The Flesherton Advance.

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Alberta's Plight Is High Light of Week

The pronouncement made by Mr. Aberhart, the Prime Minister of Alberta, that he was unable to meet obligations falling due, is undoubtedly the political high lights of the week. The Federal Government refused to extend further credit to the Province unless the latter would agree to give the Dominion a say in the borrowings of the Province. This Premier Aberhart refused to do, since he believed it would lessen the control of Alberta over her own affairs.

The amount of money needed by Alberta to meet the maturing obligations was $3,200,000, while the Province had on hand for the purpose only $600,000. They propose to pay the interest to the bondholders, but not the principal at this time.

The action of Premier Aberhart is likely to kill the "Loan Council Bill" which the Government proposed introducing this session. The Federal Government had hoped by this bill to exert control over the borrowings of the Provinces. This curtailing of sovereign control within the Province is resented not only in Alberta, though possibly most strongly there. Since governments borrow money from the banks, such an arrangement would undoubtedly have tightened the hold of a small financial group over Provincial affairs.

Gerry McGeer made a most arresting speech on the debt burden of municipalities and provinces and warned the Federal Government that they could not continue to carry the burden imposed upon them under the present financial structure. "Many of our Canadian municipalities cannot escape bankruptcy," he stated. Mr. McGeer is Mayor of Vancouver and has been a leading figure in the conference of Mayors.

He gave the number of defaulting municipalities in Saskatchewan as 157 and said that in Quebec 57 cities and towns were under the control of the municipal commissions, while in Ontario municipalities had defaulted to the extent of eleven million dollars. Mr. McGeer cited Montreal as an example of the impossibility of carrying present relief loads under our stringent financial set-up. The total debt of Montreal is $268,000,000, which requires one half of the taxes for interest. The total tax levy at the moment is $34,000,000 with new special taxes being proposed on everything from parking signs and new plumbing to night clubs.

"When taxation arises to the point where income is exhausted, then government is threatened," said Mr. McGeer. He believed we were approaching that point and said this condition has grow up under a so-called "sound money" system, a defunct system evolved in the last century, and would not meet the needs of today.

A bill to establish a national employment commission has been given its second reading. It proposes to clothe the commission with authority to study the whole subject of unemployment, to classify the unemployed according to former work done and whether or not they are now fit to be employed again. It further provides for consultation and co-operation with all bodies, government or otherwise that have dealt with unemployment and relief. It seems late in the day to be making a comprehensive study and the value of the bill will be determined only by the action which follows the study.

The Hon. Norman Rogers, Minister of Labor, made a brilliant two hour speech in support of the bill. A noticeable improvement in economic conditions in the last year does not efface the fact that the problem is unsolved, Mr. Rogers admitted. The relief figures for February in the last four years show little variation. In 1933 the figure was 1,533,842, while this year in February the total unemployed numbered 1,310,423, causing an almost insupportable relief burden which bears heavily on the tax payers.

The Minister of Labor gave the number of employable persons, with their dependents, as 830,940, or 67.37% of those receiving relief, and as to age, the largest group of employable recipients of relief are between 21 and 30 years of age. I was astonished to hear that 6,728 farm families were on relief in the province of Ontario in January, 1936.

Employers who take advantage of the existing situation to pay wages below the worth of the work done, were denounced by the Minister of Labor. The Government, he said, is entitled to use their weapon of publicity to the fullest possible extent in order to brand such action as high treason to the State in time of great emergency. Several speakers after him pointed out that publicity was mild punishment for high treason.

In concluding his lengthy speech, Mr. Rogers referred to Edmund Borke's description of the State as "a partnership of the dead, the living and the yet unborn." The knowledge of that partnership in the State compels us to recognize a dual responsibility which embraces tomorrow as well as today. Our first and immediate duty is to the living, but it would be a repudiation of responsible statesmanship to forget those who some day will stand in the places in which we are today," said Mr. Rogers.

The Prime Minister announced just before adjournment on Friday night the fifty million dollars are to be voted for relief and public works. In doing so the Prime Minister pointed out that Canada faces the greatest emergency in its history and said that while the government would welcome, all the way, of necessary criticism, so long as it is fair and just, he asked each member of the House to aid in the seeking of a solution by constructive suggestions. He added that if a member was not able to do this "it may be equally helpful to remain silent." One might possibly, however, add that these were not always his opinions when he led the opposition.

The committees have scarcely got under way, leaving the bulk of the work to be done by them after the Easter recess, which, with the budget and many pieces of major legislation, gives little promise of an adjournment before the end of June.

