



—Acton Free Press Photo

DRIVE-IN SERVICE for helicopters — what next? Recently two Toronto businessmen landed their helicopter at the Cedar Springs Motel on No. 7 Hwy. west of Georgetown and ate their lunch. Pictured above in the plane are Ed White and Andy Hudson of the Federal Equipment of Canada Ltd. as Giselle Bertrand offers them coffee and doughnuts before they leave.

Halton M. P. Speaks in Commons on Agriculture

Halton Member of Parliament, Alexander 'Sandy' Best, spoke to the House recently on Agricultural Rehabilitation and Land Use stating that the new resolution brought forward by the government may have an important bearing on such local services as Twelve and Sixteen Mile Creek, as well as the Credit and Grand River Authorities, through an extension of government contributions for watershed development. Here is the context of his speech:

Mr. Best: I want to speak about this measure that is before us today. First of all, I should like to congratulate the minister. He has received congratulations, of course, from all across Canada and I think it has been stimulating to hear the commendation this resolution has received. The minister has read into the record the favourable comments on this resolution made by various newspapers and farm organizations across this country. This resolution, which is now being called by the name ARDA, has been welcomed with optimism and confidence. I think that many of us will remember that the hon. member for Essex East criticized the Minister of Agriculture for his optimism during the agricultural debate about a week ago. I believe that the farmers across our country need optimism, understand it and welcome it. I suggest that forecasts of doom and gloom such as those made by the hon. member for Essex East will not be satisfactory to farmers and certainly are not what they want. I am certain that those farmers need a measure of optimism and confidence such as that expressed by the Minister of Agriculture.

Land Uses

This resolution is in several sections. One is to allow the Minister of Agriculture to enter into agreements with the provinces for alternative land uses, employment, and conservation practices. The second involves the payment to provinces of contributions towards these projects, if initiated. The third measure authorizes the minister to undertake research programs which might give assistance to the 'over-all plan'. The fourth measure will establish advisory committees to coordinate research and the program itself at various levels of government.

What is Problem?

What briefly is this problem with which we are faced? It has been repeatedly stated by others and by the Minister of Agriculture when he brought it to our attention on January 25, 1961, that the problem is varied. The Minister of Agriculture mentioned certain figures in his statement of January 25, 1961. Those figures show that, according to the 1956 census, 21 per cent of the farmers in this country have farms which produce less than \$1,200 worth of produce annually. Many sets of figures and statistics exist in this regard, but we are not happy about any of them. In the last three and a half to four years we have dealt with various specific measures in agriculture to aid this industry in Canada. Some of those measures are deficiency payments, aid to western farmers, and the outstandingly successful farm credit corporation which distributed a greatly increased amount of money under its authority. There have been other specific measures giving aid to different sectors of our agricultural economy, such as those for the fruit and vegetable growers. I am very happy indeed, as I am sure are many people across Canada about the Resources for Tomorrow conference to be held this autumn in Montreal. I feel that this conference will be very stimulating and will have a favourable result.

Very Basic

It was stated by the Prime Minister some years ago that

the specific measures for agriculture were to be followed by one which would be very basic and fundamental. It was stated that this would go to the roots of our problems which we inherited from the previous government. The measure now before us is optimistic and goes to the heart of the problem. Criticism has been raised by the agricultural critic of the opposition — I am confused as to whether he is No. 1 or No. 2 critic — some weeks ago regarding the long range aspect of this measure. At that time I felt that the hon. member for Essex East was just raising straw men and blowing them down in order to present some sort of objection to a measure with which he fundamentally agreed. I think he agrees with this measure because, if I glance through his speech, one finds that very little constructive criticism is brought forth.

Specific Measures

The Prime Minister some time ago dealt with the intention of the government in bringing out the sort of measure we have before us today. As recorded at page 4345 of Hansard for August 30, 1958, he stated that various specific measures were needed and also a more general and basic measure to attack the agricultural problems with which we were faced.

Contradictory

Of course, during the last few decades previous measures have been taken by this house directed to various sectors of this problem. I speak of measures such as the National Parks Act, the Prairie Farm Assistance Act, the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act and the Maritime Marshland Rehabilitation Act, all of which to some extent have had a favourable effect on the various parts of the country. Although these measures were brought out, some of them by the previous government, at different times with the intent of solving this general problem, they are in many cases contradictory. They certainly are not coordinated as an overall plan in an attempt to solve the basic and fundamental problems of agriculture in this country.

