

Woman Wins Annual Fish Derby With 16-Lb. Trout



Experienced fishermen took a back seat at the first annual Beaver-ton, Ont., Fish Derby when Mrs. Ross Welsh, centre, submitted her prize-winning 16-pound lake trout. Helping to hold her lengthy catch, are Mrs. William Wright, at the left, and Patricia Scott.

OTTAWA LETTER

(By J. E. Smith, M.P.)

Parliament adjourned Wednesday for an Easter recess until Monday, April 17th. Splendid progress has been made with the sessional program, but there still is a substantial agenda of business which likely will engage the attention of the House until midsummer.

There will be no "Ottawa Letter" for a couple of weeks but during the recess, I look forward to visiting throughout the riding and I hope any constituents who wish to discuss any matter with me will feel very free to get in touch with me at my office in Richmond Hill.

The budget presented by Mr. Abbott while not sensational had proved very thought-provoking. Estimating an expenditure of twenty-four hundred million dollars the Minister held out little hope for smaller budgets, and warned that any increase in social security expenditure would mean higher taxation.

The budget has been labelled a "stand pat" budget and it is just that as far as changes in our tax structure is concerned. In the ab-

sence of striking tax changes, the most interesting parts of Abbott's speech dealt with the forecast of business and employment in Canada for 1950. He said: "my forecast and fiscal program are based on the expectation of sustained high levels of production and employment..." In fact, Mr. Abbott estimated that the "gross national product" (the best index of total national income) will be about one or two per cent higher in 1950 than 1949.

One of the most heartening features of the budget was the Finance Minister's optimism for the coming year. He said "The consensus of informed views about the outlook for 1950 is that employment output and price levels in both Canada and the United States will show no great change from 1949. The balance of probabilities for Canada indicates a moderate increase in the domestic and United States demand for our products, offset in part by a reduction in overseas demands, with prices tending slightly downward, and employment slightly upward".

Royal Rug
More than 14,000 people saw Queen Mary's carpet during the

two and a half days it was on display here last week. It was afterwards flown to Washington. Every stitch of the carpet was the work of Queen Mary and was first started in 1911. It took over 4,000 hours of needlework by the 82-year-old Queen Mother, four stitches a minute, in all over a million stitches. The finished rug has been donated by Queen Mary to aid Britain in her dollar shortage. The only stipulation is that it must hang in some public institution of recognized repute. Already a wealthy New Yorker has offered \$500,000 for the royal rug.

Dead Letter Business
The "dead letter" office of the Canadian Post Office does a large business the annual report of the Postmaster-General reveals. In the last year there were received at the dead letter office 906,092 ordinary letters and of these 490,982 were returned to senders and 406,627 were destroyed. More than 3 million circulars were destroyed. Cash found in dead letters totalled \$26,914.00 and of this \$17,665.34 was returned to the senders. The general treasury was richer by \$8,570.23 by money found in unclaimed letters the senders of which could not be identified.

New Department
For the first time Canada has a department of Mines and Technical Surveys. The Hon. J. J. McCann is Minister in charge of the new department which will render important services to mining and metallurgical industries. The new department will be responsible for geological investigation and mapping and the collection and organization of geographical data on Canada. It also will be responsible for Dominion observatories. The Mines Branch is comprised of six divisions conducting a wide range of scientific and technical services for Canadian industry.

PULLET'S FIRST EGG HAS EASTER CROSS
Chickens often do strange things, but seldom with the nice sense of timing demonstrated by a pullet owned by Marcel Boucher, Aylmer, Quebec.

Boucher said the pullet laid a natural Easter egg. The egg was light chocolate color and had a small, but distinct, white cross on the terminal end. The egg was the first ever laid by the pullet, the only one of a brood of 125 chickens which escaped from a fire two months ago.

Are School Grants Used For Propaganda?

Mr. Editor,
I note in a recent issue of your valuable journal, a display item which in effect was a statement from the Whitechurch schools, that the public schools which had not entered into the school area scheme, were penalized in the distribution of Government Grants to a very considerable extent, by receiving a much less grant than those schools in the area.

If this article was a correct interpretation of the situation, it seems to me that it is a somewhat vicious thing. I say this because I am the secretary-treasurer of one of these single school sections which have not seen fit to enter the scheme as proposed by the Educational Department of Ontario, of grouping the schools and imposing upon them a central trustee system with paid secretaries and with one representative trustee from each section to attend to all the varied needs of the several schools.

