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Home Rule for Scotland — and England

By Lewis Milligan

Just when the English had got rid of — or thought they had got rid of the pesky Home Rule for Ireland question, what should happen but that the Scots are out on the heather with their bagpipes, claymores, kilts and a demanding Home Rule for Scotland! True, they are not shooting the landlords — there are none left worth shooting — nor are they singing. "They're hangin' men and women for the wearin' o' the Thistle." But they are chanting "Scots Wha Hae," with an Irish accent. The movement was started by John McCormick, K.C., a name which reeks more of Dublin than Edinburgh, and the old defiant affirmation of Macgregor now runs: "Me foot's on my adopted heath, and me name's McCormick!"

The political relations between Scotland and England have been friendly enough since the Act of Union, and there has been little complaint from the Scots, for they got the best of the bargain, as usual. They not only retained their independence, they swarmed over the border — not to steal the cattle of Sassenach, as formerly, but to take possession of most of the high positions in politics, finance and industry. This invasion from the North was bitterly described in that scurrilous book, "The Unspeakable Scot," by an Englishman, T. W. H. Crosland, as follows: "He is a fine gentleman whose father toils with a much-fork . . . He is the bandy-legged lout from Tullietudlesleugh, who, after a childhood of intimacy with the cesspool and the crabhouse, and twelve months at 'the college' on moneys wrung from the diet of his family, drops his threadbare kilt and comes south in a slop suit to instruct the English in the arts of civilization and in the English language."

Crosland, it should be stated, was a cross-grained Yorkshireman, who had himself migrated to London with a determination to crash the editorial sanctums of Fleet Street. But he found that the Scots had been there before him and had taken over all the big jobs in the Fourth Estate. Indeed he found Scotsmen ahead of him everywhere, as another writer put it: "The Englishman is painfully aware that it is the Scot who thrusts him aside in the contest for many of the best prizes." Which reminds one of the old joke about the Scot who returned and was asked how he liked the English, and replied: "I didn't meet any, I only saw the heads of departments."

Crosland's satire on the Scots — he called the "Scotch" — was very acid. He said that the Roman Emperor Hadrian "had the excellent sense to build a wall for the purpose of keeping the Scotch out of England." That it was "a Scotchman who introduced rabbits into Australia." He said there were "only about three decent Scotchmen in England, one of whom is half English, the second half Irish, and the third (week in and week out) half drunk." This latter may have been Crosland himself, for he was reputed to have spent most of his time in the pubs of Fleet Street. He was a brilliant writer and no mean poet, none the less.

But the days of Scottish monopoly in London appear to have passed. A writer in The Record, who signs himself "A Welshman," says: "The Scot goes about London looking as if he is daily having a raw deal from the English. He is inclined to be morose, and in those long silences to which he is prone in company — when the innocent English imagine he is thinking — I suspect he is harboring dark thoughts on his present discontents in England. He is not happy perhaps because there are now so many Government departments filled by so many 'foreigners' in these islands, and in Fleet Street he grieves because in newspapers the

IN DAYS OF YORE

From the Files of The Tribune 28 YEARS AGO

Mr. W. S. Cook has the foundation built for his new house which he is erecting in the west end.

Walter Lee is home from Victoria College.

Miss Greta Smith of Toronto University, is home on her holidays.

Mr. Allan Collard owing to exam. studies has postponed the building of his wireless set, till later on.

Mr. Reg. Button is nearing completion of his wireless receiver which he intends to use for music reception.

Stouffville Council — Accounts presented and read on motion of G. T. Lee and A. W. Scott the following bills were ordered paid. Joel Nendick, roads, \$18.00; Barkey Bros. fixing hydrant, \$2.50; John Urquhart, express and freight and rubber boots, \$12.20. Resolution passed for Council to purchase six bottles of fire extinguisher for use of Fire Brigade. Motion passed to procure water meter for green house.

Mrs. Stevens and Miss Robb of Toronto, spent a few days in town with friends.

Preparedness is your stronghold. Do not wait until your house or barn is burned, then WISH you had rodded. We will give you an estimate FREE and every job is guaranteed. Geo. E. Baker.

The first meeting of the Epworth League of Stouffville Methodist Church, since the election of officers was held on Monday evening.

A good program was given, the chief feature of which was a review of the life of Sir Wilfred Laurier, by Miss Eva Hoover: Everything was good but the attendance. Come, boost the league this coming year.

