

"PARLIAMENT HILL HEARS..."

(By Wilfrid Eggleston, Correspondent Daily Mail).

The Scottish strain has always been much more prominent in Canadian parliamentary life than the English, but there are more native-born English in the present House of Commons than for several years.

No less than eight Englishmen are included in the present "south east corner" of the House. Five of these are followers of Social Credit and the other three are members of the C.C.F.

There was one Englishman in the Bennett Cabinet of 1930; there is one in the present government.

When Hon. H. H. Stevens retired from the Bennett cabinet he left it without a representative of his race, but Hon. Grose Stirling was appointed in his place, and Mr. Stirling is an Englishman too.

Hon. Charles Dunning is of course the Englishman in the present Cabinet. He was born in Leicestershire and came to Canada as a lad of 17. Mr. Stevens was born at Bristol and came to Canada when eight years of age. Mr. Stirling was born at Tunbridge Wells and came to Canada when a man of 36.

Hon. Martin Burrell is one of the former cabinet ministers who was born in England. He is a native of Berkshire and came to Canada when he was 24.

James Samuel Taylor, the C.C.F. member for Nanaimo, was born at Liverpool and came to Canada when he was 35.

James William Coldwell, C.C.F. leader for Saskatchewan, hails from Devon and was 22 when he crossed the Atlantic.

The Social Credit group contains the following natives of Albion: E. G. Hansell, member for Macleod, born at Norwich; came to Canada when nine years old; William Hayhurst, from Morland, who emigrated at 23; Norman Jacques, a Londoner, came out when 21; Joseph Needham, born at Bromhall, Cheshire, and came to Canada at the age of 31; E. J. Poole from Northwich, Cheshire, who was brought to Canada as a baby of two years.

A. A. Heaps, the Labour member for Winnipeg, was born at Leeds, and came to Canada when 26 years old.

Strangely enough, aside from the Minister of Finance and the ex-minister of national defence the English members are confined to the "south east corner."

The Senate boasts two natives of England out of a membership of 96. Hon. James Murdoch was born at Brighton and came to Canada at the age of three. Colonel Harry Mullins was born in England of Welsh descent and arrived in Canada when two years old.

In addition several natives of England were members of recent parliaments but have either retired, been defeated or have died.

Harry Butcher, member for Lost Mountain, Sask., in the last parliament, recently engaged in a study of election and franchise practices is a native of Greenwich, where the "time is made." He came to Canada when he was 31 years old.

H. B. Adshhead, who used to sit for a Calgary riding, and was a Labour member, came from Manchester, emigrating at 16.

T. W. Bird, a Manitoba Progressive, was a native of Westmorland. He was 28 when he came to Canada.

B. A. Peck, who sat for Peterboro, came from Alfriston, Sussex; he came to Canada at the age of 11.

Henry Spencer, one of the defeated U.F.A. members at the last election came from Alcester, which is not far from Stratford on Avon, which in turn is the birthplace of the immortal poet whose birthday and deathday coincide with the Englishman's feast day of St. George, April 23rd.

Humphrey Mitchell, Labor member for Hamilton in the last House and now engaged in demobilizing the relief camps, is a native of Old Shoreham, Sussex. He came to Canada as a lad of 18.

Recently Ripley showed a unique bridge built in the United States as a relief project. It has no approaches. It is advised by one of the relief authorities here that Canada has a good match for it: it consists of approaches without a bridge, and has been built in Saskatchewan. The two should get together!

R. B. Bennett once used against Sir Wilfrid Laurier a phrase which that statesman had employed ten years earlier against R. L. Borden (not then a knight). It was a rather amusing coincidence, and I doubt if Mr. Bennett knew he was repeating a historic phrase.

Back in February, 1901 Robert Laird Borden was chosen at a party caucus to lead the opposition. He received a charming note from Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Later, when he took his seat in the House as Leader of the Opposition, Sir Wilfrid said:

"I am quite sure my hon. friend will believe in my absolute sincerity when I tell him that I hope with all my heart he may continue to exercise

for a long, long period the functions of leader of the Opposition."

Mr. Borden made adequate if somewhat heavy retort in these words: "The right honorable gentleman will permit me to say, in passing, that it should remain leader of the Opposition for as long as that joke is out, it will be wholly beyond my own expectations and those of the members on this side of the House."

Old or not, the same joke was apparently employed ten years later by R. B. Bennett, who had just come from the West.

As given in "Fragments from a Frivolous Diary," recently published at Ottawa, the reference is this:

"Mr. R. B. Bennett, the new member from Calgary, although a young man, has had considerable political experience. 'He came to Ottawa,' as the paper says, 'with an assured western reputation, which will at the rate of his deliverance today soon become a Dominion one. Mr. Bennett replied to the Speech from the Throne, and gave a most effective address, the entire House listening with the greatest attention.'

