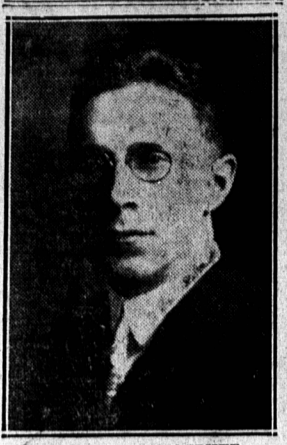


# Anti-Police Propaganda Answered In Legislature By The Attorney General

## Opposition Members Are Challenged To Drop Petty Criticism Of Law Enforcement Officers And Shoot Squarely At Government Target, Since Politics Is Their Aim.

Prefacing a scathing reply to Opposition abuse and criticism of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in the Legislature on Tuesday evening with an exposure of the political nature of the campaign, Hon. H. F. MacPhee, Attorney General, last speaker in the Draft Address debate, produced from his desk a clipping of the Patriot newspaper of April 13, 1932, and read therefrom the following excerpt from a speech delivered in the House by Mr. W. H. Dennis, Liberal member from O'Leary:



HON. H. F. MACPHEE

"There is another thing I think might be considered by the present Government, and that is, making arrangements with the Dominion Government so that the new Royal Mounted Police force being inaugurated in the Maritime Provinces would take over the policing of our Province. I see the provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have made that arrangement. The change would be very disagreeable to me to contend with. They have their difficulties at the present time appointed. Their friends would be rushing in from the country and choking the life out of the Government. But throughout the country there is a large number of deep thinking men who weigh public problems from a broad standpoint, AND THERE IS A SOLID ELEMENT OF VOTERS IN THE COUNTRY WHO WOULD STAND BEHIND A LEADER OR A GOVERNMENT WHO UNDERTAKES TO DO FOR THE PROVINCE WHAT HE THINKS IS BEST AND RIGHT."

The Liberal member's statement, Mr. MacPhee explained, had been made before there was any announcement that the services of the Mounted Police were being obtained for this Province.

### THE CRITICS CLASSIFIED

"At the outset," the Attorney General declared when the laughter and applause had subsided, "I do not suggest for one moment that the Mounted Police are perfect. We do not get perfection in this vale of tears, and the Mounted Police are just human and liable to err, like the rest of us. But there are certain classes of persons who are opposed to them in principle.

"There are, first of all, the bootleggers. That class is bitterly opposed to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police; they would much prefer that we did not have them here. You have only to look about at those who were active in the profession all through the years of the Liberal Government, and find that they have been, one by one, put out of business and are down and out, to understand why they are hostile to the Mounted Police in this Province." (Applause.)

Messrs. Lea and LePage: "Hon. Mr. MacPhee: 'They would associate themselves every time with the leader of the Opposition, the member from Rustico, and the member from Tignish in their criticism.' (Laughter.)

"Then we have another class, that the member from O'Leary, in his remarks which I have quoted, referred to. These are the persons who try to 'choke the Government.' They didn't try that with us, but I really think they are attempting to choke the Opposition, or they are filling the Opposition with words that nearly choked them when they try to get rid of them." (Laughter.)

And so we have three classes of critics to deal with in regard to the activities of the Mounted Police. We have the members on the other side of this House; we have the bootleggers; and we have the disappointed office seekers. The member from Rustico finds himself in that goodly company." (Laughter.)

### "BIGGEST BOOTLEGGERS"

Mr. LePage: "What class is the clergymen in?"  
Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "I will come to the class that the member from Rustico puts the clergymen in. Perhaps I had better deal with it now, since the question has been raised. The member from Rustico has made this statement, and he has the member from Rustico being the 'apostle of righteousness,' always led the attack. But last year he was displaced and there was a new apostle of righteousness came out of the East, from St. Peter's, (Mr. McIntyre)—a new exponent of Prohibition that we had never expected. He never gave any indication that he was going to spring; it was a 'coup d'etat.'" (Laughter.)

