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Durham visited Sunday last at Mr. Wm. Moore's.

Mr and Mrs John Leith and little Bobby spent the week end at London visiting their daughter, Mrs W. Long. Mr and Mrs Habermehl motored to Tilsonburg on Sunday to visit Mr. Habermehl's sister. Mr and Mrs Rutherford Henderson of Guelph visited the latter's mother on Sunday. Mr and Mrs Hetherington, Jean and Joan, spent the week end at Norwich with the former's parents, who have just returned from Florida, where they spent the winter. Mr John Sharpe and son Arthur of Guelph, spent Sunday with Mr. Sharpe's sister, Mrs Coleridge.

The twenty-fifth annual Presbyterian meeting will be held in Holstein Presbyterian church on Tuesday May 9th at 10 a.m. Special speaker is Miss Lillian McArthur. Mr. Vincent Ellis is home after completing his second year at the Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph. Misses Audrey Brown and Elma McGuire of Mount Forest, spent the week end at their respective homes. Messrs. Bill Connell and Lorne Moore were visitors over Sunday with their parents at Harriston and Palmerston.

Rev. R. F. Mercer exchanged pulpits with Rev. Mr. Cluxton of Appleby on Sunday. Mr and Mrs N. McGuire spent Sunday with the latter's father and aunt at Etée Hill.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Long on the arrival of a son on Monday May 1. Mr and Mrs. George Burrows attended the Andrew-Oliver wedding near Shelburne on Wednesday of last week.

DRAMORE

Miss Laura Henderson of Guelph is holidaying with her parents Mr and Mrs Alex Henderson at present. This community extends sympathy to Mr and Mrs R. Taylor owing to the recent death of their sister, Miss Mary Taylor.

The Women Missionary Society and the Mission Band will meet on Saturday of this week at the home of Miss Florence Clark.

Amos Sunday School will open on Sunday, May 7th at ten o'clock a.m. and all young people of this community are cordially invited to attend.

The roads have all dried up and the cars are travelling full speed again on them and seven cream trucks travelled along the 15th in search for cream. Some one has not to nav for all those truckers gathering cream and eggs.

Mr and Mrs Joe McNaulty and William Brown spent the weekend with friends near Grand Valley.

The Ladies Aid will hold a pancake social in the basement of Amos church and Rev. Mr Kaye will give a talk on some of his experiences on on Friday of this week.

NORTH EGREMONT

A miscellaneous shower is being tendered Mr and Mrs Ray Adams this Wednesday night.

Mr James Whitmore was operated on for goitre last week in Markdale Hospital, and is doing nicely we are pleased to state.

Mr and Mrs Wm. Macdonald of

Again we would extend our sympathy to the family of the late Mrs. E. Rowe of Durham, to her only sister Mrs Allan Bell and to all other friends and relatives who will mourn her passing.

The deceased was of a kindly nature and a devoted wife and mother, who will be sadly missed in the home.

Mr and Mrs Harold Barber visited on Sunday at the Porter home.

(intended for last week)

A gloom was cast over the community when it was learned that Mrs Wm. Mearns had passed away in Durham hospital after a very brief illness. To know the deceased well was to love her and she will be sorely missed in the home and at Knox where she was a member and an active member of our W.M.S.

Mr Orville Lee is working for Mr Jas Nicholson at present. After considerable phoning around Isaac and Wm. Hooper and Harvey Leith shovelled the snow out of McKenzie's hill on the 1st day of May. So you can look for summer now.

Cecil Eccles agent for Wits Fertilizer Co., Norwich is delivering fertilizer on this line the first of the week.

Mr Wm Morrison with his Massey-Harris tractor, assisted by Gordon Falkingham are busy plowing and discing for the farmers now.

Wilma, Ross and Kenneth Hooper and Geo. Nott have started to school last week.

KNOX CORNER

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was observed at Knox Sunday, with preparatory service on Thursday eve. Our pastor gave his message from the words "Stood beholding", Luke 23: 35 There were three classes who stood beholding Jesus on the cross: there were those who were indifferent, those who were His bitter enemies and again those were His friends who loved Him. We find these three classes still in the world today. To which class do we belong? Jesus instituted the communion service shortly before His death and said to His disciples "Do this in remembrance of Me." If we neglect it, are we not disobedient to His command? There was a fair attendance of the congregation and most of the members of the choir were present.

It was announced that the Sunday School would re-open on Sunday May 7th. Mr J. M. Marshall is Supt. and Rev. Mr Kaye will be the bible class teacher.

Miss Vera Morrison of Egremont is visiting this week with her aunt, Mrs Wm. Marshall.

Mr and Mrs Dave Robertson, Markdale, visited on Sunday with Mr and Mrs James Petty.

Mrs. Marshall and Mrs. McAlister were in Harriston on Thursday of last week attending a special meeting of the W.M.S.

Miss Jennings spent Sunday at our home.

