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News From QUEEN'S PARK

(By Agnes Macphail)

This week has been productive of a couple of rows, the voting of \$8,000,000 as a supplement to last year's budget and some constructive speeches. The Liberals kicked up a great fuss because the government acted on the suggestion of Ted Jolliffe, made a year ago, that the first instalment of school grants be set early enough in the year that the school boards wouldn't need to

borrow from the banks to finance their operations. Of course, I couldn't say that it was because Mr. Jolliffe suggested it that Mr. Drew brought forward the eight million dollars of school grants. But Mr. Jolliffe did suggest it and Drew did bring forward money to the amount of \$8,000,000.

Therefore, we, the CCF official opposition supported the government. And the Liberals and Labour Progressive voted solidly against it. I can't see why.

Premier Drew announced to the House that he would consider the

vote on early payment on part of school grants as a vote of confidence in the government, but this was disputed by opposition Leader Jolliffe. The CCF had no confidence in the Government, Mr. Jolliffe said and were prepared to defeat them on any question of principle, but would not vote against paying school grants early in the year, which school boards all over Ontario needed and were entitled to receive.

The real fire works arose over charges made by Liberal leader Hepburn against highways minister George Ducette. Mr. Hepburn charged that the Minister had arranged for some two million dollars worth of gasoline tax collector's bonds to be handled through one company with which Mr. Ducette himself had been connected. When the minister denied the charge as he categorically did Mitch produced a letter sent to one collector stating that such arrangement had been made. Mr. Ducette replied that Hepburn had been trying very hard to get special privileges for the collector in question (a Mr. McManus of Port Stanley), and had only brought the matter up because those privileges had been refused.

But Hepburn says that the Minister has persecuted McManus and all because he revealed the unethical conduct of the minister. The debate spread over two days with these charges of improper practice hurled from both sides. It ended by referring the matter to the Public Accounts Committee where, I dare say the fight will be resumed.

I made a speech on the "Address in reply" as did many other members. Mine happened to come at a very bad time—the last speech before eleven o'clock at night. I suggested that the Legislature should sit for three months instead of 6 weeks and charged that the serious business of the House is rushed through without adequate consideration. (Sixty bills and the budget with its hundreds of items are still to be considered and if the traditional thing is done the House will close on March 29th.)

When life was simpler six weeks might have been enough. It certainly isn't now. I pointed out, too, that the conditions in the stock yards last fall were very poor, that the hold over reaching gigantic proportions on one occasion being as many as six thousand head. And these cattle were kept sometimes for days at the farmer's expense, and he had to take the loss in the shrinkage and in deaths from shipping fever.

Mr. C. H. Millard has just returned from Europe and was able to give a very interesting speech in the Legislature. He said that he was within seven miles of the front

lines and visited with thousands of men and their officers. He emphasized the fact that the men and officers were doing a magnificent job and their whole attention was on getting the job finished and getting back home. He found them out of touch with Canadian events and hungry for news of the home communities.

He urged that they be sent the weekly paper from their home town and also that all major parties publish their federal election programs in one document which could be sent to every member of the forces, so that they could be well informed on the issues when they got an opportunity to vote.

Thomas Duff (Lib., Bruce) and Wm. Riggs (CCF Windsor-Walkerville) both urged the development of more industries based on the use of farm products. Mr. Duff urged lowering hydro rates to encourage such industries in rural areas. Mr. Riggs pointed out that such industries would provide both jobs for labour and markets after the war.

Dr. Vivian, the Minister of Health, outlined the government's health program. He said, "No one with any knowledge of the subject is satisfied with health services as they are at present", but he believed the government was trying to remedy them as fast as it could.

ONTARIO LEADS IN HOG QUALITY

Ontario leads the whole Dominion in the quality of its bacon hogs and comes second only to Alberta in the quantity of its production, according to a comprehensive survey of the 1944 production and marketings prepared by W. P. Watson, assistant director of the Live Stock Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture. The survey shows that 36.5 per cent of hogs produced in Ontario graded "A," compared with a Dominion average of 28.3 per cent "A" hogs. Ontario also had 46.4 per cent grading B1, as compared with the Dominion average of 44.7 per cent. In the two top grades, Ontario had 82.9 per cent of its total hogs, while for the whole Dominion the average was 73 per cent in the two top grades.