Mr. F. Lorne Button, spent a few hours at Black Creek on Monday morning, and was successful in landing a good few speckled trout. He bagged somewhere in the vicinity of twenty-one.

Dr. S. S. Ball spent a couple of days in Orillia recently.

Mr. James Mowat has put a new roof on his residence this week.

Miss Mildred Cox, of Leaskdale, spent the holiday with Miss Lillian Downswell.

Mr. Wallace of the Nation Co-operative Company, is in charge of the reconstruction of the plant and work is being carried on just as fast as material can be supplied and the weather will permit.

Dr. Ball has had a fine new sidewalk laid down from the Main street to his office.

To-day's market—Butter, 35-40c., eggs, 25c.

Mr. Eldon Fairless has left the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Mrs. D. W. Heise received a cable from Mr. Heise, stating that he and his party were sailing from Bombay, India to Boston, scheduled to arrive June 7th.

Mr. H. W. Sanders made a short trip to Lakeview House, Jackson's Point, this week.

Scots have lost their old supremacy. From my observation, they seem to have yielded their supremacy largely to Welshmen. The invasion, began with Lloyd George, followed by a garrulous host of Men of Harlech from the coal mines of South Wales, who were chiefly responsible for the Labor Government. Between the Scotch and the Welsh, the English may well demand Home Rule for England.

The writer in The Recorder suggests that the reason for the Home Rule for Scotland movement is that "the Scots are angry about controls, regulations, and regimentation" under Socialism. "They are fed up and frustrated. They are tired of being messed about by Whitehall." That may be part of the trouble, but I believe the great influx of the Irish into Scotland, especially around Glasgow, has a great deal to do with the movement. Crosland wrote his book in 1903, and at that time he claimed that the Scotch were not capable of producing agitators, but if any did arise they would be "just as troublesome and just as noisy and truculent as is the Irish Party in their demand for Home Rule." Well, the agitators have arisen, but they are led by an Irishman, and his name's McCormick.

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Blamed for Theft of Over \$25,000 Chicks

With the arrest of a man and a woman over the weekend, Toronto Township police believe they have members of a well-organized chicken stealing ring blamed for the theft of from \$25,000 to \$50,000 worth of poultry from southern Ontario farms in the past year.

Arrested following an attempted theft from the farm of Albert Peters on the Ninth Line in Trafalgar Twp. were Mrs. Nellie Cooper, 36, and Graham W. Emery, 19, of Widmer St., Toronto. Another man is sought in connection with the same offense.

Police claim farmers in Peel, Halton, York, Wentworth and Ontario Counties have lost thousands of chickens in the past year and, in many cases, have installed burglar alarms. Such an alarm led to the arrest of Mrs. Cooper and Emery.

Awakened by the alarm, Peters and his 19-year-old son, Tom, armed with a shotgun and rifle, ran to the chicken house. A man holding two sacks filled with chickens came out of the door. When he saw the men he dropped the sacks and fled followed by a companion. They fired the shotgun at the two, but they escaped.

Following a search on the farm Peters and his son found a truck parked in the laneway. They found a woman sitting in the vehicle. Chief Constable Garnet McGill of Toronto Township said that as a result of statements made by the suspects, they are being investigated in the theft of more than 1,000 chickens in the Britannia and Derry West area of the township and theft of turkeys and chickens in the Clarkson area.

Inspector Ben Drennan heads the investigation.

As soon as school is out the three Rs. will stand for rah, rah, rah!

No matter how high the cost of living, the demand for it never weakens.

