

# The Ontario Legislature Week Ending March 5

The Legislature sat until after midnight, Thursday, and thereby cleaned up the list of speakers in the Budget Debate, with exception only of the three party leaders, who will wind it up on Tuesday, commencing with W. E. N. Sinclair. The Prime Minister will conclude the discussion of the budget, in accordance with a common practice in recent years, and the way will then be clear for the Liquor Control Bill. No official intimation as to the details of the latter has been given out during the week, and consequently such comment as came forth in the budget debate was necessarily rather general. Rev. A. G. Calder, Conservative member for West Kent reminded the Opposition that the Cabinet was fully seized of its responsibilities in seeking to achieve a solution of the problem before the province, and he expressed a hope that gentlemen on the other side of the House would be big enough, when the bill came down, to appreciate the fact that such solution had at last been attained.

An Opposition so numerically small as the combined Liberal and Progressive groups in this House might be excused for being apprehensive that their suggestions as to legislation would not be entertained. An incident of the week, however, served to make clear that the government has no intention whatever of using "seam-roller" methods. On Monday, P. W. Pearson, (Lib., North York), in debate on a government bill to amend the Wages Act, proposed a change, but said, "I suppose it is no use to kick on this matter." The Prime Minister at once challenged the statement; the views of the Opposition were heard at length, and the outcome was an alteration in the proposed exemption for purposes of garnishment. An amendment to the Marriage Act was similarly changed by the government on the same day, in deference to a suggestion from the Progressive group. The government has no idea of taking the ground that all its bills are perfect, and is quite willing to hear representations from any quarter. In the words of the Premier to the House: "That is what we are here for."

Answering a question on the order paper in the name of Mr. Raney, the Prime Minister on Tuesday gave figures as to bonuses paid for extension of rural hydro. They show incidentally that no money was actually paid by the Drury Government. Following are the totals up to October of each year: 1923, \$425,000; 1924, \$769,422; 1925, \$98,978; 1926, \$520,601; authorized for present year \$275,308. Total authorized by orders-in-council \$2,457,597.11.

Hon. James Lyons, former Minister of Lands and Forests, contributed to the budget debate an address which was noteworthy for its grasp of administration and development in Northern Ontario. In comment on the record of the previous administration, the member for South St. Marie told the House that the Drury Government, just prior to the 1923 election cancelled fire rates amounting to \$45,000, due from the Great Lake Paper Company on the Pie, Black Sturgeon and Long Lac limits. On the Ferguson Government's tax reductions, he said: "The government has reduced the income tax so that there will be a saving to the people of approximately \$1,000,000; reduction of amusement tax means approximately \$200,000 and will affect 60 per cent of the patrons of amusement houses. There has been an elimination of the billiard and bowling alley tax, approximately \$100,000, and a reduction of \$5.00 in the motor license fee, about \$2,000,000. That is an aggregate saving of \$4,000,000 to the people of Ontario."

On Thursday evening, Hon. Lincoln Goldie, Provincial Secretary, greatly interested the House with an extremely business-like outline of his department's work in connection with Public Institutions. Demands of the service have been gradually increasing, and there is a need for new buildings. One proposal is for a building at Woodstock to take care of 500 epileptics. A building is needed for accommodation of 150 criminal insane, now at Guelph. In the eleven Ontario hospitals last year there were 9,284 patients, and Mr. Goldie pointed out that 1,100 to 1,200 are aged or senile persons whom it would be quite safe to send home, but unfortunately many of them have no home or friends, and there is nothing but for the government to provide for them. The minister forecasted a broadening out in occupational therapy, with a view to keeping inmates of these institutions employed. A class of instructors is now in training by Toronto University. Mr. Goldie also announced that Dr. Ryan, Superintendent at Kingston, had been selected for the post of general superintendent of hospitals.

There will evidently be no increase approved at present in the provincial grant to hospitals. Mr. Goldie's statement on this was as follows: "With regard to public hospitals that receive government aid, we are receiving requests and delegations all the time applying for increases in government aid. I sympathize with them. I was on a hospital board myself and know what they are faced with. Many a hospital director has his name on

the back of some note in the bank. They deserve all they can get, and I would like very much to recommend that the money grants be increased, not only by the government, but also the municipalities. I do not think, however, I would be well advised in making such a recommendation for this year at least. Last fiscal year we paid the general hospitals \$733,000; Sanatoria \$389,000; Refugees \$15,000 and Orphanages \$46,000. With industrial schools, \$71,000, and Children's Aid, \$68,000, we paid in 1926 for charitable purposes \$1,519,000. We will have to go slow, and it is hardly fair to put it on unless the municipalities themselves pay more."

