

# THE DAILY MAIL

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FREDERICTON, MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1937.

## At the House

During the present Session there has been delay in the business of the Municipalities Committee. An instance of this is shown from the fact that four or five bills relating to the City of Fredericton have been before this committee for three or four weeks and have not yet been reported to the House. This committee meets in the forenoon and as the work is important it is necessary that all members be in their places. Some of the members complain that they are not notified in regard to the meeting and Premier Dymally in the House a few days ago expressed the hope that the clerks would exercise greater diligence in posting the notices of such meetings. All these things delay the Legislature and help to keep the House in session. One cause is that several officials about the Legislature are new on their jobs and have unfortunately no one with previous experience to coach them.

A paper published in another part of the province refers to the fact that for the first time in the experience of an old-timer about the Legislature, "the clerk and clerk assistant at the House vacate the Chamber and make for their office as soon as the proceedings start in the afternoon and do not return to the chamber until the conclusion of the debate. It is pointed out by members and ex-members who have followed the procedure for years that at least one of these clerks should be in constant attendance in the chamber while the House is in Session."

Another matter in connection with the loose procedure around the Legislature Chamber was pointed out by a former member a few days ago. It was noticeable that the junior official reporter was allowed to go from his desk and wander about the House loose and occupy the sofas reserved for distinguished visitors. In former years there were two official reporters. Whilst one occupied the official reporter's desk the other one was in the official reporter's room transcribing his notes and at different times they changed off, one taking the desk and the other the room. At the present time there seems to be an army of official reporters around the Legislature. They seem to be stumbling over each other. The proper decorum of the House should be preserved.

It is hoped that the Municipalities Committee of the Legislature will get together during the present week and will report to the House the five bills relating to the City of Fredericton including the bill to abolish the present unpopular Police Commission, which has been before the Committee for several weeks. It is time that the citizens of Fredericton who are strongly in favor of having this unpopular commission abolished knew where they were in regard to this matter.

Considerable delay and dissatisfaction has been caused around the Legislature during this Session owing to the fact that the different Committees were slow in functioning. It is well known to those in control of affairs in the House, as well as to those who have experience in the procedure, that the different House Committees have dragged this Session. If the chairmen of the different committees had been on their job and called the committees promptly, seeing that all members of the committee were present, it might have been possible to have the House prorogued by Easter as was the original intention. One trouble is that the committees during the last couple of sessions have been out of joint.

The Public Accounts Committee, which has been one of the most important committees of the Legislature and which in the old days provided much first page copy for the newspapers, has held but two meetings this Session and made but little progress. The trouble is that this committee is too large and cannot scare up a quorum when such committees as the Municipalities and Corporation Committees are in session. The accounts committee consists of nineteen members and it requires eleven for a quorum. In former years it consisted of seven members and when business was rushing towards the close of the Session it was granted permission while the House was sitting which greatly facilitated business in the public interest.

Another standing committee which appears to be out of joint is the committee on contingencies. This is the only committee that is empowered to vote away money, subject to the approval of the House, and is composed of nineteen members, whereas under the rules of the House it should consist of seventeen, one from each constituency. At present Gloucester and Moncton are unrepresented on this committee, while Saint John County and Carleton each have a double representation on it.

## Centralized Control

The Commonwealth of Australia is having its serious political difficulties as a Commonwealth.

The Australian Commonwealth is composed of New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, West Australia and Tasmania. The central government is located at Canberra, the newly made federal capital, a sort of central stamping ground without leaning in any one direction.

However, this does not prevent dissatisfaction. Some years ago Western Australia voted to secede from the Commonwealth. The vote carried in the state by two-to-one. The government at Canberra refused to listen to the result and the case was carried to the Privy Council, but that body gave its judgment that the British government could not change its constitution, and that West Australia would have to seek its relief from the Commonwealth government. The effect of the judgment was to intensify the demand for secession in West Australia. The claim is that being primary producers, they suffer from oppressive protective tariffs and that low freight rates on the national railways enables central industries to destroy any effort to establish industries in West Australia.

It is evident that in the land under the Southern Cross, the feeling against centralization of government is becoming more pronounced.

