

MAY BE GOVERNED BY BOY PARLIAMENT

(By Lewis Milligan)
The Government of Saskatchewan has lowered the voting age for provincial and municipal elections from 21 to 18, and the age qualification for mayor and city or town councillors has been reduced accordingly. Obviously this enfranchisement of teen-aged youths and girls will benefit the government that granted it. But is it wise from a long-range and national point of view?

One of the most plausible arguments put forward in favor of the above during the war was that if a youth of 18 is able to fight for his country, he is surely qualified to vote. But ability to shoot a gun is no more a qualification for the franchise than the ability to shoot a goal in hockey. No doubt there are many young people of 18 who are better qualified to vote intelligently than some adults of 50; but taken as a whole, 18-year-olds naturally lack maturity, experience and balanced judgment. Granting that there are many adults whose mental age is not above 17 or 18, that is no reason why we should add so enormously to their number on the voters lists.

Would we be willing to give youths and girls of 18 a vote on a business board or appoint them as directors or presidents of an industrial corporation? Is a city councillor's or a mayor's position of less importance? Of course, there are infant prodigies in music, in mathematics, in chess playing, and there are boy-preachers; but even their talents along those lines would not necessarily qualify them for voting on public issues, much less for holding positions of public trust.

With most young people, the age of 18 is a period of indecision and frequently of irresponsibility. They are attracted by novelties, and by plausible arguments and appeals to their vanity or cupidity. We have all passed through that stage. We were inclined to regard our elders as old-fashioned and out-of-date in their ideas. We knew a great deal more than our parents, and when we came of age we were like the young man who remarked: "It's amazing what the Old Man has learned in the last few years."

But the worst feature of this attempt to regiment youth for revolutionary politics is that it is an imitation of the Nazi youth movement in Germany. The Nazi knew what they were doing when they organized the Hitler Youth. It is very doubtful if Hitler and his political gangsters would have gained power so rapidly if they had depended solely for support on the adult population. Their strategy was to undermine the prestige of the parents by perverting the minds of children and young people and bending their pliable wills to fanatic obedience to a political party.

We have already universal manhood franchise in Canada, and the right to vote on public issues should remain restricted to the status of manhood. That status is reached at the age of 21, which is generally regarded as the "age of discretion," and for which the teenage is a period of preparation. If we are going to reduce the voting age to 18, why not to 16? It would make little or no difference. We would have another million voters, and everyone of them would use the vote, merely because of the novelty of the thing. They would also naturally vote for candidates of their own age—and then what a political mess we would be in! We might wake up some morning and find that we were being governed by a Boy Parliament.

SLOW GOING LINDSAY—HALIBURTON TRAIN

Perhaps Stouffville people fail to properly appreciate the splendid coach and rail service between here and Toronto where we can take either mode of travel and reach the city 30 miles away handily in one hour.

Complaining about the train service in Haliburton county a traveler declared that last week the local "Rocket" which creeps over the rails between Lindsay and Haliburton established a record, leaving Lindsay at 12.15 noon to arrive at Haliburton at 6.15, making the 56 mile run in six hours flat, or slightly better than nine miles per hour.

After all up in that neck of the woods one should have a little more time to enjoy the scenery of the delightful countryside, and probably the folks who live there are making a mistake in lodging any complaint about the time allowed to look things over while traveling. This world is becoming time crazy, going faster and faster, yet no time in which to enjoy life.

HAILED HER DOWN—WORSE STILL TO HAUL HER UP

A resident of Kinmount in Haliburton county was placed on suspended sentence on a charge of mistreating his wife. Evidence swore that he had pulled her down the hill by the hair of the head, and kicked her. Only one thing we think a cowardly man could do that would be more offensive than to pull her down the hill by the hair of the head, and that would be to haul her up the hill by the same propelling contact.

WOULD BELL SHEEP SIGNAL WOLVES NEAR

So many sheep have been killed by wolves in the township of Fennelon that Reeve W. Worsley has advised farmers to bell their sheep. At a meeting of the council it was discovered that of the sheep "belled" none had been killed. The trouble is to find enough bells. The cost of bonuses to farmers for loss of sheep killed by dogs has totalled over \$500 in one year. "Perhaps we had better bell the dogs instead," added one councillor.

QUEEN OF THE MAY



Miss Lois Brown, right of Owen Sound, Ont., was crowned May Queen at Stratford, Ont., when Stratford Normal school held its annual celebration and enjoyed the traditional Maypole dance. She is shown with her chief attendant, Miss Olive Lyons of Paisley, Ont., one of the beauties of the court.

