

TO CONSIDER

(Continued from Page One)

aggregating many millions of dollars. This system, as futile as cutting a patient's throat while making a blood transfusion, could not be carried any longer if this province wanted to maintain its credit on the financial markets.

Among the highlights of last year's accomplishment as briefly described in the Speech from the Throne, the Dymally government is proud to mention a budget balanced with a surplus of \$29,000, obtained through a good and sound administration of the public funds and an increase in revenue deriving from improved industrial conditions and increased spending power of our population.

This result and most of the other achievements are, without any doubt, due to the fact that this able body of men now entrusted with the administration of provincial affairs, have realized the importance of individual leadership and have consequently thrown their entire efforts toward the development of private undertaking.

The more heavily the individual depends upon the state for support, the more heavily the state will lean upon him for its support, so creating a vicious circle the result of which is nothing but heavier taxes and increasing public indebtedness.

To break this circle the present government has searched with no small results the field of private opportunities. Its policy to broaden existing markets and secure new markets for our natural products has already given wonderful replies in all spheres of activities.

Considering, however, the fact that 44 per cent of our total population derives a livelihood from the soil, we must admit that one of our biggest retarding forces will never be eliminated until the farmer gets a new deal that really counts. Our farmers are confronted with various problems, the most important ones being actually the need of credit and the low price of the produce they have for sale compared with the price of commodities which they have to buy.

Our farmers need two kinds of credit: the short term and long-term credit. Through the high vision of the Minister of Agriculture, democracy credit or, as we usually call it, the Co-operative Credit Movement has been legally recognized in this province and short term credit is now accessible to the masses. The original idea behind the Credit Union is that there exist, within any group, all the funds necessary to the short credit needs of that body. All that is necessary is a system whereby these funds can be pooled and utilized by the members at rates that take the curse out of short term borrowing, while at the same time it returns a fair dividend to those who furnish the money. New Brunswick now has this system.

During its few months of existence, since the spring of 1936 when the Co-operative Credit Movement was legally recognized, it has shown substantial benefits to our rural population. The first Credit Union was formed at Blackville in September, 1936; about 30 others have been incorporated since, with a total membership of over 2,000 persons. At the end of 1937 these Credit Unions had total assets of \$25,000 and outstanding loans of \$35,000. No doubt that the trend will keep toward the formation of other rural and community Credit Unions and that we will some day find one in at least every parish, meeting the need for a sound system of short term credit.

The prospect of taking care of the serious demand for long term credit, on the other hand, is not so bright. It is true that the farmers have at their disposal the Federal Farm Loan system but all the red tape with which it is surrounded, renders it more or less inoperating. It is to be hoped that some day the province will be in such a financial position as to permit the organization of a provincial system of loans to farmers.

Among other important legislations announced in the Speech from the Throne we find one which will be presented to the consideration of the House to "foster the establishment of co-operative organizations" in this province. This is again in perfect accord with the policy of the present government. It is well known that one of the main problems of the farmers of today is to find a way to put their product on the markets at a price high enough to realize a margin of profit which will permit them to buy manufactured goods, pay the fees of different services which they require and meet private and public obligations which they have to support.

It is altogether useless for the farmers to ask that service fees be cut, that wages to labour be reduced in order for them to buy manufactured goods at a lower cost. They must lower their own cost of production by adopting the best methods of cultivating or feeding, and also reduce their cost of merchandising.

The solution of this important problem will be partly met by the legislation which the government proposes to introduce this year: Co-operative organizations. Under the proper supervision and the efficient guidance of the government, these will create for our farmers a better equilibrium between the price they will get for

what they sell and the cost of what they buy. Co-operative organizations have rendered unmeasurable benefits to farmers in European countries and will no doubt give the same beneficial effects here if the spirit of co-operation is always well safeguarded.

Another subject which is mentioned in the Speech from the Throne is Education. Progress in bringing about the proper reforms is being noted and it is certainly a good policy not to go too fast as it would take a tremendous amount of work and money to make a complete change in one day and I think the Hon. leader of the Opposition should not be so impatient if he would only recall the inaction of the previous administration which he was supporting, on the report on Education which was tabled in this House in 1932—and also if he would remember how slow was the same previous government in regard to Old Age Pensions—so slow indeed were the friends of the Hon. leader of the Opposition that the people of this province had to take the power away from their hands in order to see the old folks get the pension to which they were entitled.

On this matter of Education, there is one aspect of the question which is of great interest to the 140,000 Acadians of this province, and, even if I appear to be too persistent, I want again this year to discuss before this House this important matter, in order to have the people of this province understand clearly our viewpoint.

When the House opened, last week, every member found in his desk a newspaper in which a letter to the editor was pointed out, pertaining to matters of education which interest to a great extent the population of the County of Madawaska which I represent.

With the author of this letter I deplore the fact that the last census figures show that New Brunswick has the highest percentage of illiteracy of all the Canadian provinces. Another sad feature is that the highest percentages of illiteracy, within the province, are found in those counties in which Canadians of French origin predominate.