AGNES MACPHAIL

House of Commons, Ottawa,
April 4th, 1936.

Pastor Has Resigned

Rev. W. J. Scott, pastor of St. John's United Church, tendered his resignation at a meeting of the church officials on Monday evening, to take effect at the end of the present Conference year, afer a seven-year pastorate. The reverend gentleman has been ill recently and we understand his physician has advised a year's rest. A committee was appointed to look into the matter of securing a supply to take over the pulpit of the retiring pastor at the end of June.

MOTOR SAWING MACHINES MUST HAVE A LICENSE

An amendment to the Highway Traffic Act has just recently been passed, that all motor vehicles that are mounted with such as woodsawing outfits, chopping machines, well drilling, or any other power equipment that is mounted on a motor vehicle, must pay a license. In the past, the above have been exempt from having to secure a license as they were classed under Farm Husbandry. If any of the above outfits are being drawn as a trailer, the trailer is exempt, as it is classed under Farm Husbandry.

HIGH SCHOOL DANCE

All former students of Flesherton High School are cordially invited to attend a dance to be given in the auditorium of the school on Thursday, April 9th. Dancing from 8 to 12.30. Admission 20c.

Ontario House Nears Close of Session

With the budget debate out of the way, the Legislature last week settled down to the passing of what are known as the estimates, or the money necessary to carry on the work of the various government departments until the end of the present fiscal year, the 31st of March next. Prior to the Hepburn Government, the Province's year ended October 31st. This however, was changed to March 31st, and this Session the budget debate ran so close to this date that the Government was obliged to speed up the money votes, to have the money passed and available for the various departments on April 1st To accomplish this, the House sat one night until 4.30 a.m., and the following night until 1.30 a.m. In order to finish at Easter, the Legislature now meets at 11 a.m. and usually reaches adjournment hour sometime late that night or early in the morning.

A very important announcement on Hydro policy was made in the House on Friday, when the Hon. T. B. McQuesten told the Legislature that "at the end of the tenure of office of T Stewart Lyon, the present chairman, the Hydro enterprise should be controlled by a Government department." "In future," Mr. McQuesten said, "the Commission should consist of either Cabinet Ministers, or private members of the Legislature." This is a radical departure afrom previous policy, and will call forth much discussion, and perhaps, one might add, not a little criticism. The Government feels, according to Mr. McQuesten that it should exercise a greater measure of control, inasmuch as the Province has guaranteed some $200,000,000 "for Hydro or its bonds."

The action of the Federal Government in cutting relief grants by 15% was the subject of a debate in the House on Thursday last. Sam Lawrence, C.C.F., Hamilton, arose before the orders of the day, to ask the Government what they intended to do about this matter. The Premier, in reply, said that "the first intimation the Province had of the proposed cut in grants, was contained in a telegram received that morning from the Federal Minister, Mr. Rogers. The Ontario Government," the Premier added, "was not going to reduce its relief grant to the municipalities as a result, but neither could the Province afford to pay the Dominion's share, so that the net reduction of 7½% would have to be passed on to the municipality." Readers will recall that the Provincial budget contained $12,000,000 for relief purposes, on the understanding that the Dominion would meet this amount dollar for dollar. M. M. McBride, Liberal. Brantford, argued that the municipalities, in many cases, would go broke if they were forced to pay heavier relief costs. He emphasized that unemployment was a national problem, and that the Province was already paying more than its share. He reminded MacKenzie King that he, himself' said prior to the last election, that unemployment was a national problem and that the credit of Canada would be utilized to combat this blight on our country's progress (unemployment). Mr. Lawrence, in winding up the discussion, said that he agreed with the Government's action, and joined with them in forwarding to Ottawa a vigorous protest.

On Friday last Premier Hepburn introduced the Amendment to the Assessment Act, that is commonly known as the Separate School Bill The main change is all contained in one word, the changing of the word "May" in the existing law, to the word "Shall" in the new legislation making it obligatory on the part of Corporations to divide their taxes between the two types of schools in proportion to the Creeds of their shareholders or, in other words, where formerly they might do it, now they must. The Hon. George S. Henry today, Monday, sets forth the Opposition viewpoint, and the debate on this question may be prolonged. This is the only piece of Legislation that stands in the way of an Easter adjournment, which is scheduled for Thursday of this week.

—F. R. OLIVER.

UNSATISFIED

The poet who prayed, "God keep me unsatisfied," had the right idea. No achievement is so fine that you can afford to fold your hands over it. However good to-day's record has been you should be ambitious to surpass it to-morrow. The high water mark of the past should be your starting point for the next struggle. It is better to be unseasonably discontented, unreasonably exacting than to settle down complacently, feeling that you have done enough.