'He congratulated Sir Wilfrid (the paper goes on to say) and said he hoped he would long be spared to lead the Opposition.'

Possibly, of course, this was one of the jokes when Sir John A. MacDonaid was first leading the federal parliament. Maybe it goes a lot further back than that in the British Parliament.

RIVER AT PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE RISES 3 FEET IN 4 HOURS

Sixty Families Driven From Homes in Brandon—Close Check Being Kept on Bridges and Highways.

WINNIPEG, April 17—Flood damage mounted in Alberta and Manitoba today as improved conditions were reported from Saskatchewan.

Sixty families were driven from their homes at Brandon, Man., 140 miles west of Winnipeg, where the Assiniboine river rose 12 inches yesterday. Dozens of other families removed furniture on wagons and trucks. At Portage la Prairie, 60 miles west of Winnipeg, the Assiniboine rose three feet in four hours.

The Red river threatened floods at Drumheller, Alta., and close check is being maintained at bridges and along highways. Royal Canadian Mounted Police are patrolling the river and a foot of water surrounds numerous residences at Newcastle, Nacmme North Drumheller and Midlandvale.

Wascana creek, which overflowed its banks, is receding at Regina.

The Manitoba situation is becoming serious. The Assiniboine river at Brandon overflowed its banks and was within one foot of the Eighteenth St. highway. The crunching of the huge cakes of ice could be heard as families gathered their possessions and sought higher ground.

Accommodation for the refugees from the already flooded area is becoming a problem for civic heads.

With the river still rising, many other families expected they would have to vacate their dwellings. The formation of ice jams at bends in the river is making the situation more serious.

Damage has not yet been reported from Portage la Prairie where the rapid rise in the river caused anxiety. At Fort River, Man., 175 miles north of Winnipeg, the Winnipegosis highway bridge was wrecked when the two centre spans were carried away by the floods.

Dynamite to break the jams has been placed at numerous danger points, along the Assiniboine river by Manitoba government officials.

Nearly Loses Life
ROSEDALE, Alta., April 16—Mike Shukoon's love of fishing nearly cost him his life.

The 75 year old resident of Aerial, Alta., was marooned on an island 200 yards from shore after wading across the channel to fish in the Red Deer river. He was trapped on the island when a large flow of ice came down the river suddenly, the quick-running water deepened and large blocks of ice began piling on the island.

Aided by a large bonfire lighted on the river bank and a fire started by Shukoon, who had taken refuge on the highest knoll of the island, Corporal Walter Dobbin and Constable S. Ramussen of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police rescued him with a boat after completing a perilous trip dodging ice cakes.

Shukoon, little the worse for his 12-hour exposure on the island, hesitated about leaving the island but he was out in the boat with a big bag of fish and taken back to the mainland.

Rosedale is four miles southeast of Drumheller, Alta.

HARDY SCOTSMAN, LIVING NEAR GANANOQUE, RECALLS EPICS OF THREE ANTARCTIC EXPEDITIONS

Thomas F. McLeod, Veteran of Scott's 1910-13 and Shackleton's 1914-17 and 1921-22 Voyages to the South, Lives Simple Life in a Shack in the St. Lawrence. Exists on \$5 Monthly, But Has Memories of a Decoration by the King and of Trips With Two Very Gallant Gentlemen.

GANANOQUE, Ont., April 16—In a shack beside an abandoned quarry, on the shores of the St. Lawrence River about nine miles west of Gananoque, lives Thomas F. McLeod. His two dogs are his only companions, and he is cheered by the memories of the three different occasions when he was decorated by the King amid cheers of the welcoming multitudes on his triumphant return from the far corners of the earth. For McLeod has done more for the British Empire in the matter of discovery than any other man on this continent and possibly in the world. He has travelled thrice into the Antarctic. In 1910-13 he was with Captain R. F. Scott on the Terra Nova; in 1914-17 on the Endurance with Sir Ernest Shackleton; and again with Sir Ernest in 1921-22 on the Quest.

McLeod was born at Stornaway on the Isle of Lewis, in the outer Hebrides in 1872. At an early age he decided to become a sailor and has rounded the Horn and the Cape of Good Hope in windjammers. He also fought in the South African war and has visited nearly every country in the world.

