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FARMING A GAMBLE

In almost every line of endeavour, except agriculture, tremendous strides have been taken toward eliminating the risks and hazards that bring ruin and failure. But in the age-old occupation of agriculture, the laws of nature prevail, and man has yet to bend these laws to his will. Floods and droughts and pests still harry the man on the soil, robbing him of his thin profits; wiping out the toil of a season; breaking his pocketbook but never his courage.

Governments can do much towards alleviating the troubles of farmers, but they can do little or nothing about lack of rain, or too much of it. Farming, no matter what branch, is a pure gamble. The man on the land knows the risks and he is content to take them. That is why most farmers possess the stoicism of an Indian and the patience of ancient Job.

Undue emphasis has been placed in recent years on the troubles that beset the industrial worker. True, these troubles are complex and serious, but what about the farmer's troubles? Unfortunately, farmers as a whole are inarticulate. If they had as good press agenting as the labor bodies and trade unions of the cities, there would be more sympathy and understanding of their plight. True enough, farmers don't need to stand in bread lines or depend on relief contributions. They have their independence, but many of them have little else.

The same amount of physical toil and care that a farmer expends, if put into some other line of business, would bring much greater returns than are received by the men on the land. It is a tragedy, no less, when a searing drought deals a death blow to crops. Human enterprise goes for nothing beneath the hot rays of the sun. And the farmer must start all over again.

City dwellers sometimes pass over as unimportant an announcement that the government plans to do this or that for agriculture. Perhaps they read an item in the newspapers that the cheese industry has been bonused or that quality cattle have been brought to Canada to improve Canadian herds, and dismiss it as being of no interest. They are wrong. Nothing that a government does in behalf of agriculture is wasted. No branch of industry is entitled to more consideration and help from the state than is agriculture.

Therefore it is encouraging to find the Ontario government mapping out a definite program of farm aid in all the many and important branches of the industry. More money should be spent by the Department of Agriculture—though it is true the amounts have been increased in some cases—and even more thought given to the problems and difficulties besetting the farmers.

HELPING HYDRO

Millions of words were printed by Ontario newspapers before, during and after the cancellation of the Quebec power contracts. The Hepburn government staggered before the combined assault of the Conservative and even some of the Liberal press. There is no need to go into what happened. Repudiation became the favorite word of politicians eager to deal a blow at the Queen's Park regime.

This article is not an attempt to defend the action of the Hepburn cabinet. The word repudiation has a nasty sound. The government called it cancellation. But the Quebec Hydro row is so much water beneath the bridge of time. What has been the result? The public is somewhat sceptical, and rightly so, of statements containing imposing figures. There is the old saying of "figures don't lie, but liars figure." When the Quebec contracts vanished under a few strokes of the pen (proving once more that the pen was mightier than the sword), Premier Hepburn publicly declared that the immense saving that would result from the wiping out of the "nefarious contracts" would mean a lowering of Hydro rates to the power users of Ontario.

The intelligent citizens of Ontario sniffed audibly at this statement. As far as many of them were concerned, it was so much eye-wash, designed to sweeten the bitter pill. But, strange as it may seem, substantial reductions in Hydro rates have become an accomplished fact. There is to be a \$6,000,000 saving to Hydro users, the Premier says. That is a lot of money in any country.

So perhaps Mr. Hepburn was right. Even Conservatives are ready to admit that a Liberal can be right—once. After all, promises roll glibly off the smooth tongue of a politician. It is a horse of another color to put them into effect. Maybe there will be a power shortage or some other major disaster as a result of the Hydro policy of the present government. Mr. Hepburn and Chairman Stewart Lyon laugh at the suggestion. Perhaps there is a deep-laid plot to wreck Hydro and hand control over to the private interests of St. James and Wall streets. Maybe, but there is no sign of it yet. As a matter of absolute fact, Hydro is in just as sound a position today as it ever was. No government in the history of the Hydro enterprise has ever started out to deliberately wreck Hydro.

But good intentions alone are not sufficient. There have been some bad decisions made by governments in the past. The action of the Hepburn government in cancelling the Quebec contracts was an effort to correct one of these mistakes.

