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Federal Elections March 26 Events Prior to Dissolution

Hughes Cleaver, M.P., Writes Free Press on Briefest Session on Record — Extracts from Speeches of the Leaders in Debate Before Putting Question Up to the Electors.

When the members of the House of Commons and of the Senate met at Ottawa on Thursday last for the official opening of Parliament, none of us anticipated that by the end of the same day we would find Parliament dissolved. While a party truce was unanimously agreed upon at the time of the war session of the House of Commons in September, and the head offices of both of the major political parties were closed, yet it soon became quite apparent that we had a political truce in name only. While many of us refrained from political activities, there were many others who did not respect the truce. Many attacks upon the government appeared in the press and on the public platform. The climax of these attacks was reached just a few days ago when the Provincial Legislature for Ontario passed a resolution condemning our war effort, with a very bitter personal attack upon the Prime Minister thrown in for good measure. The major part of this attack came after Parliament had been summoned to meet at Ottawa. Part of these attacks were doubtless made honestly and for patriotic reasons, but a large part of them would appear to have been made for selfish political purposes. Mr. King and his Cabinet had decided that it would be futile to attempt any constructive legislation in such an atmosphere, and have decided upon an immediate appeal to the people to let them choose a government to prosecute the war. When the election contest is over the government which is chosen by the people will then not be hampered by political intrigue, and will be able to devote its entire effort to the prosecution of the war. So far as I am personally concerned, politics has little interest to me when the Empire is faced with a life and death struggle and when the stakes are so high. While I am quite free to admit that we are all liable to make mistakes and some minor mistakes have been made, yet in the light of all the circumstances I do not believe that more could have been accomplished in so short a time. In the coming campaign much will be made, at first in any event, of the fact that Parliament was so quickly dissolved, but to me the only real issues are the unity of Canada and the prosecution of the war. We cannot lose sight of the fact that if our effort is to reach its maximum this can only be attained by unity. In the recent elections in Quebec, Hon. Ernest Lapointe and the other Quebec ministers in the King government took their political lives in their hands to further the unity of Canada in our war effort. The result well justified the risk.

In order that the people of this County may for their own opinion of the facts leading up to dissolution, verbatim extracts from the speeches of both leaders appear below.

Yours sincerely,
HUGHES CLEAVER.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): May I say, Mr. Speaker, that I had hoped that circumstances might be such that would permit of another session of this Parliament being held before a general election. But as I have said, no one can foresee what is likely to take place in a time of war, and none can foretell the degree to which a government may continue to enjoy the confidence of the people in carrying on the affairs of the nation at so critical a time. I was careful therefore to say that it would be desirable when Parliament next assembled to have had a careful review in the interval of all circumstances which would bear on the question of whether it would be advisable to proceed in a period of war with a pre-election session, or to have on the hustings such discussion as must necessarily take place—in other words, to avoid two political battles, one in Parliament and one on the hustings as well.

500 Frozen Bass in One Catch at Fairy Lake

Yes, bass fishing is out of season, but when the water got low at the plant of Beardmore & Co., workmen investigated and examined the stream on the farm at Fairy Lake. They found the intake clogged with fish. The ice was cut away and frozen fish were cleared from the stream and it is estimated 500 fish, most of them bass, were thrown on the bank before the opening was clear and the flow of water was back to normal. It certainly was a great catch.

MISS M. Z. BENNETT ADDRESSES ACTON JUNIORS MEETING

The Acton Juniors held their regular meeting in Lorne School on Thursday last. After the regular business meeting, Harold MacIntyre took the chair for the program, which consisted of: Solo by Miss Beattie Rawlings; readings by Miss Davidson; and musical numbers by Walter Couke. The gathering enjoyed a few minutes of community singing and then Miss M. Z. Bennett gave a very interesting talk on her trip through the New England States, illustrating it with pictures and post cards which she had brought back with her. Lorna Looker gave delightful piano solos. The President then thanked those who had helped with the program, and the meeting closed with the National Anthem. Mr. Davidson then acted as auctioneer for the sale of the boxes. After lunch the club enjoyed an hour of dancing.

