as he related the gruesome story.

Mr. Omer Lutes was then called as fifth witness for the Crown.

Mrs. Lutes told of the dog barking savagely the night of Jan. 5 and of getting out of bed. She said it was about 12.25 a.m., and she looked out a window facing the ballast pit road and of seeing the dog running up and down the road. She stated she called to the dog. The last time she saw Lake alive was on Sunday, Jan. 5, when he called at her home for a bottle of medicine that morning. She related of Otto Blakney coming to the Lutes home on Jan. 5 and of him giving her a baby's nursing bottle at that time. Defence counsel asked no questions.

Carl Horseman was the next witness. He corroborated the testimony of Mr. and Mrs. Lutes concerning the barking of Lutes' dog on the night of Jan. 5 and also the testimony of Mr. Lutes relative to the meeting of two young people on the C.N.R. tracks between Berry Mills and Pacific Junction the night of Jan. 2.

Agricultural Debt is Top Heavy Says Liberal Members

(Continued from Page One)
were in need of a change. A monopoly said to be held by the Brookville Manufacturing Company Limited on all lime ordered by farmers through the department was scored.

J. A. Doucet (Liberal, Gloucester), the chairman, presided.

R. Fraser Keay, (Liberal Charlotte) wondered if anything had been done about reducing the number of men in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police force in New Brunswick which was included in the Liberal platform "They have not even started to correct them" he said.

The chairman replied that he thought this would come. He urged Mr. Keay to give the government time.

F. M. Colpitts (Liberal, Albert) remarked that the Mounted Police could not even give information as to the owners of cars when the license numbers were known. A. C. Smith (Conservative, Saint John County) and H. A. Porter (Liberal, Saint John City) stated that they could in Saint John.

Some discussion of an item of \$2,500 as an advance for secret service to R. G. Fulton, chairman of the New Brunswick Liquor Control Board occurred. It was found that the balance of this unexpended amount to \$332.23.

General commendation was given a policy of granting rebates on transporting cream to farmers' co-operative creameries. The number of creameries thus assisted was sought for the next meeting.

F. T. B. Young (Liberal Gloucester) wondered if there was not a duplication of services among federal and provincial agricultural representatives and if there could not be a co-ordination of such services.

E. W. Melville, (Conservative Carleton) agreed with Mr. Young in this regard. A suggestion was made that the committee recommend to the agricultural committee that it consider his matter, but no action was taken. It was pointed out that this subject was taken up at the Dominion-provincial conference at Ottawa.

E. J. Henneberry (Liberal, Saint John City) doubted that the province was getting its full value from the expenditures by the department of agriculture.

There was something wrong in the promotional work of the department, several members believed.

"Top Heavy"

A change in policy was needed, Mr. Henneberry contended. The department was "top heavy". In each district there should be a model farm to be a centre of radiation of instruction of example. The farmer should be assisted to stand on his own feet, he thought.

J. G. Boucher (Liberal, Madawaska) submitted that not ten per cent of the amount spent by the department of agriculture went to the actual promotion of agriculture, the remainder going to overhead.

Mr. Henneberry asked if it was possible for the government to get away from its obligation to the Brookville, Mfg. Co., Ltd. G. W. Perry (Conservative, Carleton) explained how that company had gained possession of the lime plant at Brookville. There was a contract binding upon the government which required the department to turn over all orders received by it for lime from farmers to the Brookville Company.

Mr. Henneberry thought the committee should recommend to the agricultural committee that it investigate the matter.

Mr. Foster stated that two attorneys-General had examined the company contract and had found that it was binding. Hon. J. B. McNair, the present attorney general, had not had time so far to consider it, but it had been put up to him, said Mr. Porter.

Farmers sending their orders for lime not through the department need not get it from Brookville, it was said. Mr. Melville moved, seconded by Mr. Perry, that pay sheets for road work in Carleton County for July August and September be made available to them. This was refused by the committee when it was pointed out by the chairman that the accounts were not paid until after October 31 according to information he received from the department, of public works. The pay sheets would be available next year year, however, he said.

W. W. V. Foster (Liberal, Kings) thought the committee should recommend that road accounts be paid more promptly, although he pointed out that because there were over-expenditures prior to the provincial election, payment of the accounts was delayed.

