THE
FLESHERTON ADVANCE

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

RELIGION IN SCHOOLS

A new effort is being made to have Bible reading and expounding in the schools of Ontario. There is no doubt laxity in some districts in this regard. But it is doubtful if the politicians responsible for the regulations governing teaching in the public schools will be keen in responding to the demand that teachers should expond the Scriptures with selections before them. It is not a great many years since the religious leaders agreed upon the use of a book of Scripture selections; and put themselves on record. The teachers were ready and willing to use the book, the selections being adapted, it was believed, for use in all classes of high and public schools. But a general election for the Province was approaching and a portion of the public, led by politicians, keener on securing a coy that might help them to victory than on ensurng Bible teaching, at once denounced the selections as a mutilation of the Scriptures. Some localities burned these books in the market place and denounced its compiler in language far from temperate. In Middlessex County it was reported a well known M.P., having dined "not wisely but too well," attended a meeting and declared his principles to be: "We want the Bible the whole d—d Bible or nothing at all." After the election, when the disturbers failed to secure a majority for their views, the selections were generally used for a time, but the disturbance had been such that soon trustees permitted their use to fall away. A perusal of the book now shows there was really no occasion for the alarm raised: but the bad feeling stirred up has deterred more modern politicians from taking any similar undertaking.

IS IT THE GOOSE STEP

Dr. Shields, the aged pastor of Jarvis street Baptist church in Toronto, in his sermon the other night said that the N.R.A. as applied to the United States is "the most assinine legislation ever imposed an any nation." There are a lot of people in Canada who think as the rev. gentleman does, but it is none of our business other than to watch developments with a view to finding out if possibly we might be mistaken. There is one thing certain, it has not so far measured up to the hopes held out for it in the U.S.A. and continual changes are being made with the hope of improving conditions. In this country there is talk in some quarters of the advisability of Canada following in the footsteps of Uncle Sam. Such talk is a little premature. We should certainly wait until we discover whether in such case we would not be doing the "goose step."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Those visitors to Toronto who, after consulting a policeman, reach the conclusion that Northern Ireland is the home land of the people generally will have to revise their judgment. The annual report of the Toronto Young Men's Christian Association points out that in its membership there are now to be found thirty different nationalities.

* * *

Mounted Police at Ottawa this year were equipped from head to foot in buffalo skins. Thus is the former monarch of the prairies being made to pay for his board in more ways than one. The surplus bison population, since the automobile took the place, largely, of the sleigh, has been looked upon as a surplus meat producer and has not always easily found a remunerative market. A few very cold winters might find others, than the mounties welcoming the buffalo cover-all.

Presented Jewel

At the meeting of the L.O.B.A. last week Mrs. Thos. Fisher, the immediate past Worthy Mistress, was presented with her jewel of office. The presentation was made by Mrs. Oscar Phillips and Mrs. W. P. Crossley, each making a neat speech referring to the three years of faithful service given by Mrs. Fisher. The recipient replied in a few well chosen words thanking the members for the honor they had conferred on her. Lunch was served and a pleasant half hour was spent in social chat.

Read the Small Advertisements

Probe on The Bacon Hog Industry Held

The interest of the week centred again around the Act to incorporate the Bank of Canada and the Committee investigating price spreads. However private members' day directed attention to the management of coal importation. "Shameful exploitation" was the term applied by Dr. Deslauriers, Liberal member for the St. Mary's division, Montreal. He claimed that coal laid down at Montreal at the cost of $5.00 a ton may cost the consumer $20.00 by the time it gets to him, especially shipped in winter, when ice and snow adds to its weight. Even the Government is affected since it supplies relief money, much of which is spent in fuel. Dr. Deslauriers spoke in French, making it difficult for the Minister of Labor to follow, but in reply he said that the Combines Act is there and he stands ready to invoke it.

Mr. F. H. Pickle, Conservative M.P., introduced a resolution asking that the grading of hogs and eggs be studied by the Commons Committee on agriculture. He contended that Government hog graders were often the "palls" of the packers and favored their friends as against the farmers in grading the animals brought to the abattoir. This statement was denied emphatically by the Hon. Robert Weir, Minister of Agriculture.

The Minister of Agriculture said it was impossible to grade hogs accurately on the hoof but they were tested as fairly as possible. The best tests would be made on the rail after the animal had been slaughtered, but this plan had difficulties, the chief of which was the matter of identifying the hogs. Then, too long waits would result to farmers whose hogs might be sent considerable distances before being killed.

