

# J. A. Bradette, M. P., on Export of Hydro Power

Matter Not as Interesting to North as to South, as North Has Had to Depend on Private Enterprise for Power. Member for Federal House Also Touches on the European Situation.

Ottawa, March 20th, 1938  
To the Editor of The Advance, Timmins

Dear Sir—Following the application made by the Prime Minister of Ontario last fall there has been a lot of discussion in and outside the House of Commons dealing with the matter of power export to the United States. Everyone remembers the mode of approach then made by Mr. Hepburn who apparently was very impatient about the attitude taken by Mr. King. In this matter it must also be remembered that two Quebec power companies had made an application of that kind last spring before the prorogation of Parliament. These applications were turned down and the reason given then was to the effect that as quite a number of the cabinet intended to go to the Coronation, it was found impossible to give to that request the study and the consideration it deserved. After the Coronation those applications were reviewed again but they were refused by the Federal Government, so that it was only natural that when Mr. Hepburn made his application in the name of the Province of Ontario, it was bound to be dealt with in the same manner as the two previous ones just mentioned.

This action however did not preclude the fact that the Government in Council had the right to give a permit for the exportation of power which has existed for a number of years, such licenses being granted by Orders-in-Council for off-peak of our surplus power which was cancellable by the same Government body. In these instances, it was the desire of the Government to avoid any charges of political motives dealing with application for Hydro Power export, and that is the reason why on the 15th of this month Premier King moved the presentation of Bill No. 21, which will restore to Parliament the control of that question instead of leaving it to the Cabinet. Personally, I believe that this is a step in the right direction because in the years that I have been in the House of Commons, I heard from all parties some very severe criticisms of the use, if not abuse, of Orders-in-Council and in this instance it placed a very important matter into the hand of the whole deputation to deal with it and no one could find fault with such a procedure from the Government. Of course, the bill No. 21 as presented by Mr. King is a government bill and before any electrical power can be allowed to be exported, another bill, presented by a private member which will have to have the sanction of the Provincial Government in which provinces that application emanates, will have to be presented in the House of Commons and then, after the first reading, will have to go before the standing Committee of the House of Commons and the Committee of private bills so as to be fully discussed with all the necessary witnesses, technicians and experts of both the Provincial and the Federal Governments before it will be sanctioned there, and then it will be brought to the House of Commons in order to be sanctioned by Parliament.

As a Northern Ontarian, I am very open-minded on this subject. I know that during the present discussion a big case will be built up for benefits accrued to the Province of Ontario over the functions of the Ontario Hydro Commission which I know has been a great factor for industrial and agricultural developments in the southern section of our province. I am very much in favour indeed of the functioning of that commission, but at the same time one must realize that in our section, and practically every section of Northern Ontario, the Ontario Hydro does not function although it must be borne in mind that at the present time it is one of the greatest wealth-producing sections of the whole of Canada and will have reached the present state of our development by private enterprises and capital, and the Ontario Hydro even at this stage is not yet ready to come into Northern Ontario. I believe that I stated previously that I have no prejudice whatsoever against the Ontario Hydro Commission and that, in fact, I am greatly in favour of it, but at the same time one must also realize that we, of the newer sections of Ontario, pay for the maintenance of that Commission and the distribution of electrical power through our contributions to the Provincial Treasury, contributions paid for all incidents pertaining to the establishment of that Commission and even at the present time, for the extension of Hydro lines in the rural section of Southern Ontario. So some members may talk until they get blue in the face of the benefit of that Commission which naturally will leave us rather lukewarm although I believe that we have fared fairly well in the enterprise of our own section. I am very much at ease to make this statement, because I can recall very vividly to my mind the reading of the editorial entitled "Serving the Public," an article which appeared in The Porcupine Advance on the 14th of last February, in which it was told that the Canada Northern Power Corporation is fair to its customers and that in fact the power rates are lower in our section of the country than in most other sections of the Province of Ontario.