TRAGEDY STALKS IN THE WEST

Every Canadian with any knowledge of events, understands that a disaster of the first magnitude has occurred in Western Canada in the way of crop damage through drought. It is doubtful however, if the extent of the calamity is generally realized. For nearly six weeks no general rain has been experienced in any large area of the west, and the areas with even fair crops are few and far between.

The collapse of the wheat crop upon which the west always relies to a greater extent than anything else, is the great tragedy of course. But added to this is the wide spread failure of feed crops and pastures. The west is threatened with a dire famine of live stock provender.

There are thousands of farmers in Western Canada who will not have a bushel of wheat to sell this fall. There are thousands more who will have a pitifully small quantity. Wheat is the cash crop of the bulk of western farmers and so multitudes of these farm people will have no income at all, or very little to carry them over to the new growing season. Most people do not realize the tragedy that is developing right now and the greater tragedy of want which is bound to come later on.

NEWTONBROOK

Owing to the extreme drought North York Horticultural Society has cancelled their Flower Show which was to have been held next week in North York Market.

Miss E. Hope has returned home from a motor trip to Montreal.

Rev. A. H. and Mrs. Halbert returned home from their holidays last Thursday.

Mr. Roy Dobney, organist of the United Church, is on a three weeks' holiday. Miss Bertha Smith is presiding at the organ during his absence.

Miss Gladys Sutterby returned home last week after a delightful motor trip with friends to Atlantic City, U.S.A.

Mrs. (Rev.) Albert Holmes of St. Georges, Newfoundland, is on a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Brett, Petawawa Ave.

Miss Ruth Allan has returned after spending her holidays at Lake Erie.

Miss Galbraith of Portage la Prairie spent last week with her uncle Mr. A. W. Galbraith. She was accompanied by three other school teachers from Portage la Prairie and Neepawa on a motor trip to Toronto.

Mrs. Johnston of Drewry Ave. enjoyed a motor trip with friends to North Bay and Sudbury last week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Shepherd and son and Mrs. Glasure of Bay City, Michigan and Mr. Edward Shepherd of Roscommon, Mich., were guests last week of the latter's sister, Mrs. Frank Summers.

Rev. A. H. Halbert occupied the pulpit of the United Church last Sunday after a month's vacation.

Notwithstanding the holiday season sixteen teachers were in their places last Sunday in the United Church Sunday School, (only three being absent). The Sunday School meets every Sunday at 10 a.m. The attendance has never fallen below 100. Last Sunday morning 105 were present. It is hoped all will be back in their places before Rally Day on Sept. 20.

At time of writing Mr. O. D. Bales is critically ill at his home.

Mr. W. H. Lever and his cousin, Rev. Clarke Lawson, D.D., of Winnipeg, left last Monday on a motor trip to Ottawa and Montreal. Rev. C. B. Lawson is supplying in Centennial Church, Toronto, for the month of August.

Miss Hazel Brett left this week to spend her holidays with friends in Cobourg.

Rev. Dr. G. S. Smith and Mrs. Smith and family attended service in the United Church last Sunday morning.

Harold Lilly died at his home near Brownlee, Sask., on July 30th. He was conservative member of the Saskatchewan legislature from 1929 to 1934. He was born at Beeton 51 years ago and was a son of the late William Lilly who for many years was township clerk of Tecumseth. Lloyd Lilly, a Beeton General Merchant is a brother.

MARKHAM MAP SHEET

Originally surveyed in 1909 but with some additional information added last year, a new edition of the Markham map sheet of the National Topographic series has just been issued by the General Staff, Geographic Section, Department of National Defence. It is published on the scale of one inch to one mile and gives an excellent representation of the country mapped.

This area lies north of Toronto and the continuation of Yonge street (Highway No. 11) is shown through Lansing, Willowdale, Newton Brook, Thornhill, Richmond Hill, and as far north as Aurora. Along Highway No. 2 easterly from Toronto, the map shows West Hill, Highland Creek, Rouge Hill, Dunbarton, and past Pickering nearly to Whitby.