Mr. LePage: "Correct."  
Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "He reaches that conclusion by looking at what appears to him to have been a large quantity of liquor sold through the Vendor's store. And I would suppose he would suggest that the Government, having appointed the Commission, are bootleggers too. He does." (Laughter.) "He nods his head."  
Mr. LePage: "You invited it!"  
Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "Very well. Let us look back over the years to the time when there was a Liberal Government in power. The measure that has been suggested by the member as to the size of a bootlegger, or the volume of a bootlegger, is the amount of liquor sold through the Vendor's store. Look back to 1934; we sold \$118,016 worth. But look further back, to 1928, when they sold \$139,110 worth. Who were the biggest 'bootleggers'?" (Applause.)

Mr. LePage: "Times were better; there was more money." (Laughter.)  
Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "This, mind you, was under a Government that had a policy of CHEAP LIQUOR. You remember the policy that my hon. friends went to the country on in 1927? They tell us they keep all their election promises, so of course this liquor was sold very cheaply, and the actual number of cases would represent a great deal more than the value would suggest." (Applause.)

The Logical Conclusion  
We find, then, that the Com-

a very unlikely event, I admit—he will not have to make such a concession, because he will have the Mounted Police here, and he will be able to say, 'I have complete control of the situation.' Thanks to that splendid force of trained police officers, who keep me in touch with everything that is going on." (Laughter.)

### That Liberal Appointee

"My hon. friend complains, however, that on one occasion the Police did not get their man. If he is thinking of the man that I am thinking of, I quite agree with him. That gentleman, I believe, was a member of the Provincial Police. There was a conviction for bootlegging against him, and a commitment outstanding. He is still at large, but not in this Province."

Mr. LePage: "There was nothing against him when he was employed as a policeman."  
Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "I am not saying that he didn't measure up to the standard of what my hon. friend required of the Provincial Police. He may have been a shining star of the force my hon. friend established."

Mr. LePage: "It was after you discharged him."  
Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "My hon. friend seems quite sure that he was not in the bootlegging business then. Perhaps when he applied for his job the hon. member warned him: 'We know you are in the business but while you are on the Force we want you to keep off it.'" (Laughter.)

Mr. LePage: "That is imputing an unworthy motive."  
Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "To suggest that the member asked him to reform?" (Laughter.)  
Mr. LePage: "Suggesting that the member said that."  
Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "If he didn't say it to him he should have said it." (Applause.)

### Ontario & Quebec

Continuing, Mr. MacPhee said it had been claimed that Ontario and Quebec were "disgusted" with the Mounted Police. "I stand to be corrected," he added, "but I did not know they had the Mounted Police as their police in those provinces. I understand that Ontario and Quebec both have their own provincial police forces."

Mr. T. A. Campbell: "It might be wise."  
Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "But why should they be 'disgusted' with the Mounted Police when it is not their force? Perhaps it is true they are getting disgusted because it is NOT the Royal Canadian Mounted Police." (Applause.)

### THE ENFORCEMENT PROBLEM

"My hon. friends have modified their criticism to this extent," continued Mr. MacPhee; "they say the Mounted Police might be all right to enforce the general laws which they are accustomed to enforce, but they are not the proper people to enforce the Prohibition law. I submit that in enforcement of the two laws I am not in that at all. If you have a competent, trained police force, it is as good in one capacity as it is in the other. But I agree that there is a difference. The difference is that in the enforcement of the other laws you get the active co-operation of all the people of the community. If there is a case of theft or robbery, the people come forward at once and give all the information they may have. In the case of prohibition offences, that is not true to the same extent."

"It is very apparent, even from the reports read in this House, that those who are most insistent about prohibition enforcement are anxious that they should not be brought into the matter in the role of 'informers.' When an offense occurs that the people regard as a crime, you do not get that opposition. And, of course, in the great majority of cases it is information received from third persons that the law officers have to depend on. Unless the officer actually sees the offense committed, he must act on information which he receives from others. That is the difficulty in obtaining convictions under the Prohibition Act, that there is an unwillingness on the part of many to co-operate to the same degree as in the case of other offenses."

