

The Markdale Standard

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Separate Schools Benefit by Amendment to Act

The amendment to the Assessment Act passed by the Ontario Legislature last week gives to the Separate Schools taxes which heretofore have gone to the Public Schools. How much in dollars and cents the Separate Schools will gain or how much the Public Schools will lose was not brought out in the discussions in the Legislature. Whether or not the electors of Ontario will take to the new legislation will be unknown until another provincial election has been held. The Liberal party has taken the responsibility for the new amendment, which was opposed by the Conservative opposition. Three Liberals voted with the Conservatives against the measure and three others were absent when the vote was taken. Dr. Geo. McQuibban, former House leader of the Liberal party, was one of those who voted against his party and Mr. W. E. N. Sinclair, also a former leader, was absent. Mr. Lawrence, C.C.F. member for Hamilton, was also absent. Mr. F. R. Oliver, U.F.O. member for South Grey, voted with the government as did also the member for North Grey.

While we are opposed to granting further favors to Separate Schools we are not going to discuss the matter at any length. It is a matter for Public School supporters to discuss and we had hoped Mr. Oliver would place his views before them and give his reasons for supporting the measure. The British North America Act has given the Roman Catholics the right to establish Separate Schools and to withdraw their support from the Public Schools. Further privileges have been granted to them by the Ontario Legislature from time to time. The B.N.A. Act provides protection for the rights of Separate School supporters but it makes no provision for the protection of the Public Schools. The Legislature has full control over our educational system but it cannot transfer taxes of Separate School supporters to the Public Schools. There is nothing to prevent them from giving Separate Schools taxes paid by Public School supporters excepting the will of the electors.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Vandeleur School
Sr. IV—Jean Cargoe* 75 1/2 H.; Isabel Weber 71; Doreen Boland 67; Pauline Hutchinson* 60; Ernie Sheppard 53.

Sr. III—Joyce McGee 68; Billie Johnson 68; Mac Ratcliffe* 68; Frank Warling* 66; Ralph Fitzsimmons* 64; Melville Buchanan 61; Lavergne Baker 53.

Jr. III—Aleda Ratcliffe* 73; Verda Cargoe* 65; Freddie Boland* 65.

Sr. II—Dorothy Johnston* 76 H.; Kay Ratcliffe* 75 H.; Betty Baker 71; Beth Warling 67; Muriel McGee* 67.

Jr. II—Ray Warling 73; Helen Wyville 73.

Sr. I—R. J. Cargoe 76 H.; Marie Johnston* 67; Nelson Fitzsimmons 24.

Sr. Pr.—Ronald Brett 76 H.; Bruce Shepperd, absent.

Jr. Pr.—Patsy Warling*; John Fitzsimmons; Marion Summers.

Number on roll 30; average attendance 25.48.
* perfect attendance.

H. J. Thompson, teacher

Wodehouse School
V—Wilbert Lawson 74.

Jr. IV—James Brown 82; Shirley Lawson 78; Garnet Walsh 76.

Sr. III—Lorne Fawcett 73; Dorothy Wiley 69.

Jr. III—Elva Wiley 78.

Jr. IIIA—Percy Wiley 62; Audrey Thompson 51.

II—Doreen Wiley 57; Iris Walsh 53; Glen Kirkpatrick 69; Fern Wiley 68; Vernon Fawcett.

Jr. II—Joyce Wiley H.
Pr.—Madeline Walsh; Billy Hutchinson.

Number on roll 17; average attendance 15.68.

Olga Doman, teacher

Proton Station School
Sr. IV—Harold Sims*; Verna Baker*; Joe Stainsby*; Hilda Sims; Arelene Whyte*; Ken Sims; Ernie Barker*; Kathleen Barker; Mae Corbett.

Jr. IV—Clarence White; Vern Corbett; Marjorie Bates.

Sr. III—Jacqueline Sims; Laurie Sims*.

Jr. III—Fred. Batchelor*; Helen Pevey*; Irene White; Jack Barker*; Zella Lyons.

Jr. II—Marville White; Kenneth Bates.

Sr. I—Cecile Barker*; Margaret Mills*; Henrietta Sims; Velma Sewell; Bert Badgerow*.

Sr. Pr.—Marion Baker*; Marion Lyons; Everett Lockhart.

Jr. Pr.—Ruth Lyons.
* denotes perfect attendance.

G. B. Littlejohns, teacher

Remember the party in the Orange Hall, Markdale, on Friday evening, April 24th, the proceeds of which will go to the Dundalk skating rink fund.

Miss Macphail's Weekly Letter From Ottawa

The short week of three days was practically all taken up by discussion of the Employment Commission Bill and a money bill providing seventy-five million dollars for relief and public works. It is becoming increasingly evident that the commission is charged with many tasks—too many.

In speaking on it Mr. Stevens said "the commission will proceed to examine, enquire, analyse, study statistics and make a report. . . . That will take probably eight or nine months at the least. It is possible that some time about the middle of next session the government will bring to Parliament a supply vote giving effect to some of its recommendations." Then, he thought, after a lengthy debate in the next session and a period of rest for Cabinet ministers after prorogation, September would see some activity. "At the very best it will be a year before effective measures can be worked out."

I believe there is a growing feeling in the House that the bill is "window dressing". The government could have set up the Royal Commission and given it wide terms of reference without presenting it to the House at all. Such a method would have been speedier. And one is greatly impressed by the need of prompt action in regard to unemployment. The decay of people who have been for years destitute is appalling. There is a time lag that threatens to be our undoing. If such a commission as is now proposed was to be, it should have been set up six years ago.

