Relief Bill Is Most Important Legislation

The first week after the Easter recess was devoted almost exclusively to a discussion on the Relief Bill, centring around the determination of the official opposition to omit the words "peace, order and good government" from the bill. While these words had been in the bill two years ago they were dropped last year and Mr. King is very averse to their inclusion this year, which may see a Federal election.

The Prime Minister, while admitting the absolute power given the Government under the bill as now written, challenged the opposition to give any instances where that power had been abused. He sought to have additional power conferred upon the Dominion Government this year that it might, if necessary, overrule Provincial legislation if such legislation were in excess of Provincial powers. Special reference was made to Alberta and British Columbia.

At the beginning of this Parliament when the sums voted for the relief of unemployment became substantial Mr. Mackenzie King urged strongly the necessity of checking carefully the accounts with the Provinces and through them with the municipalities. Recently test audits of municipalities were conducted and irregularities or worse were revealed. Using these as a basis for his remarks, Mr. King said that the administration of unemployment relief should never have been given to the Labor Department but to a Commission. The Department was not organized to handle it, he said. The Prime Minister blamed the Auditor General for recommending a system of audit and later, when all was not well, saying that the method of checking the accounts was not a good one. "If anything is wrong," said Mr. Bennett, "it rests at the door of the Auditor General—not of this Government." There is some probability that the Auditor General will be brought before the Public Accounts Committee of the House of Commons.

The Hon. W. D. Euler is noted in the House of Commons for making short but thoughtful speeches. He is intellectually honest which makes his remarks always interesting. After the debate on the Relief Bill seemed to have become threadbare, he made a fresh and arresting speech. "It seems to me," he said, "that all efforts in connection with relief in the last few years and as contemplated under the bill now before the committee, have been predicated upon the assumption that this is an emergency only. I should like to venture the opinion that—unemployment has become, and will continue to be, a more or less permanent factor." He suggested that the Government seek a method of caring for the permanently unemployed. He recommended also that social legislation be co-ordinated under Federal control, mentioning workmen's compensations, widows' allowance, insurance for ill health, old age pensions, poor relief and unemployment insurance when it becomes law.

Mr. Euler recognized the need of amending the British North America Act to enable the Federal Governmen to administer social services and suggested a commission being appointed to study the whole question. The Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, pleased the House by stating that he held a very strong opinion "as to the necessity of an early revision of the provisions of the British North America Act." "The Provinces," he said, "have exclusive legislative control over the matters mentioned in Section 92 of the British North America Act. Unless there is agreement by them all you will have a situation such as you have today with respect to old age pensions."

The Stevens Committee is still investigating price spreads. At present it is dealing with livestock prices and interesting facts have come out regarding practices of the livestock buyers and their virtual dictation of prices to cattle raisers.

Information on spreads is coming in daily to the members of the 'group in the corner.' This week one of them received a most interesting letter accompanied by a photograph of the shop window of one of Montreal's largest department stores. The picture shows two piles of goods. In one pile is a bag of flour and a bag of sugar; in the other pile the same two bags are nearly hidden by dozens of other bottles, packages and tins. The statement accompanying the picture is as follows:

$24.69 bought 1 bag flour, 1 bag sugar in 1920. $24.69 buys the following in 1933: 1 bag flour, 98 lbs.; bag granulated sugar, 100 lbs.; 80 lbs potatoes; 5 lbs. butter; leg ham; 2 lbs. bacon; 4 doz. fresh extra eggs; 10 bars Surprise soap; 6 tin Clark's tomato juice; lb. pure lard; lb. Magic baking powder; doz. choice peas, corn and tomatoes; doz. Campbell's assorted soups; 2 pkgs. Quaker oats; 3 pkg. Kellogg's cornflakes; 2 lbs. Empire coffee; 2 lbs. special tea; bottle assorted pickles; 2 jars of jam; 2 jars marmalade; pkg. assorted shortbread biscuits; 3 pkg. soda biscuits; 4 tins Cark's pork and beans, large; 2 btls. C. and B. Catsup; pkg. Red River cereal; tin Edwardsburg corn syrup, 5 lbs.; tin Nestle's evaporated milk; 2 doz. apples; doz. oranges; jelly powders.

This situation is striking and requires careful consideration. In the first place, it must be remembered that the prices of all food commodities at the close of the war were very high, also it was a period of inflation. At present we have the reverse situation—deflation—and extremely low prices for natural products. While at first sight it might be thought that because prices of food have dropped so far the worker is much better off than before, it should be remembered however, that other charges have not dropped as much in comparison. Rents, for instance still remain comparatively high, while insurance charges have not decreased at all. On the other hand, there has been a considerable reduction in wages. This, combined with the fact that many people have no work whatever and are receiving only a low scale of relief, has meant greatly reduced purchasing power.

