

SLATS' DIARY

(By Oliver M. Warren)

Sunday: Well, I went to S. S. & church. Not with my permission tho.

The S. S. teacher & church preacher aint so hot with yores trooley. Who had mutch druther lissen to some thing on the ray-deo. Or go a skateing and etc.

Monday: Cents they are so mutch set downing over the U. S. Pa has dissided to try & dis satisfie are hens some how. He declairs they aint a setting down offen enuff to pleez him or neether Jno L. Louis.

Tuesday: A ladie which cum to are skool was a cutten out silloetts out of paper of us kids. She cut 1 of Jake that were so good it shode the wart on his nose & when the kids seen it—well, that broke up the partie so to speak.

Wednesday: Blisters gramma got onto him for not bowing his hed in church Sunday when the preacher was praying & Blisters (he aint so dum) wanted to no how his gramma found out he was veeing the scenery.

Thursday: Jane dont no hardly nothing in skool but she gets by in purty good shape. Recent the teacher ast her to tell the No. of Negrose in the U. S. in any given year on the blk. bd. & she tuk a peace of chock & writ instant 14 and 92—none. The teacher laff & sed that are co-rect.

Friday: Jake aint ever been so hot for Elsys Ma so when she ast him at Elsys partie last evning did he want to becum her sun in daw he up & sed no but the guest hede haft to be when he married Elsy. They gotta get up early to hed off Jake.

Saturday: Pa got a nother 1 on Ma. He was evnited to dine with his editur last nite. & diddent. So he sed when the editur ast him why he replide & sed circumstanses over witch he had no control & the editur sed when did you get to callen your wife Circumstanses. I thot it a good joak but Ma diddent seem to enjoy it. Mutch.

The Week in Parliament

By Wilfrid Eggleston

Ottawa, March 9.—Every farmer knows that farm implements cost plenty. A parliamentary committee is trying to find out why. A little over a year ago, just when some farmers were beginning to see faint streaks of daylight ahead for the first time, the list price of farm implements jumped up several notches. A committee of members of the House of Commons was appointed to discover the reason. Meanwhile the duty on farm implements was reduced. It is now one of the lowest in the tariff schedules. But the price of farm implements stays up. The committee came to no conclusion last session, and decided to continue their inquiry. Meantime accountants and economists have been looking into the books of the big producing companies. This session we have had repeated meetings of the committee, exhaustive studies of book-keeping accounts, tariffs, taxes, overhead, labor, capital structure, raw materials. What is the nigger in the woodpile?

(Tariff Not Responsible?) So far as I can gather, a major discovery to date is that the direct duty on farm implements entering Canada has now very little to do with the high prices, although other tariff restrictions (such as duty valuations) may be more significant. What would happen if the duty was taken off entirely, on imports from all countries, is problematical. But there is, according to the analyses of farm implement costs submitted to the committee, a very wide spread between the cost of some farm machinery at the factory and the price to the farmer. I noticed one illustration in particular. A machine costing something over \$900 at the factory ran up to \$2,400 by the time it was taken out by the farmer at his local dealer's. The difference, of course, was not all profit, nor agent's commissions. But a layman would certainly say offhand that there is something wrong with a distribution service when a \$900 machine cannot be laid down in a farmer's front yard for less than \$2,400.

Another observation is common to almost all industrial production under the profit system. It costs a great deal more per machine when production is slack than it does when a factory is running full blast. As a consequence, farm implements cost much more per implement to make when times are hard and farmers haven't any money, than they do when demand is good and the farmers are relatively able to pay. Why? Because the overhead cost of a factory is much the same when it is running 10 per cent of capacity as at 90 per cent. The overhead per implement in the former case may be several times what it is in the latter.

The effect being that just when the farmer needs a little relief in the way of lower costs of production he is faced with exactly the opposite.

So much, and a good deal more, the farm implement committee is discovering. But what to do about it? That is not such a simple matter. (Airways Service By Dominion Day?)

The government is now moving along with its Trans-Canada aviation bill. Although some commercial aviation authorities have been arguing that a start cannot be made until 1938, even with the western half of the service, from Winnipeg to Vancouver, the Department of Transport continues to make plans for a commencement this summer. Dominion Day has been set as a suitable opening occasion, and so far as the facilities to be provided by the government are concerned, namely, the landing fields, aerodromes, radio beams and weather service, they will, I am told, be ready. There may be some doubt as to whether the new corporation will have its aeroplanes, pilots and other arrangements ready by that date, but I hear that it is at least a good gamble.

