

**Ottawa Letter**

(By Jack Smith, M.P.)

Canada's 21st Parliament is now in session, the fanfare and ceremonial is over and the members are hard at work. It is interesting to surmise and speculate on what may occur during the five year lifetime of this Parliament. They are certain to be eventful years in the history of Canada and the world. Every one of Canada's twenty parliaments has had its peculiar problems, and everyone has accomplished something really worthwhile.

Electing 193 members in the June 27th election the government has the largest majority ever accorded a party in the history of Canadian Parliament.

The Commons lacks the feminine touch for the first time since 1921 when Agnes MacPhail was elected as a Progressive. All 15 women candidates in the last election were defeated, including Mrs. Strum who represented Qu'Appelle, Sask., in the last house.

The number of seats is now 262, increased by the redistribution bill making ten new seats and the entry of Newfoundland accounting for seven more.

Business of the House already is away to a good start. There is a very great difference in the atmosphere now as compared to the session earlier this year. Then the air was charged with political lightning and measures and words were weighed with an eye to their influence on public opinion. The election has cleared the air and there is a decided lack of politics in the session so far. The Leader of the Opposition has declared that the people have spoken and as far as he and his party are concerned they will co-operate in the business of government to the fullest possible extent reserving of course the right to criticize when they see fit. This is indeed refreshing and augurs well for a fruitful session.

The twenty-first Parliament is marked by the presence for the first time of representatives of the new province of Newfoundland. They were fittingly welcomed in the Speech from the Throne. By the admission of the new province Canada attained the geographical limits planned by the fathers of Confederation, and some of the main business of the present session will be legislation designed to facilitate the attainment of the constitutional limits of our nationhood. Bills will be introduced making the Supreme Court of Canada the final Court of Appeal, and giving us the right to amend our own constitution without appeal to the British Parliament. The latter has been advocated by leading members of all parties for many years, and for a long time the reference of constitutional changes to the British House has been a mere formality. A conference of provincial representatives will be held with the federal government with the view of agreeing upon an appropriate procedure for future amendments to our constitution as the need may arise. It has been said that this will be known as the "Constitutional session," and the lawyers will have a field day with these proposed changes in the constitution before the House.

The government has lost no time in getting down to business on the housing question and an important announcement of policy was made this week by the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply. It is estimated that 100,000 new housing units will be built in Canada this year, but this will barely meet current needs and hardly touch the back log demand.

The new policy provides for loans that will approximately cut in half the down payments on reasonably priced homes. The new policy has been well received here. A government booklet has been published giving all details of the National Housing Act and telling just how to go about building a home under this plan. I will be pleased to send one to anyone interested.

Monetary matters have been well to the fore in consideration here this week. The devaluation of the pound sterling and the Canadian dollar were steps which will have far reaching repercussions. There are bound to be several short-term complications but in spite of all it is considered a constructive and courageous move which in the long run will be in the best interest of all.

This session will last until early December, and during that time I will be here in Ottawa. I trust that as in the past people of North York will feel very free to write me giving their views on local or national problems, or if I can be of any assistance to them in any way. The address J. E. Smith, M.P., Parliament Buildings, Ottawa. No stamp is required on the envelope.

**FINAL THEFT LOSS SET AT \$300**

Final assessment in the loss of cash by theft over the past weekend from the Thompson store at Kinmount is \$300, states Cpl. Milton of the Provincial Police.

It was reported earlier this week that \$500 in cash was taken and considerable merchandise when the thief or thieves, removed a window sash and entered the store. Entry was effected with tools stolen from the C.N.R. toolshed at Kinmount, which had been broken into previous to the store robbery.