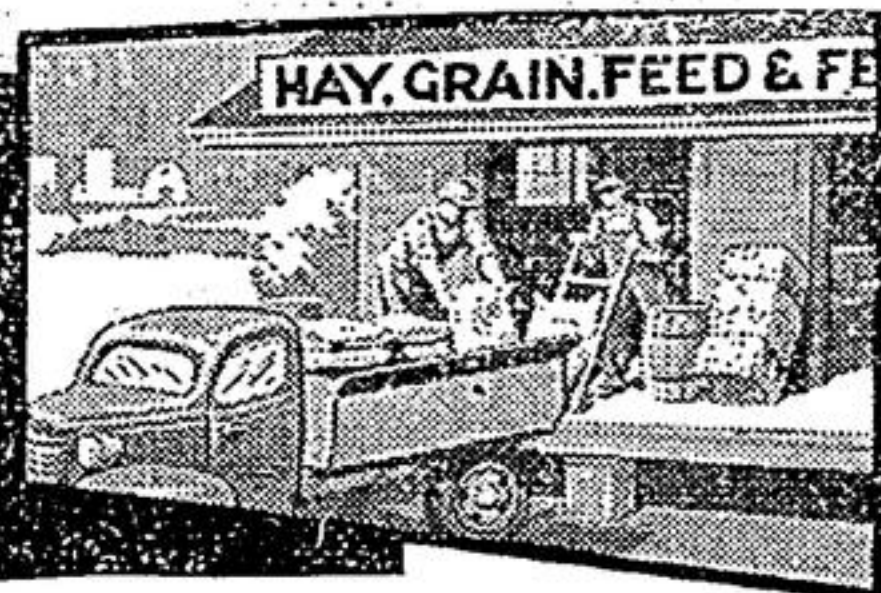
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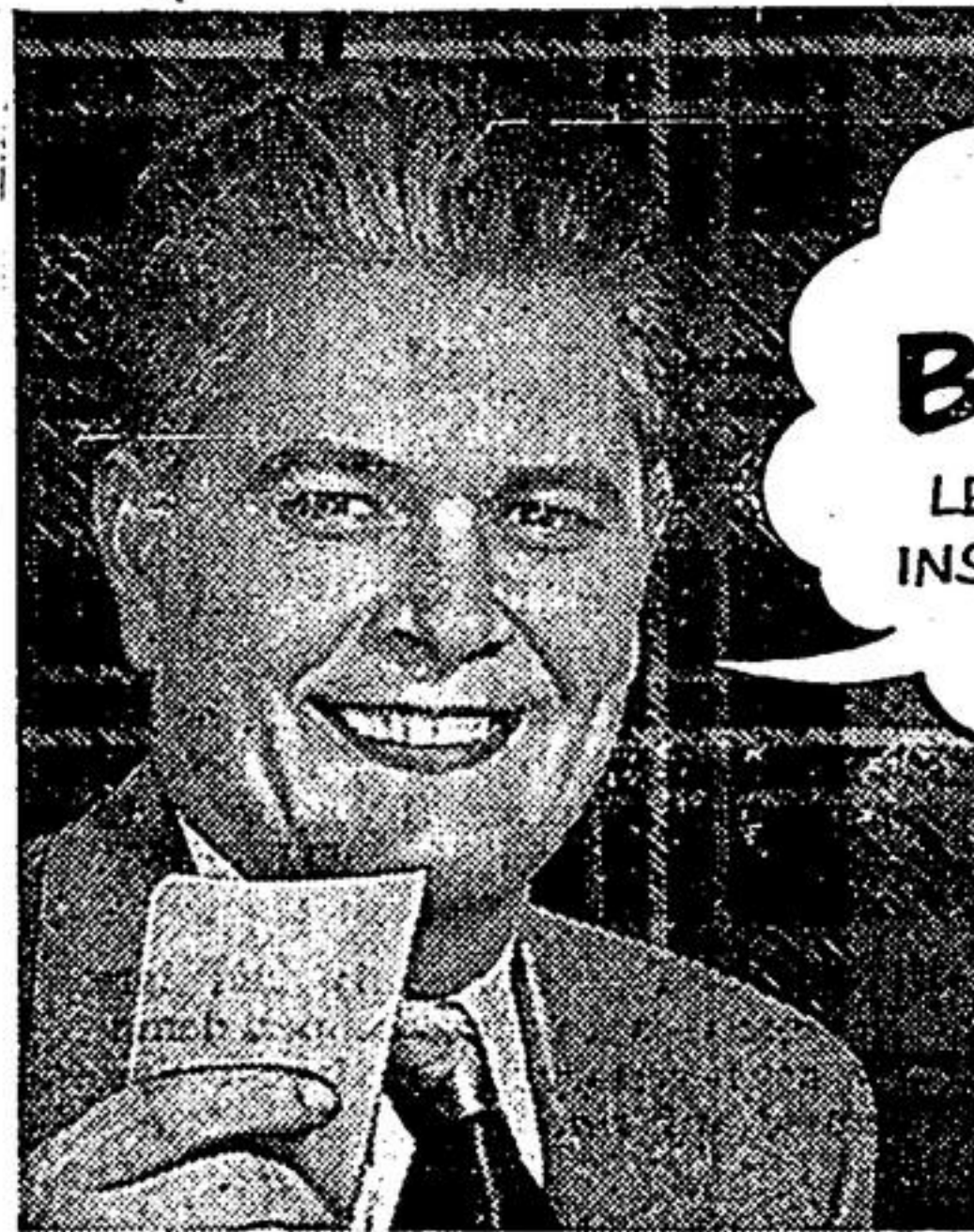
