

THE DAILY MAIL

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1938

## LEADER SQUIRES, ET AL

"WHERE, OH WHERE, IS THE TORY PARTY THAT I KNEW ONCE LONG AGO?" A visit to the Legislature during the past week emphasizes the fact that the Tory Party in this province as well as in other provinces of Canada has fallen upon evil days. Hon. F. C. Squires, the Provincial Leader did the best he could in the House but his best although put forward in an eloquent manner was a miserable failure. Instead of putting forward constructive criticism Hon. Mr. Squires made an attempt and a futile one to criticize the Dysart Government. It was not the fault of Mr. Squires that his criticisms fell flat because he did not have the material for his ammunition. Another handicap with which Mr. Squires had to deal was the record of the Dysart Government in comparison with the Baxter-Richards-Tilley combination which Mr. Squires tamely followed during the time that he has been in the Legislature.

Mr. Squires as is common with all Leaders of the Opposition declared that the Government was spending too much money but at the same time he was unable to give one instance of improper or unnecessary expenditure. One of the causes of expenditure about which Mr. Squires complained, and one which will fall flat amongst the people of this province, was the expenditure in regard to old age pensions. He was not brazen enough to say that the old age pensions should not be paid but he censured the Government for not dishing out indiscriminately large gobs of money, larger than they could afford. Mr. Squires has never been noted for his consistency in the discussion of public questions. Mr. Squires was not only displeased with what he claimed was over-expenditure. He seemed to be equally displeased with the increased revenue of the province.

Mr. Squires was followed by three of the other "five roses" of the Opposition. One of these speakers (Mr. Perry) from the front benches of the Opposition gave untinted praise to the Dysart Government especially in the administration of the Department of Agriculture. The other speaker, Mr. Melville, who is always heard with interest had not one word of constructive criticism, nor of any other kind of criticism, to make in regard to the Government. The best to be said about Mr. McAllister of Saint John is that he also spoke. It must be discouraging to the followers of the present Opposition to watch the proceedings of their leaders in the local legislature but the diminishing forces of the Conservative Party is not only confined to the province of New Brunswick. At the House of Commons at Ottawa they play a very small part in the scheme of things, and in every province from the Pacific girt capital at Victoria to the Atlantic lapped waters at Halifax, province by province the Conservative Party are a minority in the Legislatures of their provinces. In Prince Edward Island they are entirely nil. This is the position in which the once great Conservative Party of Canada finds itself in today. As Leader Squires, WITH DASHING EYE AND HEAD ERECT SAID AT SAINT JOHN LAST YEAR ON A HISTORIC OCCASION, "WOE IS ME, WOE IS ME."

## LESS ORATORY WOULD HELP

THERE will be no begrudging the time occupied by Federal Parliamentarians in considering how rules of procedure might be altered with a view to expediting transaction of the country's business. Like all great bodies, Parliaments move slowly, and set rules are necessary to their procedure. Still, there is a growing opinion that the sessions at Ottawa are too long, and that this is because there is far more oratory than is necessary.

Members themselves know this. It is common knowledge in the House and elsewhere that many legislators are eager to see—and have their constituents see—in Hansard impressive-looking speeches by themselves. The longer the speech, the better for home consumption. The forty-minute limit placed on members, other than party Leaders, adopted 11 years ago, surely had some effect; but still Hansard remains quite a bulky volume. This may be accounted for in part by the rise of new parties, with, of course, views at variance with those held by the old-line parties, and this means extra discussion.

The actual cost of Hansard had a place in the proposal of R. W. Gladstone (Wellington South) for appointment of a special committee to consider revision of the rules of the House. He mentioned suggestions to abolish Hansard when the House is in Committee of the Whole, to limit speeches to 30 or 20 minutes, and to cut out debate on the Speech from the Throne.

R. J. Deachman (Huron North) admitted that he had been ashamed of the length of one of his speeches as printed in Hansard. "I did not recognize it at first," he said, "the language seemed so strange." So he revised, boiled down, rewrote and eliminated. "And when I was through with it, it was fairly passable, but I confess I was profoundly ashamed of what I had done before."

What a great help it would be toward speeding up Parliamentary procedure if honorable members did the boiling down, the rewriting and the eliminating while preparing their speeches. Unfortunately practiced speakers are carried away by enthusiasm for a cause; they try to touch on every angle of the subject, and have no trouble at all in getting forty minutes' worth of oratory into Hansard.