**Fair On Manitoulin Island Was Big Event For Indian Residents**

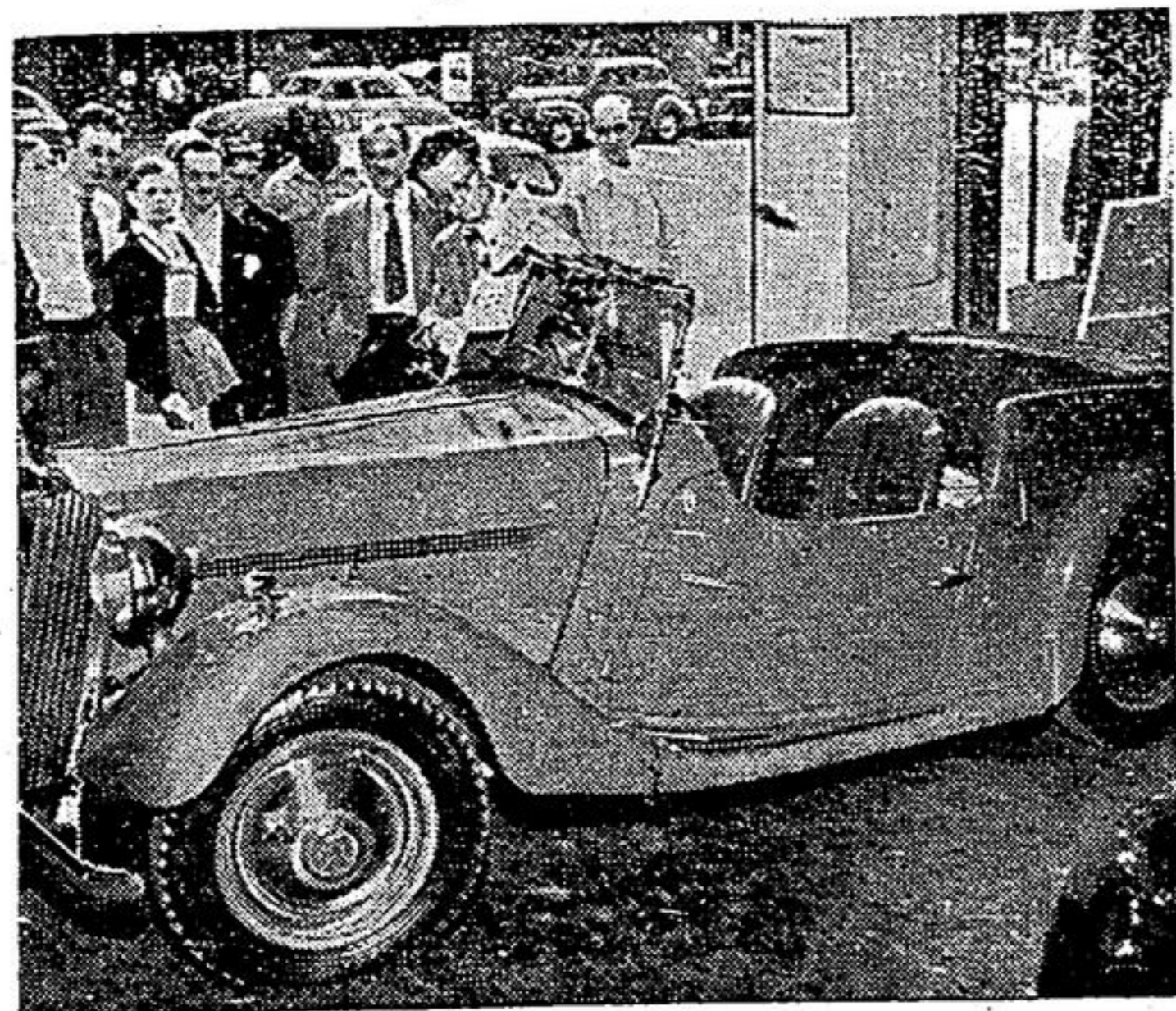


Fall fair held for one day on Manitoulin Island, Ont., was big event for 2,000 Indian residents who either took part in or were just spectators at exhibition. A

whole building was set aside for Indian handicrafts, which included this miniature tepee held by two young Indian girls, Alexandrine Marangowi and Rose-

marie Mishivimbinija. Cooking, basket making, rugs, vegetables and preserves were also exhibited at fair.

**Turmoil Reigns, Price Tags Change**



One of the first concrete reactions to the devaluation of the British pound from \$4.03 to \$2.80 is recorded by the camera here. This snappy British sports roadster drops in price from

\$2,150 to \$1,650—a cut of \$500. All British cars in stock in Canada will likely have a similar price cut. You may see similar cuts in the price of British tweeds and even whiskey.

**Essay Contest Is Announced**

An easy competition is being sponsored by the Provincial Board, Federated Women's Institute of Ontario, between now and October 15, according to announcement by

Miss Anna P. Lewis, director of the Women's Institute Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture.

The essay contest is being put on in co-operation with the Associated Country Women of the World. Essays for the contest will bear the title "The Country Woman's

Day."

"Put yourself on paper—your day's routine" is the advice given rural women in a letter sent out to all W.I. members in Ontario by Miss Lewis.

"Simply describe a typical day in your life. What you do from the time the first rooster crows in the morning until you crawl into bed at night. It may seem humdrum and uninteresting but to the judges it may not," the letter points out.

**Another Month of Daylight Saving**

Daylight Saving Time will continue in Stouffville until the 27th day of November, when standard time will be reverted to. Those who have protested to this newspaper, or some of them, misunderstand the situation when they condemn the action of the Stouffville Village Council in continuing the objectional time.

So far as the press can learn, from the reeve down, there is no love for "fast time" and every member of council reluctantly agreed to extending daylight time because it was felt that to go contrary to the city of Toronto, would make endless confusion and trouble for our neighboring farmers who have protested to this paper.