W. G. Weichel, (Con., North Waterloo) proposed during the budget debate that legislation be passed to require the covering of coke. The increasingly popular substitute for anthracite, the member pointed out, absorbs 16 to 20 per cent. water, and yet in many cases dealers pile it in the open. The result is that the poor man pays a considerable sum for moisture in his fuel, when living costs are already high enough.

In the standing committee on agriculture, Friday morning, J. Lockie Wilson, superintendent of agricultural and horticultural societies, presented a review of the work of his branch. A discussion developed regarding horticultural societies, and Mr. Wilson reported that the number in the province is now 289, with 70,000 paid members. One result of this growth is that the provincial grant of \$20,000 has to be spread very thin, and amounts only to 11-2/5 cents on each dollar of expenditure by the societies, and 9 cents of membership. Mr. Wilson said a delegation was coming to see the minister about getting the grant increased. T. J. Mahoney, Wentworth, suggested that the membership fee of \$1 might be increased, but the superintendent pointed out that it is desirable to bring in those who cannot afford to pay more than that amount, and interest them in home and community beautification. William Newman, (N. Victoria), remarked: "It is one of the best dollars' investments in the province. Rather than increasing it, it would be better to charge 50 cents and get more in." Mr. Wilson reported that there are 350 agricultural societies in Ontario, with total membership of 221,000. Their total expenditure for agricultural purposes is \$345,561.

New regulations under the Dairy Products Act have now been issued by the Department of Agriculture, a few of which are quoted here:

"All cream not used for human consumption or for the manufacture of ice cream or confections, which is collected or assembled shall be graded, weighed, sampled, tested for butter fat and paid for according to this Act and regulations.

"All grading, weighing, sampling, testing and paying for cream shall be done at a creamery, except where a permit has been granted by the Director of Dairying, and said Director shall grant such permit only in such circumstances as appear to make it necessary for the equitable carrying out of these regulations, and each permit shall specify where such work shall be performed.

"A first class certificate may be granted to a cheesemaker who has in the previous year manufactured 93 per cent. or over of first grade cheese; who keeps himself and his assistants clean and tidy, his factory and its surroundings in a clean, tidy and sanitary condition who can properly operate the Babcock Test, and who holds a Dairy School diploma, or in lieu thereof has had experience of two years or more as a maker in a cheese factory prior to 1927.

"A second class certificate may be granted to a cheesemaker who has in the previous year manufactured not less than 88 per cent. of first grade cheese, and who keeps himself and his assistants clean and tidy, and his factory and its surroundings in a clean, tidy, sanitary condition."