The chairman said that custom was not being departed from in not making available such pay-rolls sought.

The chairman withdrew his ruling that the matter was out of order when Mr. Henneberry moved an amendment to Mr. Melville's motion that it be laid on the table, which motion was adopted.

Mr. Foster spoke in support of the operations of the New Brunswick Dairy Products Commission. They had proved beneficial to the farmers of Kings County.

Agricultural Policy Includes Potato Alcohol

(Continued from page One)
to relieve the agricultural situation in this province is to build industrial alcohol plants to make industrial alcohol.

"One third of the crop is low grade, and one third of any crop is not top grade, but is low grade." About four million bushels are always low grade, and at fifty cents a barrel, we can salvage in cash between \$700,000 and \$800,000. Alcohol can be produced from what is almost the entire waste of the crops. The low grade potatoes which would be entirely salvaged would mean money going back on the farm, and would go a long way to finance the next season's crops.

He recommended a Central Control Board for the benefit of the farmers, and said the government important project. Mr. Porter said he had visited at least fifty distilleries in Europe.

Herds of 52 milk cows were fed, and gave more milk in the winter time than in the summer when using more grazing feed; between 16 and 20 quarts of milk per day. The slop feed was kept in tanks five feet wide and eight feet deep. The feed was balanced with barley and straw. The animals like this feed, and are very fine appearing and large.

Mr. Porter said Czechoslovakia had 560 distilleries on a co-operative basis to make potato alcohol and its by-products. The development in Continental Europe has been studied by the Irish State which sent five men to Holland to investigate potato alcohol manufacturing. The blended motor fuels (alcohol and gas) costs less in Czechoslovakia and France than in night gas.

He mentioned the following by-products: Glucose and potato syrup now used in many parts of the world.

The government has to look at agriculture and employment as a whole. Hon. Mr. Elliott, Minister of Agriculture for Great Britain said the policy of the British Government is cheap food for the people and a decent living for the agricultural workers. Sugar was produced in England at five cents a pound when it could be brought from the West Indies at two and a half cents per pound.

In Ireland last year, said Mr. Porter, 112 million bushels of potatoes were raised while we raised twelve million. They propose using twenty million bushels of potatoes in the manufacture of alcohol. Ireland has recently contracted for five potato alcohol plants to be in operation by October of this year. They will have fifty plants in use in ten years, Mr. Porter was told by an official of the Irish Free State. Potato alcohol will be used as a motor fuel.

"My programme," said Mr. Porter, "is based on the industrial use of agricultural products to give the grower a profit. Our prosperity must come from agriculture. We must adopt the industrial idea."

Benefit from Potato Alcohol

1. Greater demand for agricultural products.

2. Keeps money at home. What we raise, we can't sell, and then throw it away. What we use we buy from a foreign country.

3. Raising of stock food would enable us to ship to the British markets.

4. \$700,000 to \$800,000 can be salvaged through the use of culls in the manufacture of alcohol.

A potato-alcohol plant could be established for \$75,000 to \$100,000, sufficient to handle our product.

We have lost the English, American and Cuban markets. We have to depend on our domestic market and on crop failures in other countries.

Through industrial use of agricultural products, rather than destruction, we can reduce unemployment.

We throw away one third of our potato crop yearly. Use of this would distribute \$700,000 to \$800,000 among the farmers. There are twenty-two countries using alcohol, manufactured from agricultural products, in motor fuel.

Hon. Mr. Pirie said, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, he would

DIED

POST—Entered into rest at Waterbury, Conn., April 1, 1936. Mrs. Harold B. Post (nee Irma Blanche Scott), aged 32 years.

The funeral will take place from the home of the parents, Mr. and Mrs. James M. Scott, 255 Smythe Street on Saturday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, service to be conducted by Rev. George Telford. Interment will be made in the Rural cemetery.

CLAYTON—Died at his home in Penniac last night, April 2, 1936. Thomas W. V. H. Clayton, at the age of 90 years.

The funeral will take place from the home of his son, Augustus Clayton on Sunday afternoon with prayers at the home at two o'clock and service in the United Church at 2:30 o'clock, conducted by Rev. Mr. Oliver. Interment will be made in the United Church cemetery at Penniac.

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