There are still some landing fields and other equipment to be put in on the section between Montreal and Winnipeg, and the operation of the eastern half will not be possible until 1938. By that time it is possible that TransAtlantic flights will have begun, and a letter which leaves London, England one day may be in Montreal the following day, and in Vancouver 17 hours later. It now takes upwards of 12 days for a letter to travel between these two points.

The budget debate is bringing out some interesting points of view, but it will not go down into history as a classic. Even Mr. Bennett was, for the most part, dull—most unusual for him.

(Looks For Better Times) The government is banking on a continued improvement in employment and business. This was shown when the special supplementary estimates were brought down last week.

The sum available for relief grants to the provinces is being pared down substantially, while the vote for the deficit of the Canadian National Railways is also down several millions.

The Dominion's contribution toward the direct relief costs in Canada in the present fiscal year, ending in a few days, will be \$28,930,000. But the government is only providing \$19,500,000 for this purpose in the coming fiscal year.

The total bill for all governments and authorities for direct relief in 1936 (the calendar year) was the staggering sum of \$80,000,000. If the Minister of Labor is right in his forecast, and other governments reduce costs in proportion, this will not be more than \$55,000,000 this year. Time will tell.

Similarly, the provision for the Canadian National Railways in the coming year is only \$35,000,000. Last year the railway system cost the taxpayer \$43,303,000.

The special supplementary estimates, which amounted to \$96,063,307 cover what the government calls extraordinary as distinct from ordinary expenses of the government. There are in them some big items arising out of unemployment, quite apart from the \$19,500,000 for direct relief noted above.

A sum of \$7,331,000, for instance, covers the amount set aside for federal contribution to provincial and municipal relief projects, which may include some housing assistance. A million dollars is set aside for development and training plans for unemployed young people. The sum of \$2,500,000 is set aside to assist in eliminating level crossings on railroads. This is a combined relief and safety measure. Two millions is being voted for assistance in the dried out areas of western Canada, in the form of direct relief, and another two millions for the drought rehabilitation schemes for the same area. A sum not to exceed \$1,400,000 is available to build roads into mining areas.

A program of building to cost not more than \$12,550,000 is being voted for public works across the Dominion. Of this, over two millions is to be spent in Ottawa. Some have been voted to begin two major public buildings at the capital.

(New Supreme Court) The first of these is a Supreme Court Building. As everyone knows, the highest court of justice in Canada sits in a building originally erected to house the architects and engineers while the Parliament Buildings were being erected in the 60's. It is obscurely, almost meanly situated at the base of Parliament Hill, a poor relation of the dignified office blocks now rearing on every side. I have heard the argument that it is inept and fitting for the High Court of justice to sit in a building little more ambitious than some stables. But most people will feel that a country as substantial as Canada deserves a more beautiful and impressive home for its highest tribunal.

The second is another in the series of stately departmental buildings which are beginning to extend the boundaries of Parliament Hill down Wellington street to the west. The Supreme Court building, for which a site has not yet been chosen, will eventually cost \$1,250,000, and the new office building between 5 and 6 millions.

During the Bennett regime it was a favorite occupation of opposition groups and members to denounce the government loudly and frequently for its failure to do anything about unemployment. Now it is the turn of the Opposition to go after the King administration. Unemployment may not be so severe as it was, but it is a long way from cured, and the progress toward recovery has not been as rapid as the Liberals believed it would be when they got into office. There is not great vigor or fire in the attack, but the gravity of the situation is being stressed on the House. It is a current charge of the 'south-east-corner', which stands still down there while Liberals and Conservatives move places after an election, that the major parties are deeply moved about the unemployment problem when they are in opposition but don't care so much when they take office.

Social Credit members say that improvement isn't to be looked for without monetary reform; the C.C.F. take the stand there can be no solution without a change in the economic system.

In a by-election to fill a vacancy on the Beeton village council caused by the death of T. A. Chapman, George Ferguson defeated A. L. Fachie, the vote being 171 to 78.

THE LATE SENATOR BURNS

(Daily Star)

The story of the life of the late Senator Burns of Calgary, "Pat Burns" as he was known to western Canada, reads like a romance. He was born in Oshawa in a poor home 81 years ago, his parents being Michael and Bridget Burns. At a tender age he was taken to Kirkfield, Ont., by his parents, where he grew up with William Mackenzie, later the great railway knight. He received little schooling.