J. S. McLean, President of the Canadian Packers, gave evidence before the Committee investigating price spreads. The evidence covers 290 pages of the same size as Hansard and the Committee sat all day. By his evidence he gave the packing industry a clean bill of health which did not, I judge, convince the members of the Committee. The day before Mr. McLean's visit, the Agricultural Committee of the Ontario Legislature passed a resolution asking the Stevens Committee at Ottawa to investigate thoroughly and immediately the whole livestock industry.

This Committee of the Legislature had heard complaints by cattle dealers, who claimed that there was no competition among buyers at the stock yards, the large firms' buyers refusing to bid against each other; that bids were cut after the market closed and that the bulk of shipments went direct to the abattoirs without being subject to bidding, and that handling charges were so heavy the farmers' return dropped below cost. While no reference was made to the recommendation by the Ontario Legislature, the points raised in their reference were discussed by the Committee of the House of Commons.

Mr. McLean denied any suggestion of combine among the big packers and laid down the principle that the export market is the governing factor in price fixing and he claimed that when the price went up it was passed on in proper proportion to the farmer. He even went so far as to suggest that the interests of the packers and the farmers are identical, stating that their interests do not clash. The Hon. H. H. Stevens, who is Chairman of the Committee, interjected at this point: "All I can see is the farmer is the goat. When we come to beef it will be worse than the hog business; the farmer gets into the position of holding the bag."

Mr. McLean admitted that the Canadian Packers made a large profit last year. This had been made on the export trade, he said, the reason given being that sales had been made on an advancing market. Every time the English market advanced, the domestic price was accordingly increased. Not more than 10 per cent. selects went over-seas, said Mr. McLean. This was due to the fact that of the actual number of selects killed in the packing houses, 25 per cent. were bruised and made unsuitable for export.

Mr. McLean attributed the difference in the present prevailing prices of hogs at Toronto and Chicago, to the fact that we have unrestricted access to the British market for all our surplus, plus the fact that the English Department of Agriculture has entered upon a policy to put up the price of hogs in England in order to make the pig industry of England profitable, and to this also we have unrestricted access. He might well have added the increased value of English money in Canadian currency, due to the United States forsaking the gold standard.

A farmer, Mr. Kennedy of Peace River, asked Mr. McLean if the packing methods in Canada were as excellent as those in Denmark, and he was assured they were. According to Mr. McLean the hog is to blame, it should be long and stream-lined.

The President of the Canada Packers said there was no price agreement by the different packing plants and when asked if his buyers compared prices with Swifts on the Union stock yards and thus settled the price for the day, he replied, "I'll say they don't." But he was not as emphatic in answer to a question regarding the different packers' buyers staying out of each other's alleys on the stock yard. He denied that buyers refrained from buying in the yards until the daily report had gone out to other markets that business was dull, thus influencing prices.

The low price of beef was due, the witness said, to a surplus of 250,000 head a year. This number had been absorbed by the United States previous to the passing of the Fordney-McCumber tariff.

Mr. Sommerville, acting Counsel for the Committee, asked the witness if the costs of laying down bacon in Liverpool were the same on a $9.25 hog as on a $3.25 hog,, and received the answer, "The costs attaching to it, yes. The expenses (are the same)." He was questioned very sharply regarding wages paid employees of the Canada Packers, but I have not time to go into that today.

According to a report brought down by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at the request of Mr. G. G. Coote, the gross agricultural revenue of Canada fell between 1928 and 1932, 57 per cent. and during the same period the total value of field crops in the Prairie Provinces fell 73 per cent. and the total value of field crops for all Canada fell 53 per cent. Is it any wonder that the farmers have not been able to purchase what they need?

When the second reading of the bill to incorporate the Bank of Canada was introduced, Mr. Mackenzie King, speaking for the Opposition made a brief statement. The Opposition proposed to allow the Government to proceed with the bill though committing themselves to nothing beyond the principle of the establishment of a properly constituted central bank.

He was followed by Mr. Coote, (U. F. A. MacLeod,) who objected strongly to the fact that the bank is to be privately and not publicly owned and also that the proposed bank is to be given power to issue legal tender for Canada, a function which since confederation has been performed by the state itself. "Since ancient times the issue of money was the prerogative of the Crown and jealously guarded as such. The issue of all money is to be turned over to this bank. To me, the principle to be decided in connection with this bill is whether the institution which is to be given this very great power shall be established under private ownership or public ownership." Mr. Coote continued: "I want to make it clear, Mr. Speaker, that we are not opposed to the setting up of a central bank. We think this step should have been taken years ago but we believe that it is vital that the bank should be a publicly owned institution. The two members of the Commission (The MacMillan Commission) who recommended the setting up of the central bank as now proposed, were neither of them Canadians and one of them had been a director of the Bank of England. The control of currency and credit can in no sense be defended as a legitimate form of private enterprise. Credit is the life-blood of industry and through credit employment and purchasing power is controlled. The very life-blood of the nation, economically speaking, is to be committed by this bill to the care of a privately owned institution."

