

SLATS' DIARY
(By Oliver N. Warren)

Sunday: Went to S. S. and church & the preacher made a tawk that sounded very much like some raddeo tawks. So I cudden tell if he is fer Landen or Rosenfeld. Wichever wins, thot I, he is fer.



Monday: Last evening I & Jake called to see Jane & Elsy witch spent the nite with the former. Both of us kids around 10 thirty sed the ladies had dreemy eyes & Jane sed well who wooddent this late. I xpect she was hinton it was bed time, so we left in about a hour.

Tuesday: Blisters who spent the weekend with his Unkel Sim in the country writ it up for the class & sed he saw a cow put sum watter & brekfest food in her tank & then have her crank case drained.

Wednesday: Over to Smithville a kid in skool got the meezles & give it to evry boddie. Doc Dopen are fisishen treeted the 1st kid free. He sed becos he worked up such a rush of bizness.

Thursday: Pa got off a hot 1 on Ma. He sed a frend ast him did he ever show Ma who is boss at are house & he replide it aint necessary. She alreddy noes.

Friday: Pa got on me becos my grade card aint so hot & sed the editors son does much better. Yas but look how smart his Pa is I replide. Pa was slow to get the idee & then he onley skowled.

Saturday: Ma got even with Pa for what he sed Thursday. He lost his hat & found it on the lamp shade. & he sed what fool place will my hat be next & Ma replide on yure hed I xpect deer. Me & Ma was all that laft.

Ottawa Spotlight

By Wilfrid Eggleston

Ottawa, October 27.—Reduction of farmers debts is still a live matter in various parts of the country. In the three prairie provinces special drought revisions are going on, and the operations of the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act are dealing with individual cases. No accurate totals are available, but it is apparent that reductions in the debt-burden of farmers in the west will exceed \$150,000,000 through the work of the debt adjustment act in Alberta and similar legislation in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, including, of course, the voluntary reductions which some creditors made before any legislation was passed.

Though the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act was passed as an emergency measure with the farmers of the west especially in mind, it has been used almost as much by the farmers of Ontario and Quebec. There are about 750,000 farm operators in all Canada, so it is interesting to note that since the act was passed (up to September 1st this year) a total of 120,018 farmers had approached the official receivers appointed under the act, to see if relief could be secured.

Many cases are still being settled. But up to that date a total of 14,588 settlements had been reached, whereby farmers made a new deal with their creditors and started again. Of these 6,057 were the result of voluntary agreement between the farmer and his creditors; the remainder could not be settled in this way, and had to be sent on to the provincial boards of review, which then made an arbitrary settlement, whereby the total debt was to be reduced so much, the secured creditors cutting their share and the unsecured creditors theirs, in the sums decided upon, with the reductions in interest which the Board of Review approved.

(Millions Cut From Debt)
The Farmers Creditors Act had, up to Sept. 1st, dealt with farm debt totally \$91,320,880. Before they had finished they slashed \$27,396,264. from this principal sum, and in addition cut the annual interest payments on the remainder by \$2,188,200 per year, through reductions in rates.

Although the Act has proved useful for thousands of farmers across the country who were struggling along under an intolerable load of debt, there are requests now arising that it be repealed. Farmers are finding that it cuts both ways, and that so long as it remains on the statute books it is difficult to borrow new money from the banks or other lending companies.

There is some talk at Ottawa of the act being repealed at the end of the present crop year (July 31st, 1937), if farm prices and conditions such as to warrant it then. Possibly it will, but a good deal will depend on the views of federal members in the farming areas as expressed in parliament next session and privately to the government.

(Healthier Farm Finances)
The improvement of farm prices on the one hand and the gradual reduction of farm debt burdens on the other is having a healthy effect except in those areas where the crop was destroyed by drought or other factors. The buying power of the Canadian farm as a whole will be considerable larger this year than for a long time. There is, of course, a desperate amount of catching up to do in essential repairs and equipment before the average farmer will have any spare cash.

Defence is a matter of growing importance even in Canada. It hardly seems possible that Canada is going to launch out on a program of armament including destroyers and even warships. There are conflicting accounts about our intentions. What seems much more likely is that a rather ambitious aircraft and training scheme of semi-militaristic nature will be started. Canada could justify much larger expenditures on aviation than she is making at present without being accused of getting militaristic. Some military authorities say that training for peace and training for war—in the air—are quite different things, but the government will probably take the view that if Canada had a corps of keen young civil aviators and a body of fast modern machines, they would not come amiss if any enemy did threaten Canadian shores. So far as the naval program is concerned, there will be a considerable body of opinion which will prefer to assist the British navy by cash contribution rather than the extension of Canada's present rather comic-opera navy.

We can look for some spectacular debates in the House on this subject.