Only last week a plebiscite was held, the aim of the government being to vest in the federal authority power over civil aviation and inter-state trade. The result of the plebiscite rejects the measures. The federal government is shocked at anti-federal feeling so manifest in every state, and which has developed following the secession attitude of West Australia.

This situation in Australia is of special interest now because of the effort being made to effect a stronger national unity in Canada. A move here is towards constitutional changes that will pass to the Dominion government full authority with respect to social legislation, such as health, labor, insurance, pensions, etc.

## SNAPSHOTS

Virtue is three parts character and seven parts neighbors.

To the disinterested a sit-down strike looks enough like squatter sovereignty to be a brother-in-law.

When a divorced woman declares, "I'll never marry again," she may intend the remark for bait.

Few modern children, when grown, will have the satisfaction of bragging how their dad used to whale them.

We always ask for it. America modernized Japan; England built up her fleet. Now both call her a menace.

Comes the story of the patient who bit his dentist, without following the formula: "Now this will hurt a little."

You can tell a comer. He doesn't sneer at the top-notchers in his line because he expects to be one of them.

One way to estimate the speed of special change is to dig up regulatory laws that have long lain dormant among dust-covered statutes.

## Canadian Contingent

(Continued from Page One)  
actual service. A total of 156 out of the 273 are veterans of the Great War. The announcement said other members of the staff would be appointed later.

Nursing Matron E. F. Pense of Kingston, and Nursing Sister E. A. Ponting of Montreal, are slated to accompany the party.

The announcement did not say when the Coronation contingent would leave Canada.

Ten From M.D. No. 7  
Ten selections have been made from Military District No. 7 (Saint John), as follows:

Lt.-Col. G. G. K. Holder, D.C.M., M.M., E.D., Saint John Fusiliers; Major J. A. Leger, North Shore Regiment, Newcastle; Capt. R. M. Clark, Carleton and York Regiment, Woodstock; Sgt.-Maj. G. Clynick, 90th Field Battery, Fredericton; Sgt. H. Fournier, North Shore Regiment, Bathurst; Sgt. P. Burgoyne, 7th District Signals, Saint John; Sgt. W. S. McKnight, Carleton and York Regiment, Fredericton; Corp. H. W. Campbell, Machine Gun Troop of the 8th Hussars, Hampton; Bom. F. E. Devenne, 3rd Medium Brigade, Saint John; and Pte. H. S. Steeves, New Brunswick Rangers, Salisbury.

Twenty-one officers and men have been chosen from M. D. No. 6 (Halifax). They are Con. C. A. Good, Annapolis Valley; Lt. Col. O. G. Donovan, Halifax; Major R. T. Chisholm, Sydney; E. Rennie, G. Rolfe, H. A. Taylor, A. H. Kay, W. Caldwell, Sydney Mines; J. W. Green, Yarmouth; P. McAulay, Glace Bay; A. MacDonald, Stellarton, and Fred Fox, Lunenburg.

From P. E. I.—Major T. B. Rogers, Charlottetown; G. R. Brady, E. S. Skeffington, A. D. McMaster, J. A. McDonald and Charles E. Fraught, all of Charlottetown.

Officers and airmen of the Royal Canadian Air Force numbering 18 all ranks have been selected. They include:

Wing Commander H. Edwards and W. G. Webber, Dartmouth, N. S.

Personnel of the Royal Canadian Navy follow:

Lieut.-Comdr. A. M. Hope, Ottawa, S. Tapper, "Stadacona," C. M. Martin, "Saguenay," J. R. Joslin, "Stadacona," L. J. Bertrand, "St. Laurent," R. D. Eison, "Stadacona," E. Jones, "Naden," J. Barrick, "Fraser," G. F. Adam "Naden," F. Freeman, "Skeena."

Royal Canadian Naval Reserve: Lieut.-Comdr. J. J. Deslauriers, Quebec; W. S. Woods, Vancouver; N. Julien, Halifax; H. W. McDonald, Charlottetown; C. D. Smith, Montreal.

Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve include:

Lieut.-Comdr. J. P. Connolly, Halifax; Lieut. N. L. Pickersgill, Regina; Sub-Lt. Fred Brock, Rousesay, N. B.; Lt. Connolly, Charlottetown, and S. A. Parfitt, Saint John.