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CLOCKS MUST REMAIN ON DAYLIGHT-SAVING

Petition of the Toronto and Oshawa city councils, along with many other governmental and farm groups, to have Canada revert to standard time, has been turned down by the Dominion Government on the grounds that such action at this time is not justified.

"The government feels that we are at a very crucial stage in the war and that if the adoption of daylight saving time was justified—and we believe it was—in February, 1942, the requirements for its adoption would apply today with equal or even greater force," said Hon. Norman McLarty, secretary of state, in an announcement. "It is not the intention of the government to maintain it any longer than the necessities of war demand."

"In Ontario they are now short on peak power and the abolition of daylight saving time would increase this shortage anywhere from 60,000 to 70,000 horsepower," he continued. "Dislocation of the freight movements between Canada and U.S. which would have a retarding effect on our war effort" and confusion to the travelling public would be two other adverse conditions arising from a change.

"The movement of passenger and freight traffic between Canada and the U.S. is much greater than at any time in our history, and if in normal times a dual time system causes difficulty and confusion, that difficulty and confusion would be seriously aggravated when, as at present, traffic is at its peak load," the secretary of state said.

BILL WOULD BAN LIPSTICK USE IN TENNESSEE

From his winter home in Florida, Dr. Thos. Mitchell sends us the following clipping taken from the Tampa newspaper, and with which Dr. Mitchell says many men will be in sympathy though not for the same reason as given in the article which reads:

"Sen. Brooks introduced a bill in the senate of the Tennessee general assembly today making it unlawful for any person to use lipstick in Tennessee and providing that such use should be a felony punishable by imprisonment for from one to 10 years in the penitentiary and a fine of up to \$10,000.

The bill, passed automatically on first reading, stated that "the married men of Tennessee are being condemned by their wives whenever they come home with lipstick on their collars and shirts," and that "divorces are flourishing because of the evils of the use of lipstick."

Mr. Joe Mertens killed a ground hog on his farm west of town last week. The poor old fellow was so skinny and weak that he couldn't run fast enough to reach safety.