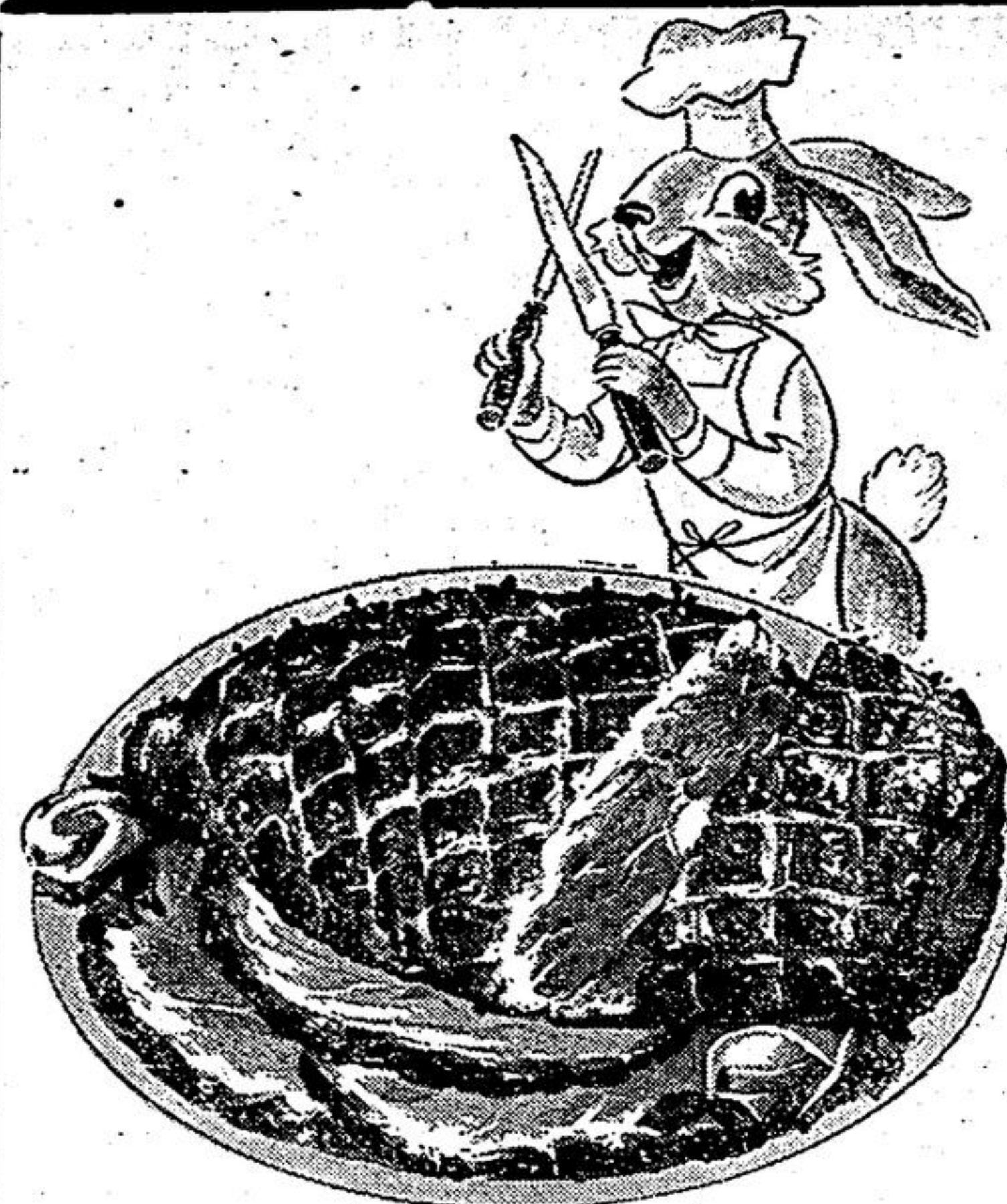
What real good can come of this scheme? Will it make for more efficient operation of the schools? Will it cost the ratepayers, already burdened with too many school taxes, much less outlay? Will it maintain the personal and intimate relation between teacher, parents and ratepayers, which obtains in the former set-up where the local people look after the school section? Will the pupils be better informed, and more prepared to enter upon the duties of citizenship when they graduate from these group schools, than they are when they are educated in the schools which carry all the marks of home and community planning, as has been demonstrated time and again in many of the school sections of our province?

Will the new set-up make it easier for government control from a central Queen's Park administration, easier to introduce fads, easier to change the books required to play into the hands of companies looking for the sale of their publications, easier for the getting of more money for these things out of the ratepayers, easier to bring in new and expensive new ideas in buildings and equipment, which in many cases the next decade condemns?