I am entitled to say, Mr. Speaker, that no group of citizens in this province feels more deeply the disreputable position of New Brunswick in the matter of education than the Acadians because we fully realize our responsibility. This explains why, conscious as they are of their duties as citizens of one of the nicest provinces in the whole Dominion, the Acadians have been asking for the last twenty years at least and are still asking today the proper remedies for such conditions.

In his official capacity, one of the Acadian Inspectors of Schools has published recently definite assertions which have caused the letter which I referred to a few minutes ago, and in which it is said: "his assertions should not be passed over lightly, either by the government or the public of the province."

In that letter, reference is being made to an investigation carried on in the province of Ontario on educational matters. No doubt that the writer had in mind the Merchant-Scott-Cote Inquiry Committee appointed by Hon. G. H. Ferguson, then Minister of Education for Ontario, on October 21st, 1925, not, as stated in the above mentioned letter, for the purpose of answering to complaints that the English children were unable to secure a proper education in their own language, but, as plainly defined in page 3 of the report of the said Committee, to investigate the conditions in the schools of the province of Ontario, attended by pupils who spoke the French language and in which French was a subject of study or used as a medium of communication and instruction.

Mr. Speaker, I studied very seriously the report of that committee which was submitted to the Minister of Education of Ontario on August 26, 1927 and my conclusion is that the same conditions which existed there at that time, exist in New Brunswick today. Our old and rigid system of education has failed to give the children of this province a proper sum of knowledge; it has failed to keep pace with modern needs; it has failed to meet the requirements of rural life and, in the case of the many thousands of French-speaking pupils who have gone to public schools and followed a curriculum most unfit for their mentality, it has only contributed to favour illiteracy.

Referring again to this letter which was brought to the attention of the Members of this House, may I cite here the conclusive paragraph:

"An unbiased governmental investigation such as conducted in Ontario by a commission with wide powers, about which there could no longer be any question, and then, if it is found that any injustice is being done on either side, remedies can be applied, even if it were necessary to re-organize the present normal schools as suggested by Mr. Lejeune. Let those who are afraid of the results come out in the open and oppose it—that is provided there are any so minded."

Mr. Speaker, the Acadians of this province are not afraid of the results which will derive from such an investigation. I will go further and say that I feel entitled to speak for the

other nine Acadian Members of this House who come here as representatives of one third of the entire population of this province, and state publicly here: GIVE US THIS INVESTIGATION, this is what we want!

Asking Last Ten Years

When facts will be brought before the proper authorities, when the present situation in the Acadian schools is known the province over, when the real causes for so many of our children leaving school too early in years will be defined and explained, when it will be found why most of our children coming out of our rural schools have such a poor knowledge of French and English, when hundreds of pupils will be found wanting after this traditional eight-year elementary school, ill-equipped for any further advancement and too young to have the faintest idea as to what they are going to do in later life, while others will be discovered plunged into an environment and curriculum which have been well preserved as antiques for these exceptional ones whose abilities are unmistakably academic; when it will be realized from as many statements as you want that French-speaking parents are without exception desirous that their children should be taught English, then Mr. Speaker, there will be no more controversy because the Acadians are confident that the proper solution will easily be found to this important problem. And those who will take the responsibility of formulating such a solution will reap the merit of having largely contributed in lowering the high percentage of illiteracy which is now found in New Brunswick.

Taking into consideration the cost of such an investigation, may I add this, and again I am speaking for all the other Acadian Members of this House: Ontario has found a happy solution to this important problem and, since 1927, they have been experimenting a new system of teaching in their schools attended by French-speaking pupils.

One has only to read the report which was issued later, that of June 26th, 1933, by W. J. Karr, Director of English Instruction and A. J. BenetEAU, Director of French Instruction, for the province of Ontario, to find out what the results were after five years of experimentation.

"As secretaries of the Committee of Inquiry from 1925 to 1927, write these two educators, we had a first-hand acquaintance with the conditions at that time, and we can state without hesitation that there has been a very considerable improvement in the general situation during the period that has elapsed. In 1927, these schools were, with comparatively few exceptions, very inefficient. It was anticipated that, even in the most favourable circumstances, progress would necessarily be slow and gradual. There has been no sudden and complete transformation from inefficiency to efficiency, but, five years after the adoption of the new scheme of dealing with these schools, it can definitely be said that there is marked progress in the right direction. The indications are that this

improvement will be progressive and cumulative and there is reason to anticipate that five years hence, when the plan will have been in operation for ten years—a period quite short enough to test its effectiveness fairly—the average standing of these schools will closely approach that of the elementary schools in any part of the Province."

Referring to English reading the report says:

"All the pupils begin the reading of English in the second school year and, having obtained during the first school year some ability to read French and to speak English, their progress is little short of remarkable."

About English conversation, the report says:

"Oral English is begun at the child's entry into school, and systematic training in conversation and free expression is given throughout his whole school career. Owing to the emphasis placed upon this work by the training school staffs and by the inspectors, practically all teachers have developed at least a fair technique in this field, and the proficiency in English speech acquired even by first-year pupils in many schools in purely French-speaking communities would be surprising to the uninformed observer."