WAY BACK IN LIBERAL FILES

FORTY YEARS AGO

From our Issue of October 29, 1896
The York County Commissioners met last Friday and decided to notify the toll-gate keepers that their leases will expire on the 31st of December.

The Scarboro Curling Club has reorganized for the season. Among the officers are Mr. John Richardson, M.L.A., Patron, and Rev. J. Vickery, Chaplain.

Mr. Moyes, manager of the Metropolitan Street Railway, and Mr. Wray, superintendent of construction, were in the Village yesterday, the object being to make arrangements for engaging teams and men to assist in the construction of the road along Yonge Street.

After long delays for various reasons the Metropolitan Electric Railway Company is extending its line from its present terminus at York Mills. The first sod was turned before sunrise last Monday morning by Mr. Moyes, the energetic manager of the road, who always said he would push it through to Richmond Hill. A gang of nearly 100 men have been working all the week and every day teams and men are being engaged to push the work along. The company hope to have the line completed by the 20th of November, the time stipulated in their last agreement with the county council. Some of our enthusiastic citizens are already talking about a bonfire.

The store and dwelling house in Maple rented by Mr. H. Bailey is being thoroughly renovated and painted previous to his commencing business there, and when finished

will present a very neat appearance. On Tuesday night last about 12 o'clock the barns and outbuildings on the farm leased by Mr. Robert Monkman and owned by Mrs. East were burned. Mr. Monkman lost his grain, implements, and four horses. Cause of fire unknown. There was some insurance.

The Deputy Minister of Education has just made the announcement that the appeals of F. Rutherford and E. J. Hitchcock have been sustained. Accordingly they are both granted Junior Leaving Certificates. This makes the showing of the school still more creditable as there were 48 candidates for examination and 37 certificates, and 12 graduation diplomas have been obtained by these. If our High School stood first among the High Schools of the province before this, where are we now?

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From our Issue of October 25, 1906
The grandstand, transportation building and cattle sheds on the Exhibition grounds, Toronto, were destroyed by fire Thursday night. Loss nearly \$200,000.

Four prizes came to Trench's Carriage Works for rigs exhibited at Woodbridge Fair. The firm was also successful at Markham, taking four first prizes and two second prizes.

About 10,000 people attended the Woodbridge Fair last Thursday. There was an excellent display of agricultural products and fine arts, the show of horses was good, but it was generally remarked that the exhibits in cattle were not up to former years. The speeding in the horse ring was exciting, Blackbird making a trotting record for Woodbridge track of 2:16½. The Governor-General's Body Guard Band furnished

enchanting music. The usual banquet was given on the evening of the second day.

The funeral of the late Henry F. Hopper took place from the residence Wednesday afternoon of last week. The funeral was very large, and the obsequies on the solemn occasion were impressive. Before leaving the house for the Village cemetery Rev. A. P. Brace made a short address, and Rev. F. Elliott offered prayer. Mr. Hopper had long been a member of Richmond Lodge No. 23, A.F. & A.M.; Court Richmond No. 7046, A.O.F.; and Ivy Lodge No. 114, A.O.U.W., and those societies with brethren from Thornhill, Aurora and other places showed their respect for the deceased brother by walking in procession. On the casket were wreaths of flowers from relatives and from the three societies to which the deceased belonged.

The friends of Mr. Henry Reynolds, 2nd Con. Whitechurch, near Aurora, whose barn and contents were burned after harvest, met at the home of County Councillor L. L.

Hartman a short time ago and decided on making a presentation to their neighbor. A committee was appointed and in a few days collected the sum of about \$800. The sum of \$240 was handed the committee by citizens of Aurora.

Lakeview House, Wilcox Lake, was burned to the ground on Friday evening about 7 o'clock.

Subscriber (about to place a Long Distance call): "Can't you make a special price for just listening? I want to call my wife."

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1937 registration plates commemorate Coronation Year with crowns and white figures on red background. Each plate carries only one series letter.

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1937 MOTOR VEHICLE PERMITS AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 2nd

DUE to the advance in the new car purchasing season and the fact that increasingly large numbers of used cars and trucks are now purchased at this time of year, 1937 Motor Vehicle Permits and Operators' Licenses are being made available November 2nd.

1937 Permits available November 2nd save the purchaser of a new car or truck the expense of 1936 registration.

They save the purchaser of a used car or truck the fee for transferring the 1936 registration (1937 Permit can be procured without transfer fee).

This advance sale of 1937 Motor Vehicle Permits and Operators' Licenses is for your convenience. Take advantage of it. There are one hundred conveniently located issuing offices throughout the Province. You will receive quick, efficient service at the one nearest you.

B. J. Austin

MINISTER OF HIGHWAYS
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