At the age of 23 he went on a homesteaders' excursion to the west and located a farm. He worked on railway construction for a while at a dollar a day, but drifted into the cattle trade and began supplying meat to the railway contractors, including his friend Mackenzie. His business expanded and he became interested in hogs, pork and beef packing, creameries and cheese factories, wholesale and retail stores for the of his products, and finally in the great industries of the country. He became a director of many concerns and perhaps the most important business man in western Canada. Nine years ago he sold part of his interests for 15 million dollars. He became a warm friend and supporter of Hon. R. B. Bennett, who appointed him to the Senate of Canada in 1931.

Pat Burns seldom deliberated. He gave snap judgments with almost instinctive shrewdness and seldom made mistakes. He was unspooled by success and as a multi-millionaire still was approachable and humorous. He disliked ostentation and notoriety-seeking. He was generous to all classes of unfortunates and a prince of good fellows.

The picturesque pioneer days of the Canadian prairies were made more wholesome and attractive by the clean-cut, merry personality that has just passed from sight. His memory always will be treasured by the Canadian people.

DIED

HARPER, Henry William—At his late residence, Thornhill, Saturday, March 6, Henry William Harper, beloved husband of Janet Weir, in his 92nd year.

The funeral service was held at above address, Monday, at 3 o'clock. Interment Thornhill Cemetery.

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AUCTION SALE

Farm Stock, Implements, Furniture, Hay, Etc.

MAJOR DEAN

Lot 30 and 31, Con. 1, Markham Township 1 Mile East of Thornhill TUESDAY, MARCH 16th.

- HORSES: 1 Horse, G.P., 10 years old
CATTLE: 1 Red Cow, fresh, milking; 1 Red Cow, fresh, milking, calf by side; 1 Roan Cow, springer; 1 Red and White Cow, springer; 1 Heifer, milking; 1 Steer, rising 2 years; 1 Hereford Bull, 15 months old
PIGS: 2 Pigs, 3 months old
HENS: 16 Rock Hens; 1 Rooster; 15 White Leghorns
IMPLEMENTES: 1 New M.-H. Binder, 6 ft.; 1 Deering Mower, good, 5 ft.; 1 Frost and Wood Rake, 10 ft.; 1 Frost & Wood Cultivator, Spring Tooth; 1 Sylvester Stiff Tooth Cultivator; 1 Log Land Roller; 1 Seed Drill, Peter Hamilton, good; 2 Sets Iron Harrows, good; 1 Wilkinson No. 7 Plow; 2 Fleury Wheel Plows; 1 Scuffler, Fleury; 1 Set Weigh Scales, 2000 lbs.; 1 M.-H. Root Pulper; 3 Farm Wagons, all good; 1 New Cutter; 1 Fanning Mill; 1 Good Wagon Box; 2 Hay Racks, nearly new; 1 Set Bob Sleighs and Box
Pig Crates, Rakes, Shovels, Hoes, Scythes, Chains and numerous other articles
Quantity Ash Lumber
1 Crosscut Saw
2 Rain Water Barrels
No. of Milk Cans
1 Lawn Mower
HARNES: 1 Set Long Tug Harness; 1 Set Breecching Harness; 1 Set Short Tug Harness; 2 Sets Single Harness; 4 Horse Collars
FURNITURE: 1 Kitchen Table; 1 Leaf Table; 1 Iron Bed and Springs; 4 Wooden Beds; 1 Bedroom Table; 1 Cupboard; 1 Small Table; 1 Sideboard; 1 Sewing Machine; 1 Sofa; 1 Radio, Deforest Crosley, battery; 3 Wash Stands; 1 Churn; 2 Clocks; 25 yds. Rag Carpet; 1 Large Tapestry Carpet; Quantity of Dishes, Knives, Forks, Crockery and Cooking Utensils; Quantity of Linoleum; 1 Happy Thought Range; 1 Parlor Heater; 1 Washing Machine; A Number of Quilts, Feather Beds and Pillows; Numerous other Household Articles

(No Reserve as Farm is sold) J. H. and KEN PRENTICE, Auctioneers

IMPORTANT AUCTION SALE FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, Furniture, Etc.

The Property of JOHNSON BROS.

Lot 2, Concession 4, Markham Township 2 Miles south of No. 7 Highway FRIDAY, MARCH 19TH