### R. C. M. P. COMMENDED

"Reference has been made to the attitude of the Sons of Temperance towards Prohibition enforcement under the Mounted Police. I

have here a clipping from the Patriot of August 31, 1934, of a report of the third quarterly session of the Sons of Temperance, Grand Division, held at Murray Harbour, and I note that one of the resolutions adopted at the meeting reads as follows:

"Resolved that having taken note that Inspector Friggs and his men have of late been very active in making seizures of intoxicating liquor, we would therefore commend them very highly for the good work being done."

"Reference was also made by Opposition members," continued Mr. MacPhee amid applause, "to a meeting on July 6th in Summerside—not the meeting in October that the member from Tignish (Mr. T. A. Campbell) was endeavoring to show was an indignation meeting—but the meeting that was attended by the Premier, and to which the member from St. Peter's (Mr. McIntyre) had referred as an 'indignation meeting.' That meeting is mentioned in the Patriotic report of the Sons of Temperance session from which I have just quoted; and I note that it is not called an 'indignation meeting,' but simply a 'conference,' called 'to consider the situation.' A very frank discussion of the matter of law enforcement, it says, took place, and no little encouragement given by those in authority. Later, in August, the resolution which have referred was passed, commending the Inspector of Police and his men for the work they were doing in enforcing the law in the matter of intoxicating liquor."

THE RAMSAY CASE  
Reference was made by the member from Tignish to another matter; I do not know whether as evidence of law enforcement or as a merit or not, but it was in connection with the Ramsay case. First, when the member was referring to it, he drew a parallel between it and some case with which I am not very familiar—a case at East Point where some bones were discovered, and where some criticism of negligence was levelled at the administration of that time. Naturally, from such a comparison, I was quite unable to recognize the case my hon. friend was citing when he said a fellow member came to his assistance."

"I regret that my hon. friend suggested there was 'foul play' of any kind in connection with the Ramsay case. I have here the report of the Coroner's Inquest, and the report of the police officer who investigated the matter. The victim, an old gentleman, was found drowned in the Wilmot River on the morning after his disappearance. An autopsy was performed immediately and at the Inquest the doctor who performed the autopsy stated that death was due to drowning and that there was no evidence or circumstance which in the slightest degree suggested foul play. The evidence of several witnesses was taken; the Police made a complete investigation, and the inquest was postponed in order that their investigation might be thorough. The result was as I have stated. The jury brought in a verdict to the effect that the man had fallen over the bridge. There was not the slightest evidence or suspicion of foul play."

### A Mischievous Insinuation

"Why my hon. friend should make any comparison with this other case, where some bones were found at East Point, I do not know, but because the insinuation has been thrown out and because the public mind might be unsettled by the suggestion that there was foul play into which an investigation had not been made, I deem it proper to give this information, I may add, for my hon. friend's further information, that the reports of the Coroner and the Police who investigated this matter are available to him in my office at any time he wishes to inspect them, so that his mind may be set at rest." (Applause.)

### Many Letters Received

"With regard to the work of the Mounted Police generally, I may say that I, as well as my hon. friends, have received letters of commendation of their conduct in the enforcement, not only of the Prohibition law but of all the laws of the Province. We have letters on file, for example, from prominent persons in Rustico—temperance workers, clergymen, and others, praising the Mounted Police for the splendid work they are doing in that community."

"The member from O'Leary is perfectly right. It is the position of the House should be pointed out to the House should be taken. We all know that much of what is said by the Opposition is for the purpose of carrying favor with the electorate, to get back into power. Let them confide their criticism, then, to the Government, as Attorney General, I know that no matter how efficient and competent a force I might otherwise have at my disposal, I would be seriously handicapped without the skill and experience available to me in the Mounted Police."