Nevertheless, in such a discussion, my primary duty will be to see that the interests of our country are closely safeguarded and that no international complications between the United States and ourselves arise. When

these precautions will have been taken, it might be found justifiable in some cases to approve the export of power.

Electrical power, unlike some other commodities, when not used after being produced is naturally wasted and, on the other hand, the only market that we have for it is the Republic to the South of us. Of course, there will always be somebody who will be talking in terms of which they will depict the situation whereas the exportation of that power that we will be building great industries in the United States, which otherwise would have come into this country. This argument, to my viewpoint, is rather far-fetched because if one considers for one moment the wonderful developments made in the generation of electrical power, in a god many instances that source of energy is cheaper than the one supplied by the Hydro development and the present request of the Ontario Government is for the exportation of only 90,000 horsepower which represents a fairly small fraction indeed, of the power used in each country at the present time.

Conservative Leader Mr. Bennett termed it incredible that a matter of such vital importance as power export should be left to the caprice of the unguided leadership opinion of the Commons attended by all the evils of lobbying, and he did not see the reason why Parliament should usurp the role of the Government in assuming full responsibility and even staking its life in the granting of export licenses through the private bill. I found those arguments very far-fetched indeed. First of all, although the bill would be granted them, a private bill also must primarily have, as stated above, the sanction of the Provincial Government, which would be a great safeguard for the Central Government. As far as fear of lobbying, I do not see the reason why he grabs every opportunity possible to bring in sinister motives. I have been several years in this House and I know that I will be benefited when I state that I have never been lobbied yet in any question or problem. It is true that I have been approached by several persons in that period of time, but I believe that they had the right to see me on those matters so as to give me their viewpoints which I think is the best way for any member to become acquainted with the problems with which at times he is not very familiar. I also want to make this declaration that, although I represent one of the wealthiest constituencies in natural resources, I still have to see any single person or body of persons with any insinuations that they wanted my assistance, unless it was something that was logical and practical, and this should be applicable to every riding in this country, and I do not see the reason why the whole deputation, which consists of 245 members and 92 Senators, would not be in as good a position to discuss thoroughly and impartially any problems as the Government in council consisting of 12 to 15 members.

Honourable W. Earl Rowe, still Ontario Conservative leader, thought that the government was trying to hide behind its 179 supporters and he stated that apparently Mr. King was afraid of Mr. Hepburn. When he stated that both the Liberal and Conservative parties have had the same recognized policies for years against power export, he was not stating actual facts because there have been many such licenses granted and there is presently some power export to the United States for quite a number of horse power.

In this discussion, we must always foresee any action that may be interpreted as an unfriendly act. This should be preventable in the wording of the contract so as to make contingent with a yearly renewal. This is certainly possible, and I feel that, within reason, even if at times the U.S.A. will apply some of their public policies which may prove of some hardship to us, basing my statement on past experience, it would not be conducive to enmities. I have in mind when, for instance, the U.S. Congress placed the Hawley-Smoot tariff, which no doubt was prejudicial to our exports to that country, we realized that it was a matter of internal policy with that nation, and we accepted it as such.

Deep regrets have been expressed at the demise of S. T. Wood, Chief Commissioner of the R.C.M.P., former Chief of Staff in the National Defence Department. He was a brilliant soldier in the Boer and Great War.

He has been replaced by S. T. Wood, a quiet efficient officer who has risen from the ranks of the world-famous police force. He is fully qualified to hold that high position.

The European situation is a cause of great alarm in Canadian official circles. There seems to be no end to his boldness. Who would have thought only a few weeks ago that Austria by now would be simply a province of Germany? Where will she stop? Will she, next victim be Czechoslovakia? What about the Danzig corridor? What about the German minority under Italian rule? How could one explain the tacit consent given by Italy of the last "coup" in Austria? Will that strengthen or weaken the Rome-Berlin

axis? Has Berlin promised a free hand to Italy in Spain, for the support given about Austria? So many dangerous questions are in the minds of the people of the world, and the fear is that the Gods of War will soon be on the march.