However, the discussion—though it also will add to the bulk of Hansard—was interesting as indicating that legislators are aware of a great waste of time during the session. They recognize that debate unduly prolonged of time during the session. They recognize that debate unduly prolonged will be rushed through with quite inadequate discussion. It is with this thought that revision of House rules—in other respects as well as debate—is proposed. However, nothing will be done this session, as, on the suggestion of Hon. Ernest Lapointe, Minister of Justice, who assured the House that this session would be a heavy one, the motion was withdrawn. It should be a subject of early consideration when Parliament meets next year.

## Snapshots

Both Government and Opposition in the Legislature are united in their protest against Montreal instead of Shediac as the ocean air terminal. This is not a case of politics. It is a case of New Brunswick rights and Maritime rights. It is up to our Federal Minister and the Nova Scotia Minister to protect our rights.

The Maritime provinces have been getting a raw deal far too long. They have been discriminated against on various occasions by both the Liberal and Conservative parties at Ottawa.

We cannot yet believe that Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Transport, will allow the raw deal regarding the ocean terminals, to go through. Now is the time for a show down with the powers that be at Ottawa. Are they going to continue to ignore the Maritimes or will they give us an even break, no matter whether the Montreal interests like it or not?

We do not want any passing the buck in this affair.

Mr. Blakeny of Moncton last evening delivered one of the best speeches heard in the Legislature in recent years. The speech contained many matters of importance in regard to colonization, labor, mineral development and other matters of vital importance to this province.

## IN LEGISLATURE

(Continued from Page One)  
Hon. C. T. Richard introduced a bill providing for the installation of a sprinkler system in the Provincial Hospital annex which was given first reading.

## R. C. M. P.

(Continued from Page Eight)

The report pointed out that last year he had suggested the use of some type of distinctive clothing for hunters. Such a regulation would not place hardship on anyone.

Large seizures of contraband during the year have tended to reduce the flooding of the northern part of the province with contraband liquor. Bootleggers dealing in government liquor present a difficult proposition. "The securing of sufficient evidence is often difficult," the report said, "even with exceptional measures at the disposal of the force."

There was little work necessary during the year in suppressing slot machines. It also stated that there was an increase in the number of criminal offences.

The report as a whole, very modestly outlined the work done in the year by the force.

## OIL DEPOSITS

(Continued from Page One)

oil resources of New Brunswick. There is no British Admiralty fuelling base on the North Atlantic, and Canada's only appreciable oil supply lies three thousand miles away hidden in the interior of the country. The huge oil reserves in this Province, placed there by the act of God for our use and enrichment, cover an area of some two hundred square miles and are said by many geologists to continue to a depth of three thousand feet. More than one million dollars has been expended, quietly, in testing and proving the New Brunswick shale deposits as a source of oil, and they are said to be the most extensive deposits in all the entire world.

Recent invention and discovery in shale reduction and oil refining equipment has made it possible to produce crude oil and gasoline from these shale beds at a cost competitive with petroleum imported into this country from foreign sources.

Last year this Legislature passed an Act giving control of those vast oil shale deposits to a company for a limited time for the purpose of development. Negotiations have been under way in London during recent weeks whereby, it is hoped that operations may soon be started, provided necessary final financial arrangements can be made. It is expected that several millions of dollars will be spent erecting reduction and refining plants, giving employment to twelve hundred to fourteen hundred men in the hills and mountains of the county of Albert and adjoining counties.

We think sometimes that New Brunswick is a poor Province, yet here under our very feet lies a natural resource capable of producing millions of dollars in new wealth, building new cities in its wake, and rendering a national service to Canada and the British Empire by producing a new source of oil supply where none now exists.

A venture of this kind calls for much faith, daring and enterprise on the part of our people as well as the capital interested. Let us lend every encouragement to the progressive spirits behind the enterprise because the project carries within it the germs of enormous good and enormous wealth for this Province.

## DIED

MCCORQUINDALE—Passed away on March 3, 1938, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Frank Hersey, Woodstock Road, Mrs. Annie McCorquindale. The funeral will take place Saturday at 12.45 noon, from the home, Woodstock Road, with services conducted by Rev. John Linton. Interment will be made at Scotch Lake.

## HIGH HANDED ACTION

(Continued from Page One)

Squires. "I can assure the premier and the government that the opposition party is whole-heartedly behind him in standing up for the rights of our province. Shediac is the logical focal point and there is no reason why it should be given a back seat."

