

**"THE LIBERAL"**

An Independent Weekly — Established 1878  
 Subscription Rate, \$1.50 per year; To the United States \$2.00  
 Member Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association  
 J. E. SMITH, Editor

**NOTABLE CANADIAN**

Few doors in Washington are closed to Lester Bowles Pearson, O.B.E., newly-appointed Canadian ambassador to the United States. His affability and keen wit are well known in the White House and many a humbler dwelling in the capital.

Pearson replaces Leighton G. McCarthy, K.C., first Canadian Ambassador to the United States, now 75, who is retiring from diplomatic life.

No admirer of spats and gardenia diplomacy, "Mike" Pearson has a background that fits him for the strenuous post at Washington. Here Canada's expanding diplomatic force has a job of vital importance and one that will grow rather than diminish.

He was born at Newtonbrook in York County, son of Rev. E. A. Pearson who was Methodist minister there in 1897, and his career from parsonage to embassy includes success in a series of posts of ever-increasing importance.

Forthright Ambassador Pearson is perhaps Canada's most popular diplomat. He is credited with a remark in the last war that characterized his disregard for the excesses of diplomacy. "We'll win the war," he prophesied, "if we don't run out of carbon paper."

The Manchester Guardian, one of Britain's best regarded daily newspapers, in full-blown praise of Pearson on his departure from Britain, said, "He is shortly exchanging London for Ottawa, to the regret of all who have had experience of his flair for making formal conferences human and for clipping red tape. He is indeed the exception which proves the rule that diplomats — for diplomacy is his sphere — are tall, austere, meticulous in attire, and evasive in speech."

"Mike" Pearson, brisk, jovial, with a head of unruly hair and a habit of direct speech, is 47. He was born in Toronto and educated at the University of Toronto. He did post-graduate work at Oxford University, and taught history at the University of Toronto. One time hockey player, laborer in the Chicago stockyards, ambulance driver in the First Great War, Pearson's excellent academic background has been mellowed by frequent brushes with the somewhat harsher realities of living.

His career of diplomacy began in 1928 when he entered the then small Canadian Department of External Affairs. From 1935 to 1941 he was attached to the Office of the Canadian High Commissioner to London. In 1942 he was appointed minister-counsellor of the Canadian Embassy in Washington.

Extra-curricular jobs in Pearson's career include: chairmanship of the United Nations Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture, the supplies committee of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and chairmanship of the Second Conference of UNRRA in Montreal last summer.

**FAMILY ALLOWANCES**

Next July one of the most progressive and humane legislative enactments ever passed by the Federal Government, the Family Allowances Act, will become effective throughout the Dominion. In introducing this Bill, the Liberal Government has earned the everlasting gratitude of every Canadian child — for every young Canadian under the age of 16, regardless of his economic status or the source of his income, will be the recipient of a new tax-free cash income from the Government. A personal allowance in the strict sense of the word, each child's monthly cheque is to be used for his exclusive benefit and cannot be diverted to other purposes. The Act thus represents an important step towards that measure of social security we all want for our children. It means greater social justice and greater equality of opportunity for all young Canadians. It means that Canada now leads the world in the provision it makes for the care of its children—ALL of its children.

Many parents are no doubt asking themselves just how their own children will benefit by family allowances. In working out the problem of an equitable financial disbursement, experts have studied every aspect of the question and have reached certain conclusions. For instance, they have found that, while the cost of maintaining a child increases as the child grows, the cost per child becomes less as the family increases in numbers. Both of these facts have been given careful consideration in working out the allowances payable to various age-groups and to families of varying sizes. However, as official estimates show that 95 out of every 100 children in Canada are in families having less than five children, an overwhelming majority will receive the maximum amount of the monthly allowance and will not be affected by the reductions applicable in larger families. These full amounts are specifically:

Child's age 1 to 5 — 6 to 9 — 10 to 12 — 13 to 16  
 Amount \$5.00 — \$6.00 — \$7.00 — \$8.00

Let us take a typical small family and see how its income will be affected. Let us say, for the sake of argument, that, as of July 1, 1945, there are 3 children in the Jones household: a fourteen-year-old son; a ten-year-old daughter; and a little lad of 4. The eldest, coming in the fourth age-group, will receive \$8.00 a month; the second child, in the third age-group, will receive \$7.00; and the baby, in the first age-group, will receive \$5.00. The total monthly cheque will thus be \$20.00. The amount will vary as the children advance into different age-groups, but the cheques will continue to come regularly from the Government until all of the children, as well as any future brothers and sisters, have passed the age of 16.

**TEACHERS SEEK REASONABLE SECURITY**

Teachers in Ontario ask for "a reasonable security in our profession" and for "the right to be free citizens." This was the statement of Norman McLeod, president of the Ontario Teachers' Federation, who is on the staff of University of Toronto schools. "Long residence in a community, an office in a local organization, even a seat on the school board does not grant anyone the right to assume he is an oracle in education matters and confers no rights on such a person to believe that he possesses rights of ownership over the teacher," says Mr. McLeod.

As an instance of insecurity of tenure he cites the case of a new teacher who was the sixth to be engaged in one year for a one-roomed school, and she quit at the end of June.

"It may be news to the public that teachers are not free," says Mr. McLeod. Many are disfranchised because of the present Municipal Act. Teachers are denied the right to sit on municipal councils. No teacher may hold

a seat on a school board in a school area where he lives but does not teach. "And yet we teachers, who are ourselves not free men or women," he says, "are supposed to teach the democratic way of life to boys and girls."

**FARMER, CHOP THAT TREE!**

If timber for pulpwood had to be felled in the fall or summer time many of Canada's allies might find it even more difficult to buy their daily papers than they do now.

