

SLATS' DIARY
(By Oliver N. Warren)

Sunday: A army ingeneare are 1 thing I dont under stand. He wilds 21 millyen \$ worth of dike to hold high watter out & when they are high watter blöse up the dike to let the watter in.
Monday: the teacher ast Blisters what are the differents between constancy & stubbornness & he thot a secent & replide & sed. I are a strong will & tother a strong wont. I suppose it was okey doke as the teacher just laft a littel.

Tuesday: Pa got 1 on Ma. He sed he was down to cort & a lawyer ast a jooryman when he was married & had he formed or xprest a opinyen. The man sed he was married in 19 & 32 & haddent had or xprest no opinyens for about 5 yrs. Ma sed she diddent bleeve no sucha thing.

Wednesday: Jake was out to Holly Wood last vacashen & says the actresses aint doing what they promist cos he seen in the noosepaper thair where it sed ladies ready to wear close.

Thursday: Mister & Mistress Gillem are taken lessens in French. They taken a French babie out of a orfenage & say they want to no what it says when it begins to tawk. All our famby lut me laft about it. I say theyre rite.

Friday: Elsy's fokes is a going to send her away to study musick & singing & etc. when vacashen comes & nabers sed it was thotful of her fokes. Elsy sed she diddent no what they ment. Aint she dum.

Saturday: Speeken of dumness Jane is praktckally as dum as Elsy. She sed they wassent no use of basket ball fans as that game is plade in the winter seezen of the annual yr.

Not So Crazy

A sociologist says the 'best thing for insane persons to do is to work hard. But, doctor, so many of them aren't anything like that crazy.—Providence Journal.

Charles Graham
AGENT

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People of Ontario Entitled to Protection Against Iniquitous Exploitation Says North York Member in His Address on the Vital Question of Hydro

Alternative to Passing Cancellation Bill Would Be Increased Hydro Rates and Play into Hands of Private Interests — Legislation of Hepburn Government in Interests of People Rather Than in Interests of Money Barons

In the Hydro debate in the Ontario legislature last week one of the outstanding addresses was delivered by Morgan Baker, North York's representative. Mr. Baker's speech commanded the interest of the House and was the subject of much favorable comment. Dealing with the very vital question of Hydro the North York representative said:

In continuing the debate I wish to say that I have taken little part in the last two sessions, but I have been almost continually in my place, listening carefully to the debates on the various subjects. I confess there were times when it was difficult for me to keep my seat, especially when charges were made against my Leader, such as the Honourable Member for East York made last Friday, namely, that the Premier had tried to buy East Hastings. Had the statement been true, those who sit opposite should be the last to mention it. Have they forgotten 1934? Sir, all over the province of Ontario, 30 or 40 men were to be found filling one or two little trucks. Why, Mr. Speaker, in their anxiety they even bought shovels for school children.

Yes, I was down in East Hastings and enjoyed myself. Mr. Acres and I had a wonderful time every time we met. I had the privilege of meeting some mighty fine people down there. Well, the Tories won the Election and I congratulate the Member for East Hastings. His majority, ordinarily, should have been 3000, and he got a little over 1000. We have as good reason to rejoice over East Hastings as the Tories, we held our own and that is all they did.

I have been surprised at the line of argument used by His Majesty's Loyal Opposition, whenever the Power Bill is under discussion. Their speeches consist of an attempt to justify their own action in buying 731,000 H.P. which we did not need and which we could not use and a strong defense of those from whom they bought the power. Not one word have I heard from the Honourable Gentlemen opposite in defense of the people of this Province—those who have to pay.

Their alibi or defense of the contracts is that they did not know there was going to be a depression, when the contracts were made. Did the Government know there was a depression in 1931? The Honourable Gentlemen knew full well that the people of this Province had never seen or heard tell of a depression such as we went through from 1931 to 1934. They knew then that they had purchased 731,000 H.P. that the people could not use, yet all these years they were proclaiming from the Hill-tops that all was well with Hydro. An organized effort was made to deceive the people and make it appear that the Liberal Leader of that day and the Liberal Party were the enemies of Hydro. During all those years, not one attempt was made by the Government of the day to make any adjustment with those from whom Power had been purchased, and had the Tory Government been returned in 1934 the people would have been made to pay for every horse power that had been contracted for.

No, Mr. Speaker, the Power Barons will not deal with the present Attorney-General—they will pour barrels of money into this Province at the next Election in the hope of electing their friends, the Tories across the way, and then they will get everything they ask for.