E. R. McDonald, K.C., (Lib. Westmorland) queried the premier to ascertain what authority the minister of transport would have to change the terminus after rights at Shediac had been granted Pan-American Airways. Mr. McDonald lives in Shediac.

In reply briefly, Premier Dysart said he had no detailed information on this point.

Premier Dysart read the following telegram he had sent to Mr. Howe:

"Greatly disturbed to read in press your proposal that Montreal become terminus of Imperial Airways, Pan-American and Trans-Canada. Recognized that Shediac has been generally accepted as the logical point having the unqualified support of Imperial, Pan-American and other technical advisors. Supplementing current technical opinion there is the experience of Balbo's Italian fleet which selected Shediac after long and careful investigation. Seems inconceivable that you should consider substituting some other point not possessing the generally accepted advantages of Shediac and eliminate New Brunswick and the Maritimes from the international transportation picture, and strongly protest against such a policy."

IT WOULD APPEAR THAT IN THIS CASE AS WELL AS IN SOME OTHERS THIS PROVINCE AND THE MARITIMES ARE BEING IGNORED IN THE INTERESTS OF MONTREAL AND CENTRAL CANADIAN INTERESTS. NOT ONLY HAS SHEDIAC ALL THE NATURAL ADVANTAGES AND NOT ONLY HAS IT BEEN DECIDED BY EXPERTS AS A SAFE AND SANE ROUTE FOR THE TERMINUS BUT THE ELIMINATION OF THE MARITIMES FROM THE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION PICTURE will be only one more blow that New Brunswick has received from different Federal Governments and it is up to the province of New Brunswick and to the Maritime Provinces in general irrespective of political affiliations to make the strongest possible protest and to use our best interests to see that the ocean air terminus is not side tracked from Shediac and taken to the upper provinces to satisfy the interests of certain influential people at Montreal.

IT IS UP TO ALL THE MEMBERS FROM NEW BRUNSWICK AND FROM THE MARITIMES IRRESPECTIVE OF PARTY POLITICS TO GET BEHIND THE UNANIMOUS OPINION OF THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE IN REGARD TO HAVING THE OCEAN AIR TERMINUS AT SHEDIAC. WE EXPECT OUR FEDERAL MINISTER HON. MR. MICHAUD TO GET BUSY AND LEAD IN THIS FIGHT AS WE KNOW HE WILL.

## BLAKENY

(Continued from Page One)

Committee at Ottawa. It was revealed to that Committee that certain interests in Canada had organized and conspired to fix the price of many necessities of life. This country today still is in the hands of huge business cartels who determine the price at which the necessities of life shall be sold. Secret rebates and price cutting are rampant in the business world, and the ultimate toll is taken out of the consumer. It makes no difference how much cash one may have, unless the small business man is on certain preferred lists, he cannot get the best or lowest prices for the commodities which in turn he sells to the consumer who in very large measure is the working man.

Then again, cases are not unknown in this Province where employers have forced their employees to work for wages which are below the normal standard of living. If it is true that perhaps an industry located in one section of a country may not be able, because of the peculiar circumstances surrounding that industry, to pay wages comparative to a similar industry in another part of the country. Yet if that be the case, I maintain that no industry regardless of its nature should by law, moral or legislative, be permitted to work its employees at starvation wages or under inhumane conditions.

I believe that labor should be given the legal right to organize into trades unions, and that every man should be given the legal right to join the union of his choice without compulsion or coercion. I believe in the principle of collective bargaining without compulsion or coercion. I believe that in any legislation enacted there should be no compulsion or coercion on the part of the Government, the employer or the employee. This is the cardinal principle of democracy a principle upon which is founded the entire system of British law and justice. The difference between a democracy such as ours and the autocracies of Europe, is that in this country, the rights of the individual are supreme. The state exists for the individual, not the individual for the state.

They ask but leave to labor, to taste of joy's delight.

A little salt to flavor their bread and hounds watertight.

They ask but the right to labor and to live by the strength of their hands;

They who have bodies like knotted oaks and patience like the deep sea sands.

A man's right to labor and his right to labor enjoy.

Not all the laws can strangle that right or the Gates of Hell destroy. For it came with the making of man, it was kneaded into his bones. It will stand at the last of things on the dust of crumbled Thrones.

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