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**"COUPLE TEA" AMONG PROBLEMS AT CLASS FOR NEW CANADIANS**

Somebody wondered just what "a couple" meant, and asked the teacher. Someone else wondered just where "a couple" fit in with a "couple tea". "Couple tea" was cleared up and the class proceeded.

This informal Acton class is certainly different from those that are held in the daytime in the public and high schools. Every Thursday evening new Canadians meet in the high school to learn English from Miss Isabel Gammie of the regular high school teaching staff.

There were just a few over a dozen wrestling with our language recently when a visit was paid to the class. Although about 40 registered, the attendance has dwindled due to bad roads and other causes—let's not hope because of discour-

agement with such English tangles as "couple tea".

One of the pupils, Konstant Kril of Poland, had just received a letter from the community programs branch in Toronto explaining to him that to come before court for naturalization, he must have "a knowledge of the English language and civics." So the members of this class were not just learning our language for convenience, but also so they could become Canadian citizens. Mr. Kril, who came to Canada in 1947 and lives on Hillcrest St., is employed with Beardmore and Co.

There was much laughter during the class at mistakes and at private-other-language jokes. Much of this laughter came from the way group from Holland, who were busy at the first of the class unjumbling sentences and making common Canadian words out of "gnikeest" and "moatubeli" and filling in blanks in stories. Not simple children's stories, but ones written specially for these classes.

This Dutch group included Jack Sloop, who has not been in Canada a year yet. He was a soldier in the Dutch East Indies and Indonesia. He lives on R.R. 1, and is a construction worker now.

Wilhelmien van den Boom, J. van den Boom and Theo Boom all live on R.R. 1. The van den Booms have been here since last June; Theo Boom arrived in this country in 1949.

Roy checked young housekeeper Anrij van den Boom stays at R.R. 3. Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Ancker came in November, 1951, and live on Knox Ave.

Very few of those in the class could speak a word of English when they landed, but Mr. Ancker wrote he could—a "littil". Mr. van den Boom was another with a bit of confidence when he landed, for he wrote he could speak a "littil bit" of our tricky tongue.

The group, learning when to say "a" and when "an" suggested that "eye" started with an "a".

They tackled sentences with "yesterday", "today" and "tomorrow" to get the tenses, and laughed at one bit of "I was put a letter in the box".

Anton Gorjup is at the top of the class, having been speaking English since 1948. He was an officer before he came here, knows 11 languages and has been to eight different countries, including his native Yugoslavia. Several of his languages were learned in a concentration camp so his English classes are in more pleasant surroundings. A tanner, he lives on Scene St. It was Mr. Gorjup who got up to the map of Canada to point out the Rockies during a short session of geography.

Nobody knew all the Great Lakes—but some of them (not all) knew the longest river in Canada. Think now—what is it? The St. Lawrence is just 1600 miles long and Canada's longest—the Mackenzie river—is over 2000. So they learn more than just grammar and pronunciation!

Miss Gammie had to correct earnest students who said "see" instead of "she", "wis" instead of "was" and "fif" instead of "five". (It was one of the Dutch who stumbled on "fif"—all the other laughed.)

Walter Kwiatkowski from Poland was also in the army and came to Canada in 1947. Frank Biel, another from Poland, came in 1948. John Cavlone was a farmer; he came from Yugoslavia, and lives in Guelph St. All three work for Beardmore's.

Another former farmer at Beardmore's came from the Ukraine. Wasyl Dyck, who lives on Arthur St., has been in Canada since July of 1950.

The newest member of the class during the recent visit was Jakym Bondwak, Main St., from the Ukraine. He lived in Germany before coming here about a year ago. Mr. Bondwak had not a book yet—one of the clear, well illustrated books especially issued for new citizens. Some of the class is studying the beginner's book, and the rest a more advanced book. These are published under the English Language Research Co.

They learn about us, and the teacher learns every Thursday too. At this lesson, she learned that the Dutch word for "match" is something that sounds like "lucifer", and there are three languages in Yugoslavia—Serbian, Slavonian and Croatian.

The students with their varied backgrounds wrote in their notebooks at Miss Gammie's dictation, with murmurs of "bo-a-o-k" and "as" and learned the meanings of "value" and "which" as an interrogative and conjunction. Words like "baggage", "ship" and "work" were on the lesson, but they all knew them!

The new Canadians at these classes, who have chosen Acton as their new home, are working earnestly to be good citizens.

**THE HISTORY OF ASSESSMENT AND MUNICIPAL TAXATION IN ONTARIO**

By GEORGE W. JAMES  
Second in a Series of Eight Articles

In 1899 the Provincial Government realizing the inadequacies of the section of the Municipal Act, created under the Baldwin-LaFontaine Act of 1849, which dealt with assessment to some extent appointed a commission under Judge McLennan to hear appeals, arguments and submissions, etc., against the assessment methods laid down in that Act.

The Commission which met for nearly five years and heard many submissions from Boards of Trade, merchants, labor organizations, municipal officials and single tax advocates among others, brought in a number of interim recommendations, many of which were incorporated in the first Assessment Act of 1904 which dealt solely with municipal assessment and taxation. They made many recommendations—the majority of which, with some major and in other instances minor amendments, constitutes our present Assessment Act.