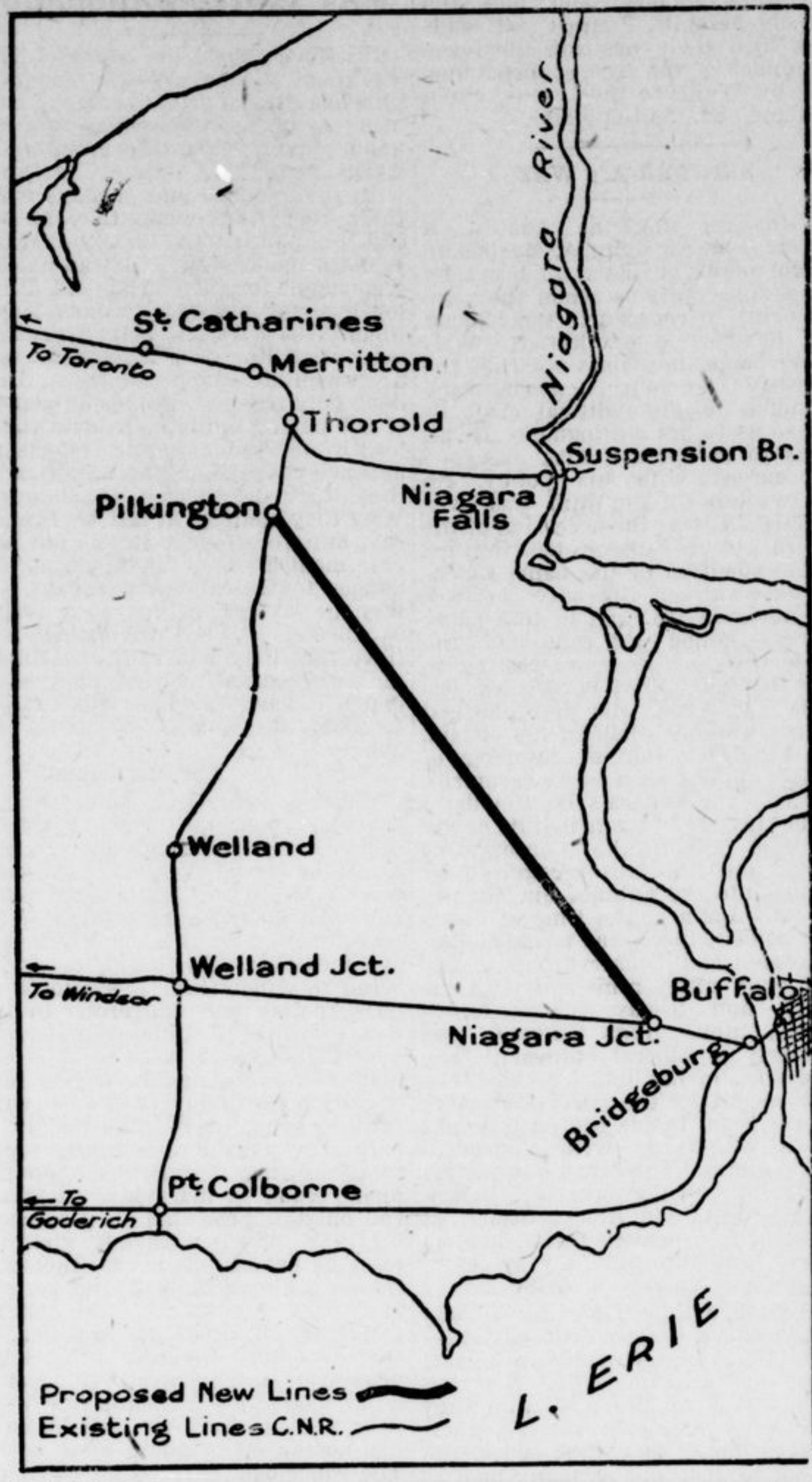
The regulations for granting certificates to butter-makers are worded almost exactly similar.

Further, "A permit may be issued to a maker who is unable to qualify for a certificate, but who in the opinion of the Director of Dairying has had sufficient experience and training to justify him in undertaking to act as a temporary maker. Permits shall not be issued to any person for more than a total of two calendar years."

The township school boards bill is not likely to be called for some time yet. The Premier proposes that all interested shall have due warning, and opportunity to hear the debate. There was a reference this week, however, when an Opposition member was stressing the need, in his opinion, for more practical instruction on agriculture in the public schools, which he thought were educating young people away from the farms. The Prime Minister said: "The idea will be greatly developed by adoption of the township school board, where you will have a larger school and can develop more lines of study. In the little school, your curriculum is crowded. I believe with the larger unit a great deal can be done."

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### BELIEVE MANY NOT LEGALLY IN OFFICE

High School Board of Fergus Is Disqualified—Two Members of Board Visit Education Department.

Not only is the high school board of Fergus disqualified automatically through failure of its members to take the required declaration of office, but in all probability a similar result could be brought about in numerous urban municipalities should anyone wish to take advantage of the statute. This is the opinion generally expressed in regard to the situation in the Wellington town, where supporters of a school site rejected by the board have invoked the law in this connection.

Section 64, Subsection 4 of the Public Schools Act provides that in municipalities where trustees are elected by ballot, which is to say, in urban centres, "such election shall be conducted in the same manner as the municipal nominations and elections of aldermen or councillors, and the provisions of the Municipal Act—including the resignation of persons nominated, vacancies and declarations of qualifications and office, shall mutatis mutandis apply."

Section 244 of the Municipal Act allows 20 days for filing of declaration and provides a scale of money penalties for failure to do so. There is, however, an amendment now before the House which replaces this section by a much shorter one, merely providing that qualified candidates elected to office "shall take the oath of office within 20 days, or in default thereof shall be deemed

to have resigned."

The case of the Fergus school board was put before department Solicitor Paul of the Department of Education last Wednesday by M. D. Dick, chairman, and O. B. Brown, member of the board. Thursday the opposite side of the case—that of Fergus citizens seeking to unseat the six members—will be placed before Premier Ferguson, in his capacity of minister of education.

If the board were declared illegally constituted and a new election ordered, it would affect about 90 per cent. of the school boards in the province, law officers in the department claim.