Juniors Clinch Play-off Berth by Two Wins

Defeat Burlington by Good Margins in Two Games of Week — Milton Here on Monday
By "COOKIE"

Acton Juniors retained the right to stay in the play-offs of their local group by counting four points at the expense of Burlington. In the first game here, last Thursday night, Acton defeated Burlington 8 to 3. Acton spotted Burlington the first goal, and came back to score three before Burlington notched their second counter. The score in the first period ended 4 to 2 for the locals. Goal-getters in the first period were Burlington, Carr and Williams; Acton, Nichols, 3, and Goy. There were no penalties in that frame.

Summary of game results:

Game	Team	Score
1	Burlington, Carr	2-45
2	Acton, Goy (Buchanan, Blow)	8-38
3	Acton, Nichols (Fish, Marz)	10-30
4	Acton, Nichols (Buchanan)	14-23
5	Burlington, Williams (Hall, Taylor)	17-65
6	Acton, Nichols (Hillier)	18-56

Second Period: No scoring—No penalties

Game	Team	Score
7	Acton, Nichols (Marzo, Brush)	2-28
8	Acton, Hillier (Goy)	8-17
9	Burlington, Taylor	11-30
10	Acton, Goy (Tyler)	13-32
11	Acton, Nichols	48-28

J. E. Houck Addresses Short Course Banquet

The closing banquet of the Nelson Short Courses in Agriculture and Home Economics was held in the Nelson Township Hall on Friday evening last, when the students and guests numbering 130 sat down to the delicious banquet served by the ladies of the Nelson Presbyterian Church. The toast list included the following toasts:

The toast in Home Economics, proposed by Mrs. Lucas and responded to by Mrs. Angus, the toast in Agriculture, proposed by Mrs. Vassilko, and responded to by Philip Bell. Our Guests, proposed by Mrs. Breton and responded to by T. A. Blake, M.P.P.; Mrs. Arthur Cowan, District President of the Acton Women's Institutes; and Warden George Finney.

Congregation of United Church Held Annual Meeting

A splendid gathering of the congregation of the United Church heard encouraging reports at the annual meeting, held last Thursday evening. Every department gave evidence of worthy activity and progress. An item of interest was the presentation of a picture for the Sunday School from Mr. and Mrs. Nell McNabb.

LITERARY SOCIETY AT BANNOCKBURN ELECTS OFFICERS

The first meeting of the Bannockburn Literary Society was held in the school on Friday last. Stanley Morrison, the Vice-President, acted as chairman. The following officers were elected: President—Stanley Morrison. Vice-President—Clarence Coles. Secretary—Irma Watson. Pianist—Dorothy Hutchinson. Assistant Pianist—Ada Finlay. Executive—Louise Coles, Ada Finlay, Lloyd James, William MacDonald.

World's Day of Prayer Services Held in Acton

At a meeting, held at the Manse, last week of the representatives of the various churches in town, it was decided to hold the Day of Prayer this year in St. Alban's Anglican Church, on Friday, February 9th, at 3.00 p.m. The address will be delivered by Miss M. Masses and members of the Women's organizations in the churches will assist in the order of service. You are reminded of this date and of your duty in these days, to attend and join with Christian women of every country on this day in their prayers for courage, hope and peace.

MRS. GORDON HAYWARD



Native and resident of Acton for many years, who passed away on Friday last in Toronto and whose burial took place on Tuesday in Fairview Cemetery, Acton.

J. E. Pearen is President Halton Insurance Company

J. E. Pearen, R. R. No. 1, Acton, heads the Halton Union Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Co. for a second term. Full evidence was shown in the men managing the business when the complete state of officers, with one exception, was returned, at the fiftieth annual meeting held here on Monday. George Finney, R. R. No. 1, Acton, takes the place of Duncan Campbell, Moffat, who retires owing to ill health, on the Board of Directors.