We have noted that notices sent out to inspectors from the Department of Education have heretofore urged upon them to work all they can to further the idea of school areas or of township boards. All this points, as does the discrimination in grants, to a master central mind that wants to control and remould; a la Stalin from the top down, and not from the bottom up.

Many of us have worked as trustees and as secretaries for the honor of public service, asking nothing by way of financial reward. That idea is assuredly passing away under a policy that deems all the old as useless. I am out for real information and a Missouri-like show-me explanation. Just another thing. The taking away of the auditing of the school accounts from the local section, to a township chartered accountant which is already putting charges for the work where formerly it was done free and, as far as we can see, just as efficiently, is another improvement?

—A Pickering Trustee
Aklavik has two months each year when the average temperature is 50 degrees above zero which means it is not cold enough to be classed as in the Arctic zone. Don't tell an Aklavikian that in January.



- SMOKED COTTAGE ROLLS lb. 63c
- PEAMEAL BACK BACON lb. 75c
- SMOKED BACK BACON lb. 75c
- SIDE BACON lb. 55c
- FRESH HAMS lb. 45c
- PORK SAUSAGE lb. 40c
- LOIN PORK CHOP lb. 60c
- LOIN ROAST PORK lb. 55c
- SPARE RIBS lb. 40c
- RUMP ROAST lb. 62c
- BRISKET, bone in lb. 29c
- OYSTERS, carton lb. 55c
- WHITEFISH lb. 35c

O'BOYLE'S MEAT MARKET

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122-POUND CALF BORN NEAR KINGSTON

A graded Holstein cow probably doesn't know it but the 122-pound calf she gave birth to Wednesday appears to be a record-breaker—at least for Ontario.

The spindly legged newcomer has gained a pound so far. Her owner—Reeve W. O. Prior of nearby Howe Island—hasn't got around to naming her.

The animal is active and robust—unusual for overweight calves. Mr. Prior has a herd of 40 cattle, most of them graded Holsteins. He is planning to build up a stock of purebreds.

Meanwhile Ontario Agriculture Dept. officials thumbed through record books and figured that birth weights exceeding 100 pounds are rare.

ABBOTT REFUSES FROST TAX DEAL

Finance Minister Abbott has told Premier Frost that Ottawa cannot agree to becoming a collecting agency for the new proposed five per cent Ontario personal income tax; that if Ontario wants to levy such a tax it will have to do its own collecting.

The matter now will probably rest until the fall federal-provincial tax conference.

Canada is a leading producer and exporter of copper.

AURORA CHILD GETS CREDIT SAVING SISTER'S ARM

A 3-year-old Aurora child was credited with saving her baby sister from possible loss of an arm, when the infant was caught in the ringer of a washing machine.

Sharon Foote, attracted by the screams of Jo Anne, aged 1, ran into the kitchen of their Yonge St. home and found the infant's arm being pulled into the ringer. Sharon pulled the plug which supplies the machine with power, and called an upstairs tenant.

Dr. Crawford Rose said Jo Anne's arm would have been torn off if her sister had not stopped the machine.

George Hepburn, Unionville Loses Sister, 98

Mrs. John G. R. Gray who died in Toronto was the eldest daughter, and the second eldest child of a family of six sons and four daughters, children of the late John and Jane Hepburn. Mr. and Mrs. Gray were married 73 years ago, the 14th of March. They farmed near Bolton for a while but moved to Toronto about 65 years ago where Mr. Gray became connected with the Dominion Bank head office, which connection continued until his passing over 20 years ago.

The late Mrs. Gray was in her 98th year and enjoyed good health until the past two years. Her interest in events and general affairs was particularly keen in spite of her advanced age, and was maintained throughout her life; only during the past month has she shown the effects of her weakened condition. She leaves to mourn her passing two daughters, Mrs. A.W. Laver (Jean), Helen at home, and one son, James, all of Toronto, and five grand children and two great grand children, also three brothers, Thomas Hepburn, Preston; George Hepburn, Unionville and David Hepburn, Uxbridge.

The funeral service was held at Turner & Porter chapel, Toronto, on Friday, March 24. Interment in the family plot in Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

BIG PRICES AT AUCTION SALE

There was a big attendance at the sale on the Lewis Jewell farm, and it was quite evident that there is a lot of money in the hands of the farmers and a lot of faith that the good times are to continue according to the opinions of the Uxbridge Times-Journal. A matched team of Belgian horses brought \$500; a three-year-old mare \$250; a yearling gelding \$175; and a 14-year-old brood mare \$125. The best cow brought \$255 and the average for the whole herd was \$175; a day-old calf and two others 2 weeks old brought \$137.50—the day-old one bringing \$10. Implements also brought a big price and we understand the entire sale amounted to well over \$10,000.

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