

# The Acton Free Press.

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Sixty-Seventh Year.—No. 52.

## Halton's Member Gives His Views on Conscription

Answers Those Who Do Not Seriously Regard Their Pledge

**Because we believe those whom he represents would like to know of the presentation of his views before parliament we publish in full the speech given in the House of Commons on Tuesday, June 16th of Halton's representative, Hughes Cleaver, on that controversial question regarding the method of raising men for army service.**

Mr. Hughes Cleaver (Halton): Before expressing my views on the bill which is now before the house for second reading I should like to make some comments with reference to the keynote speech delivered by the leader of the opposition (Mr. Hanson) on Wednesday last. He read verbatim from a prepared type-written statement which was handed out to the press before one word of his type-written speech or statement was read to this house. In the opening remarks of that speech he made this very remarkable statement:

I have listened with undivided attention to the speech of the right hon. gentleman this afternoon, and I confess at once that it left me cold. I ask hon. members to ponder for a moment the highly imaginative gifts of the hon. member, who in the quiet of his own room, at least two weeks before a word of the speech was uttered, could calmly dictate to his private secretary the words which I have just read. The Prime Minister's speech, he said, "left him cold." Obviously the chill must have occurred at least two weeks before the speech of the Prime Minister was uttered; so we are left to conjecture why the chill. On pondering the problem this occurred to me. We all know that the present Conservative party in the house is governed by remote control. If that part of the hon. member's speech was written by the Right Hon. Arthur, we can understand the chill; for he has been kept by the Canadian people and by his own party in cold storage for a long, long time.

However, last Wednesday afternoon was a very warm afternoon and the hon. gentleman soon warmed up. He then inflicted on this house some poetry from a musical comedy. Think of it! At a time when this house is discussing one of the most serious problems that will come before it during this war; at a time when final feelings run high, is that the best leadership the leader of the opposition can give us? He read from comic opera, and he did not even read it well.

The leader of the opposition went on to argue grudgingly that he was going to support this measure, but he served warning that he would press for the immediate imposition of conscription. He went on to poke fun at us to belittle and misrepresent the stand of our war leader, a man who was elected Prime Minister of this country with the largest majority ever accorded to any prime minister in our history. In conclusion he made statements regarding Canada's war effort that I feel sure he will be ashamed of when he is much older. Listen to this on page 10 of the hon. member's war effort, and nobody knows better than the leader of the opposition what a magnificent war effort this country is making. I quote from Hansard page 334:

Shall be.

The Prime Minister insisted that we continue with interminable detours to victory. That is what we have had. Not thirty-two months. Shall he insist.

The Prime Minister again that we plod wretchedly along a winding and unlighted road, with no hope that we may now, sometime, some day, we may grope, stumble and flounder into the open light of victory.

I ask hon. members, is this fair comment on Canada's war effort? It is not the duty of any hon. member of this house to make such slighting statements regarding Canada's war effort, much less the duty of the leader of a loyal opposition. No one knows better than he the wonderful war effort this country is making and as I listened to those words I just wondered what general McNaughton and his gallant men over seas would think of that description of gross slander if you will of Canada's war effort. I wondered how the boys in our twenty-five odd air squadrons overseas would feel when they heard Canada's war effort being described as a stumbling, fumbling effort. And what about the boys in the Canadian navy engaged in constant convoy duty on the Atlantic? How would they like to have Canada's war effort, their war effort, described and impugned in that fashion? Do they believe that we are

### NO MORE CAKE AT INSTITUTE MEETINGS FOR THE DURATION

The June meeting of the Bannockburn Institute was held at the home of Mrs. D. Russell with twelve ladies present and the President, Miss E. Russell in the chair. The roll call was answered "Where we were born." It was decided to join with Acton and Dublin for a one-day nutrition conference in Wise-Burneting which will be held in November.

Plans were made for a picnic in July instead of the regular meeting.

After the business period Mrs. L. Sunckhamer, District Director, gave a splendid report of Halton Convention which was held in Georgetown.

We also had a musical contest. Lunch was served and a half hour spent. It was decided that for the duration, cake would be omitted from the institute refreshments.

### First Communion For Big Group At St. Joseph's Church

Sunday June 21st, was an important day in the life of St. Joseph's Parish, Acton. At the nine o'clock mass nineteen children received their first Holy Communion, while ten other children made their solemn renewal of their First Holy Communion.

The sacrifices had both the main altar and blessed Virgin's altar specially decorated with an abundance of various flowers for the occasion. The communion rail was illuminated with candlelight of lighted candles, one for each boy or girl making his or her first communion. The girls were dressed in white wearing wreaths and veils while the boys wore ribbons bows on their arms and flower in the lapel of their coats.

The children were assisted by the ladies of the Sodality and under the direction of Misses Marie Clayton and Mary Papillon, marched from the front door to the church.

After the mass the first communions were enrolled in the brown Scapular by their pastor, Rev. V. J. Morgan and a certificate of First Holy Communion was presented to each child.

Those who made the first communion were Michael McCrystal, Leo Merchant, Michael Korchewiec, Leo McCullough, Basil Pacini, Helen Keech, Denise Coles, Dorothy Gibbons, Marie McCrystal, John McCrea, Adele Chew, Sheila O'Rourke, Bridget Ann Elliott, Barbara Boyle, Doreen Hornby and Pauline Tyers.

### MISSION BAND HELD PICNIC ON CHURCH LAWN

The Mission Band of the United Church held an enjoyable picnic on the church lawn last Thursday afternoon. To avoid the showers the picnic lunch was served indoors but weather cleared and a splendid time was enjoyed in the games and contests following.

Cards: 1st and 2nd, Udeen Parker, 3rd, Carl and S. Marie Flocke, 4th, Edna and 5th, Alice Hayes, 6th, 7th and 8th, Marie Flocke, 9th, 10th and 11th, Alice Hayes, 12th, 13th and 14th, Alice Hayes, 15th, 16th and 17th, Alice Hayes, 18th, 19th and 20th, Alice Hayes, 21st, 22nd and 23rd, Alice Hayes, 24th, 25th and 26th, Alice Hayes, 27th, 28th and 29th, Alice Hayes, 30th, 31st and 32nd, Alice Hayes, 33rd, 34th and 35th, Alice Hayes, 36th, 37th and 38th, Alice Hayes, 39th, 40th and 41st, Alice Hayes, 42nd, 43rd and 44th, Alice Hayes, 45th, 46th and 47th, Alice Hayes, 48th, 49th and 50th, Alice Hayes, 51st, 52nd and 53rd, Alice Hayes, 54th, 55th and 56th, Alice Hayes, 57th, 58th and 59th, Alice Hayes, 60th, 61st and 62nd, Alice Hayes, 63rd, 64th and 65th, Alice Hayes, 66th, 67th and 68th, Alice Hayes, 69th, 70th and 71st, Alice Hayes, 72nd, 73rd and 74th, Alice Hayes, 75th, 76th and 77th, Alice Hayes, 78th, 79th and 80th, Alice Hayes, 81st, 82nd and 83rd, Alice Hayes, 84th, 85th and 86th, Alice Hayes, 87th, 88th and 89th, Alice Hayes, 90th, 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