"To my hon. friends opposite I would say this: Do as the member from O'Leary suggests! Instead of directing criticism at the Mounted Police, who, I suggest, are doing their very best—direct it at the people whom you want to attack. The member from O'Leary was perfectly right, but it was unnecessary for him to make that statement, because this Government has never shirked its responsibility by hiding behind the Police or behind the Prohibition Commission." (Loud applause.)

### The White Commission

On resuming the debate on Tuesday evening, Mr. MacPhee first made reference to the composition of the White Commission. "All members of the House," he said, "agree that this Province was very fortunate in having as a member of that Commission representing the three Maritime Provinces, a native of their own Province, a man eminently qualified by legal and political experience to deal with this matter; in fact, the first real expert of Maritime claims as we now understand them, I refer, of course, to Chief Justice Matheson. It was suggested by some Opposition members that with regard to the other members of the Commission we were somewhat unfortunate. I think it would be most unfair to let that statement go unchallenged with regard to the chairman, Sir Thomas White, who has always

been regarded as a close friend of this Province. Members who are familiar with the matter will recall that it was due partly to the kindly feelings of Sir Thomas White towards this Province in 1912, when he was Minister of Finance in the Borden Government, that we received the increase of \$100,000 in our subsidy payments, which we still enjoy."

### Tribute to Sir Thomas

"Any hon. member who wishes to ascertain the attitude of Sir Thomas White towards this Province generally should read the debates as recorded in Hansard, centering around that special grant of \$100,000. The Opposition members will perhaps be surprised that Sir Thomas—this 'Central Canadian' as he has been called by the member from Tignish—was attacked by one Liberal speaker after another, not from Ontario and Quebec but from the Maritime Provinces. I feel that I would be lacking in a sense of duty, and this House in a sense of justice, if some voice were not raised in appreciation of what we owe to Sir Thomas White."

"It is true that he is an Ontarian, and that the people of Upper Canada have a different conception of Maritime claims from what we have. Too many of them think we have been going to Ottawa, not to enforce an actual right but with our hands out for something in the way of a fine gift. That, unfortunately, is the attitude of many persons in the Central and Western Provinces who have no understanding of the nature and validity of our claims."

WHEN CRITICS DISAGREE  
Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "I may say that we received complaints with regard to the Mounted Police, and those complaints tend in a good many cases in the other direction. That is to say, that these young men are over-zealous, principally in the matter of enforcing the highway and prohibition laws. Now, Mr. Speaker, when you find, on the one hand, criticism that these people are too enthusiastic about law enforcement, and that they are a little lax in law enforcement, you may reasonably strike the mean and conclude that they are just doing as well as they can under the circumstances." (Applause.)

ELECTION PLEDGES CONTRASTED  
It has been suggested by the Opposition that because we applied to the country on a platform of Government Control in 1927, we are therefore improper persons to administer the Prohibition law of this Province. Is that criticism reasonable? The people who elected us to office in 1931 knew just what we did in 1927." (Applause.) "In 1927 we went to the people and told them the situation; namely, that with the resources humbly available to the Department of Justice, you cannot expect to get 100 per cent enforcement. The members on the other side, on a Prohibition platform, certainly did not get 100 per cent enforcement. We, even with the splendid force now available, are not getting 100 per cent. But we told the people that, frankly, and the difference between us and them was that we made no such promises with regard to prohibition enforcement as they did in 1927; and their record with regard to prohibition enforcement must be measured by the promises they made." (Applause.)

"The member from O'Leary" (Mr. Dennis) "in dealing with the Mounted Police referred to the fact that the Police were under the control of the Attorney General, and therefore it was not the Police but the Attorney General whom they should attack."