Mr and Mrs Andrew Marshall visited on Sunday with Mr and Mrs Arthur Leith near Preeceville.

Mrs Bauer and Mrs Pollock visited recently with Mrs Andrew Picken. Our sympathy is extended to the family, the brothers, and to all who will mourn the passing of the late Mr Wilfrid Watson, who died at his home in Toronto on Tuesday of last week. The deceased was born and up to young manhood here, attended public school at No. 1, and S.S. at Knox and often visited at the old home.

Recent visitors with Mr and Mrs Wm. Marshall were Mr and Mrs Wm Knisley and family, and Mr and Mrs Arthur Mountain and children.

Rev. Mr Kaye has been visiting the sick folks in the neighborhood. His first visits were made on foot, owing to the bad roads.

'If People Won't Spend, Government Must'

MISS MACPHAIL'S WEEKLY LETTER

Spring has come. That's by far the most important thing. If we weren't so civilized, we would quit working to enjoy the sun, just as we do when a loved and long-absent friend returns. But, no! We go about our various tasks, hurried and harassed with the stress of life. It's all wrong somehow. We, the M.P.'s (who waste the taxpayers' money talking, a la McCullagh!), had a busy week, shut carefully away from the sun in a most luxurious prison.

The budget came down. The Minister of Defence introduced his estimates in a two-and-a-half hour speech. Shark loan companies were brought to bay by legislation. Cheese was bonused. Youth training projects to the extent of a million and a half annually arranged for. And one of the best speeches I have ever heard in the Commons was made by Maxime Raymond, an aristocratic French-Canadian, on the inequity of highly protected industries maltreating their employees.

The budget speech is a highlight, possibly the highlight, of a session. But this year, when few tariff changes were anticipated, because of the three-way trade agreement between Canada, Great Britain and the United States, less so. And, with the great social burdens to be carried, much reduction in taxation was unlikely.

The interest of the members centred, then, on the Hon. Chas. Dunning, as everyone knows, suffered a breakdown in health last summer. The preparing of the budget and the delivering of it require tremendous energy, and there was some anxiety lest it prove too great a strain. There need not have been. It was excellently done. Mr. Dunning is a distinguished man, who stands high in the regard of his colleagues. He is extremely able, hard working and his integrity is beyond question. But he is conservative in his outlook and he brought down a conservative budget.

The one surprise was encouragement held out to industry to make capital expenditures by way of entering plants, installing new machinery and equipment, and, generally, branching out. The encouragement takes the form of reduction in income tax equal in amount to ten per cent of the cost of the expansion. (If that doesn't beat you, when we now have plant and equipment sufficient to "plum the market" consumers with money to buy is what we need.)

Tax exemption on new mining enterprises is continued. The eight per cent sales tax on consumptive goods is retained. And the statement made that a more rapid expansion of Canada's money policy would be futile or even dangerous. Radio parts have been put on the free list. The three per cent excise tax has been removed on goods coming from the United States and all other favored nations. After consultation with the British government, the budget anticipated a tax on vegetable oils: this, in an endeavor to increase the use of animal fats.

The deficit for the year is given at \$30,000,000, with the expectation of a further 25 million to be added. The exact amount, however, is not known until last year's wheat crop is sold. Mr. Dunning enunciated a great truth, which is not yet generally realized. It is: "If the people as a whole and business in particular will not spend, the government must. It is not a matter of choice but a sheer social necessity. The alternative is a greater burden of relief and greater dangers from deflationary sources. We dare not we cannot contract our expenditures until our industries and our people generally are spending more freely."

The day that the Hon. Ian Mackenzie made his speech on national defence. I was preparing my script for the C.B.C. broadcast over a national hook-up, on "Education in Rural Life" and is perfectly amazing, the amount of time one can spend on a twelve minute radio address. I did the script twice. After the first one I had an audition at the C.B.O. studios, which was heard by H. H. Hannam, G. C. Coote and Robert Anderson, the expert in charge. They laughed so much at my stilted language and I was so provoked and amused at myself, that I reconstructed the whole business, and so missed the Hon. Ian's address.

The defence vote is raised from 35 million last year to 65 millions this year, and particular stress was laid on the air arm of defence. It was stated that there are 210 planes now while 109 to be delivered soon. Many of these are used only for training. Pilots for the Royal Air Force of Great Britain will receive training in

Canada, particularly at Camp Borden and Trenton. In addition there will be a greatly expanded training scheme for Canadian forces. This last involves the creation of a new class of short term service officers. The speech was largely a review of what has been done.

The Small Loans Act, which passed the Commons the other night, provides that on any sum up to \$500.00 loaned without collateral, it is a criminal offence for a loan company to charge more than two per cent a month, this to cover all expenses in connection with the loan—interest, solicitors' fees, search, disbursements, travelling expenses, everything.