In this connection one recalls the statement made by Mr. Bennett before the committee on monetary and financial questions at the Imperial Conference in 1932:- "Interest charges represent the most important of the fixed or semi-rigid elements in our cost structure. If prices remain on their present level, such charges will constitute an intolerable or almost intolerable burden in many cases. Even if it can be borne, the fortuitous gain to the creditor of 40 to 48 per cent in general purchasing power above what he contracted for appears to be a grave injustice."

What is the effect of this situation? To quote the further statement of the Prime Minister:- "As one dollar today will purchase at wholesale 48 per cent more than it did in 1929, the real burden of the service charges on foreign obligations has increased from $362,000,000 to $535,750,000." And further:- "As a result of this rapid and persistent decline in the general price level and the inevitable disparities created between different kinds of prices, normal business relationships have been disrupted, profit margins have disappeared in many cases, enterprise has been discouraged, unemployment has steadily increased, the fiscal problems of all our public bodies have been greatly aggravated, and the burden of fixed charges is exerting an almost intolerable pressure upon some of the strategic elements in our national economy." It is over a year and a half since the leader of the present Government gave the very clear statement of conditions, but has he done anything about it?

—AGNES MACPHAIL.

House of Commons, Ottawa,
April 14, 1934.

THE

Variety Store

WILL BE GLAD TO HAVE YOU COME IN WHILE IN TOWN.

If we have what you want you may be sure the price will be right. If we haven't, ask us to get it for you. Suggestions are what we want. We intend to specialize in children's wear and can give you the best prices obtainable anywhere in this line. Just let us know what clothes you would like to get and you may rest assured they will cost you less than ever before. Come in and see us.

S. L. Stauffer, Prop.

SLOWIN—BOWLER

In Detroit on Saturday, April 7th, the marriage took place of Doris O., second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Bowler of Detroit, formerly of Flesherton, to Mr. R. D. Slowin of Detroit. The bride is a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Crossley of Flesherton and lived here when a child.

The birth-rate is still declining in most countries. One theory is that posterity has got an inkling of what is in store for it.

Protest Sent To Radio Committee

Protesting against the ineffectiveness of the Canadian Radio Commission a meeting of license holders of radio setts was held in the village on Friday evening last and recommendations were dispatched to the Radio Committee of the House of Commons. It was felt by those who attended that the Commission was costing the country too much money for the value received and that they had caused great dissatisfaction in the programs presented and the changing of stations to other wave lengths, the programs from which were not received as clearly as before the changes were made.

A protest was also made on announcing from C.R.C.T. stations in French as well as English. Where the radio program was given entirely in English the meeting thought that the French language was out of place, but that for listeners in Quebec it might be necessary to do so. As for the rest of Canada the French announcements were taking up too much valuable time. It was also the opinion of the meeting that the present radio license fee was too high for value received, as in this district C.F.R.B. was the only Canadian station to come in distinct, while on most setts the Radio Commission's own Toronto station, C.R.C.T. was useless at night, and we still have to depend on United States stations for the bulk of our radio programs.

It was finally decided to request that the Canadian Radio Commission be discarded and returned to one of the governmental departments, that of the Post Office being mentioned, as the former programs were of a higher quality than those now being presented. As for the advertising which sustained these programs at that time, it was thought that they served a useful purpose and many of them were of an educational variety.

Ingenuity Required To Raise Lamds

Ingenuity is required for the successful conduct of farming and was demonstrated last week by Mr. Geo. Johnston of Rock Mills. Mr. Johnston had a ewe that gave birth to twins, but at dinner time there was only one plate set for the meal and one of the lambs was forced to go hungry. It had to do this so many times that it finally became weak and apparently due to go where food was not a necessity. The problem was to keep it nourished with the least possible trouble. Bottle feeding wouldn't pay with the price of lambs as low as it is at present, so here is where the ingenuity comes in. Another ewe had just lost one of her twins; this was skinned and the hide tied over the orphan lamb so that its adopted mother would not know but that it was her own. She took up with it immediately and lambie commenced to gain weight at once. Sheep raising has its ups and downs, but sonsiderable of its success lies with the strange instinct of the sheep with respect to its offspring.