Makes Best of Things

It seems rather pathetic that McLeod, after a life of thrilling adventure, should find himself in such circumstances, but he is blessed with a Scot's stoicism and an ability to make the best of things which stands him in good stead. He has a job which nets him \$5 a month. To earn it, all he has to do is to get up every morning at four o'clock and walk four miles to a rural school, where he lights the fire and gets the place warm for the arrival of the pupils at nine o'clock. He has done this for several winters, when at times the mercury was down to 34 below zero. Moreover, he has walked the distance in rubber boots without socks. He never wears socks, and thinks nothing of walking through the snow from his shack to the St. Lawrence, chopping a hole in the ice for water and returning to the shack in his bare feet.

Asked how he spent his \$5 a month McLeod replied, "On Sunday I make soup. Then as a variation I make porridge. There's a pot on the stove now. It provides for me and the dogs."

"And if I had a fortune tomorrow," he continued, "I'd live the same as I'm living now as far as the food was concerned. I'd likely have a better house and furniture, but I'd still live in the country. I wouldn't go to the city to live."

If you want the scientific account of the three trips he has made into the Antarctic, they may be found in any library, but if you would like to hear the simple, unassuming tale of an old salt who has been to the far corners of the earth, listen to Thomas McLeod as he restlessly paces the floor of his shack. It smacks of high adventure.

To Sea at 14

"At the age of fourteen," he said, "I got a berth on a windjammer from Glasgow to Melbourne and back to London. Our cargo was wood and tallow. We went around the Cape of Good Hope, taking about 100 days, and came back by way of Cape Horn, taking about 165 days. For years after that I was an able seaman on windjammers, and when Scott's expedition to the South Pole was organized I made application for a berth. They wanted men who had had experience on sailing ships and I was one of the six merchant seamen accepted. The rest of the men on the expedition were from the navy. We sailed from London in June, 1910, and went to Murdock Sound."

"What," he was asked, "do you recall most vividly about that trip?"

McLeod thought for a moment. "It was during a heavy storm after we had left New Zealand. We were south of Campbell Sound and we nearly lost the ship. She started leaking and we were on the pumps for 24 hours day and night. We threw the deck cargo overboard to lighten ship and enable the men to get down to clear the pumps. It was pretty exciting, but we got fixed up after a while. The man who was on the pumps beside me at that time is now an admiral, Teddy Evans of Australia."

"To qualify for a berth on an Antarctic expedition the men were subjected to a strict medical examination and had to pass 100 per cent fit before they were taken. The teeth were an important item and I lost twelve before I was passed."

Lost the First Ship

"You lost the ship on the first Shackleton expedition, didn't you?"

"Yes. One day in August, which is the dead of winter in that region, the tremendous pressure of the ice lifted the ship up and turned her over on her side. It happened at 2 p.m. Sir Ernest had us all out and ordered us to stand to. It was a tense situation, but the ship righted at 7 p.m. and everything was all right for the time being. A short time later the same thing happened again, but this time we were not so fortunate, as the stern post was pulled out of the ship and she sank. We were stranded on the ice, miles from land. We made our way to a spit, about 100 yards long, on Elephant Island, and Sir Ernest set out in an open boat for South Georgia for help. For two and a half months 20 of us lived under two upturned boats on that spit. The time passed very slowly and when we were at last reached by the Chilean steamer Yelcho commanded by Captain Parry, I'll never forget how relieved and happy we were. On the day we were taken off the spit we had for our dinner seaweed, limpets and the old carcasses of penguins which we had previously thrown away. That experience may be valuable if this depression keeps up."

I'll never forget the reception we were given when we were taken to Punta Arenas, Chile. I had the time of my life and I couldn't pay for anything. We found out that the Admiralty had sent the Discovery out to rescue us, but without success."

Death of Sir Ernest

"Yes," agreed McLeod in response to a question, "the outstanding incident of the last expedition was the death of Sir Ernest Shackleton. We buried him at South Georgia, Cumberland Bay, twenty-five feet from the high water mark, and I laid the stones for his cairn. It happened like this: Sir Ernest died on the way out and we left his body at South Georgia. While we were standing by for two or three days on the way back I suggested to Captain Frank Wilde, who was second in command, that we build a cairn for the boss. He agreed, and sent the men to quarry the stones. I placed them in position."

"Some people think I am getting too old for further adventure," concluded McLeod, "but I can't believe that stuff. I would go on another expedition right now."

Indeed, McLeod has tried several times to secure a berth with Admiral Richard E. Byrd and has several letters from him expressing regret that the crew was already completed and saying that a man of McLeod's experience would have been a valuable asset to the party. Still hopeful that he may yet make another trip into the Antarctic, McLeod bides his time, making the most of what he has, and probably drawing from a wealth of experience memories to while away the long and lonesome hours.

Sanctions are effective against Italy, is claim

TORONTO, Ont., April 16—Germany and Japan will think twice before making any aggressive move against another nation because of the effect of the economic sanctions, Sir Robert Falconer, President of the League of Nations Society Toronto Branch, stated in an interview last night.