Everyone who wants to look at the present situation with an impartial mind must admire the great courage of Great Britain who is trying with all her might to keep cool in this great crisis, and to prevent a cataclysm.  
—J. A. BRADETTE.

## How Will War Affect the Mining Camps

Val d'Or Wonders on Result of War on That Camp

(From Val d'Or News)  
The war drums are rumbling in Europe, and the drums of the ball mills at Lamaque, Sigma, Sisco, Canadian, Perron, Sullivan, Shawkey and Sladen continue to rumble just as effectively as they did last month. But the question that seems to upset certain people in this section is, how long will our gold mines rumble, and what will be our future in this grim harsh hinterland?

It's rather a large subject to cover, in spite of the fact that the history of the Canadian gold mining centres during a period of world unrest has been one of the most constant bits of history of modern progress. True it is, Kirkland Lake, which had hardly gotten its Lake Shore and its Teek underway, did not experience the same constancy of growth and improvement that was the feature of Timmins during the World War, but it is a significant fact that dividends from produc-

## Knees Went Stiff In His Sleep

Agony to Move Them When He Awoke

"For three years," writes this City man, "I suffered with pains across the lower part of my back. In the morning I awoke with knees so stiff that it was agony to move them. Special treatment would make the pain a little easier—but that was all. Then a friend recommended Kruschen, which my doctor said I might take. I began with about a coffee-spoonful first thing in the morning. To my surprise I found my rheumatic aches and pains disappearing. I kept on with Kruschen, and although I am more than middle-aged, I have been free from pain for two years, and able to go to my office every day."—A.W.

Rheumatic conditions are often the result of an excess of uric acid in the body. Two of the ingredients of Kruschen Salts have the power of dissolving uric acid crystals. Other ingredients assist Nature to expel the dissolved crystals through the natural channels.

During the last war continued to improve as the time passed. This particular study was made about a year ago, by an eminent financial writer on the Financial Post of Toronto.

This brings us to the optimistic note that we like to sound in reviewing our own peculiarly fortunate position in the centre of a group of well-established gold producers. Will we fold up our tents like the Arabs and steal away? Certainly not, with work for men to accomplish, that provides our nation and our empire with the gold to strengthen their credit, which in the final analysis brings up the old story that "money talks in any language."

Serving as almost the only single source of new wealth in the empire, the gold producers find themselves in that peculiar position of always doing business. The history of the Timmins and Porcupine camps verify this observation and there are enough people living in this section who have gone through that interesting chapter in North Country history to verify it. The only set-back that occurred during those hectic days in Timmins was a lack of man power to permit the producers from expanding at the rate indicated by the tonnage uncovered.

Will this area duplicate the Timmins and Porcupine areas or will it follow the Kirkland Lake activity, which was really post-war? That question can only be answered as we review the situation within the same period of time that was so successfully reviewed a few years ago by The Northern News.

The one definite activity in the mining district that is hampered by disturbed international conditions is prospecting. Without the enthusiasm and aid of the public who put up most of the capital for exploration and pioneer prospecting work, there is little encouragement with Mr. John Q. Public watching the war headlines or doing his turn on parade grounds, in answer to the trumpet call of war. Hence most of the prospecting carried on during the war will obviously be done by private groups and individuals, which will of course be controlled by the number of men available to carry on this work.

At this long distance from the seats of the mighty it is difficult to deduce just what will come of all the international intrigue that is stirring the world at it was never stirred before. But this much we have found to be true, the demand for gold has never diminished due to war or other obstacles and with that formula before us we look to the future with a certain

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## First "Telephone" Whist Drive Here

Ladies' Auxiliary of Legion Make Success of Novel Feature.

The first of the novel "telephone whist drives" by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Canadian Legion was held on Monday evening, and was a decided success. Four members of the Auxiliary, Mrs. Hardy, Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Devine and Mrs. Shaw, held whist parties at their homes, and the score from each house was phoned to the headquarters at the Legion hall, where the winners were chosen. There were twenty tables in all, six at Mrs. Hardy's, six at Mrs. Kelly's, five at Mrs. Devine's and three at Mrs. Shaw's. A dainty lunch was served at each home, the lucky winners at whist being ladies.