W.C.T.U. Officers

The last meeting of the W.C.T.U. was held on April 9th, at the home of Mrs. Tom Bentham. The officers elected for the coming year are:

President — Mrs. J. Williams.

Vice President — Mrs. Wm. Inkster.

Treas. and Cor. Sec. — Miss V. Nicholson.

Rec. Sec. — Miss V. Nicholson, pro tem.

The W.C.T.U. were instrumental in distributing fifteen temperance buttons for the Trail Rangers to wear. They purchased twenty-five buttons for the C.G.I.T. group. The buttons are to show that the ones wearing them are trying to do all they can to make Canada safe by doing away with wine and beer.

THORNBURY—SORNBERGER

Wednesday afternoon at 3 p.m., the Gospel Worker's parsonage was the scene of a very pretty wedding, when Pearl Sophia Sornberger, daughter of the late Alvie and Mrs. Sornberger, and Harry Edward Thornbury. son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Thornbury were united in marriage. Rev. W. F. Dean officiated.

The bride wore a becoming gown of coolie blue silk crepe, with matching accessories. The bridal couple were attended by Miss Ivy Sayers, a niece of the bride, and Mr. Lawrence Cameron, a cousin of the bride.

After the ceremony a small reception for immediate relatives was held at the bride's home, where a dainty wedding dinner was served.

Midland High School has 178 boy pupils and 195 girls, a total of 373.

147th Vets Gather

At a meeting of the 147th Battalion Association (Grey Regiment), held in Toronto Thursday, the following officers were elected: Honorary President, Colonel G. Frank McFarland; Honorary Vice-Presidents, Lieut.-Col. Ferguson, Lieut.-Col. Rutherford, Lieut.-Col. Fleming, Lieut.-Col. McDonald and Sergt. "Tommy" Holmes, V.C.; President, J. A. LeGarde; Vice-President, Thomas Bradley; Secretary, Stewart Wilson; Treasurer, H. W. Kernahan; Executive Committee Dr. P. A. Beattie, W. B. Evans, L. E. Douglas, Harry Tucker and T. Chard. Arrangements were also made to hold a reunion dinner in Toronto of former members of the 147th Battalion on Saturday, May 5.

WORK

Work is just as essential to health as is food. A man can live without work while he cannot live without food, but living, in the sense of existing, is far from being a condition of health and well-being. If a man or woman is to enjoy physical and mental health, he or she must have the opportunity to work and to gain that satisfaction which comes from doing the day's work.

The tragedy of unemployment, whether it concerns great or small numbers, no matter what the cause of the vast majority of the unemployed to work. There is no greater punishment for those who are confined in penal institutions than to deprive them of the opportunity to work. In certain hospitals, we speak of occupational therapy, which simply means that creative work, with the satisfaction it brings, is recognized as a powerful agent for good in the treatment of patients.

Physical and mental health are closely related. Idleness means loss of health; work has much to do with our sense of well-being. A man may grumble about hard work and low wages, but he is nevertheless enjoying life, and part of his enjoyment is his right to grumble and complain.

It is a matter of common observation that certain forms of physical complaints, particularly those which have to do with the digestive system, are much more common when times are difficult and worries thereby increased. The reaction of the mind on the body and of the body on the mind is very definite, although not always clear.

These facts should not be forgotten when the problems arising out of unemployment are considered. Their solution has not merely to do with economics; the welfare of the nation is concerned because of the effects of these problems upon the health of the people. Unemployment does not cause disease, but it does threaten the health of the people because it takes away from them the opportunity to work.

Serious as this is at all ages, it is particularly so for the young people who are leaving school. If they do not become employed, their health will suffer because they will not have the opportunity to work, to develop good work habits, to become independent, and to experience the satisfaction which comes from work.

During service hour in a church at Markham thieves entered the building and took money from the pockets of clothing belonging to members of the choir. There might be something in those who take up the collection to think about.

Live Stock Report

cattle trade was sluggish. Calves maintained their sure pace and closed at $4.50 to $6 for most of the supply. Some choice went at $7 and $7.50.

Hogs climbed and closed with a gain of 15c. Bacons were at $7.50 f.o.b. $7.75 off truck and 8.15 off car. The division opened unsettled, with a firm undertone. Lambs held Monday's 25c advance to sell at $..50 for good ewes and wethers. Spring lambs brought $5 to $10 each, while sheep were firm at $3.50 to $4 for good light ewes.