ITALY'S NEW KING WITH FAMILY



King Humbert and his wife, Queen Maria-Jose, are seen in one of their latest photographs strolling through the flower-garden on the palace grounds in Rome. Their children are Victor Emmanuel, 9; Beatrice, 2, and Maria Pia, 11.

Junior Farmer Field Day

The Ontario County Junior Farmers are holding a gigantic Field Day at Sunderland, June 8th. The four Ontario County Clubs from Brooklin, Uxbridge, Brock and Brechin are each entering two softball teams a boy's team and a girl's team. The winners of the tournament will be presented with a shield.

GREEN RIVER

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Carter had Sunday dinner with Henry Michell's of Cherrywood.

There passed away suddenly Miss Lydia Fuller at the home of Mrs. A. Treewartha of Markham on Saturday last. Miss Fuller was well known here and had come to Mrs.

Treewartha's for the summer months after spending the winter in Toronto. She was a sister of the late W. A. Fuller. The funeral on Tuesday from Markham with burial in Brunswick Hill cemetery.

A number from here attended the Rodeo at Maple Leaf Gardens last week. Mr. Roy Carter and Mr. Alf. Michell took car loads of school children as well.

Y.P. Class met on Tuesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Gray. They chose as guest speaker, Mrs. B. Reesor of Altona, who is always outstanding for her work among young people. We were delighted to have a number of past members of the class from Stouffville and also Al-

OWN HOME BURNED IS FREED OF ARSON

Handing down judgment after hearing evidence a week ago, Magistrate J. E. Pritchard dismissed a charge of arson against Michael S. West, of Holland Landing in Newmarket court.

West was charged after his home was destroyed by fire on April 12. He told the court he had gone to Bradford, where he had done some drinking, but that he remembered nothing after he had returned home until he woke up in the Newmarket police station after the fire.

It was argued by John Vale, defense counsel, that West could not be charged with arson because it was his own home that was burned, the building was not insured and the owner did not stand to profit by the fire. Arleigh Armstrong, Crown attorney, admitted there was no evidence of intent to defraud, but contended the charge was valid because accused's wife and children had been rendered homeless by the fire.

LATEST SILVER DOLLAR HASN'T ARRIVED HERE

Although the Royal Canadian Mint has started to turn out new Canadian silver dollars on a large scale, they aren't available yet for coin collectors and souvenir hunters.

As a matter of fact, the banker didn't know that a new dollar had been minted. They hadn't seen any but expected that supplies would soon be forthcoming when the mint had sufficient numbers on hand to merit general distribution.

One party recently tried to obtain 25 for a silver wedding gift but even an appeal to Toronto had failed to produce any.

The new silver dollar is reported to have earned the admiration of coin collectors and artists who have seen them. The face of the coin is of standard design bearing the head profile of King George VI and the traditional Latin motto, George VI, by the Grace of God King and Emperor of India.

tona. The next meeting will be held at the home of Hazel Michell on June 4th.

Mrs. W. Duncan is expected to be home soon from Toronto hospital.

Mr. Robert Malcolm is erecting a new home directly opposite the Malcolm homestead.

Y.P. Class have been invited to join with the Whitevale circuit Y.P. for a picnic in Woodland Park on May 24th around 4 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Forsyth, Markham, called on Mrs. R. Dafeo on Sunday.

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Wethey's Peach Jam, 24 oz. jar	.33
Handy Ammonia, pkg.	.05
Clark's Tomato or Vegetable Soup 3-10 oz. tins	.25
Niagara Maid Grape Juice, 16 oz. btl.	.23
Ingersoll Malted Cheese, half lb. pkg.	.19
Kellogg's All Bran, 16 oz. pkg.	.21

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CENTRAL FEED STORE



"The next place I live in is going to have..."

Many an over-expanded household has endured the "bathroom problem", but lack of ADEQUATE ELECTRIC WIRING is a more subtle irritation. Having to move the chesterfield to plug in the vacuum cleaner, for instance, just because the only wall outlet is back there... with all the lamps and the radio hooked up to it. And then there is the new range or water heater, you would like to have if the main wiring would only stand the strain. That is where the real rub comes... when you can't use some new electrical convenience until new wiring is installed for it.

Many homes are not wired for modern demands. As more appliances become available, the use of electricity keeps right on climbing, and makeshift wiring adjustments lead to trouble.

That is why it is so necessary for you to insist on adequate wiring for your home, be it old or new. Hydro rates have been reduced until they are now among the lowest in the world. Enjoy full benefit of low-cost electrical servants by having your home adequately wired. A good electrical contractor knows how to wire adequately, and your local Hydro will gladly give you information.

If you are improving or building a home, ask your Hydro for the booklet, "Adequate Wiring for the Postwar Electric Homes of Canada."

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