

**The Wood Box**

It was kept' out in the kitchen, and 'twas long and deep and wide, And the poker hung above it and a shovel stood beside; And the big black cook-stove grinlin' through its grate from ear to ear, Seemed to look at me if I loved it like a brother, pretty near, Plastered offidgits here and around it, kept a-joltin' an' a-knottin' his hill, And a-joltin' of leather hinges fastened on the heavy lid. And it hadn't any bottom, - or at least it seemed that way. When you hurried in to fill it, it's to go outside and play. When the moon were hot and low, and the leaves hung dry and still, And the locust in the pear tree started up his plannin' mill; And the rain-beat of the breakers, was a smoothin' tempin' roll, And you knew the gang was waitin' by the brimmin' swimmin' hole, Louder than the house bats, louder than the house bats' roar. You could hear the wood-box holler, "Come and me up once more." And the old clock ticked and chinked, said, "Another minute, and you nowhere near the top!" In the chilly winter mornin' when the bed was snug and warm, And the frosty winter tinkled 'neath the fingers of the storm, And your breath rose off the pillow, in a smoky cloud of steam — Then that wood-box grin and empty, came a-dancin' through your dream, Came and pounded at your conscience, wearin' in aggravatin' glee, "Would you like to sleep this mornin'? You get up and tend to me?" Land! how plain it is this minute — And the old oak and barn and drifted snow, And the old oak and barn and drifted snow, piled ready in a row. Never was a cabin frerin', never was a game of ball, But that mean provokin' wood-box had to come and spoil it all; You might study at your lessons, and 'twas full and full to stay; But less start an' Ingur story, and 'twas empty right away. Seemed as if a spile was in it, and although I might forgiv All the other chores that plagued me, I can hatth that wood-box yit; And when I look back at boyhood shakin' off the care of men, Still it comes to spoil the picture, screamin' "Fill me up again!" — Joseph C. Lincoln.

**Weekly Review of the Legislature**

Following up the splendid programme of social legislation that has been introduced by the government, Premier Ferguson has brought down in the legislature a Bill to protect widows and orphans from the action of the father and husband in failing to provide for them adequately under their wills. Introduced under the title "The Widows and Orphans Maintenance Act of 1928" Premier Ferguson's measure will give the right to the Judge of the Surrogate Court to alter the law will and testament of husbands who leave their families insufficiently provided for. Power is given to the Supreme Court Judge to make provision for the family but such provision is not to exceed the amount that would normally be received by the wife if the husband had died intestate.

Introducing his measure, the Premier stated that the principle of the bill was not unheard of as far as the Ontario Legislature was concerned. "It is pretty well recognized," he stated, "that modern methods of business have changed in such a way as to change the character of a man's estate. Formerly an estate consisted largely of real estate and under the law a widow was protected by dower. To-day the bulk of the estate is in securities. In the case of persons who die intestate the widow is protected, but the husband may make a will which deprives her of her rights."

The Bill, the Premier explained, provides that the widow may make application before the Surrogate Court Judge, who would take all the evidence and determine whether or not the widow was entitled to a greater amount of the estate than had been left to her under the will. The Premier stated that the government fully realized the importance of interfering with a man's will, but he expressed the opinion that it was better to have the estate maintained the family rather than have them fall back to charge on the municipality.

Hon. William Finlayson, Minister of Lands and Works, has introduced legislation providing that the Minister may have power to fix the size and kind of trees and timber that may be cut on unpatented public lands and on patented lands where the timber remains the property of the Crown. The measure applies to all grants that have been made by the government in the past.

Attempts that have been made on the distribution of Hydro by Members of the Opposition Group of the Legislature were more than met and adequately disposed of by Hon. J. R. Cooke during the course of his contribution to the Budget Debate in the House. He deprecated in no uncertain tones the "critical and unreasonable" attitude shown by some of the opposition members of the Hydro department. The opposition has stated, was moving as rapidly as was humanly possible toward supplying power to the rural districts of the Province. As an instance of this, he pointed out that the sum of \$4,000 per day had been expended on rural installations and extensions during the past year and drew the hearty applause of the House when he declared that \$4,000 per day would be the amount to be expended in the same direction this year.

