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THE FLESHERTON ADVANCE

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(Members of Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association)

W. H. THURSTON, - - Editor
F. J. THURSTON - Assoc. Editor

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The decision of the Ontario government to inaugurate straight salaries to Magistrates in lieu of the fees, which have been in vogue for many years, is commendable. This shoul make for greater justice in the courts of the province.

* * *

In talking to the average man on the street it appears as if he was not much concerned whether there is a Beauharnois investigation or not. They have become accustomed to politicians' grabs in the past and will look for them in the future, whether there is an investigation or not.

* * *

The last issue of the Durham Chronicle takes us to the task for reprinting an article from an exchange with respect to a decision by a Magistrate in regard to cows on the roads. There have been many decisions given by Magistrates that seems strange to us and also we are sure, to the editor of The Chronicle, and in printing that item we were just passing on a stated fact from a brother editor, which we took to be correct. Many magistrates have given strange decisions here as well as elsewhere, and it was just natural that we should suppose that one of these weird decisions had again been made.

A horse trader was trying to sell a wind-broken horse, and was trotting him around for inspection. The owner stroked the horse's back and remarked to the prospective buyer: "Hasn't he a lovely coat?" But the other man noticed that the horse was short-winded, and answered: "Ah, I like his coat all right—but I don't like his pants."

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—R. J. VAUSE, Proton Station
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Burned Hay Crops

The funeral pyre of a ruined crop of hay was burning throughout Middlesex County Friday and Saturday. Scores of columns of smoke curling skyward from all sections of the county marked the end od thousands of tons, which had it not been for the heavy rains would have been stored safely in barns now. Moldy from nearly two weeks of daily soakings in the fields, the major part of the year's crop, was not fit to be hauled into barns when the sun broke through clouds again last week. In many cases it was left for a day or two before destruction started in earnest, but late Friday there was scarcely a landscape in the surrounding territory that had not at least one burning hay pile. Many tons were dumped into the river. Farmers were inclined to look upon the situation without pessimism There were few farms from which a few tons had not been harvested and stored in barns before the rain commenced. A bad slump in price has been prevented, it was claimed, by the weather, and accordingly a good price for what hay was harvested, together with what was left of last year's crop, will tend to balance the farmers' losses.—Tara Leader.

ARRESTING THE SLOW POKES

California has just acquired a new traffic law which has at least one innovation of general interest. This is a section which forbids driving a motor car at a speed so slow that the reasonable flow of traffic is retarded. Traffic officers are given full authority to arrest drivers who persist in poking along and holding up the movement of other vehicles on the road. Although there is no definite law in Ontario against slow driving, the slow poke motorist, who endangers traffic by his snail-like speed can be fined on reckless driving count, as a recent case in Mimico revealed, when a motorist contributed a $10 fine to the court for driving at a rate of 17 miles an hour. It is as dangerous a traffic offence, highway officials declare, to drive along at a speed that impedes traffic, as it is to speed along the road at an excessive rate.

SMALL CHECKS ARE EXEMPT

By another twist in the Bennett program of taxation, bank cheques, money orders and travellers' cheqces of a value of $5 or less are exempted from the stamp tax. The date of the imposition of taxes upon cheques and money orders was set on August first. It specifically provided, however, that no refund of taxes would be claimable upon cheques, money orders or travellers' cheques, issued between July 1 and July 31.

No less than six different contractors are at work between Arthur and Orangeville on Highway 9.

Fortune Made By Promotors of Grab

MISS MACPHAIL TELLS ABOUT THE BEAUHARNOIS INVESTIGATION

Well, it's over: Sunday, August 1st saw the close of a long, wearying and discouraging session; members are fagged and for the most part gloomy in outlook, due possibly to the midsummer session, the general depression or the Beauharnois revelations. The dominating figure of the Prime Minister stands out clearly. Able and sincere as he undoubtedly is, he has this session done much to take from Parliament what little power remained to it. The Cabinet is now supreme it is almost in complete power over the tariff, it has a blank cheque for the relief of the unemployed and for the relief of the distressed farmers ot Saskatchewan. Now the unemployed are to be assisted and to what extent is wholly in the hands of the Cabinet; and in relation to Beauharnois, while Parliament was asked to cancel the Order-in-Council issued by the King Government, they were also asked to give the Government power to change management of the Beauharonis project. Just what the new bill means is not clear It is only fair to say, however, that the Prime Minister has moved rapidly forward in the way that seems to him to be best.

Another disquieting thing was the clause in the bill for unemployment relief giving the Government the right to provide for "peace, order and good government." The words sound well enough but why they should have been inserted in the bill giving a blank cheque to the Prime Minister for the relief of distress, was not made clear to the House.

By far the most discouraging aspect of this session was the Beauharnois revelation. The whole story is a long one, but a group of financiers wanted to develop the power of the St. Lawrence river, at the Soulanges sction or the portioin of it that lay between Lake St. Francis and Lake St. Louis. Before they could proceed they had to buy out the "rights" of the Robert Estate; they had also to obtain an Order-in-Council from the Dominion Government giving them the right to divert the water of the St. Lawrence from the one lake to the other. They needed also to sell their bonds to the public and, like any other business, they wanted to be sure of a market for their product when they had it ready to sell.