- HORSES: 1 Bay Horse, aged, H.D.; 1 Bay Mare, aged, H.D.; 1 Black Horse, 5 years, H.D.
CATTLE: 1 Hereford Cow, full flow; 1 Black and White Cow, full flow; 1 Jersey Cow, bred Oct. 20; 1 Jersey Cow, fresh 7 weeks
PIGS: 1 Brood Sow, due to farrow April 5; 1 Brood Sow, due to farrow time of sale; 8 Fat Hogs; 6 Pigs about 150 lbs.
HARNES: 1 Set Welch Harness; 1 Set Driving Harness; 1 Set Chain Harness; 2 Saddles; Number of Collars and parts of Harness; Bridles and Halters
IMPLEMENTES: 1 Fordson Tractor; 1 Binder, 7 ft., M.-H.; 1 Hay Loader, M.-H.; 1 Side Delivery Rake, M.-H.; 1 2-Furrow Oliver Tractor Plow; 1 Thrashing Machine, (Goodson); 1 13-Tooth Cultivator, M.-H.; 1 Hay Rake, M.-H.; 1 Flat Hay Rack; 1 Set Sleighs; 1 Cultivator, 13-Tooth, M.-H.; 1 Riding Plow, Cockshutt; 1 Hay Tedder; 1 No. 21 Fleury Walking Plow; 1 Dump Cart; 1 Turnip Plow; 1 Turnip Drill
1 Set Harrows, 8 sections; 1 Wagon Gear and Springs complete, Speight; 1 Vessot Grinder, 6 1/2 in.; 1 Chatham Fanning Mill; 1 Circular Saw; 1 Horse Fork; 1 Chicken Coop; 1 2-Furrow Tractor Plow, Oliver, wide bottom; 1 Set Disc Harrows (in throw); 1 Wagon Gear, good, Speight; 1 Wagon Gear, good, Speight; 1 Wagon Gear, Adams; 1 Wagon Gear; 1 Root Pulper, Fleury; 1 Cutter, good; 1 Cutter; 1 Cart; Number of Pulleys; 3 Buggies; 1 Set Wagon Trucks; 1 Roll Wire Fence; 1 Fattening Crate; 1 Plow, Fleury No. 12; 1 Plow, Fleury No. 21; 1 Set Forecarriage for Binder; 1 Ladder; Hoes, Rakes, Forks, Etc.; 1 Scythe; Number of other articles too numerous to mention
FURNITURE: 1 Rocking Chair; 1 Churn, good; 2 Sets of Bed Springs; 1 Cook Stove; 1 Mantle; 1 Divanette; 3 Wash Stands; 1 Churn; 1 Hanging Chandelier; 1 Hanging Lamp; 1 Hall Lamp; 1 Oil Heater Stove; 1 Small Oil Stove; 3 Lanterns; 1 Chesterfield

TERMS:—CASH Sale at 1 o'clock No Reserve as Farm is sold J. H. and K. G. PRENTICE, Auctioneers

AUCTION SALE of

Farm Stock, Implements, Furniture,

The Property of WESLEY C. GOHN

Lot 9, Con. 2 East 3rd Con., Markham Twp. One half mile south of No. 7 Highway FRIDAY, MARCH 26th, 1937

- HORSES: 1 Bay Horse, aged; 1 Bay Mare, 12 years old; 1 Clydesdale Gelding, 3 years old; 1 Clydesdale Filly, 3 years old; 1 Belgian Colt, 2 years old
CATTLE: 1 Part Bred Jersey, calf by side; 1 Jersey, milking, bred January 15; 1 Holstein, 3 years old, due in April; 1 Red and White Cow, 3 years old, due in April; 1 Jersey Heifer, due in July; 1 Part Jersey, due in August; 1 Red Heifer, due in August
HOGS AND FOWL: 8 Store Pigs; 2 Geese and 1 Gander; 7 Turkey Hens and 1 Gobbler; 8 Ducks; 40 White Leghorn Hens
IMPLEMENTES: 1 Massey-Harris Binder; 1 McCormick Mower, Oil Bath new; 1 McCormick Corn Binder, nearly new; 1 Massey-Harris Drill, 11 Disc; 1 Massey-Harris Spring Tooth Cultivator; 1 Cockshutt Corn Cultivator; 1 Set Discs for Corn Cultivator; 1 Frost & Wood Hay Rake, 10 ft.; 1 Set 9 ft. Harrows, 3 sections; 1 Harrow Cart; 1 Fleury Plow with Wheels, No. 21; 2 Fleury Plows, No. 21; 1 Tudhope Anderson Farm Wagon; 1 Aspinwall Potato Planter; 1 16 ft. Hay Rack; 1 Hay Fork; 1 M.-H. Circular Saw and Frame; 1 Iron Scuffler; 1 Grain Grinder; 1 Set Sleighs; 1 Cutter; 1 Root Pulper and Slicer, Tolton; 2 Cream Separators, Renfrew; 1 Work Bench; 1 Extension Ladder; 2 Wooden Barrels

TERMS—CASH Sale starts at 1 o'clock No reserve as Farm is sold J. H. and KEN PRENTICE, Auctioneers

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