The second gain of the week was made on the Toronto Live Stock Market yesterday as hogs advanced 15c under steady buying. Cattle trade was very slow throughout the day, and the holdover was increased from 400 to about 700 head. Prices held steady, but sales were hard to make at the unchanged levels. No changes were recorded in calves, sheep or lambs, and all three divisions sold firmly.

Weighty steers moved from $4.50 to $6.25, while butcher sold in small lots at $4 to $5.50, according to quality. Good butcher cows were steady at $3.50 to $4, with a few at $4.25. Bulls ranged from $2.75 to $3.75 and fed calves from $5.50 to $7.25. Store

James M. Armstrong Dies At Kimberley Home

After an extended illness of six months James M. Armstrong passed away on Sunday, April 15th in his 80th year at his home, three miles north of Kimberley. He was born at Pickering, Ont., a son of the late Wm. and Margaret Armstrong and moved to the Eugenia district when he was two years old where he resided until 1915 when his farm was included in the Hydro lake area and he moved north to Kimberley.

The late Mr. Armstrong was married at Eugenia on November 13th, 1879, to Miss Harriet Sherwood who predeceased him on May 28th, 1925. To them were born seven children. Mrs. O. J. Walker (Janey) of Caledon, Mrs. J. H. Irwin (Margaret) of Heathcote, Mrs. Wilfred Plantt (Theresa) of Thornbury, Albert, deceased, Wesley and Elsie at home and Mrs. J. S. Griffen (Lilian) of Caledon. He also leaves three sisters, Mrs. McWatters of Elmvale. Mrs. Wm. Walker Sr. and Mrs. Wm. Wilson of Eugenia, who alone survive of a family of eight children. He also leaves ten grandchildren and five great grandchildren. He had been a life long member of the Presbyterian church until conformation of the union into the United Church which he continued to attend.

The deceased gentleman was of a modest, unassuming nature, and a man of sterling qualities, upright and honorable in his dealings with all men. He was a man whose word made a note unnecessary. The writer of this has known him for a lifetime, and is proud to pay this tribute to a gentleman and friend.

The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, April 17th, when service was conducted at his late residence by Rev. S. McAuslan, pastor of Kimberley United church who gave a comforting message taken from Romans 8: 18. Mr. and Mrs. Baker rendered a duet "There is no Disappointment in Heaven." Interment took place in the family plot in Salem cemetery.

The pallbearers were his nephews Messrs. Wm. Gordon, Earl Gordon, Wm. Walker, Jack and Gordon Wilson and Roy McMillan.

Friends from a distance who attended the funeral were: Mrs. C. Mills and daughter, Alice, and Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Mills of Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Petch of Caledon, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Woodhouse of Collingwood, Mr. R. Bentham of Flesherton, besides his sisters and children.

A Garafaxa farmer had his barn burned and he put in an application to the local agent to get his insurance money. After a few days, the insurance adjuster came around with the local agent. They inspected the ruins and did a little figuring, and the agent said:

"According to the terms of your insurance policy, Mr. X., the company has the option of paying the loss in cash, or of building you a new barn. They have decided to replace your barn with another of similar size."

The farmer was pretty mad about it.

"Well, if that's the way you do business, you can just cancel the insurance policy on my wife. If she died, you'd be coming around here offering to replace her with another one of the same size, and I won't have it."—Fergus News-Record.

DANCE

In Fraternal Hall

FLESHERTON

Thursd'y, April 19

DOROTHY FOSTER ORCHESTRA

Modern and Old Time Dances

Every Other Dance a Square
Plenty of Dancing for All.

LUNCH AVAILABLE AT BOOTH

This will be one of the best dances of the season, so do not not miss it.

Dancing Commences at 9 p.m. Sharp

Admission: 25 cents.

Where Cash Talks Out Loud

FANCY NAMES AND FANCY BAGS WON'T MAKE CHICKS GROW

STAMINAX has the proper balanced ration and the price is just what it is worth.

Farm Gate Bargain

12 and 13 foot gates 48 in. high. Look up the old catalogue and do some subtracting. Our price for either length $5.50

Cup Grease

Finest quality at a price that will surprise

FORMALDEHYDE

This year we have a new sales plan and can save you some money.

SEEDS—All Kinds ofe Garden, Grass & Clover Seeds.

Osprey & Artemesia Co-operative Co., Ltd.

FLESHERTON

Spring Display

DRESSES
SUITS
COATS
BLOUSES

FRIDAY, APRIR 20, 1934

Arrangements have been made with Wray's Ladies' Wear, Owen Sound to make a special display on this date only.

A wonderful choice will be offered at popular prices.

F. H. W. Hickling

Flesherton, Ont.