

The Ottawa Spotlight

By Wilfrid Eggleston

Ottawa, June 2—A new chapter in Canadian radio history appears to be opening with the recommendation of the radio committee, tabled a few days ago. This was, on the whole, the most vital news in a rather dull week. Legislation will be introduced in a few days which will abolish the present commission and set up a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, very much along the lines of the set-up in Great Britain.

At present, of course, there are three highly paid commissioners, who divide the work and responsibility of direction between them. The committee which investigated the operations of recent years were rather critical of this type of organization. There had been laxity and divided control, they asserted.

The new Corporation would be headed by Nine Governors, representing all regional interests in Canada, and consisting of men "of broad outlook, having a knowledge of the tastes and interests of the listening public and who can make a definite contribution to the solution of the problem before the corporation."

These men would serve for nominal salaries, actuated mainly by a spirit of public service, it is supposed. They would govern the general policy of radio in Canada.

The actual operation would, however, be controlled by a single, able, highly paid executive, the general manager. This executive would have an assistant.

(Suggest Major Murray)

Major Gladstone Murray, a Canadian who has risen to very high rank in the British Broadcasting Corporation, has been repeatedly mentioned for the new post. It is not yet clear whether he would be available.

Of course the mere change of management will not transform Canadian broadcasting into a close copy of British broadcasting overnight, even if that were desirable. The Canadian corporation will be faced with a completely different situation. In Canada there are still numerous private broadcasting stations, and while it is proposed to gradually absorb these, except for the very small ones, into the national system, they will continue for some time to be an important factor. Meantime, the recommendations of the committee are that programs issued by private stations should be under the supervision of the new corporation.

The government has already intimated that the committee's report was acceptable, and that the changes would be made.

The principle of national ownership of the radio broadcasting machinery was endorsed and reaffirmed by the committee. It was urged that steps be taken to improve and extend the present Canadian coverage. Realizing that the grant which the commission has been receiving out of the federal treasury has not been adequate for the building of as many new stations as are needed, the committee advised that the new corporation should be empowered to borrow up to \$500,000 from the federal government for such a purpose.

If the corporation is set up as recommended, it will be free from party control in the matter of the engagement and dismissal of employees and their remuneration.

(Criticize Political Broadcasts)
"Mr. Sage" and other political broadcasts of the last general election came in for some criticism by the committee, and it was urged that in future a stricter supervision of such broadcasts should be provided. The committee went so far as to recommend that no political dramatized broadcasts should be permitted in future.

The present commission will be automatically retired by the creation of a corporation, but it is expected that most of the personnel of the present commission headquarters, including one or more of the chiefs, will be absorbed into the new corporation.

The new corporation will have the power to publish papers, books, magazines, to acquire copyrights in literary, musical and artistic works, gramophone records, to collect news etc., if the recommendations of the committee are fully implemented in the legislation.

This bill will be perhaps the major one still to come before the legislators. There is talk that the Bank of Canada act will not be proceeded with this session. The revision of the elections and franchise machinery will not be proceeded with this session, except sufficiently to deal with by-elections.

(Threat to Internal Trade?)

The address to the King asking for two major amendments to the British North America Act is being studied very seriously in the Senate, having been passed along to the Banking and Commerce committee of that body after a fairly exhaustive debate in the Senate. The loan council provision does not appear to be the chief stumbling block. Rather it is the suggestion to give the provinces legal right to impose indirect taxation. Some senators foresee in such an amendment a threat to interprovincial trade. Others think it will add to the present confusion and duplication of taxation. The fact is that when the federal government began collecting the income tax it made serious inroads upon provincial taxation territory, and subsequently the provinces began to encroach on federal ground. One suggestion now is that the federal government get out of all provincial tax territory and strictly enforce the existing law regarding provincial limitation.

Ottawa was disturbed by the announcement from Edmonton that the provincial government would pay only 2½ per cent on its funded debt after June 1st. There is no disposition to interfere. The government takes the stand that it has been prepared to co-operate to the limit in assisting a voluntary conversion scheme, but that it could not be a party to forcible repudiation of a contract with the public.

(Widespread Losses)

The effect of the interest cut, if it is proceeded with, will be that the income of people and institutions which have invested in Alberta bonds, will be reduced by about \$3,000,000 a year. The city of Ottawa, for instance loses \$11,800 a year on bonds held in sinking fund, the civic employees' investment account loses \$875 a year; and the Firemen's superannuation fund loses \$800 per year. This will be duplicated, of course, across Canada and in the United States and other countries where Alberta bonds are held.

A good deal of sympathy is felt for the plight of a great province which, through factors not chiefly of its own making, has been reduced to bankruptcy, but there is not much enthusiasm in the East over the arbitrary manner in which it has been done. Most commentators here feel that at least the bondholders should have been invited in to sit down with the government and discuss a compromise.

What the practical effect will be on Alberta's credit it is too soon to determine. It is expected that Alberta will find it very difficult for several years to float any loans. If she can balance her budget and have a small surplus for capital expenditures, she may be able to get along for some time without needing to borrow. The federal government stands pledged to loan money for unemployment relief, so that there is a guarantee that the unemployed will not suffer unduly because of the action.

(Upward Turn in Employment)

There was an encouraging improvement in employment at the first of May. The 9,544 firms which reported to Ottawa showed on their staffs an increase of 20,426 persons over April 1st, and a gain of 46,903 persons over May 1st, 1935. As the firms reporting represent about one-half of all employers of labor, including agricultural laborers, a sim-

ilar gain in the other portion of the labour world would mean that unemployment had decreased by perhaps 80,000 in the year just ended. The gain is not spectacular, but it is sufficiently large to be welcome.