The Hon. Mr. Uisley, who piloted the Bill, said that the fullest powers of inspection were being given the Superintendent of Insurance, Mr. Finlayson, to inspect not only the licensees under this measure but also the unlicensed money lenders, and also that the Bill was not necessarily final but was something to work under; if there were abuses, they would be corrected in future.

Mr. Walter Tucker, well known for his advanced ideas on money, had always opposed the Bill, but said now that he thought it better to set some legislation which would prevent the loan sharks charging exorbitant profits, running to a hundred and even a thousand per cent, rather than hold out for ideal legislation. However he favored co-operative credit unions rather than loan companies and revised the work in Quebec, Nova Scotia and the United States in this regard, and urged that the Canadian government give serious consideration to setting up a federal credit union law for this country.

An amendment was moved by Angus MacNeil, C.C.F., Vancouver, that the charges be reduced to one per cent per month, which was defeated.

It is seldom that all the members in the House of Commons pay rapt attention to a whole speech but this unusual tribute was paid Mr. Maxime Raymond, Liberal member for Beauharnois—Lac Beauport, as with earnestness, logic and eloquence he spoke in favor of employees in highly protected industries sharing the benefits conferred by tariffs. He drew his illustrations entirely from Dominion Textiles and Montreal Cottons, the latter being situated in his own riding, at Valleyfield, Quebec.

Montreal Cottons, in 1880, started with a capital of \$385,000 and the first year paid a dividend of eleven per cent to the shareholders, and, between then and 1911, they continued to pay on both actual and watered stock, dividends ranging from six to twenty per cent. In spite of that, the profits accumulated so fast that by 1911, the capital had swelled to \$2,000,000 and a stock bonus of accumulated profits of \$3,000,000 was divided among the shareholders. Since that time, the company continued to pay dividends on a capital of \$6,000,000, although the total investment is less than \$3,000,000.

All this time the City of Valleyfield has given the company tax exemption and a bonus.

Mr. Raymond said: "What was the share of the workers compared with that received by the shareholders, who benefitted by tariff advantages granted by Parliament to the textile industry? The workers were treated like slaves. The average annual wage does not exceed \$300. In Valleyfield, where the mill is located, the worker is constantly made to feel that he owes his very existence to the company. Alas, what an existence! The man who sweats in the mill from six o'clock at night until seven o'clock the next morning for a measly pay of \$1.08, upon which he has to support four children besides his wife, does not live; he barely keeps body and soul together. . . . I have conclusive evidence to show that the wages for two weeks' work range from six dollars to twenty dollars. When the workers go to get their meagre wages twice a month, they are kept for hours in the rain or in the cold, in a yard without any shelter, and the pay is handed to them in the form of a small ticket, about the size of a postage stamp, on which appears the amount paid and the date of payment. They do not know whether they are paid by the hour or by the piece. . . . A man worked six years and never received more than \$12.00 for two weeks' work—eight children—health suffered—result of untold poverty. That is the worker's share."

Trade unions are spied upon and workers are ever increasingly lessened by the installation of machinery. And always the two companies cited ask for more protection.

In the case of the Dominion Textiles Company, the president had himself voted a bonus of \$35,000, while he was receiving an annual salary of \$20,000, but during all this time he was having starvation wages paid to his workers. Mr. Raymond said

and concluded: "Drastic legislation is imperative to curb the activities of those ogres of finance and industry who, with the cynicism of gangsters, profit by the misery of thousands of workers. Parliament is supreme. Within its jurisdiction it has the power and duty to act. If Parliament does not take drastic steps, it will become the accomplice of this exploitation."

So happy to have met the Weekly Newspaper editors and their wives at the Chateau this week. Congratulations to the Dundalk Herald, winning first place in job printing competition and second in Clark Memorial trophy. Anne Anderson Perry, editor of the Elora Express, spoke of the culture in the villages and of the countryside in the early days and of her joy in returning to the task of her father, in the beautiful village of Elora.

Agnes C. Macphail
Ottawa, Saturday, April 29, 1939.

THE LOBSTER CATCH

There is a fine old story about an Irishman who was asked if he could play the fiddle. His reply was that he didn't know because he had never tried.

That old story can be twisted around a bit to say that the only persons who don't know that they like lobsters are those who have never tasted it. What a toothsome morsel it is!

As we have told you before, the lobster fisheries of the Canadian Maritimes are the biggest in the world and many people in countries beyond the seas would have to go without that delicacy were it not for the great Canadian production.

However, the point of today's story is not so much lobster as a delicious food but rather a commodity upon which fishermen make a living for their families and how the markets affect them. More people know about the effect of a low price for wheat than for lobster. Mark this, then.

The catch in the first six months of last year was 27 millions pounds, which was over 800,000 more than in the same period of 1937. Yet the fishermen get less for their take. In 1937 the average price they got was \$12 per cwt., and in 1938 only \$9.

It is a low price at the best, but when it goes down 25 per cent, the song must be dule in the cottages by the sea.



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