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10 Killed In Explosion At Fireworks Plant

CLINTON, Mo., April 2-(AP)—Ten persons were killed and five injured today in an explosion and fire that wrecked a fireworks factory of the Brown Manufacturing

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QUICKIES By Ken Reynolds



"Don't encourage it, John—remember we sold our lawn-mower with a Guardian Want Ad!"

Mr. Francis on Draft Address in Legislature

Soldiers' votes, road machinery purchases and other controversial matters were discussed by Mr. Harry S. Francis (Liberal) First District of King's, in the Draft Address debate on Monday, in a speech which drew a good deal of opposition fire.

Mr. Francis argued that there was a general feeling throughout the country that the war veterans have been well treated. "Anyone who is not well treated," he said, "can put in their complaint."

Mr. MacNeill, Fifth Prince: "How long does it take to be dealt with?"

Mr. Francis: "I never tired them but I know they get an awful lot of consideration compared with what they used to get. There has been a great deal done for the soldiers, and you will have to admit it."

Mr. MacNeill: "A great deal remains to be done."

Mr. Francis went on to say that the Veterans' Land Act was working out to perfection—or at least as near perfection as is humanly possible.

Mr. R. R. Bell: "That is not correct. The National Housing Act will give you as high as 90 per cent of your costs—not 80."

Mr. MacNeill: "That is not for veterans; it applies to everyone."

Mr. Francis: "Wouldn't it be advisable for the veterans to go into that scheme?"

Mr. R. R. Bell: "That has been in force for years."

Mr. Francis: "Can you borrow the money at 4-1-4 per cent?"

Mr. MacNeill: "The Government tells us they can get it for 2-3-4 per cent." (Laughter).

Soldiers' Votes

Later in his speech Mr. Francis claimed that the soldiers had supported the Liberals at the last election.

Mr. MacNeill: "In Prince Edward Island?"

Mr. Francis: "Yes."

Mr. MacNeill: "We never had the privilege of voting."

Mr. Francis: "In some cases, perhaps."

Mr. MacNeill: "In a great many cases, Prince Edward Island is proud of the number of soldiers who enlisted, but we did not have the privilege of voting in our own provincial election."

Mr. Francis: "You had by the Federal Government."

Mr. R. R. Bell: "This is the Provincial Legislature."

Mr. Francis: "I am quite aware of that."

Mr. MacKenzie: "At the time the Prohibition plebiscite was taken you gave the soldiers the vote."

Mr. Francis: "Suppose we did have a plebiscite overseas, the boys wouldn't know anything about the candidates. It wouldn't have made any difference anyway."

Mr. Matheson: "It would have been nice to have given them a chance."

"Everything Possible"

Mr. Francis thought that everything possible had been done by the Department of Agriculture for the farmers. He referred particularly to the policy of enabling farmers to purchase lime, and to the various inspection services. We have not the consumption public here for our eggs and fluid milk, consequently we do not obtain fair prices for our dairy products, he said.

Mr. Francis: "It was not due to any fault of the Government. If anyone has the ambition to start an industry, he will get all kinds of encouragement from the Government."

He stressed the value of assistance to fishermen through a revolving fund set up by the Government. In order for fish plants to operate properly they should have an abattoir. He regretted that there had been unable so far to impress this on the Dominion Government, as other Provinces have done.

Mr. Francis understood that Island cattle have to be taken to Moncton to be slaughtered, and then taken back to Souris to be canned.

Premier Jones explained the inspection regulations on meat for export.

Tourist Traffic

Mr. Francis stressed the value of the tourist trade, recalling that his own settlement was the first in the Province to be visited by tourists. He would approve of more Government assistance to this industry, even to the extent of helping to finance the building of more tourist accommodations. He pictured the possibility of developing the small fruit and other industries in connection with the tourist trade.

The price paid here for Irish moss, he understood, is 5 cents a pound—the lowest that is paid anywhere. He was informed that the processing of gelatine was a comparatively simple matter, yet it has to be done in the United States. If somebody could process this material here...

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would be a very great help to the canning industry. It might mean the difference between profit and loss so far as the canning of fruits was concerned, Mr. Francis said.

Education, he continued, was in a "bad state," a condition due to the widespread enlistment of teachers during the war and the higher salaries offered in other occupations. The people, he predicted, will be "pleasantly surprised" at the increase in salaries which the Government is preparing to give, making a sum equal to four times the amount received half a generation ago.

The technical school, he thought, was a credit to the Province and very much ahead of what was ever expected. As a Province we had always paid 65 per cent of the cost of education, a much higher percentage than that paid by other provinces.

P. W. C. Exams

He referred to a press item of Feb. 7 stating that in future it would not be necessary to leave school in the City to pass the necessary entrance examination to Prince of Wales College. This was "out of line with the rest of the Province," he claimed. If there are any differences made between city and country pupils it would cause great dissatisfaction.

