

# on the *Oct 29/68* MAIN STREET



A recent visit to Parliament Hill at Ottawa was interesting and enlightening. It was one of many visits, including the time when Clayton Hodgson was for many years Member for Victoria and Haliburton before and during the regime of John Diefenbaker and Lester Pearson.

Visits were made at the official opening of Parliament also, when the late Charles Lamb was the local representative and again when William Scott was officially welcomed to a seat in the Opposition benches. A few days ago when Parliament reassembled after the noon recess our arrival for the opening was delayed until the ringing of loud bells echoed and re-echoed in and around the many large and small hallways, until the Legislature met behind closed doors for prayers. Fortunately the busy Member for Victoria and Haliburton had provided a couple of passes, and cushioned seats were comfortable in what is termed the Member's Gallery and as each seat is provided with an individual ear "translator", pro-

ceedings could be heard simultaneously in English and in French.

The Question and Answer period at the opening always proves to be interesting when Members of the Opposition have the opportunity of asking direct questions to the Prime Minister or Cabinet Members and all questions pass through the routine of being directed to and through the Speaker of the House, the gentleman who knows the answers or knows where the questions should go to for direct information.

Membership in Parliament can be interesting and demanding. The Member for Victoria and Haliburton was called out of session to meet a bus load of school children from Lindsay, one of many in a regular session of Parliament.

A small deputation from Kinmount arrived the same afternoon and this becomes a routine. His secretary "is a very busy gal" looking after all manner of dictation as well as a wealth of correspondence.

Also in Ottawa that day was the editor of the Lindsay Daily Post, Alan Capon.

Looking after the wants of constituents included such matters as one day last week, when Mr. Scott met Percy Swanson, of the Game and Forestry Department at White Lake where demands of cottagers include restocking White Lake with fingerlings — millions of them.

As a Parliamentarian William Scott receives mail and visitors from many parts of Ontario and one resident of Windsor, for instance, requests that the member from this riding ascertain if it is true and if so why, that the Government contemplates cancelling the passes on railways now used freely by members of railway families, especially wives and widows.

During all the busy weeks the Member still manages to attend important functions and spend weekends with his family at Kinmount. The foregoing is a very sketchy brief relative to being a Federal M.P.