Lean years are those in which more than the usual number of people lean on the taxpayer for support.

What they seem to need in those towns which are subjected to annual spring floods is a few Noahs to warn them in advance.

Hockey Winners Receive Trophy

The Flesherton Semi-Pro. hockey league, champions and winners of the McDougal trophy were presented with a banquet in their honor on Friday evening of last week, and were the sponsors of a most successful dance in the Fraternal hall, Flesherton, at which the McDougal trophy was turned over to the boys. Mr. Alf Down acted as chairman for the occasion and after a few words of praise and congratulations, not only for the home team but the defeated Proton team, he called first upon Mr. John McVicar of Priceville, president of the Semi-pro. league, who gave a very appropriate talk on the good sportsmanship of the teams in the league and on the wonderful way Flesherton held up their end under the loss of two of their star players. Mr. McVicar then called on Bob. Dargavel, captain of the team, and with appropriate words presented the team with the cup. Mr. Arnold Hergott, manageh of the Proton team which was defeated in the finals by Flesherton was called on, and he thanked the people and players for their good sportsmanship, both on the ice and off. Mr. George Boyd, coach of the champions in a few words thanked the team and also the supporters for their help during the season, and congratulated Proton on the way they carried their defeat. Dr. Burnett of Durham, manager of the Durham team, who are champions of the O. H. A. Intermediate "B" group, also put in a few words in praise of both the winners and losers of the Semi-pro. league.

The orchestra struck up the strains of. "For they are jolly good fellows' and everyone joined in with heartfelt wishes to the boys.

Chatsworth Champions

Chatsworth is undisputedly champions of the Centre Grey Hockey League by virtue of their decisive 4-2 victory over Flesherton at Markdale on Wednesday night last. Bill Patton and Bob Dargavel were the scoring aces for Flesherton, while Maher with two and one each by E. Woods and McFarlane of Chatsworth proved who was best. The Flesherton attack and defence was very loose, no doubt through the two weeks layoff without any games, while Chatsworth were fresh from their two easy victories over Dundalk. The Chatsworth team is a well balanced aggregation and are worthy champions of the district.

Local and Personal

Mrs. Alex. Henderson and little son spent the past week in Toronto.

Mr. Brock Paton of Toronto arrived in town on Saturday to spend a few weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Best of Toronto spent the week end with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Fisher.

Messrs. F. W. Duncan, Jack Kennedy, J. Oswald and Howard Eubank, attended the Leaf—American game in Toronto last Thursday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Ferris spent the past few days at Mt. Albert at the bedside of the latter's father, Mr. Thos. Pollard, who is seriously ill.

The L.O.B.A: will hold a sale of homemade baking on Saturday afternoon of this week in the show room of Down & Boyd at 2 p.m.

Mrs. G. B. Welton and Bill attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Jack Thornton, which was held in Toronto on Thursday afternoon last.

The Flesherton Board of Trade will meet in the town hall on Monday evening of next week, April 13th, at which all members are urged to be present.

Miss Jean Bell of St. Marys, Mr. Campbell Aitcheson of Stratford and Mr. Kendall Stewart of St. Paul were visitors last week at the home of Mr. Chas. Stewart and visited other relatives.

Messrs. E. J. Bennett, C. S. McTavish, G. B. Welton, Jack Nuhn and J. A. Richards were in Oshawa Thursday evening last attending the Durham—Whitby Intermediate "B" final hockey game.

A millinery opening in Flesherton is an innovation for 1936, something that has not occurred for many years past. Mrs. Wm. Miller has announced a millinery opening this Thursday at her residence and no doubt all the ladies will be attending this important event. Mrs. Miller is not a stranger to the millinery business as she spent several years at the work and for a time was with Mr. F. H. W. Hickling as head of the hat department.

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Most of Taxes Paid

The final payment of taxes for 1935 was due on Tuesday of last week, March 31, and many of those who took advantage of the three months extra allowed by the village council were able to make the final payment on time. Flesherton's tax levy amounts to $7857.99 for all purposes and of this amount $7337.24 was received, or a total of 93.4 per cent of the taxes being collected. This is a splendid record and well worth recording. In order to benefit from the few extra months allowed the taxpayers had to have half of his taxes paid by December the 15th, otherwise the usual penalty for non-payment would have been imposed.