Hon. Dr. MacMillan explained that the city pupils must still pass the Grade 10 examination. The Board of Education accepts this in lieu of another examination which is just the same, a couple of weeks later.

Mr. Francis: "Why not extend that to the Province?"

Dr. MacMillan: "Summerside is in about the same position, and just as soon as the other so-called first class schools are able to bring their schools up to a standard it might become general."

Mr. Francis: "What objection would the city pupils have to taking this examination set by the Board of Education?"

Dr. MacMillan: "There are double examinations within a period of two or three weeks."

Premier Jones: "The pupils in the city schools who graduate with distinction can take the examination if they wish, but they don't have to take it if they make a certain number of marks."

Mr. Strong: "Will that apply to Summerside schools?"

Premier Jones: "The same thing."

Mr. McNeill: "It has been found that the one who have got what we call a trustee merit certificate from the Summerside schools have always been a little above the average, and that is what we are going to place this new system on. It does not deter them from writing the P. W. C. exams at all."

Mr. Francis: "I still maintain it should be levelled off for all schools. You can't persuade the people in the country schools that it is good to have two sets of examinations. It should be uniform."

In public health, Mr. Francis maintained, the Government had the best record of any Government since Confederation. They had built a Sanatorium worth approximately a million dollars; also provided travelling clinics for tuberculosis treatment.

Dr. MacMillan: "That is not the Government."

Mr. Francis: "It happened under our Government; we get the credit."

Dr. MacMillan: "Oh, no you don't."

Mr. Francis: "Well, charge that off against the million dollar Sanatorium and the Liberal grant that has been given to the hospitals. The Liberals, he maintained, had also been responsible for great strides in social legislation.

Public Works

Mr. Francis maintained that the Liberals could claim credit for nearly all the public works, clear of a few bridges. The work carried on by the present Minister was outstanding in its thoroughness. Members should be broader minded than to talk about little rills in their own district.

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tricts.

Mr. Matheson: "There are lots of ruts in Third Queen's."

Mr. Francis went on to argue that "you fellows borrowed a million dollars to build a road at 6 per cent."

Mr. MacKenzie: "We didn't borrow the money to build a road; we borrowed it to refund a Liberal bank overdraft."

Mr. Francis said that instead of getting a \$650,000 subsidy this Government is now getting \$2,300,000 from the Federal Government. "We pay the Dominion approximately \$5,000,000, but we get \$4,800,000 in pensions and \$3,800,000 for our wharves and other transportation facilities," he said. "We are about six times as well off as we were when the Liberals first came into power. Should we wish to do it, we could wipe off the total debt of the Island in twelve years and still maintain a better public service than the Conservatives did when they were in power. But we don't approve of that. It is not good business. I hope they intend to improve the services and possibly not worry about the debt."

Mr. Francis said that the complaint that veterans were not getting jobs should be looked into. It was a "byword that Premier Jones never overlooks an opportunity to help returned soldiers."

He questioned the statement that there was an increase of crime in the Province. He would attribute the increased collection of fines to the greater efficiency of the law officers. The R. C. M. P. cost \$30,000, and they collect \$28,000 in fines. It would not be safe to drive on the roads if it was not for the Police.

Mr. R. R. Bell: "You are not giving the citizens of this Province very much credit."

Mr. Francis: "It is the same all over the continent."

Mr. Bell: "Is there a traffic officer in this Province?"

Mr. Francis: "Oh, no, they look after everything. There is no doubt as to the good work they are doing."

Mr. MacKenzie: "That is one good stroke of business the Conservatives did, then."

Mr. Francis: "Well, yes." (Laughter).

Road Machinery

Reference had been made to road machinery purchases, he continued. Was there ever a time when machinery did not have to be purchased from somebody?

Mr. R. R. Bell: "Who gets the commission?"

Mr. Francis: "That is up to the Government. We don't know who gets the commission. We have no doubt in the world that Mr. Barbour will make as good a bargain as can be made."

Mr. MacKenzie: "Was it purchased by tender or private barter?"

Hon. Mr. Barbour: "You couldn't buy it by tender."

Mr. MacKenzie: "Have you any idea of the commission that the dealer got?"

Mr. Francis: "No, I am not even concerned with it, but I know Mr. Barbour would make the best possible arrangement. He is not the only Minister that bought machinery."

Mr. Strong: "No; we had another one who bought it over the telephone." (Laughter).

Mr. Francis: "Exactly; and he is the one that built the roads. That argument does not make any sense, everything is bought on a competitive basis. If there is any other company that will sell it for less, they will buy it. But they found that it was better to buy one grade of machinery and keep down the costs in getting extras."

Hon. Mr. Barbour: "It is the best in North America."

Mr. MacKenzie: "At that rate, when the Conservatives come in they will have to buy the machinery off that man, will they?" (Laughter).

Masters Of The Parachute Mail By Peter Benedict (Continued from Page 2)

come somebody else — because they'd soon spot the deception if I didn't."