Milk Pasteurization Law Opposed by Halton Council

E. Thetford is Secretary of Acton Fall Fair

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Acton Agricultural Society, yesterday afternoon, E. Thetford was chosen Secretary of Acton Fall Fair and will assume the duties immediately. Secretary P. J. Wright retires after eight years of splendid service to the Fair, owing to poor health. Mr. Wright was honored by appointment to the Board, and it is hoped his services can be retained in an advisory capacity. He will attend the Fair Convention in Toronto in February with President L. O. Johnston, and the new Secretary. Other matters of interest to the Fair were discussed at this meeting and plans made for the 1940 event.

Commission May Purchase Machine to Thaw Ground

No Plans Yet for Range Campaign in Acton — Other Items of Business

The meeting of the Acton Public Utilities Commission was held on Monday evening. Commissioner M. Symon and Reeve J. B. Chalmers were present, with Chairman C. M. Hansen presiding. A letter was read from the Ontario Hydro Meter Department, reporting that they had checked and corrected the power meters at the Beardmore Company plant.

Wardens Urge Economy in All County Council Work — Delegates to Road Convention not to Exceed \$75 — Appointments to Boards are Made.

The second meeting of the new 1940 Halton County Council was held in Milton last Tuesday, with all members present. Minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. Correspondence was also read.

The new Warden, Reeve Finney, of Nassagaweya, addressed the Council briefly, thanking the nominees who had withdrawn in his favor at the last meeting, thus making his election unanimous. He also urged members of the Council to use every economy in their administration of County affairs. "There is no time," said the Warden, "when economy has been more necessary than at the present time."

Mr. Gilbert—As Chairman of the Good Roads Committee, I would like to say that I shall endeavor, to the best of my ability, to co-operate with the Warden in every way possible. I would also like to urge that the various Deputy-Reeves shall feel free to express their opinion in any matter that comes up for discussion. The Deputy-Reeves are sent here, just as much as the Reeves, to represent the electors of their municipalities. Personally, I feel that my Deputy has just as much right to say what he thinks as I have. As far as the Road Committee is concerned, I can assure you that everything will be absolutely square and above board, and a report of this Committee will always be brought to the Council so that it may be discussed and in that way the Council may be kept informed of the work being done by this Committee.

Mr. Hume—As one of the Deputy-Reeves referred to, I appreciate Mr. Gilbert's remarks and I might add I shall be very glad to know just what the Road Committee is doing. It is embarrassing, to say the least, to be asked what this Committee is doing, and not to know.

Pumper Purchase Discussed Auditors to Report Soon

First Letter from Acton Boy with Troops in England

Last week Jack McTeachie received a letter from his brother, Jim, who went overseas with the first contingent and is a soldier with the 4th Highlanders. Jim is a graduate printer of The Free Press, and we are pleased doubly to have this first letter from overseas from this Acton boy and be permitted to publish part of it.

Dear Jack: Well, we finally got here and are nearly frozen. It is really cold and we have one more place to heat a room with 15 beds. Outside of that they are real comfortable barracks, and we get first class meals. I have a real cold and have had it since we got on the boat.

We had quite a rough crossing. They kept us in the hold overnight and would not let us off the boat, but I dropped a note over to a cop to notify Aunt Jean and Jim. Montgomery got down to the train just before we pulled out, so I saw him for a few minutes. I expect to go on my leave to-morrow.

Aldershot is quite a big place, but after about 430 you can't see a thing; you practically have to use a flashlight and you can't buy them here. I sent some money to Mom-to send me one, with some spare batteries, so if you see her, don't let her forget as it is quite necessary to have one. You have no idea what a black-out is like until you have been in one. It really is pitch black and the stores are open, that is, if you can find the door to get in.

We are not far from London, so I'll have to take a trip up. We are all out till midnight every night, if we don't go more than 20 miles away from barracks. You can tell Dills my change of address to Base P.O., Canada. We haven't received any mail yet.

Tell everybody I was asking for them. I have to hurry and get dressed for parade, so I will close for now.

Intermediates Lose Two, Win One Play-off Fight

Meet Fergus Here, To-morrow Night in Important Game — Paris and Elora Win-but Galt Loses to Tanneh

The Tanners slipped badly last Friday night when they went down to Paris, 2-1, in a heck of a game. We knew there was an element of luck and a goal lost that should have counted, but on the play of the night Paris was the best team. After giving the Black Hawks a 10-4 trimming here the reverse has fans wanting to know what happened. Your diagnosis is as good as ours.