When the "Power Bill" was introduced in 1935, every Tory stood in his place reading articles that had been prepared by Gaby, Weldon and The Power Interests. The Bogey Repudiation was used. When the Honourable Leader of the Opposition spoke last Friday he made the statement there was not a man in the Legislature who would repudiate a contract. May I remind His Majesty's Loyal Opposition that there are other contracts besides Power and Road Contracts. To use the words of Rosseau "Government itself is a Contract." A contract whereby the people center all their Wills in one man, or a group of men. They say—we are trusting you with all that we have, there is a constitution for your guidance and our protection and the individual, or group of individuals contract, on their part, to keep every man in peaceable possession of his property,

and sacrifice, if necessary, their own privileges in order to carry out their part of the bargain. Had the late Government been true to that Contract, had the Government been true to the moral obligations placed on them, the Contracts now under dispute would never have been written. They forgot those they were sworn to serve and obligated the people to the tune of \$11,000,000 per year—the most vicious repudiation of Moral Obligation and betrayal of Public Confidence that the people of Ontario have ever seen. There isn't a man on the opposition benches that would do business for himself as the late Government did for the people.

If I hire a man to run my farm, pay him good money for his services and trust him because he promised to be true, then, after a little time, I am told by a neighbor that he bought 100 head of cattle, which I can neither stable or feed—must I for the sake of the Seller be responsible for that contract, which would force me into bankruptcy, throw my family on the road and also make it impossible for me to pay the honest debts I owe my neighbor, or should I cancel the contract and throw that servant out as a traitor to his trust—as the people of Ontario in 1934 threw the late Government out for doing that very thing? The "Seller" has rights, but his rights end at precisely that point where they infringe on the rights of others. I owe something to my family and this Government owes something to the people of Ontario—whose servants we are, and we are going to give them the protection they are entitled to, no matter how much the Opposition may dislike it.

The policy of the present Commission has saved Hydro from its enemies. That policy has brought a material reduction in rates, enabling many who had ceased using electrical power to begin using it again. Thousands of farmers are installing Hydro today, because of the reduction in price. Sir, if more power is being used, it is only because the price has been reduced. If anyone needs Hydro, surely it is the farmer. Two years ago we were paying \$2.55 service charge per month, today we pay \$1.00 per month. This has been made possible through the efforts of this Government, which action every Tory in the House most strenuously opposed. I am not going to vote to return to the \$2.55 rate, neither am I going to force my neighbor back to the \$2.55 rate.

The Honourable Leader of the Opposition made the statement the other day that he would be glad to see the cost reduced, if it did not interfere with the service. Judging from his words and actions during the last two Sessions, and those who sit behind him, he should have said—if it did not interfere with the profits of the Power Barons of Quebec.

The Bill now before the House only makes possible the cancellation Bill passed two years ago and the success that has attended Hydro since that time has justified the action taken. It has meant:

A reduction in rates,
It has made Hydro possible to the Farmers of Ontario.

It has meant extensions of lines, giving work to the unemployed, It has meant a reduction in the cost of power to Industry, enabling Industry to compete more favourably with the Nations of the world.

It has put back into operation our own plants, some of which were practically idle.

It has taken Hydro out of the Red, changing deficits into surpluses in every part of the Province of Ontario.

The other side of the picture is to force the people to pay for Hundreds of Thousands of Horse Power from Quebec Interests, which they cannot use.

To increase the price of power to a point where the farmer will not be able to install,

To force Industry out of business or back to steam,

To close our own plants, in order to absorb surplus power generated in Quebec plants,

To throw men out of work and place them again on relief rolls,

In fine—to wreck the whole "Hydro" enterprise and throw it back into the hands of private interests.

The charge of a shortage of Power has been shown by the Attorney-

General to be untrue. We have One Hundred and Twenty Thousand horsepower which we can call on at any time. The Honourable Mr. Rowe is telling the people there is a shortage. I suppose he got this idea from the Honourable Gentlemen Opposite. Speaking to the Albany Club he told there was a shortage in Toronto—it remained for the Mayor of Toronto and the Chairman of the Toronto Hydro Commission to tell him his whole speech was a tissue of falsehoods. I suppose he and his followers will continue to tell this for the want of something to talk about.

The door has never been closed to the Quebec Companies. I deny the statement of the Leader of the Opposition that they were met with a club. Satisfactory adjustments were made with those who were willing to be reasonable, when others, who through their agents, sought to intimidate, they were met just as they ought to be met.