About the ability to write English the report says that the written English was fair or good in 56 per cent of the schools, poor in 34 per cent and entirely absent in 10 per cent. In 1933, the written English was fair or good in 70 per cent of the schools visited, poor in 30 per cent and entirely lacking in none.

Mr. Speaker, I do not want to take any more time to show that the teaching of French in these same schools, during the years was as satisfactory as the teaching of English under this new system in Ontario. It is a fact well established in the above mentioned report.

So, as a conclusion to these remarks I say: If the present system of Education for the schools attended by French-speaking pupils in Ontario was acceptable by all groups, if the said system has proven to be so advantageous in the teaching of both languages, why should not New Brunswick adopt it for the same class of schools?

I humbly submit these considerations to the Minister of Education confident that he will accept them with the same spirit that I have, that is, the betterment of educational conditions in this province in order to make New Brunswick the best province of all, in all spheres of activities.

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VICKS COUGH DROP

PRIESTS CRITICIZED IN MARRIAGE CASE

Court Rules Church Authorities Must Observe Civil Law

MONTREAL, March 4—Sharply criticizing Roman Catholic Church authorities for telling Claire Martineau that she was free to remarry when she had received only an ecclesiastical annulment of her marriage, Mr. Justice Forest in a Superior Court judgment at Joliette warned that in all such cases the civil law must supersede.

Commenting on the "grave imprudence" committed by a priest at Joliette who told the woman she had recovered her "free state" by an annulment decree issued from Rome and by a Montreal priest who performed the second marriage, His Lordship said that all such decrees should be accompanied by a proviso attesting that before a new marriage was contracted a civil annulment must be obtained.

From the failure of the priests to advise the woman properly, His Lordship pointed out, she now finds herself in a position of extreme difficulty. For last summer after living for 15 years with her second husband he secured an annulment of their marriage on the ground that her first marriage had not been legally set aside. Yesterday in the Superior Court here she moved to re-open the case involving her second marriage and pointed out that since the annulment judgment was rendered in that case, she had herself secured an annulment at Joliette for her first marriage. The application was taken under advisement by Mr. Justice Surveyl.

Flight of 30,000 Jobless Clerks Adds to Worries Of Wall Street

NEW YORK, March 4—Unemployment in Wall Street—money centre of the United States—was discovered today by Charles R. Gay, president of the New York Stock Exchange, and Richard Lewis, organization director of the financial employees organizing committee, affiliated with the C.I.O.

Employment in brokerage houses at the beginning of the year was reported ten per cent under a year ago, and around 10,000 additional clerical workers in "the Street" are said to have lost jobs in the past two months. "The current number of Wall Street unemployed bank and brokerage workers to between 25,000 and 30,000. In addition, many brokerage house workers still with jobs have been subjected to the famed 'Scotch week' under which every fourth week is worked without pay.

Lewis told Gay at their conference today that he thought brokerage houses had been too hard in treatment of employees, and that retrenchment methods "less painful" to workers than those followed could be used.

DEATH ENDS GOLF MATCH

Victor Buried Near the Scene of His 'Victory'

LITTLECOTE, England, March 4—The longest and strangest golf match on record ended today when W. R. Chamberlain, 75, a farmer, carried his victorious opponent to his grave.

Sixteen years ago Chamberlain and George New, 66, village postmaster, vowed they would fight out their golf match "to the death." Chamberlain finally buried New with the score standing 479 holes up for New, Medal scores for the 16 year long match were: New, 36,379; Chamberlain, 88,016.

The veterans met every Thursday at the local nine-hole course and played under their own rules. For every hole won the winner was given a single point. A birdie counted six points and an eagle 12. They even penalized each other five points for being late at the first tee and gambled a half-penny a point.

The last match was played January 13 when they finished 18 holes all square. On that day each had to buy his own tea under their rules.

Several days later New fell ill. He died Sunday, and today was buried not far from the golf course.

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CANADIAN PACIFIC

"TRY TO GRASP THE OTHER PERSON'S POINT OF VIEW" SAYS DALE CARNEGIE

Author of the famous book "HOW TO WIN FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE"

HAVE YOU SMOKED A TURRET LATELY?

T Quality and Mildness Turret CIGARETTES PLAIN OR CORK TIP

1 "Any psychologist will tell you not to condemn people who disagree with you. If you do, you will find yourself becoming like the old Quaker who said to his wife: 'Everyone is queer except thee and me—and sometimes I think thee is a little queer, too.' 'Remember that there are two sides to every question.'"

2 "There is always a reason why men and women think and act the way they do. But, to discover it, you have to put yourself in the other person's place. 'The ability to do that is rather rare. That is why those who possess it acquire a reputation for exceptional skill in handling human relationships.'"

3 "There is no better way to acquire that skill than in dealing with children. Children look at everything in a way of their own. 'Next time your boy wants to build a bonfire on the front lawn, for instance, don't just order him to 'quit that foolishness!'"

4 "Instead you might say something like this: 'Bonfires are a lot of fun. I like to build them myself. But they are out of place and dangerous here. Some day we'll find a safe place and I'll help you to build a real fire.' 'What a difference that kind of technique makes!'"