Revolution

This problem as we see it is

Enrolment Not High Enough For 100% Technical Grant

Town Gets Break on Milton Overpayment

Insufficient enrolment has blocked Georgetown's chance of having the proposed high school wing constructed at no cost to the town. Georgetown and District High School Board secretary, Ern Forgrave, told the board at a special meeting Thursday that first information on an announcement from the Department of Education which indicated that grants for 100% of the cost would be allowed on all technical buildings had been incorrect in that the grant applied only to schools with an enrolment of one thousand and over. Georgetown High School's present enrolment is just under six hundred, but a survey of local and district public schools forecasts a high school attendance

Seek Town Approval for School Debenture Issue

Council had a brief period of elation April 3rd when Deputy Reeve Elliott said that the town's debenture payments of \$303,000 this year have reached a peak, and will show a yearly drop from now on, providing no more debenture issues are made. But a planned increase to the high school will alter the financial optimism if council accedes to a board request for permission to proceed with a \$800,000 addition. Board member Thomas Niven and secretary Ernest Forgrave presented a brief to council for the addition which would add accommodation for another 200 students.

Projected enrolment, not counting any town population increase is over 700 next year, 920 in 1966 and 1075 in 1968. At present there are 600 students at the school. Proposed cost is \$597,000, a maximum of \$250,000 of this eligible for government grant. Georgetown would foot 83.78% of the cost and Esqueping the remainder. Besides seeking approval of the local council, a delegation was also approaching Esqueping council this

week with the same request. Mr. Forgrave explained that for the ultimate 1500 student school which is on the planning board, another 20 classrooms would be needed some day in the future. The later addition would be more economical because the present one includes several rooms which are not eligible for a large grant. Mr. Forgrave also brought the good news that Georgetown will be receiving a government grant on an excess payment incurred for Milton High School while North Halton High School District existed. Instead of the \$11,000 which the town expected to pay, it will be about \$3,000 he said.

Possibility of making the swimming pool usable for more than the two summer months was mentioned by Cr. Cass, and council will enquire what might be done towards this end. Town Engineer Geoff Bligh was delegated to attend the Ontario Traffic Conference in Windsor later this month. Recently contractor Emil

Zuber asked if rezoning of some of the R1 area in east Georgetown might be considered. Cr. Cass said that neither council's planning committee nor the town Planning Board supports the request, but that the Planning Board will make a study to see if any rezoning might be warranted. The problem is that houses have been built in various locations in R1 areas, and it would be difficult to rezone at this stage, he pointed out. A worthy idea, said Mayor Hyde when Deputy Reeve Elliott suggested it might be possible to up some of the R3 area to R2.

Channel Improvements Planned at Erindale

The Credit Valley Conservation Authority has been given a \$42,500 grant by the Ontario Government for channel improvements. The Hon. W. M. Nickle, Q.C., Minister of Commerce and Development, and W. G. Davis, M.P.P. (Peel) announced today that the river channel in the Erindale Conservation Area will be relocated to eliminate constrictive bends that have resulted in flooding. The area just north of No. 5 Highway at Erindale, has been subject to flooding since two bends along the river with a section of the old dam, constrict the carrying capacity of the river. The channel will be shortened, widened and the banks stabilized. Weirs will dissipate the excess energy and the land joined on the east bank will be raised for eventual development as a recreational area.

The provincial grant represents 50% of the estimated costs of the project.

Honorary Membership to District Ex-Fire Chief

An honorary membership in the Halton County Mutual Aid Fire Prevention Bureau has been awarded to former District Fire Chief Alf Peacock of Burlington. A former Deputy Chief with Nelson Township brigade and later District Chief with the Burlington fire department, Mr. Peacock has retired from active firefighting. However he still displays an active interest in the Bureau's county-wide fire prevention program, and is a past chairman of the Bureau. At their recent meeting, members of the Bureau heard an excellent report from Bert Croll, Trafalgar, and the activities of the new farm fire safety committee. This committee has been compiling facts, and figures on barn and other farm fires, taking photographs of actual hazards found on the farm, preparing literature for distribution through farm agencies, and arranging to form a group of speakers for farm organizations. Their eventual aim is to inform all Halton farmers that fire prevention is as important as fire protection, and to receive better co-operation in their joint effort to cut down on mounting fire losses.

through schools and supermarkets. The literature lists several of the more dangerous home fire hazards.

\$200 Prizes Offered Baby Guessing Contest

Members of the hospital auxiliary have launched an ambitious project which will help provide funds to equip the nursery in the new Georgetown & District Memorial Hospital. The ladies are sponsoring an interesting "guessing contest" for the exact time of birth of the first baby boy and baby girl in the new hospital. Guesses are 25c and 5 for \$1.00 and the novel idea is sparking a great deal of interest in town and district. All proceeds of the contest will be used to equip the nursery. To ensure complete fairness, doctors, their wives, secretaries and nurses will not participate. If for unforeseen reasons the hospital does not open on the announced date, June 27th, each ticket will be pre-dated or post-dated by the same number of days by which the opening varies. In case of a draw in guesses, prize money will be divided among the winners. Entries close on May 31st. The two winning guesses will each receive a fifty dollar prize. The two new babies will also be richer by fifty dollars. Originally opening date was scheduled for June 15th, and ticket buyers who have based their guesses on this will be contacted and allowed to change their guesses.

WORDS OF THE WISE
When anyone has offended me, I try to raise my soul so high that the offense cannot reach it. — Rene Descartes.

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