Protection for Ontario grown fruit has been promised by the Private Hills Committee of the Legislature that is dealing with the Hawkes and Pindar Hill. Expressions of opinion, during the course of the

Committee's deliberations indicated that as far as Ontario fruit products were concerned, the measure should not be allowed to affect their sale.

The Committee voted unanimously that Ontario fruit should not be affected by any of the measures contained in the bill.

Hon. Geo. S. Henry, Minister of Highways, has introduced in the legislature amendments to the Highways Traffic Act, which will prohibit the use of the spotlight on motor cars when the law becomes operative. For the safety of persons using the public highways at night, an amendment has been introduced compelling operators of vehicles over one ton to drive to the right and have lights on the front and rear of the truck. The legislation also contains a provision making it necessary for all cars to have two distinct sets of brakes, one of which may be locked when the car is parked. Change has also been made in the bill which allows a police officer to force a driver of a truck to drive two miles to a scale if the truck is thought to be overloaded. Formerly the officer could only direct the driver to scale within one mile of the offense.

Of particular interest to rural localities is the announcement of Hon. Geo. S. Henry, Minister of Highways, made during the course of his contribution to the Budget Debate, that the government is prepared to provide additional relief to the townships and counties from taxation for provincial and other highways. Relief will be in proportion to the increase in traffic that is not of a local nature. In making the announcement, Mr. Henry at the same time made it clear that the Province was not prepared to assume full financial responsibility for the provincial highways.

Mr. Henry pointed out that for the Province to assume the entire burden of all provincial highways that it would mean, in fairness to all, the taking over of the entire road system of the province. This would mean that the highways would have to be supported by direct taxation as a suggestion that did not meet the approval of the government.

**Here and There**

(2) Work on the Royal York Hotel of the Canadian Pacific Railway in Toronto, is to day in progress in view of the probability that it will be completed next year. It will tower 350 feet above the sidewalk, being the tallest building in the British Empire.

A. Allison has been appointed general manager of the hotel and manager of the new Canadian Pacific Hotel at Port Williams, operated by the Canadian Pacific Railway; and H. F. Mathews, general manager of the Canadian branch of the Canadian Pacific. The appointment was consequent on the death of C. E. Walker, late general passenger traffic manager of the railway.

Paula Muld, 15-year-old Daniel boy, who is travelling round the world, has just arrived in Montreal and the next day will leave for Vancouver, en route to Australia. The girl is the daughter of the late Captain A. M. Muld, who died in 1926. The following two years will take about 20,000,000 miles, one of the chief attractions being the "Great Wall of China".

Post Williams—Waterloo capacity of Post Williams will probably total 1,000,000 bushels, with a grain storage capacity of the twin cities is recorded as 72,000,000 bushels and between 8,000,000 and 12,000,000 bushels will be added to the 1928 crop is harvested. Expansion in the following two years will take about 20,000,000 bushels, one of the chief attractions being the "Great Wall of China".

Winnipeg—So many applications have been received from farmers in Manitoba to engage the services of persons who are being sent out from Ontario under the federal re-education scheme, that the Provincial Government has requested the authorities to increase the number. Fred W. Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, stated that 175 farmers have filed applications for hay help. It is expected that the first batch of youthful immigrants will reach Manitoba late in March.

Substantial reductions in express rates for Post Williams will probably total 100,000 bushels, with a grain storage capacity of the twin cities is recorded as 72,000,000 bushels and between 8,000,000 and 12,000,000 bushels will be added to the 1928 crop is harvested. Expansion in the following two years will take about 20,000,000 bushels, one of the chief attractions being the "Great Wall of China".

Watashkewin—Watashkewin district has the distinction of being the home of a northland cow which holds the record for all Canada. The production of milk and butterfat as a three-year-old. She is owned by J. O. Harvey in the northwestern part of the district. From Ottawa she advises that the production of this cow has never been equaled in Canada. Gladys No. 34000 produced 10,000 lbs. of milk and 1,000 lbs. of butter fat in a test extending over 26 days. She is now undergoing her test as a four-year-old and is averaging about 15 lbs. of milk a day.

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Georgetown  
Gatineau

**The Canadian Pacific's Big Five**

1—Map showing the route of the trans-Canada line and the Canadian Pacific Railway.

2—Sketch of the construction of the Canadian Pacific's new station at Georgetown.

3—Sketch of the plant enclosure to be used for those big runs.

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