The moving spirit in the scheme was R. O. Sweezey, an engineer by profession. With Mr. Sweezey were associated many men, among them Senator W. L. McDougald and Mr. R. A. C. Henry, who became Deputy Minister of Railways There were several companies at one time and anotherr, but the main one was the Beauharnois Light, Heat and Power Company. Apparently an obstruction was placed in their way by a "fake" company called the Sterling Industrial Corporation, the leading figures in it being Senator MacDougald and Mr. Henry, members of the same law firm in Ottawa. They (the Sterling Industrial Corporation) had asked the Government for the right to divert the waters of the St. Lawrence, but had not been given it; they had no rights whatever, yet Mr. Sweezey paid them over a million dollars for their supposed rights. He also, either personally or as head of the Company, donated roughly $800,000 to the Liberal campgain funds and $125,000 to John Aird Jr., of Toronto, who, Mr. Sweezey says, suggested that he make a contribution to the Ontario Conservative party because they would probably be having a lot of dealings with the Ontario people, "and gratefulness was always regarded as an important factor in dealing with a democratic government." But Mr. Aaird now says he received the money for himself in payment for advice he gave Mr. Sweezey, the nature of which he has forgotten It is worth noting that it was from the Ontario Government that the Beauharnois Company secured the contract for a long term sale of electric energy, which enabled them to sell their bonds.

Mr. Sweezey's company secured the Order-in-Council from the Government, but by it the amount of water that they could divert from the St. Lawrence was limited to 40,000 cubic feet per second. In spite of that they went right on in their prospectus and stated or intimated that they had secured the whole flow of the river. Besides paying fabulous sums to lawyers, to individual politicians and to various other people, the Company has done very nicely for itself. In the words of the House of Commons Committee: "As the situation now stands the promotors of the Beauharnois project, involving the exploitation of a great natural resource, have been able to secure to themselves a return of all money advanced by them or any of them, a profit of $2,189,000 in cash and one million class A common shares, which, if saleable at the market quotation would at one time have beeen worth $17,000,000 and at to-day's quotation of $4 per shade would be worth $4,000,000. This cash profit was paid out of moneys borrowed by the Beauharnois Power Corporatioin, Limited, by the sale of bonds."

Mackenzie King's speech on the Beauharnois power project was weak in the extreme. It was extremely lengthy; for hours he labored to show that the government of which he was the head passed the Order-in-Council giving Beauharnois 40,000 cubic feet per second of the St. Lawrence water, in all good faith. Nobody for a moment thought otherwise. Even opposition newspapers and the opposition party did not believe he knew at the time the Privy Council order was being passed that Senators in his confidence had received large sums of money on the understanding that their influence would be used to secure the Order. He did not, it seemed to me, cut himself loose from the dubious method of obtaining campaign funds, nor did he make any constructive suggestions as to how the mess was to be cleaned up. He asked for a Royal Commission to further investigate the sources of campaign fund; he did show deep sorrow over the treatment accorded him by Senator McDougald and that he deeply regretted the whole affair no one could doubt who heard him. He was, he said, in the valley of humiliation. We live in too fast an age for anyone to listen contentedly to speeches three and a half hours long and terse speaking was never more required than on that occasion.

Mr. Bennett's reply to Mr. King was clever and in a measure, constructive. His attack of the Leader of the Opposition reminded one of Meighen. He said he would ask Parliament to cancel the Order-in-Council and that Beauharnois would be put under new management. When pressed as to who the new management would be, he stated "three bankers." Who they are, or from what Banks, is unknown. The Order-in-Council has been cancelled and legislation transferring the management passed. The persistent rumor is that the project will pass into the hands of Sir Herbert Holt.

My reaction to the whole situation I expressed in the House as follows: "I feel there should be a law—whether provincial or federal does not matter to me—to force those who so exploit our great natural resources to disgorge their dishonest gains or else go to jail like any ordinary Canadian citizen would have to do if found guilty of petty thieving. Why not? If a hungry person takes a loaf of bread or a bag of potatoes, or some other thing of practically no monetary value, he is sent to jail. So why should not people who have taken wealth that certainly did not belong to them, whether they have given it to someone else or retained it does not matter—why, I ask, should not such people be brought within the criminal code? We are passing through very difficult and very hard times, and that there is nothing quite so nauseating to the people of Canada, nothing that arouses a rebellious spirit so strongly as the fact that when they are striving to remain honest and cheerful and hard-working at the same time they see a bunch of rogues making off with wealth that really belongs to the nation. Unless something definite is done to curb these so-called financiers and the senators who got some of the money through their supposed political value, then as a former school teacher and as a woman I would ask: What are we going to teach the children of Canada? What is the use of saying to the boys and girls in our public schools "We must have high ideals we must be honest and hard-working we must respect our institutions, we must look up to our public men and have confidence in them," if such men are to be allowed to remain in the parliament of Canada? Here are three senators who appeared before the Beauharnois committee, and I suppose they will continue to bear the prefix "honorable." If there is to be any respect for the Senate—and there is precious little now—we ought to rid the Senate of their presence, and we should not be afraid or ashamed to say so."