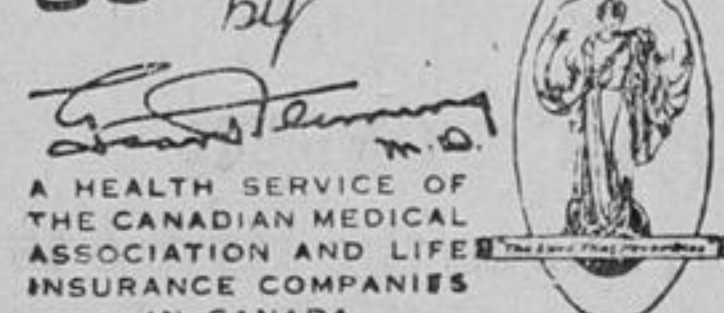
One of the Manitoba members, H. W. Winkler (Lisgar) has been compiling figures to show how important the export market is for Canadian wheat producers.

In the 10 years 1925-1935 Canada's production of wheat amounted to 3,912,221,700 bushels. Canada's consumption, for all purposes, amounted to 1,105,531,902 bushels.

Thus markets had to be found for 2,806,707,798 bushels of wheat in the decade.

During the same period export markets were needed for 125,894,000 bushels of oats, 197,475,969 bushels of barley, 7,013,098 bushels of flaxseed, and 52,856,827 bushels of rye.

HEALTH



OUT OF ORDER

Health has been defined as that condition which we enjoy when all parts of the body are working together in harmony. The human body possesses a remarkable capacity to adjust itself, both within and without, to changing conditions, continuing all the while to function properly.

At times, the orderly working of the body is lost. It may be said that the body is then out of order—harmony no longer exists. A broken bone in the arm means that the arm is out of order; it cannot function. Other disorders are usually not quite so obvious as are those arising from a broken bone. Most disorders express themselves in symptoms which draw attention to the presence of the disorder. Symptoms are always due to some cause. Relief from the symptoms may be secured, but unless the disorder which is the cause of the symptoms is removed, the treatment is not really effective and the symptoms will likely return.

One reason why the body can adjust itself to changing conditions lies in the reserve power which it possesses. We may lose a considerable part of our kidney and our lung tissues, and what remains will be able to do the work of these parts. Under such circumstances, there is, however, no real reserve upon which to fall back, and great care must be taken to avoid placing any extra demand on the parts.

The continued and repeated exhaustion, by overwork, of the body reserves, through poor habits of living, insufficient rest periods, and too little exercise, fresh air and sunshine, leads to a collapse of the reserves. Loss of health may not mean actual disease, but rather a tired, exhausted and consequently disordered body.

When the body is out of order, it demands attention. You may tinker with the disorder, you may postpone the needed treatment, but a day of reckoning will come. Small disorders, if neglected, may become serious. It is for this reason that early treatment is preventive in that it arrests the development of more serious conditions.

Without thinking too much about

the state of our health, and certainly without becoming fearful as to the nature of every ache or pain, we may still recognize when our body is out of order, when harmony is lost, and when the joy of health is replaced by the discomfort of illness. It pays to encourage the proper functioning of the body through reasonable care, the avoidance of excess, and the practice of the generally sound principle of moderation.

Questions concerning health, addressed to the Canadian Medical Association, 184 College St., Toronto, will be answered personally by letter.

TEMPERANCEVILLE

Temperanceville United Church will hold their annual Strawberry Festival on July 3rd.

During the summer months Sunday School will commence at 10.30 a.m. each Sunday morning.

The W.A. of St. John's, Oak Ridges will meet on Thursday, June 4th.

Mrs. Umehara, Mrs. Paxton and Mrs. Thompson attended the W.M.S. meeting at Lasky last Thursday.

Quite a number of St. John's A.Y. P.A. members attended the first banquet of the West York Deaneery Local Council, held in St. Paul's Parish Hall, Newmarket. Mr. Donald Frisby of Richmond Hill, president of the Local Council acted as chairman. The guest speaker for the evening was Rev. Terrance J. Finlay, L.Th., St. Paul's Cathedral, London, Ont. The subject of his address was "Crusading for Christ in the twentieth Century."

Mr. and Mrs. Giles Kerswill visited relatives in Oakville on Sunday.

ICE

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DAILY SERVICE

The annual meeting of the Peel County Women's Institute was held J. A. Constantine of Drumbeller, in the Baptist Church in Brampton Alberta will become manager of the on Friday, May 22nd. Mrs. A. B. Bank of Montreal, Brampton at the Smith of Caledon was elected presi-end of the month.

NEW BANK MANAGER

Mrs. R. J. Wilson of Castlemore was elected centre vice-presi-

A. C. HENDERSON

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THINGS WORTH-WHILE COST MONEY

Worth-while things cost money. This means that retailers must part with money in order to get customers. Customers require to be bought just as one's merchandise has to be bought.

Customers are not likely to be obtained apart from seeking them. They must be pursued, and they must be asked to do business with the retailer who wants their custom.

You would think that all this is as plain as is the nose on one's face. But stop! Answer this question: What have you, a retailer, done in the past month—to go no farther back—to seek and get new customers? How many non-customers of your store have received invitations from you to do business with you? How many persons have received communications from you, requesting their custom? How many persons have you informed, in their homes, about your business, your merchandise, your policies? How much money have you spent this past month on the purchase of customers?

Just waiting for customers is the acme of folly. Just relying on the conviction that the public ought to do business with you is folly. Just soothing yourself with the reflections that you are honest, that you give the public a square deal, that your store has a good location, that you price merchandise fairly—these are passive things.

It is action which counts in getting the things we want. An infant cries. This is its way of making its mother or nurse know that it wants something. Is it fair to a business to be doing nothing in a planned way to get new customers for it?

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