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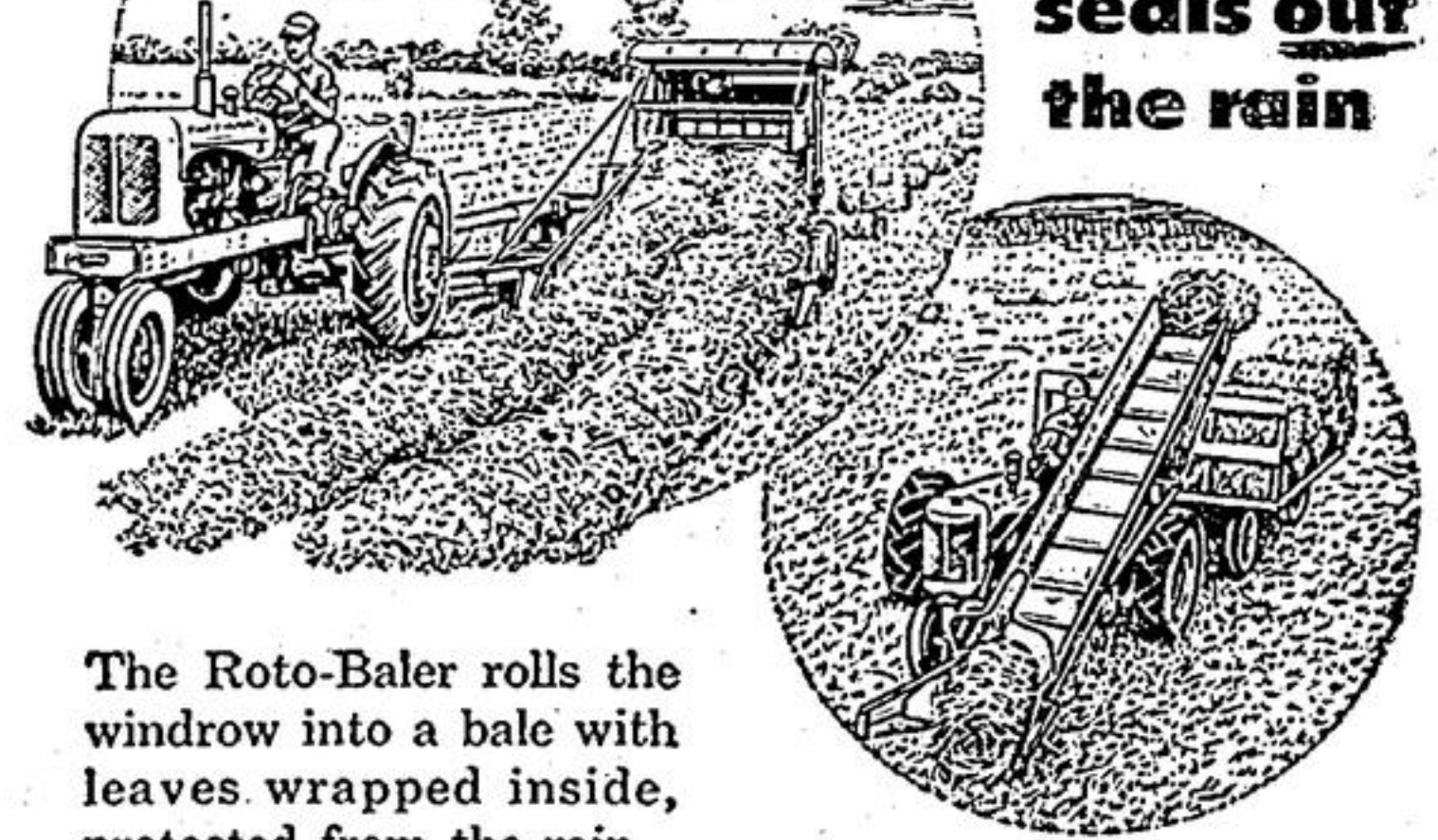
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