The village of Markham lies nearly in the centre of the mapped area and other places shown are Agincourt, Clarendon, Stouffville, and Unionville. Post offices, schools, and churches are indicated by appropriate symbols.

The usual topographical information such as that respecting lakes, rivers, creeks, roads, railways, and contour lines at every twenty-foot interval above sea level is clearly shown. Additional information concerning wooded areas and individual houses may not be completely up to date as the original survey was made in 1909.

Lying so close to Toronto, this area is of especial interest to many who have permanent or summer homes there but work in the city. Several golf courses also are shown, including St. Andrews, York Downs, Bathurst, Willowdale, Uplands, and Summit, all accessible from Highway No. 11; and Scarborough, Cedar Brook, and Rouge Hills course from Highway No. 2. Others are at Aurora and Unionville.

Other points of interest indicated in the map are the University of Toronto Laboratories at Fisherville, the Memorial Dunlap Observatory with its 74-inch reflecting telescope, the largest in the British Empire, at Richmond Hill, and CFRB Radio towers north of Bond Lake.

Surrounding map sheets are Oshawa, Scugog, Newmarket, Alliston, Bolton, Brampton, and Toronto. All these are available from the Surveyor General, Department of the Interior, at Ottawa at 25 cents per copy. One copy of the map will be mailed free for school purposes upon application of the principal of any school situated within the area.

There is no agricultural show in the world equal to that at the Canadian National Exhibition. All the new developments as applied to farm, field and orchard are on display. Horses, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, goats, vacies, dairy products, vegetables, fruits, flowers, grain, machinery and farm equipment of all kinds are there in profusion.

Mulock Picnic at Woodbridge Saturday, August 22nd.

Howick farmers were amused by an incident that occurred in their township last week, when an agriculturist in that municipality lost a load of hay and a hayloader in a fire in his field. This farmer, who by the way is a director in a local rural insurance company, and is interested in the suppression of fire losses, lit his pipe and was enjoying a smoke while driving to the barn. He had not gone far, however, when his surroundings began to grow very sultry, and he had to hurry down off the load to escape being scorched by his burning load. The hayloader, which was attached to the back of the load, was also destroyed by the blaze, the heat of the fire being so intense that it was impossible to remove the machine.

You can tell when an orator feels sure of himself. His smug tone of voice says: "I know I am going over big."

It's better to give than to lend, and it costs about the same.—Sir Philip Gibbs.



Clerk's Notice of First Posting of Voters' List

Voters' List 1936 TOWNSHIP OF MARKHAM

COUNTY OF YORK

NOTICE is hereby given that I have complied with section 7 of the Voters' Lists Act and that I have posted up at my office at Unionville on the 1st day of August, 1936, the list of all persons entitled to vote in the said Municipality at Municipal Elections, and that such list remains there for inspection.

AND I hereby call upon all voters to take immediate proceedings to have any errors or omissions corrected according to law, the last day for appeal being the 22nd day of August, 1936.

DATED this 1st day of August, 1936.

CHARLES HOOVER, Township Clerk.

HOLIDAY HINT TO MOTORISTS

Size 30 x 3 1/2	4.75	Size 30 x 4.50-21	6.60
Size 29 x 4.40-21	6.05	Size 28 x 4.75-19	7.35

Other Sizes equally low-priced

Young's Service Station

GAS, OIL and ACCESSORIES
 NORTH YONGE ST. RICHMOND HILL

HERE
His Majesty the Horse Reigns Supreme!

HORSE SHOW SEPT. 4 to 12

Pulsating with sustained action and innovations . . . New \$1,000 open sweepstake for jumpers . . . New events in the military division . . . New military competition for teams of three riders . . . New stake in the hunter division for Canadian-bred "Cavalry of Empire", in which dash . . . and still another new feature . . . represent thirty-eight historic empire cavalry units. General admission 30c. Reserved seats 60c (Tax included). On sale at special ticket office, 65 Yonge St., Wa. 2226 and at Moody's 490 King W., El. 1098.

Alfred Rogers President
 Elwood A. Hughes General Manager 6381A

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION TORONTO AUG. 28 - SEPT. 12