"Can you act?"

"Some think so—some don't. I'm only in the amateur class, of course, and most of what I've done in school plays and local dramatic society stuff. But honestly," she said, with native pride, "we aren't bad. And I suppose I shall have what you might call expert assistance this time—clothes, and makeup, and all that?"

"Constantly. And to make constant visits from a beauty specialist natural, you are going to be a very rich person. And to make some knowledge of drugs more creditable you are going to put on a few years and become an American. I'm sorry to spring on you like this. Can you do it?"

"Can I do it? What's my name?"

"Hanged if I know! I haven't thought about it yet. 'What do you say to—Vandeleur?'"

"Vandeleur! Avant-de-l'heure! Meaning I got up before my time and was dragged into a mystery novel. Excellent! Miss Vandeleur! And what's my Christian name? 'Sadie?'" She chuckled. "No, that's too moth-eaten. It looks absurd at a hundred yards. What do you suggest?"

"Better draw one out of a hat. Back your fancy! Isn't there something you've always wanted to be called? There is with most people. I always wished they'd christened me plain George instead of Peter Sherwood. What's your particular bogey?"



Scout News and Notices

In addition to 8,000 Scouts from the British Empire, it is expected that representative contingents of Scouts from forty other countries will be present at the sixth World Jamboree, which is being held in France this August.

SEVERAL 'LEAF'S' FORMER SCOUTS

When Howie Meeker of the Toronto Maple Leafs recently visited a Toronto Scout Troop and answered questions about hockey players it was learned that several of the Leaf Players are former Scouts. Syl Apps was a Scout in Paris, Ont., Gus Morrison was a Cub and Scout in Kirkland Lake, Syd Smith was a Scout at Essex Street School in Toronto and Howie Meeker was a Scout in Kitchener.

SCOUTS IN D.P. CAMPS

Some 15,000 Boy Scouts have been organized into Troops in camps for Displaced Persons in Germany, a survey has revealed. These include Latvians, Estonians, Lithuanians, Polish, Ukrainians. Many of these people, it was discovered, had continued the Scout program throughout the war despite great difficulties.

TORONTO MAYOR BECOMES A SCOUT

During the 1947 observance of Boy Scout-Girl Guide Week, Mayor Robert H. Saunders of Toronto was officially invested as a Boy Scout by District Commissioner, W.H.J. Tisdale. After making the promise which all boys make on joining the Movement, "Scout" Saunders was presented with the badge which is symbolic throughout the world of Scout membership. "Scout" Saunders then expressed the hope that his action would encourage others of mature age to come into Scouting and give a hand with the training of Canada's youth.

NOT TRAINING SCOUTS AS 'BOBBIES'

British Scouts are not being trained as policemen, it is pointed out by A.W. Burrell, General Secretary of the Boy Scouts Association at Imperial Headquarters commenting on a recent press report to this effect.

"The report as set out is a gross misrepresentation of facts. What has in fact happened is that in several of the bigger cities and towns of England, courses have been run with the cooperation of the Chief Constable as a part of the Senior Scouts' training in citizenship.

"The idea of these courses" Mr. Burrell states, "is to show how the police forces operate and point out how the average citizen can help in the prevention of crime. There has been no idea of making the Scouts into Junior Police Force and it is stressed that these courses were more in the nature of demonstrations than training courses.

She thought for a moment and said: "Eleanor—I think."

"Eleanor! Admirable! All right, Eleanor Vandeleur you are from the moment you enter my car on—I expect—Monday evening. Now I shall have to leave you to practise your accent—it needn't be too ferocious, by the way—while I get on with some other very necessary business. Remember," he said, as he rose from his chair, "leave it all to me, and keep smiling. Your responsibility begins later."

Peggy stood up. "And what will your name be? Do you change your identity, too?"

"No, I stay plain Peter Sherwood Milne. No one knows me as anything but the most ordinary of men-about-town, and I'm safer as myself than I should be under cover. We'll work out the details at leisure later on."

He stopped in the doorway, looked back at her, and smiled his nicest smile, for he had found what promised to be a paragon of

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coolness and sense, and he felt that she was worth some little demonstration of charm in sheer gratitude.

"Good-bye—for a few days!" "Good-bye!" said Peggy, and watched him go with an exulting heart. The omen of yesterday morning had not failed her. The spell of excitement was to go on and to go deeper than she had dreamed.

CHAPTER VII Neatly Mismanaged The police court hearing was

by way of being a novelty, certainly, but one which had lost its dreadfulness and its interest beforehand, because it was now only a means to an end. The real thing was to come. This was only a curtain-raiser, and a dull one at that, when you remembered that it had no bearing upon her future whatever, and none upon the real case which had behind those scraps of evidence. Yet Peggy made a show of concern in it, since it would certainly look very peculiar if she displayed no interest in the case against her.

(To be continued)



'I'd get myself a Mask' NASH SALES & SERVICE 60 Queen Street, Charlottetown