What it needs is some kind of law to prohibit the big-wigs in Toronto from playing with so important a matter as time. To have gone contrary to the wishes of

**Lindsay Gets First Woman Lawyer**

The firm of Cunningham and Thomson, Lindsay barristers, has added a third partner in the person of Mrs. Thelma Thomson, called to the bar this week. Mrs. Thomson made her first appearance in the local courts last Friday, and received a hearty welcome from Crown Counsel Lorne Jordan and

Magistrate Gee. Mrs. Thomson is a graduate of the Honour Law course at the University of Toronto and received her L. L. B. at the same time as her husband. She was associated with the firm of McMillan, Blinch, Wilkinson, Berry and Wright, the same firm with which Mr. Cunningham studied. Asked if she intended to specialize in any particular type of case, Mrs. Thomson stated that she would probably take any case that came her way. She states that she is looking forward to her first official court appearance with some trepidation, as a lady lawyer is a distinct novelty in Lindsay. She has she says, the feeling that she will be closely watched on that account. Although she has appeared in the Toronto courts on many occasions, this seems to her just a bit different. It may be that Mrs. Thomson will be watched, although not for the reason she thinks. A petite brunette, she was drawing a good many appreciative stares in the courtroom last week, and as she adopted the continuation of fast time, Magistrate Gee put it, "she will add greatly to the charm of the local legal profession."

so many people in extending fast time to the end of November only emphasizes that the government should step in and put a stop to such interference. Standard time is the legal time imposed by law, and it should be protected by law.

The silly argument that it will save hydro is just so much eye-wash. If hydro is saved at all in the evening, and we doubt even this, then it is consumed to greater extent next morning because people arise an hour earlier.

Stouffville council will officially adopt the continuation of fast time at their monthly meeting Thursday night, October 6.

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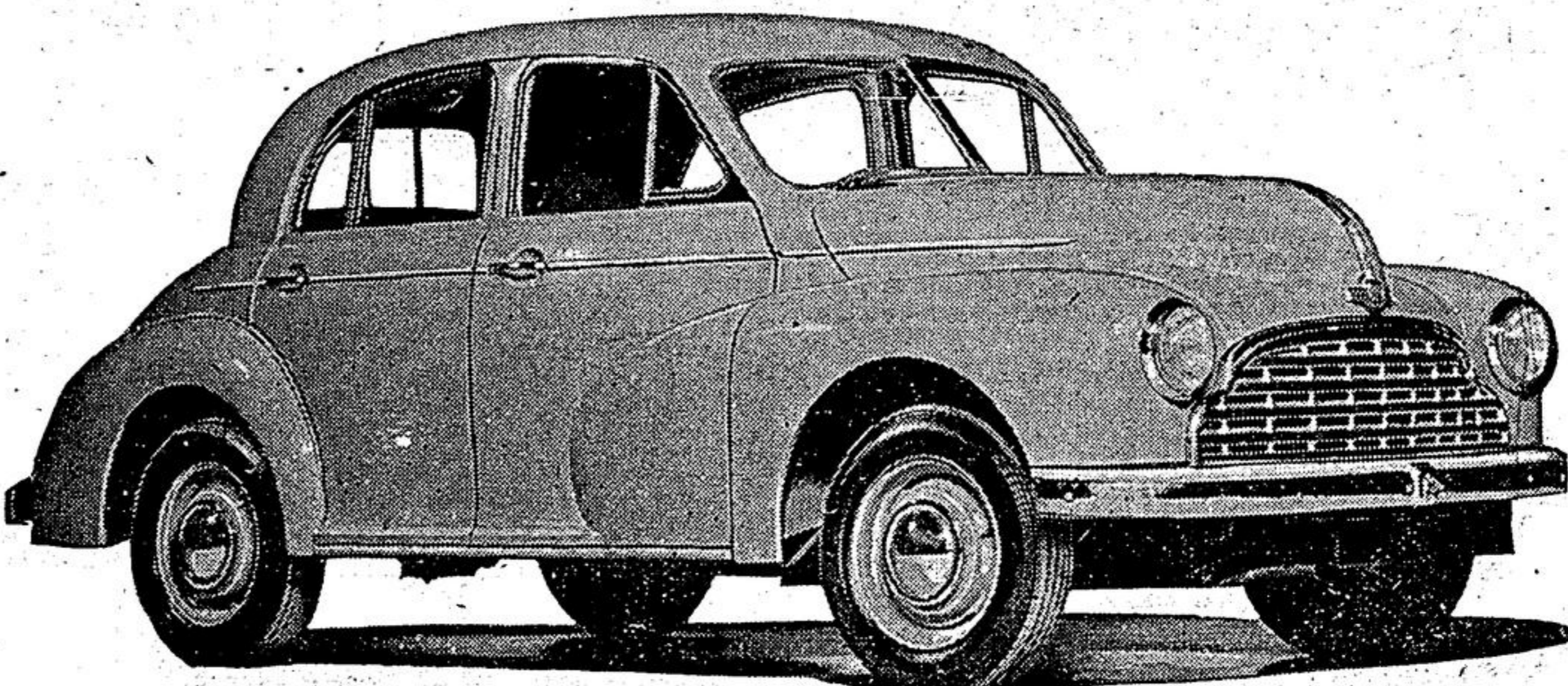
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