The present government, led by Mr. MacKenzie King, pins its faith apparently on a normal revival of trade and industry absorbing a large percentage of the unemployed workers. Members of the government repeatedly voiced this belief. Mr. Stevens in his speech warned the government against believing that external trade would revive to a point which would provide a solution for our internal problems. He said: "In my opinion at any rate they are leaning on a broken reed when they depend upon external trade to solve internal problems. There is scarcely a country in the world which has been a market for Canadian products that has not in the last dozen years put up high tariffs, quotas, prohibitions, prohibitions and other measures of impediment to embarrass the operation of a long-range (Canadian) policy. The long-range policy of these countries has been to build up within their own boundaries a self-sufficiency in relation to articles which we have been in the habit of exporting to them."

Mr. Stevens then proceeded to ask the government where they were going to get markets for wheat, lumber, newsprint and manufactured goods. He expressed the belief that this would be a sorry House a year from now if we leaned upon the Royal Commission on Unemployment as a solution.

The money reformers, whether they are sitting in the government party, the social credit group, or any other part of the House, irritate the Minister of Finance by asking what he intends to do if trade and industry do not revive and taxation and borrowing for relief purposes become increasingly unbearable. Mr. Dunning in his speech disposed of it as follows:

"We hear questions such as 'if this goes on'; 'if this gets worse'; 'if taxes rise'; 'if debts increase'; 'if industry gets worse, what will happen?' When questions like that are asked in this House of Commons they have the effect of instilling fear instead of hope in the minds of our people. I believe we can generate in this House leadership of a type to instill confidence in our people who have the ability to co-operate with each other and with governments."

The Finance Minister often wears a provocative smile; it is warm enough but a trifle superior. I brought him into conflict with one of the able private members of his party, Mr. Gerry McGeer. As usual Mr. McGeer was speaking well and convincingly on the need of monetary reform and addressing his remarks to the Finance Minister, when to his surprise, he smiled the smile and with some heat said: "Yes, the

Minister of Finance may laugh, but I want to say that when the time comes for issues of this kind—When Mr. Dunning on a point of order, broke in with: "I made no reference to my Hon. friend." Mr. McGeer: "I thought the Hon. gentleman was laughing at me." Mr. Dunning: "I was just reading a very amusing letter. Would my Hon. friend like to read it?" Mr. McGeer: "I am surprised that the occasion permits the Hon. Minister at this time to read amusing letters, although I must confess that it may be the attitude of the government."

All of which goes to show that perfect peace does not always reign within the government party.

Canada has always been proud of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the early record of the force in western Canada is a worthy one. There has been a recent tendency to change it into a military organization and to unduly emphasize its importance. The Commissioner at the head of the force is Major General Sir James MacBrien and according to answers of some questions I put on the Order Paper recently he is certainly not underpaid. In addition to free living quarters, rations (food), fuel, light and medical attendance, he receives a salary of \$12,000 per annum, less five per cent. He also is furnished with a government car and chauffeur, both being available as required for general use.

Four or five members of the R.C.M.P. have been chosen for law courses and while attending law school receive pay as constables in the force. One of the number is the son of Sir James MacBrien and all were chosen by the Commissioner.

I feel no enmity toward Sir James MacBrien, nor do I wish him to receive less than the worth of his service but in times like these when most people on salaries have taken substantial cuts, when one in every ten Canadians is on relief, and farmers are working desperately hard and cannot then break even, such remuneration is ridiculous. His predecessor in office received only \$6,450 in salary, with, I suppose, the same perquisites.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad publish a magazine and once a year make it a women's number, featuring outstanding women. This year they are giving a major place to stories of the four women parliamentarians of Canada. Miss Stevens, their representative, was talking to me after she had interviewed the women Senators and Mrs. Black and she expressed herself as being delighted with them. I agree that it would be difficult to find three more charming women. It warms my heart every time I think of their presence in the Parliament of Canada. I wish you could meet them. I wonder if we could induce them to come to Grey-Bruce?

Easter holidays begin now and end on April 20th. In other words: "school's out."

AGNES MACPHAIL

House of Commons, Ottawa,
8th April, 1936

Use The Standard "Want Adv." column for results.

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L. G. CAMPBELL, L.D.S., D.D.S., Dental Surgeon. Graduate of Ontario College of Dentistry and University of Toronto. Office over the Post Office. Office hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments made by phone.

DR. J. A. McARTHUR, Dentist. Office in the Artley Block, over the Perkins hardware store. Entrance at south-west corner of building, Toronto Street.

FRATERNAL

L. O. L.—Markdale L.O.L. No. 1048 meets in the Orange Hall, Markdale, at 8 o'clock p.m., the first Thursday in each month. Visiting brethren cordially invited. J. W. Stoddart, W.M.; A. E. Scott, Rec.-Sec.

A. F. & A. M.—Hiram Lodge No. 490, G.R.C., Markdale, meets in the Masonic Hall, Reburn Block, at 8 o'clock p.m., on the second Thursday in each month. Visiting brethren cordially invited. W. J. Halbert, W.M.; A. E. Colgan, Sec.

R. B. K.—Victoria Preceptory No. 282 meets in the Orange Hall, Markdale, at 8 o'clock p.m., the third Thursday in each month. Visiting brethren always cordially welcome. G. W. Littlejohns, W. P.; A. E. Colgan, Registrar.

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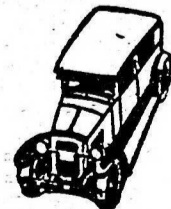
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