1st prize, Mrs. McMillan at Mrs. Hardy's, score 170, winning from Mrs. Harris, at Mrs. Hardy's with the same score, on a cut; 2nd prize, won by Mrs. Harris; 3rd prize, Mrs. Harwood at Mrs. Devine's, score 169, winning on a cut from Mrs. Matson at Mrs. Kelly's, who had the same score; men's 1st prize, Mr. Pennington, at Mrs. Devine's, score 173; 2nd prize, Mrs. J. B. Price (playing as a man) at Mrs. Kelly's, score 171; and 3rd prize, Mrs. McGill at Mr. Shaw's, score 169.

On Tuesday afternoon the Ladies' Auxiliary held their regular sewing club meeting in the Legion hall, several members being present at the meeting.

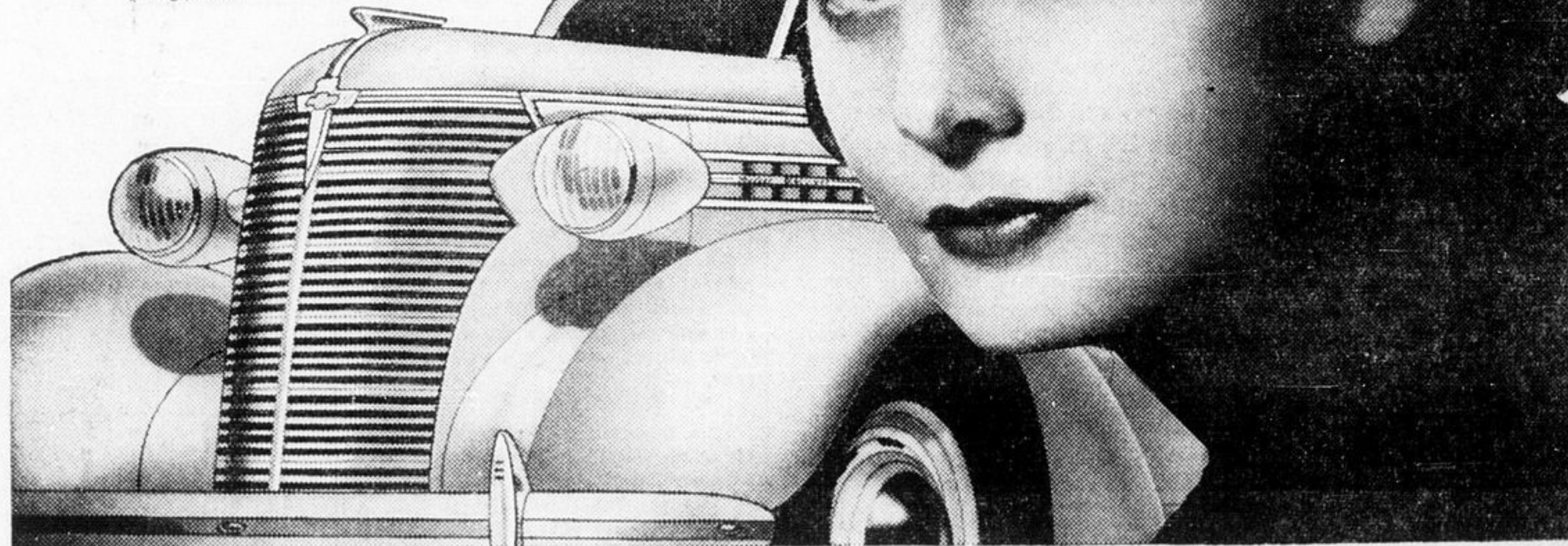
On Monday, March 23rd, the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Canadian Legion will hold a social evening in the Legion hall for members and their husbands and friends, and for members of the Legion and their wives and friends.

Glebe and Mail—It must be admitted that mining shares behaved very badly during the visit here of delegates to the convention of the Canadian Mining and Metallurgical Institute.

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