"We never pay any attention to that phase of the boards. The taking of the oath of office is up to them alone," said Solicitor Paul. "We don't know what municipalities have complied with the law and which ones haven't."

The solicitors today told Messrs. Dick and Brown that in his opinion the teachers under the Fergus school board could get their checks if application were made to the county judge for an order empowering the remaining seven members of the board to sign the checks.

The disqualified members will not resign, Mr. Brown said in an interview.

Sustaining His Dignity  
A theatre manager once said to Mansfield, "I'll see you after the show." "After the show," repeated the actor with chilling dignity, "are you acrobats?" "After the performance," corrected the other hastily, "The performance! Are we seals?" "Sorry," apologized the crushed manager, "I'll see you after the play, sir." "I shall be pleased to see you then," answered Mansfield.

Read the Classified Ads. on Page 7

## Shetland Pony Contest

The Pony Contest has still ten weeks to run— plenty of time to enter the race and be a winner. While the contest is on we will give you some wonderful Bargains:

- Specials For This Week
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 16 oz. bottle Olives ..... 39c.           | 1 lb. tins Pork & Beans, 13 tins ..... \$1.00 |
| Raspberries, per tin ..... 23c.           |   |
| Strawberries, per tin ..... 19c.          | 16 oz. jar Pure Raspberry Jam ..... 19c.      |
| Peach Jam, 16 oz. jar ..... 13c.          | Brunswick Sardines, 4 for 25c.                |
| Grape Jam, 3 tins ..... 25c.              | 2 lbs. bulk Dates ..... 25c.                  |
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### LEADING LADY OF "SPORTING LIFE" ROSE RAPIDLY

Co-Star of Coming Strand Feature Was Once a Dancer.

One of the most rapid rises from obscurity to screen fame in picture history is that experienced by Marion Nixon, who was an "unknown" two and a half years ago, and is now one of the most popular of the younger actresses of pictures. Miss Nixon started with leads in "shooting gallery" westerns and serials, but even in these roles, attracted so much attention with her striking beauty and capable performances that she was gradually considered for bigger parts.

Her first feature role came in "I'll Show You the Town" in which she played opposite Reginald Denry and demonstrated her ability as a comedienne. The Universal company was so pleased with her work that she was given a long-term contract, and the biggest role of her career simultaneously. The part is in "Sporting Life," the spectacular Universal-Jewel Maurice Tourneur production, which comes to the Veteran Star theater, Friday and Saturday, March 11-12.

In it, Miss Nixon plays opposite Bert Lytell, and gives a performance praised by critics wherever the picture has been shown.

Before entering the motion picture field, Miss Nixon was a dancer, first in Minneapolis, her home, and later in a vaudeville act.

"Sporting Life" is an adaptation of the famous Drury Lane melodrama so popular some years ago. Besides Miss Nixon and Mr. Lytell the cast includes Cyril Chadwick, Paulette Goddard, Charles Delaney, George Seitzmann, Ena Gregory, Kathleen Clifford, Ted "Kid" Lewis and others.

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### IN MEMORIAM

Keller—In loving memory of our dear mother, Mrs. Adam Keller, who went to be with Jesus three months ago this March 15, 1927.

When for a while we part,  
This thought will soothe our pain,  
That she shall still be joined in heart  
And one day meet again.

We shall meet her some bright morning,  
Resting by the waters fair,  
She is waiting for our coming,  
In the Master's garden there.

Sadly missed by her husband and three children, Mary, Annie and Jacob.

### PRESENTATION AT NO. 10, EGREMONT.

On Friday afternoon last, Feb. 25th, the children of the school held a presentation for Ruby Watson, a school mate, who is leaving with her parents to reside near Holstein. Marion Hamilton presented the pen and Lorne Henderson read the following verses:

We have invited you here today,  
We aren't trying to make a fuss,  
We are pleased to have you play  
An hour or two with us.

At your new school, No. 3  
Well liked by pupils and teacher  
You'll be busy as a bee,  
Work's your special feature.

We are sorry you are leaving,  
But for you perhaps it's best,  
We, your old pals are fearing  
We will miss you with the rest.

Please accept this fountain pen  
Which will encourage concentration,  
From your pals at No. 10,  
With heartfelt appreciation.

After this Ruby made a neat reply in a few well chosen words.

MANY POOR TEAS NOW SOLD  
A lot of very cheap tea has recently been placed on the market. This tea is mostly very inferior in quality.

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