Mrs. G. Blakeley Dies

Mr. Jos. Watson of Saugeen Junction received word last week that his aunt, Mrs. Guy Blakeley of Winnipeg had pasesd away at the age of 73 years. Years ago Mr. and Mrs. Blakeley were residents of Flesherton where he kept a butcher shop. The deceased lady was a sister of the late Mrs. Joseph Watson, who passed away a year ago at Saugeen Junction, and also a sister-in-law of Mr. Jos. Blakeley of Flesherton.

People Promptly Forgot All Sacrifices

The annals of railroading will probably never again record a winter such as the one just past, when their men were faced with such difficulties and which were met with such heroic fortitude. While superintendents directed operations to keep lines open, sometimes from their offices, at others from wayside stations or while on board some belated train, the crews responded with grim determination. There can't be much romance in bucking into miles of snow-drifts, but patrons of the roads were shipping supplies to snow-bound districts, carrying passengers and mails, and trains had to get through. The moment highways were opened, passengers and frieght reverted to motors, leaving the railroads to wonder why they made such herculean efforts to meet business demands which they knew were only temporary. Neither railway officials nor men spared themselves in behalf of the public, and although the public are heavily interested, financially, in the railways they promptly forget all sacrifices. And that's human nature.

Dissension in a town makes the grass grow in the streets. Unity makes the trade in the stores.

When nature goes on the rampage man is reduced to a very minute place in the picture. He can build big cities but a few inches of rain or snow can cause floods that can wipe out a large part of man's creation in a few hours.

Osprey Couple Have 56th Anniversary

On Tuesday of last week, March 31st, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Colquette of Feversham celebrated the .6th anniversary of their wedding day and heartiest congratulations are extended to this prominent Feversham couple.

It was on March 31st, 1880, that Robert J. Colquette and Miss Grace E. Heron were united in marriage by the Rev. L. Hall, pastor of the Methodist church of the Osprey circuit, at that time. They were married at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Heron Snr., at what was called "Heron's Hollow" on the Beaver river, where her father and brother, William Heron, operated a woollen and saw mill.

They are both natives of Osprey Township and have resided near Feversham nearly all their lives. They were recipients of many greetings and tokens of good wishes from their family and friends, and although having passed their 76th birthdays, they are still enjoying fairly good health.

Mission Band Meeting

The Easter thankoffering meeting of the Mission Band was held in St. John's United church on Saturday afternoon when the President, Evelyn Leavell took the chair and conducted the meeting in a very capable manner. Jean Duncan presided at the piano for the first hymn and Jean McTavish read the scripture lesson. The minutes were read by the secretary, Ben Bellamy, pronounced correct and adopted. Lois Sparks and her two little sisters, Eleanor and Muriel sang very sweetly; Genevieve and Jack Milne rendered a vocal duet; Alan Chapple and Jean Duncan gave a piano duet; Marjorie Thistlethwaite Jean Duncan, Alan Chapple and Ben Bellamy, sang, "I want to be a Christian." Lunch was served and the Thank offering received which amounted to $15.00. Altogether it was a very enjoyable meeting conducted by the band members.

MAN OWNS VAST TOY ARMY

The world's largest collection of toy soldiers, representing a modern mechanized army drawn up on a seventeen-mile battle front, has been on exhibition at the Royal United Service Museum, at Whitehall, England. One man has spent a lifetime in building up the collection of 20,000 pieces from which this exhibit is selected. He is Leicester Hewitt, of Hunstantion. A third of the pieces shown he has made himself. The rest were bought. "Sometimes I have to buy soldiers from abroad," Hewitt said, "Then I give them British heads and uniforms." The unique exhibit attracted large crowds.

Snowdrops are preferable to snow storms.

Mrs. W. H. Miller

announces a

MILLINERY OPENING

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Thursday, April 9, 1936

and following days.

A special selection of the

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Special attention will be given to

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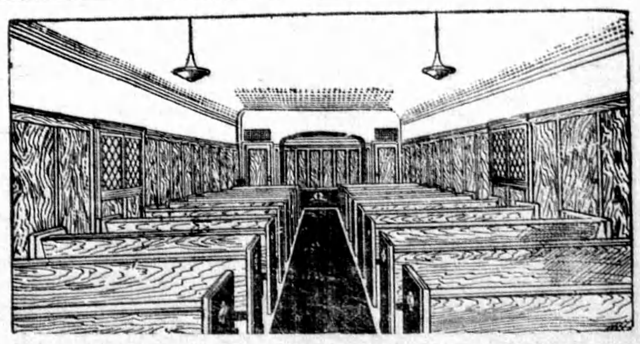

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