Paris was content to top them at long range in the second period, but Woods handled them nicely. Norm Morton got in but England made a lovely save. Kempthorne tied up the count when Paris put on a power play at 10:20. Woods had no chance on the Paris rush. Molozie had what appeared to be a goal, but the shot was an offside. Money went off for tripping and Morton cutcheon also did a rest period.

Those who hoped to see Acton really put on the steam in the third period were disappointed. They just didn't go in for goals, but England did a mighty nice job of handling what was peppered at him and was lucky, too.

McCutcheon tripped Terry and went for a rest, but Paris ragged the puck pretty well and the Tanners lacked the push to take it away from them. Paris continued to check close. B. England and Pipher mixed it up and both went to the penalty box. As the period closed, Paris ganged the Acton end and with ten seconds to go, flipped one past Woods for the winning goal. The score was by Wilson.

Fire Insurance and Bonds are Reviewed by Council — Signs to Regulate Parking—By-laws are Passed Confirming Appointments — New Uniform Ordered for Chief E. Harrop.

Councillors W. J. O. Oakes, J. H. Craghton, P. Davison and S. M. Sinclair were present on Tuesday evening when Acton Council met and Reeve J. B. Chalmers presided.

Representatives of the Chapters of the I.O.G.E. and the Canadian Legion were present and gave an outline of the work these Societies are doing. They were really service organizations, doing a community work and assisting the town in many ways. In view of this, they asked the co-operation of the Council in the Carpool that was being put on. They requested that Council reconsider the resolution passed at the last meeting and that fees use of the Arena be given for this event and also use of the hall when requested at a later date.

The previous motion was reconsidered and the Societies were granted free use of the Arena for the Carnival.

The fourth report of the Finance Committee recommended payment of the following accounts:

W. H. Lashbrook, supplies for arena	\$ 46
H. Fryer, labor	23 75
R. J. Lovell, balance of account	72
R. J. McPherson, salary to 1940	90 00
James Mills, salary	47 00
E. Harrop salary	191 00

A by-law was introduced, read and passed, appointing a Municipal Officer, Chief of Police, and Assessor and Tax Collector for 1940. Mr. E. Harrop was named as the officer in this by-law. Salary was \$100 per month.

Another by-law was read and passed, appointing a Medical Officer of Health for 1940. Dr. E. J. Nelson was named in this by-law. Salary was \$75.00 and supplies.

The Board of Health for 1940 was named as follows: Reeve Chalmers, Dr. E. J. Nelson and C. W. Mason. E. E. Harrop was appointed West and Sanitary and Milk Inspector for the year. The Clerk reported that the Auditors had been at work on the books of the Municipality and hoped to have their report ready for presentation to Council at the next meeting.

Acton Club Won Many Prizes at County Carnival

The Halton Junior Farmers held a very successful Carnival in the arena at Milton on Tuesday evening. This is the first carnival to be held by this group, and plans are now under way for more. The Acton Club brought back all but one of the prizes that were competed for. The list of prize winners were as follows:

Best Costume—Ted Anderson, Acton.
Best Gentlemen's Costume—Harold Marks, Milton.
Best Lady's Costume—Miss Velma Murray, Acton.
Best Costumed Couple—Miss Dorothy Church and Walter Couke, Acton.
Club with Most Skaters in Costume—Acton.

Coming Events

Announcements of Meetings, Concerts or Other Events, under this heading, are charged, on cents per line, with a minimum charge for any announcement of 25¢.

Wiggling Boots at the YM.C.A., Thursday, February 8th—8:00 p.m.

The Ladies of St. Alban's W. A. will hold a Valentine Tea and Sale of Homemade Baking on Saturday, February 17th, in the Parish Hall.

A local play, "The Old-fashioned Mother," in Acton Town Hall, Tuesday, February 13th. Tickets now on sale Adults 25¢. Auspices United Young People's Union.