The reason — during the war Canada has been the main Allied source of pulp and paper. And Canadian farmers have played a leading part in the pulp and paper industry. Each winter, when the harvest is over, many Canadian farmers go into the woods to cut timber.

But Canadian pulpwood is the raw material for more things than the morning edition of the Daily Times. Pulp is needed for explosives, plastics, substitutes for metal, for rayon in tires and parachutes. Paper board containers are used to pack shell cases, ammunition, gun barrels, machine parts, blood plasma, food and medical supplies. Building board substitutes for lumber in building barracks, hospitals, munitions works. Paper is needed for maps, charts, blueprints, towels, Victory Bonds and war savings certificates, as well as newsprint.

Through the efforts of Canadian farmers and other Canadian workers, this country has been able to increase her exports of wood pulp from 700,000 tons in 1939 to 1,581,000 tons in 1943.

**Ottawa News Letter****LIBERAL AIM EQUAL SHARE IN BENEFITS**

New light on the distribution of family allowance payments has been given by Hon. Brooke Claxton, minister of national health and welfare. The figures reveal that, contrary to some statements Quebec will more than carry its fair share of the cost. Best estimates show that, for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1943, the province of Quebec paid 34.4 per cent of the total of all federal revenue. Quebec's share of family allowance payments will be about 32 per cent of the total, so that no federal taxes collected in Ontario or any other province will go toward children's payments in Quebec. On the contrary, that province is likely to contribute slightly to children's allowance payments elsewhere in Canada.

**Equality of Social Services in all parts of Canada**

The principle of equality of social services in all parts of Canada is included in the children's allowance program. For example, the maritime provinces pay about 3.6 of total federal taxes, but they will get about 10 per cent of the total family allowance payments. Similarly the prairie provinces pay 6.2 per cent of the federal revenue but will receive about 20% of allowance outlay. The wealthier provinces of British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec will contribute toward children's bonuses in the Maritimes and in the prairie provinces.

**Family Allowances Stimulate Employment**

This is not as charitable as it seems, although it only conforms to the objective to which most thinking Canadians subscribe — that benefits from Canadian social measures should be shared impartially by all. The fact is that a good deal of the money which goes to corporations in Ontario and Quebec, and which contributes to federal revenue collected in these provinces, is paid by residents of other sections of Canada. It is paid in insurance premiums, mortgage interest, purchases of goods and equipment made in the wealthier provinces and in other ways. It is not regarded as unfair by fiscal experts, therefore, that some of this money should be returned to other parts of Canada in the distribution of family allowances and in other ways. Mr. Claxton predicts that children's allowances will result in great improvement in the health of all Canadian young people. He also stressed the great economic advantage of the allowances plan. Purchasing power it provides will help keep industrial workers employed and will enable Canadians to purchase more largely of farm products of all kinds. It will, he says, help to stimulate prosperity for people in all parts of the dominion, in both rural and urban sections.

**McNaughton and North Grey by-election**

There is some speculation as to whether, should Gen. A. G. L. McNaughton be defeated in the North Grey by-election, there may be an appeal to the country by the King government. Some well informed observers believe that Premier King might regard the defeat of his minister of national defence as calling for a national vote in which the electorate could express their confidence or non-confidence in the government. There has been no official indication that Mr. King holds this view. Reports reaching Ottawa indicate that Gen. McNaughton is likely to be elected. There are indications that the Progressive Conservative party is beginning to regret its decision not to concede Gen. McNaughton an acclamation. If, as expected, Gen. McNaughton is elected, the Progress-

ive Conservatives will have only lost another political battle. Should he be defeated, it will amount to keeping Canada's minister of national defence out of Parliament at a critical stage of the war. Some Progressive Conservatives do not regard this as a possibility which will prove of any national service or enhance the party's popularity. One move was made toward withdrawing the Progressive Conservative candidate but things had gone too far. It is believed that, had the Progressive Conservative party not entered a candidate in North Grey, the C.C.F. would also have agreed to an acclamation. This would have left Gen. McNaughton free to devote his full attention to war prosecution and getting reinforcements overseas, and would have ensured his early appearance in the Commons where he could be fully questioned at all times on war progress and policy.

**BUTTONVILLE**

(Too late for last week)

On Saturday morning, January 6th with the temperature ranging from 12° to 14° below fire broke out in the home of Miss Rhoda Howe. Unionville fire brigade arrived on the scene in quick order only to find that their fire hose had frozen up on the trip over. The house and contents were completely demolished. Miss Howe's brother and his family were residing in the house. They think that the fire was caused by the Christmas tree falling over on the stove.

Snow and more snow, weather and more weather, and roads form the chief topic of conversation in our community just now. But then the same may be said of most communities at the present time. Come on, weatherman, do give us some milder weather.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of the late Mr. Jas. French. His death occurred on Saturday, Jan. 6th at the home of his daughter, Mrs. H. Jackson who resides near Maple. For a number of years Mr. French had resided in our community, being an elder in Brown's Corners church and for many years superintendent of the Sunday School. He leaves to mourn his loss three daughters, Elizabeth of Wexford, Mrs. Harry Jackson of Maple and Mrs. Jas. Rodick of Buttonville. Interment took place from Wright & Taylor's Funeral Home to Richmond Hill Cemetery.

A resident of Buttonville for many years, Mr. Wm. McRill died on Monday, January 8th. He was in his late eighties and was predeceased by his wife, Rachael Walker, ten years ago. His familiar figure will be missed by his neighbours. Interment took place from Wright & Taylor's Funeral Home, Richmond Hill, to Buttonville Cemetery.

Word has been received that Sgt. James Hood has been slightly wounded in Italy. We wish him the best of luck and a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Wm. Craig who has been on the sick list for some time is on the road to recovery.

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