All the speeches made, either criticizing or defending the bill, were excellent. We have not heard so good a debate in the House for a long time. Mr. Rhodes defended the bill with eloquence and by quoting authorities proved to his satisfaction that central banks should not be publicly owned, while Mr. Garland, Mr. Woodsworth and Mr. Irvine, as well as Mr. Coote, contended that they should.

The reception of the wives of the Cabinet Ministers was held this week, but I had no inclination to attend. It is said, however, by those who did to have been a very enjoyable affair, above a thousand being present. I did notice from the press reports that the women in the receiving line wore dresses of white, black or gold, with white predominating.

House of Commons, Ottawa,
March 10th, 1934,

—AGNES MACPHAIL

A man who shot himself escaped death because his heart was on the right side instead of the left. With luck like that what does a fellow want to commit suicide for.

Wi' Besom an' Stane

The above picture shows George F. Brackenbury's curling rink in real Highland costume. The members of this rink are, from left to right:—George F. Brackenbury, skip, W. I. Henry, vice-skip, G. E. Henry and H. L. Eubank. These men believe in curling in proper costume, so they outfitted themselves in the picturesque Highland garb shown above. This rink was one of the two which helped bring the Department of Agriculture Shield from Markdale to Flesherton a few weeks ago, the other rink being that headed by G. B. Welton.

Water System Freezes

Markdale citizens and the councillors in particular have had a great deal of worry during the past few weeks caused by the frost affecting the water services and mains in the village. An electric thawing machine was produced and put into use Services were opened up but in most cases were frozen again the next day. Last week the main on Toronto street, south of the Main street corner, became frozen and when thawed Saturday morning it was found to be broken. A gang of men worked all Saturday night breaking through the pavement and frozen ground and on Sunday the pipe was repaired with bands but this failed to stop the leak. A new pipe was secured and is being placed in position. The water was turned on on Tuesday to serve that section of the village which has been shut off for several days. The Reeve and Councillors, John R. Dillon particularly, deserve commendation for the prompt actions they have taken to combat the severe frosts of the past few weeks.—Markdale Standard.

Football League Likely

Football is coming to the fore in this district with the near-completion of a league composed of five teams. It is the intention to haye the Blue Mountain Rangers, Feversham, Kimberley, Priceville and Flesherton compose the League and if another team would enter it would be so much better. Swinton Park should be able to field a strong team and make the sixth member. Football had a successful season last year and if the league could be formed would add considerable interest to the sports in this district.

Well, the seed catalogues are coming, baseball talk is in the air and soon the late frosts will ruin the peach crops.

Abstract Statement

of the Auditor's Report of receipts anddisbursements of the Treasurer of the

Village of Flesherton

RECEIPTS

Balance from 1932	$ 5814 87
Taxes of 1933	5359 71
Arrears of taxes	467 34
Rents	144 00
Interest on deposits	62 12
Refunds	28 92
Miscellaneous	29- 72
	$12170 68

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries and allowances	$ 481 00
Printing, postage and stationery	133 22
Roads and streets	135 65
Hospital account	632 91
Schools	1864 30
Debentures	2209 24
Fire protection	88 05
Street lighting	618 80
Town hall	51 01
Refunds	65 36
Pavement account engineer's fees	612 85
Park	25 09
Miscellaneous	127 00
Balance	5126 20
	$12170 68

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

ASSETS

Balance	$ 5126 39
Balance collector's roll 1933	2225 02
Town hall	2500 00
Park	1000 00
Other real estate	500 00
	$11351 41

LIABILITIES

Pavement debentures due 1934	$ 2804 65
Town hall debenture due 1934	331 67
Checks outstanding	15 19
County taxes 1933	1237 50
Balance	6962 40
	$11351 41

Dated this 8th day of February 1934

—C. J. BELLAMY, F. W. DUNCAN—Auditors.

RED ROSE
TEA
At the old price
25c ½ LB.

DELUXE
Jelly Powders
6 FOR 25c

Ginger Snaps
2 LBS. 19c

Toilet Soap
REG. 5c
FOR 2c

Why Pay More
FOR GROCERIES AND MEATS?
try Kennedy's and be convinced

Free Pants
Will be given away to every boy 16 years of age or younger, buying his first Tip Top suit.
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39c, 49c lb.
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almost
40c DOZ.

Meats
Fresh and Cured