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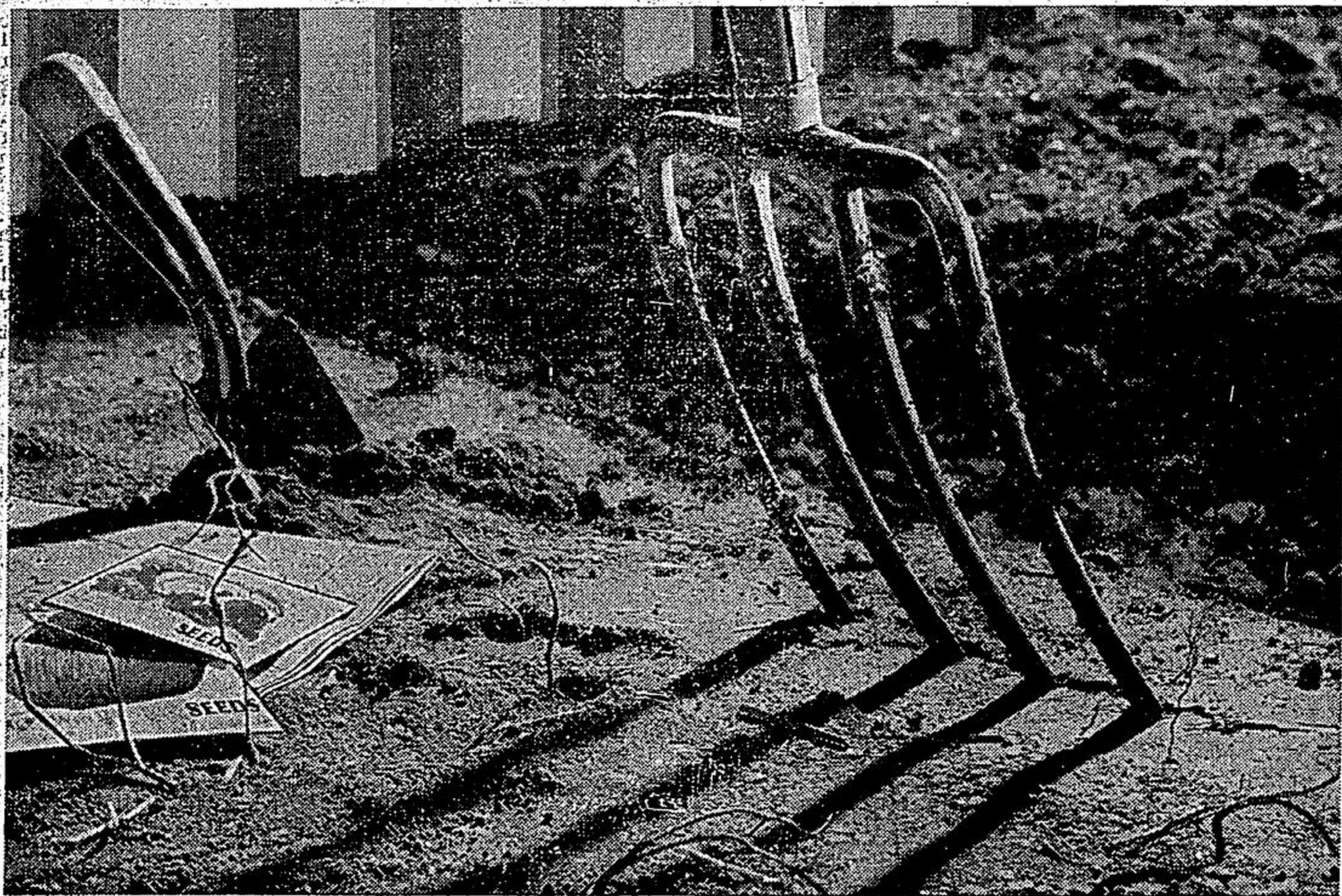
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THE CANADIAN WAY OF LIFE



Down to Earth...

GARDENING for the fun of it—week-end trips in the old family jalopy—lazy days fishing by the river—these things still stand for a pleasant way of life—a way of life our men overseas are fighting for today! They won't be able to come back to these simple things, unless we get "down to earth" in our thinking, and make sure when they do come back, their dollar will be worth a dollar!

To protect that dollar, we must realize now, the dangers of careless, unnecessary buying! We must buy only what we need—never buy two where one will do! We must not evade rationing or price control, or deal in black markets. If we break these rules, our country—the country our soldiers are fighting for—will start on that spiral of prices known as inflation.

And inflation affects everyone...

wage-earner, pensioner, small-business owner, returned soldier! That's why it's important to take a stand against it now. If inflation starts in this country, this is what will happen. Prices will rise. Wages will try to follow along—and will never quite catch up! Soon your dollar—your soldier's dollar—may buy only 25% of the things it used to! That is what has happened in many of the countries of the world today, and that is why normal living for anyone is impossible in those countries!

So let's make sure our soldier's dollar, when he gets back, will be worth a full dollar. We cannot give back to him his lost years or lost youth. But if we keep up the fight against inflation, the man who is overseas can look forward to pleasant, satisfying living... to the Canadian way of life!

Make this Pledge Today!

I pledge myself to do my part in fighting inflation!

By observing rationing and avoiding black markets in any shape or form.

By respecting price controls and other anti-inflation measures, and refraining from careless and unnecessary buying. I will not buy two where one will do, nor will I buy a "new" where an "old" will do.

By buying Victory Bonds and War Savings Stamps, supporting taxation, and abiding by all such measures which will lower the cost of living and help keep prices at a normal level.