The outstanding changes were that the value of the property was to be considered and not the type or class of construction; that the actual value of farm land instead of the type of soil was to determine the assessment value; that business assessment was to be levied on the value of land and buildings used for such business instead of such hypothetical and hard to ascertain methods as amount of trade and stock on hand at the time of the assessor's call.

Taxed on Real Value  
In that period they placed more reliance on the selling value of property than we wisely do today, in view of the demand for housing accommodation which governs the selling price but not the real or actual value.

In 1940 an amendment to provide for the appointment of County Assessors was brought into force. As this amendment is very important it will be dealt with in a later article. In 1946 the provisions which dealt with the method of ascertaining assessment values were amended and these changes are now contained in Section 33.

In 1947 the present Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Honorable G. H. Dunbar took the first concrete steps to actively assist municipalities in their assessment problems. In 1950 Mr. Dunbar went further by issuing a Manual of Assessment Values to be used as a guide by assessors in determining values for assessment purposes. The adoption of this Manual was not made compulsory but was at the discretion of the municipalities and the assessors.

County Councils  
The form of municipal government which we should be most interested in is our local municipal government. Yet we have another form of municipal government which administers some municipal

services and to pay for these municipal services a charge appears in our local tax bills.

These governments are known as county councils or territorial district organizations. In Southern Ontario, there are 34 Administrative County Councils and they govern certain municipal services. Their administration for some purposes includes 97 towns, 150 villages and 429 townships, and one improvement district.

In Northern Ontario we have 11 Territorial Districts which for some purposes levy charges rated on assessment. The charges for the municipal services dispensed appear in the tax bills of the local ratepayers in these territorial districts and they comprise 5 cities, 36 towns, 10 villages, 144 townships and 46 improvement districts.

An explanation of why we as ratepayers should be vitally interested in the assessment of other municipalities besides our own will appear in the next article.

**Notice to Creditors AND OTHERS**

In the Estate of Thomas Herbert Cook.

All persons having claims against the Estate of Thomas Herbert Cook, late of the Township of Esquimau, in the County of Halton, Farmer, deceased, who died on or about the twenty-third day of October, 1951, are requested to file proof of same with the undersigned Solicitor on or before the Twenty-ninth day of March, 1952, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims then filed.

Dated at Acton, Ontario, this Seventh day of March, 1952.  
C. F. Leatherland, Acton, Ont.,  
Solicitor for the Executors.

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**SUBSIDY ON FARM PONDS**  
The HALTON COUNTY COUNCIL, in co-operation with the ONTARIO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, will pay a subsidy equal to one half of the cost of the construction of approved farm ponds or dug-outs UP TO A MAXIMUM OF \$100.00 on any one pond constructed in 1952. In order to be eligible for such grant or subsidy, those interested must first apply in person at the Milton office of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and complete a "Request for Farm Pond Survey".  
A maximum of twenty applications will be approved in 1952. Such applications will be filed in the order received.  
For further details contact the Milton office of the Ontario Department of Agriculture  
**Halton Conservation Committee**  
GEORGE CURRIE, Chairman J. E. WHITELOCK, Secretary

Give **CANDY** FOR Easter  
Take Home  
**OUR SPECIAL CHOCOLATE SHAPES**  
Made from Cadbury Milk Chocolate  
for young and young-in-heart at your house. Bunnies, chicks, eggs galore. See our wide selection on display in the window ready for Easter.  
**Watson's DAIRY BAR**  
Sole Agents in Acton for Moirs XXX Chocolates and Neilson's Ice Cream  
The home of choice food at reasonable prices.

**AUCTION SALE**

Livestock, Farm Implements and Motor Car

The undersigned have received instructions from

ALEX. PRINGLE  
To sell by public auction at his farm, east half of lot 17, con. Township of Nassagaweya (Blue Springs highway), half mile north of Spesside side road on

**SATURDAY, MARCH 29th**  
At 2:00 o'clock the following:  
FARM IMPLEMENTS, CAR, ETC.—Hillman Minx Sedan, with small mileage, good tires, runs and looks like new '49 model; M.H. 6 ft mower; walking plow, new; dump rake; drag cultivator; tractor slough wagon and hay rack; set of sleighs; electric power cream separator, Vega, new; power cement mixer; hay loader; sap pans, wire fence stretcher, wheel barrow and other numerous small articles.  
**HORSES, CATTLE, ETC.**—Bay Mare, rising 4 years old, heavy hunter type, sound; reg. dual purpose cow, bred to freshen June '53, calf will be registerable; dual purpose cow, bred to freshen May 14, dual purpose grade heifer, bred to freshen May '53; three cows, all young; 2 white shorthorn heifers, vac.; 3 Durham steers, 1 year old. No reserve.  
Cash settlement day of sale—**HINDLEY AND ELLIOTT,**  
L. McMillan, clerk b-37-2

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**COME IN... NO OBLIGATION!**