## DEATHS

PEPPERS—At his home at Lower St. Mary's on Monday, March 22nd, 1937, Samuel Gardner Peppers, at the age of 73 years.

Funeral on Tuesday afternoon, with prayers at the home at 2.30 p.m., followed by service at Holy Trinity Church, Lower St. Mary's, conducted by Rev. H. E. Dymally. Interment in Holy Trinity Churchyard, Lower St. Mary's.

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## Pall-Bearers, Mourners Funeral of Mrs. Clowes

At the funeral of Mrs. Geo. Clowes held on Saturday afternoon, the pall-bearers were Stephen Estabrooks, Frank Estabrooks, Ashley Estabrooks and Harold Estabrooks. The mourners were George Burpee, Fred Hoben, Havelock Hoben, Reuben Hoben, Roy Hoben, Sterling Hoben, Hayward Estabrooks, Bertram Estabrooks, Ronald Estabrooks, Ernest Estabrooks, Ludlow Hoben, Miles Gibson, William Gibson and Charles Bliss.

## Definition

(Continued from Page One)  
find fault with it seriously. He gained one point when Mr. Lapointe agreed to remove from the bill a provision for granting permits or licenses in some cases for Canadians to join fighting forces of other countries.

Protection was provided, however, by a distinct definition of "armed forces," it being made clear in the bill that this subject should not apply to members of the Red Cross, the medical services or any one else engaged in humanitarian work in case of foreign wars.

Mr. Lapointe explained that the Foreign Enlistment Act was merely an enactment in conformity with the British statute, which had always applied to Canada. It had simply been thought better to have a distinctly Canadian act serving the same purpose.

Mr. Cahan found some fault with Mr. Lapointe's remark that the principle of the Act had been "accepted" by Canada. Rather it had been imposed on the Dominion. Although the B.N.A. Act gave Canada exclusive jurisdiction over many fields within her own boundaries, the Colonial Laws Validity Act enacted two years earlier, restricted the field of Canadian Legislation.

"Times have changed and are changing and I think it is necessary that this Parliament should endeavor to express itself with regard to all these matters as an assertion of the sovereignty of this Parliament, in all matters which are normally within the legislative jurisdiction of this Parliament."

"I fear sometimes that we have more of the colonial spirit of inferiority than even our fathers and our grandfathers had, and certainly the time has come in the history of this Dominion when, if we look to ascertain who are Canadians and who are Canadian nationals, we should be able to find it in some substantive enactment outside of the Immigration Act, the purpose and intent of which is to exclude certain classes of people from obtaining domicile in Canada."

## School Gas

(Continued from Page One)  
Clark said first knowledge he had of the connection came about six o'clock Thursday afternoon, several hours after the explosion. "I learned the school was being furnished gas from the residue line when word came to me we should shut it off. I found a ditch dug, apparently, from the looks of the ground, about 60 to 90 days before. I closed the valve and disconnected the line."

Clark explained that frequently in the gas fields connections are made to company lines, sometimes by homes, and gas is drawn off. He said the companies have men hired to walk the lines and seek out any such connections. When the connections are found, he said, "we file a notice notifying them we are going to disconnect them."

While the inquiry progressed other East Texas communities expressed fear of similar tragedies. General compliance was expected for Governor James Allred's request that heating systems in all schools be examined for safety before use.

## Author Attributes

(Continued from Page One)  
letters are from people who want to give her their "thrilling" life stories, suggesting she write them on a fifty-fifty basis. Australia contributes most heavily to her fan mail, the author stated. On one occasion eighty-seven letters arrived by one mail following an article in an Antipodean newspaper, and within six months she had 750 letters.

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**GORDON JONES**

## Had Valuable

(Continued from Page One)

said, he found the "friendliest" possible feeling toward Great Britain, and of course, Canada. He predicted a fine welcome there for Lord Tweedsmuir on the Governor General's impending visit to the White House in return for President Roosevelt's visit to him at Quebec last Summer.

Throughout his talk with reporters outside his private car at Bonaventure station, Mr. King stressed that his own White House conversations had been "purely personal." He said he would "rather not say anything specific" about them. Out of courtesy to his host, he felt anything of that nature should come from the White House.

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