And, now, Mr. Speaker, we are charged even by the Globe & Mail with taking away the power of the Courts and they speak of the Courts as the bulwark against arbitrary Government. One hundred years ago, when the people were fighting against the tyrannical family compact, was it the Courts that interceded on behalf of the people? No, Mr. Speaker, it was the people themselves, led by William Lyon Mackenzie who brought freedom to a people that were enslaved, that finally resulted in Responsible Government and Liberty.

Was it the Courts that brought about Confederation?
Was it the Courts that gave us Provincial Autonomy?

Can the Globe & Mail name one single instance where the Courts have superseded the Parliaments of Canada?

Would the Globe & Mail make the Courts the "Sovereign Body" of this Province?

The judiciary have no power to make laws; it is not their function to say whether the laws are good or bad—their only function is to interpret laws made by the Legislature, representing the people—who are Sovereign.

The bulwark against arbitrary, autocratic, and dishonest Government rests in the final analysis with the people. The Legislative Assembly is the People. If a law is enacted that does not speak the mind of the Government that enacted it, then the Government has the right to amend the law in such a way as to make it speak the minds of the Government.

The Bill now before the House only makes possible the Act passed two years ago cancelling the contracts. Those who voted for it then, will consistently vote for it now. In 1906, Sir James Whitney did the very thing that we are now doing. The Florence Mining Company had discovered silver in the bed of Cobolt Lake, before the Government withdrew that area from Prospectors in 1905. In 1906 the Government took away any possible rights the Company may have had and sold the mine for over a Million Dollars. An appeal was made to the Minister of Justice at Ottawa, who decided that the Federal Authority should not veto the Bill. The dispute was taken to the Courts and Justice Riddell said that if the Plaintiffs had any rights, the Legislature had the power to take them away. That decision makes the People supreme and not the Courts and I deny most emphatically that we are in any way interfering with the Courts of Justice. It is a last attempt to scare the Members and thwart the will of the people.

Mr. Speaker, the dispute now centered around this Bill, does not tell half the story. Those who are opposed to this Bill, both inside the House and out, are opposed to this Government in its attitude towards money:

They do not like cutting interest rates,

They are opposed to refunding the debt of Ontario at a lower rate of interest,

They do not like the Income Tax Bill,

They are opposed to the collection of all that is due to the Province in Succession Duties.

They are opposed to any Legislation that will prevent them from taking their ill-gotten gains to Nas-

sau, where they can escape Income Tax and Succession Duty.

Let me warn the people that the fight that is going on today is not a fight between the Liberals and Conservatives, it is a battle between the People and certain Monied Interests, who recognize that the strangle-hold they have had on the people is being broken and are making a desperate attempt to retain their hold.

I am standing by my Leader, who says "When he must decide between the People and the Monied Barons, he will stand with the People."

Those to the left of you, Mr. Speaker, can stand by Mr. Rowe, their Leader, who says he would have Ontario go bankrupt before he would cancel the Contract.

"If we have a Prince" said Pliney, "It is that he may keep us from having a Master." The late Government became our Masters and enslaved the people, but Ontario has today, in the Honourable Mitchell Hepburn, a "Prince" who is determined to make Ontario a better place for the masses and when the next Election comes we will trust the people.

EBENEZER

At the annual congregational meeting of Ebenezer United Church held on Friday evening, January 15, a delightful supper was enjoyed by all, after which the reports proved last year to be a very successful one. The sum of \$249.20 had been collected for the M. & M. Fund. Mr. Davison acted as chairman and the following officers were elected for the coming year: Sec.-Treas., Edna Fieldhouse; Stewards, E. Dalziel, H. Maltby, O. Ellis; Elders, E. Kellam, J. T. Peacock, B. Fieldhouse, J. Wilson, R. Williams, G. Codlin, A. Sleightholm; M. & M. Fund Collectors, G. Codlin, F. Julian and R. Williams; Organist, Reta Robinson; Assistants, Doris Moody, Ethel Williams; Auditors, A. Moody, A. Julian, A. Parsonage Committee, F. Julian, A. Julian and G. Williams; Cemetery Committee, W. Dobson, J. J. Julian and A. Sleightholm; S. S. Supt., A. Julian.

At the annual vestry meeting of Christ Church, Bolton, Calvert Daines and Hudson Wilson were appointed wardens, Mrs. W. J. Robertson, vestry clerk and Miss M. Lockwood, treasurer.

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ALSEY NORTON
Alsey Norton, a lifelong resident of Bolton, died there on Jan. 21st at the age of 74. Surviving are his widow, four daughters, two sons and two brothers.

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