"I believe that the protect of the League against Italy's action in her aggression of Ethiopia has given it a moral leadership never before equalled in world history," Sir Robert declared.

"The sanctions have definitely been effective," he said "in that they have made the conflict more difficult for the aggressor and Germany or Japan, in the light of the effect of the sanctions, may well hesitate and wonder what might happen to them if sanctions were applied in the event of any aggression on their part". The League has a far greater destiny than upholding the Versailles treaty or maintaining the status quo, Sir Robert pointed out, before its destiny can be fulfilled, "all nations must play fair with it."

"The present situation is the first time in history than any world power has been held up by the collective resistance of fifty other powers", he said, "and for the first time an attempt has been made to substitute authoritative international law for force."

OLD AGE PENSIONS BILL IS CONTEMPLATED FOR QUEBEC

Dominion and Province Will Bear Whole Expense Incurred—Follow Lead of New Brunswick

QUEBEC, April 16—Before the legislative assembly continues the throne speech debate, T. D. Bouchard, minister of municipal affairs, will introduce the government bill to bring Quebec under the Dominion plan for old age pensions. The bill, providing for a commission to administer the pensions machinery in the province, will be up for the first reading. The government, Mr. Bouchard said, will pay the municipalities' share under the Dominion law. The Dominion government will pay 75 per cent and the provincial government the remainder.

Fred Monk (A.L.N., Jacques Cartier) will speak from the opposition benches in the throne speech debate. Opposition Leader Maurice Duplessis made an offer to suspend the debate to give immediate attention to the old age pensions bill and the bill to amend the Sunday Observance Act. He pointed out house rules permitted such a move for matters of urgent importance.

Premier Taschereau replied there was not that much haste for the two bills mentioned and possibly the throne speech debate was more urgent and important since the opposition had foreseen the government would be defeated on the motion to adopt a reply to the speech from the throne.

Heckled constantly by Oscar Drouin (A.L.N., Quebec East) and Dr. Philippe Hamel (A.L.N., Quebec Centre) from the opposition benches, Mr. Bouchard turned on them from time to time with quick verbal thrusts. For a time the scene took on the aspect of an old-time campaign joint debate.

Speaker Lucien Dugas called for order several times as other members on both sides joined in.

Quickly reviewing social legislation of the government, Mr. Bouchard declared the government, in abolishing seigneurial rights, has settled a question three-quarters of a century old. This law, which has been waiting so long, will free the lands of 60,000 farmers from the last vestige of the feudal system and will save the farmers about \$2,000,000 at least in 20 years.

Direct relief had cost governments and municipalities \$20,000,000 a year for some time, millions of dollars of pure waste, he believed. A new system of useful public works would recoup all these millions and at the same time restore the self-respect of needy workers.

Electrical Laws

Quebec's laws controlling the electrical industry are as severe as can be found in any country, Mr. Bouchard assured the legislature.

No private electrical corporation can include in the price of its elec-

A fisherman walking across the hayfield in the country met a farmer. "Is it an offence to catch fish here?" he asked.

"Offence!" replied the farmer. "No sir, it's a miracle."

Canada can contribute immeasurably to the success of the League of Nations by throwing her whole weight into getting the nations of the world a look at their problems from a "whole" point of view according to Sir Robert.

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trical current to customers any expense not inherent in actual production cost or not concerned with activity invested capital. The government without authorization from the legislature, cannot itself grant rights for any waterpower development exceeding 500 horsepower capacity.

Laws exist to make it easy for the municipalities wishing to municipalize their electrical systems to do so, Mr. Bouchard added. If the electrical commission is unsuccessful in obtaining reasonable electric rates for the consumer, the government itself cannot produce power in competition with the companies and force rates down.

Home Merchants

Home-owned stores that The Daily Mail would like to see patronized:

BEAUTY PARLORS:
Mrs. Young's
Mrs. Walker's Beauty Salon

AMUSEMENTS:
Gaiety Theatre,
Capitol Theatre,
Capital Billiard Parlor.

AUTOMOBILES:
J. Clark & Son,
Capital Garage,
D. & D. Motors.

BAKERS:
Royal Bakery.

DRUGGISTS:
Kenneth Staples,
Ross Drug Co.

DRY GOODS:
R. L. Black,
Wilby's.

COAL & FEEDS:
A. H. VanWart & Son

ELECTRICAL WORK:
Clarence Mills,
Harry C. Moore.

FARM MACHINERY:
J. Clark & Son.

GROCERS:
Harold Yerxa, York Street,
A. E. Bardsley,
A. T. Sneed,
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