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"My good friends", boomed the political speaker, "I'm pleased to see this dense crowd here tonight."
"Well," said a voice from the back of the hall, "don't be too pleased. We ain't all dense."

Hall Urges Tariff Protection Against Vegetable Oil Imports

Stan Hall, MPP, joining in the budget debate in the Ontario legislature last week, spoke strongly against allowing foreign vegetable oil, or any other material, to enter Canada free of duty in competition with domestic agricultural products.

Mr. Hall, though he did not specifically name the dairy industry, was obviously referring to threatened competition from synthetics which are already being used in the States in the manufacture of ice cream, and which it is feared may invade the cheese market as well.

Following is a verbatim report of Mr. Hall's speech:

Mr. Speaker: In rising in this Assembly to speak on this budget debate and, in my humble way, to try and contribute something to the welfare of my fellow men and also to this wonderful country that it is my privilege to live in, first I would like to say that I am Canadian born, a citizenship that I am proud of, and I would say that I have a right to be, but with that I have a great responsibility as a citizen.

Mr. Speaker: The subject that I wish to speak on is the greatest way of life and the greatest basic industry of our country—agriculture. My ancestry helped grow the

first agricultural products of this great country, and we have farmed in this country for six generations. My people came to this country because they had faith in it, faith in what this new country held in store for them, and also faith in what they could bring with them to a new land; and they, with other pioneers of this land, established those things that they had faith in—those British Institutions of Freedom that have laid the foundations of our Western Christian civilization—our Christian homes and churches, where everyone can worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience; our schools; and the right of the use of a free franchise, where the people have the right to elect whatever form of government they so desire.

Mr. Speaker: Today, one branch of Agriculture is asking some form of protection from foreign materials that are coming on our markets in competition to certain animal products produced by that line of Agriculture. I expect that during this session we will hear from many other honourable members on this subject.

Mr. Speaker: We farmers believe in free enterprise. We believe in a competitive market where quality and services should determine the prices we should pay for those articles that are necessary in our way of making a living for ourselves and our families.

Mr. Speaker: Have we a competitive market? Does quality and service govern the price of the necessities we have to buy today? Agricultural products are practically the only products that are sold on a competitive market in Canada. Agriculture has contributed much to the economy of this country, but agriculture has never been to blame for the collapse of our economy.

Whenever a depression comes, factories must close. Labour has no work. People in the towns and cities go on relief. But how about the farmer? Did you ever hear of a farmer going on relief? Did you ever hear of a farmer standing in a bread line?

The farmers of this country have always fed the nation in good times and in bad, but thousands of these farmers have lost their farms through depressions which were no fault of their own. Every necessity that the farmer buys today, enjoys a protective tariff that has to be paid by the farmer; every motor car or truck, and all farm machinery, has a protective tariff.

Agricultural products have to be sold on a competitive market, subject to the effect of supply and demand.

ASHGROVE

Warden Leslie Speaker At Institute Meeting

The Women's Institute meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon, February 17th at the home of Mrs. Wilfred Bird, President Mrs. Leslie Giffen opened with the ode, Roll Call was answered by "How to eliminate a home hazard." Ten dollars was again voted to the Musical Festival. The Penny a Week bag was passed around and it was voted that each member pay the amount at the next meeting. A committee was appointed to look after the March hunter, Mrs. Milton Bird, Mrs. C. Hunter, Mrs. Bob Alexander and Mrs. Ward Brownidge. Current events were given by Mrs. Robert Cunningham. Mrs. John Belloddy gave the motto. Mrs. Frank Wilson played some old favourite selections, Country Gardens and The Bells of St. Mary's. Mrs. Thomas Giffen called on the guest speaker Mr. George Leslie the warden of the county, who spoke on rural fire areas and the benefit a fire engine will be to country people. Lunch and a social closed this splendid afternoon.

Mr. C. B. Dick enjoyed a few days visit last week with relatives and friends in Toronto. Miss Marilyn Wilson spent the week-end with her aunt, Mrs. S. Gowland in Georgetown. The Young People held their Christian Culture meeting on Sunday evening at the home of Elmer and Marion Bird with Marilyn Barnes and Elmer Bird in charge. Mr. T. J. Brownridge reported seeing crows flying over his barn Sunday morning. So Spring can't be too far away.

BALLINAFAD

Ministerial Candidate Will Preach Sunday

Mr. Norman Russ of Hespeler who has applied for this charge beginning July will preach here next Sunday. Mr. Russ expects to enter College next fall to train for the ministry.

About twenty women of the community gathered in the church for the World's Day of Prayer service with Mrs. R. Warne as leader. The theme for this year was "Walk as Children of Light." Those offering special prayers were Mrs. F. Smith, Mrs. T. Gibson, Mrs. N. Sinclair, Miss M. Young, Mrs. Jamieson and Miss Hiltz. The story of the origin of the World's Day of Prayer Service was read by Mrs. F. Shorttill. Mrs. E. McEnery and Mrs. M. Sinclair sang a very appropriate duet. Mrs. Elwood Snow was appointed keywoman for next year.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Kirkwood and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lawson of Stewarttown attended the annual meeting and luncheon of the Canadian Millers' Mutual Fire Insurance Co. in Hamilton last Thursday. Each lady present was presented with a bouquet of roses.

An enjoyable euchre and dance was held Tuesday evening under the auspices of the W.I. Ladies' prize, was won by Mrs. Hugh Bass. The men's by Arnold McEnery. At the February meeting of the Evening Auxiliaries, a quilting was planned for overseas flood victims and last Thursday members met at the home of Mrs. Tom Gibson and completed the quilt for shipment. The Auxiliaries is also planning an Irish play which will be staged early in March.

Fair Board Sponsors Another Euchre, Dance

While the euchre and dance sponsored Wednesday by Esqueing Agricultural Society did not draw the record crowd of the previous party, there were 32 tables of players in Esqueing Community Hall at Stewarttown last Wednesday. Bill Anderson was floor manager and Doris Hulls' Orchestra played for dancing after cards.

Harold Dolson and Herb Hughes. The society is planning another party in March. Euchre prizewinners were Mrs. Fred Sinclair and Ab Robinson, Milton, with second prizes to Mrs. Action.

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