—AGNES MACPHAIL

House of Commons,
August 1, 1931.

CONTROLLING WEEDS

Repeated experiments have shown that summer plowing of sod land and the subsequent cultivation of the soil until fall very materially assists in the control of weeds, especially on perennial plants such as couch grass. It has been found that plowing the sod land in July and cultivating at ten-day intervals until the fall freeze-up almost entirely prevents the growth of couch grass and other weeds, whereas plowing once in the late fall or early spring with no subsequent cultivation, has practically no effect on the weeds.

Fall Fair Dates

Barrie	Sept. 18, 19
Bolton	October 2, 3
Caledon	Sept. 25, 26
Cape Croker Reserve	Sept. 24, 25
Chatsworth	October 8, 9
Chesley	Sept. 24, 25
Clarksburg	Sept. 22, 23
Collingwood	Sept. 23-26
Dundalk	Sept. 29, 30
Durham	Sept. 15, 16
Feversham	October 6, 7
Flesherton	Sept. 18, 19
Grand Valley	Sept. 29, 30
Hanover	Sept. 18, 19
Hepworth	Sept. 8, 9
Holstein	Sept. 29, 30
Kilsyth	Sept. 30, Oct. 1
London (Western Fair)	Sept. 14-19
Markdale	October 6, 7
Meaford	Sept. 15-17
Mount Forest	Sept. 16, 17
Orangeville	Sept. 17, 18
Ottawa (Central Canada)	Aug. 24-29
Owen Sound	October 1-3
Paisley	Sept. 29, 30
Priceville	Sept. 10, 11
Rocklyn	October 13, 14
Shelburne	Sept. 22, 23
Tara	October 6, 7
Teeswater	October 6, 7
Toronto (Canadian National)	Aug. 28-Sept. 12
Walters Falls	Sept. 29, 30

The Collingwood Bulletin thinks the Blue Mountains, west of Collingwood, would be a fine situation for the giant new telescope that has been donated to the University of Toronto and is now being built in England.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER of the estate of FREDERICK THOMAS BIBBY, late of the Village of Flesherton, in the County of Grey, Doctor of Medicine, deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 51 of the Trustees'Act, R. S.O. 1927, Chapter 150, that all creditors and others having claims or demands against the estate of the said FREDERICK THOMAS BIBBY, who died on or about the 17th day of May A.D. 1931, at the Village of Flesherton in the County of Grey, are required on or before the 15th day of August, 1931, to send by post prepaid, or deliver to Lucas, Henry & Lucas, Solicitors for the Executrix of the estate of the said deceased, their christian names and surnames, addresses and descriptions, the full particulars in writing of their claims, a statement of their accounts and the nature of the security, if any, held by them.

AND TAKE NOTICE that after such last mentioined date the said Executrix will proceed to distribute the assets among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which she shall then have notice, and that the said Executrix will not be liable for the said assets or any part thereof to any person or persons of whose claim notice shall not have been received by her at the time of such distribution.

Dated at Markdale this 17 day of July, A.D. 1931.

LUCAS, HENRY & LUCAS,
Markdale, Ontario,
Solicitors for the Executrix.

Small Advts.

LOST — Lower section of truck rack Reward.—A. C. Muir, Ceylon.

For Sale

FOR SALE — New Frost & Wood side delivery rake and tedder.—Archie McKechnie, Priceville.

FOR SALE — 50 Yorkshire pigs, 2 months old.—F. M. Curran, River view, phone 65 r 4, Dundalk.

FOR SALE — 20 young pigs and 2 brood sows due in August.—Cecil Monaghan, R.R. 1, Flesherton.

FOR SALE OR TRADE — Part Jersey heifer, 2 years old, milking.—Fred Stuart, Flesherton.

FOR SALE — Steam sawmill, shingle and lath mill; 60 h.p. boiler, 40 h.p. engine. — E. D. Harbottle, Feversham, R. R. 1.

FOR SALE — Quantity of 1st and 2nd class shingles, 1 inch balsam and spruce lumber, also some 1 inch white wood; 2x4 scantlings and 2x8 joists—Jas. Oliver, R. R. Priceville.

FOR SALE — 114 cord soft buzz wood for sale at $1.50 per cord at the pile, 16 to 20 inch. Approachable by truck.—R. Plant, Flesherton.

FOR SALE — Bargain Prices to Clear:—Tom Barron Large white Leghorns and Barred Rocks, 4 week old pullets, 30c; 6 weeks old, 40c; 8 week old pullets, 60c. Write for prices on older pullets and selected yearlings. We guarntee live delivery wherever desired.

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—H. RADLEY.

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—H. C. RADLEY.

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