### CHALLENGES OPPOSITION

"The member from O'Leary is perfectly right. It is the position of the House should be pointed out to the House should be taken. We all know that much of what is said by the Opposition is for the purpose of carrying favor with the electorate, to get back into power. Let them confide their criticism, then, to the Government, as Attorney General, I know that no matter how efficient and competent a force I might otherwise have at my disposal, I would be seriously handicapped without the skill and experience available to me in the Mounted Police."

"To my hon. friends opposite I would say this: Do as the member from O'Leary suggests! Instead of directing criticism at the Mounted Police, who, I suggest, are doing their very best—direct it at the people whom you want to attack. The member from O'Leary was perfectly right, but it was unnecessary for him to make that statement, because this Government has never shirked its responsibility by hiding behind the Police or behind the Prohibition Commission." (Loud applause.)

THE MARKETING ACT  
"Some criticism has been offered by the Opposition members with regard to the Marketing Act. I wish first of all to remind the members of what they are already aware, namely that the Marketing legislation was enacted at Ottawa, and that the enabling legislation in this Legislature last session, for the purpose of placing the control of the production and marketing of natural products in the hands of the producers themselves. That is principally what the Act does; it permits the producers to get together and work out what in their opinion is a workable scheme for the marketing of their products. That scheme, when decided upon and assented to by the proper governmental authorities, becomes law. Any scheme formulated under the Provision of the Act, is not a scheme formulated by this Government or by the Federal Government; it is a scheme formulated by the industry itself."

Not Political  
"If, therefore, members impute defects to the present scheme, they must impute the responsibility for those defects to the framers of the scheme. That, surely, is self-evident; and I would suggest to the hon. members, very strongly, that I do not think this a question of all, or that the persons responsible for formulating the potato marketing scheme should be subject to political criticism. I am sure that the producers themselves do not regard it as a political matter. Their earnest endeavor was to do something that would help the potato industry in this Province and in other provinces over which the scheme has jurisdiction."

"We would also remind members on the other side, and other persons

who are inclined to be critical, that these men responsible for formulating this scheme, and who are now charged with the responsibility of making it effective, are undertaking a pioneer task. They are attempting something that has never been done before; and I think every person who has an interest in the welfare of this Province and who desires to see our farmers receive the full reward, for the product of their industry, should give these people a chance." (Applause.)

### Pioneer Work

"I suggest that it is entirely too soon to direct any sort of criticism at the scheme in question. There is no doubt, of course, that there are some people who will be injured. I do not profess to be familiar with the details of the scheme, but I would imagine it would tend to eliminate from the industry certain persons in the role of middlemen who were making perhaps some reasonable profit out of it, with the idea of passing along to the producers the profits. It is not unreasonable that men so adversely affected should feel critical. It is hoped, however, that these difficulties will one by one be removed. For the present, we must recognize that it is an experiment, and that we cannot expect the promoters to at once 'stumble' across a satisfactory solution. If, as we hope, after experimenting and overcoming the initial difficulties they succeed in arriving at something which will be to the benefit of the producers, then it will undoubtedly be to the benefit of all the people of this Province. I think every person, whether he feels adversely affected or not, should give this experiment an honest chance in the hope that it will succeed." (Applause.)

Potato Shipments  
"Some figures have been given about the movement of potatoes in February of last year, as compared with this year since the Marketing scheme came into effect. Of course, part of the reason why potatoes are no moving into the United States is because of a certain tariff wall which was erected brick by brick during what time? I think it was during the regime of a certain Prime Minister of Canada who was very much afraid of offending the feelings of the American people." (Laughter.) When figures are given as to the movement of potatoes in February, March and April of last year, any person familiar with the situation will ask, was it a good thing that they moved at all? Many of those potatoes remained in the American markets on consignment, and the fact was apparent to American buyers that that large number was there, with the result that they were not able to sell them at all."

"The figures show that in 1935 the Dominion Government collected \$7,681,089 in Sales Tax. Those are the figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the source to which the member from Rustico says he goes for his information." Mr. LePage objected that he had made no statement respecting Sales Tax.

Mr. Speaker: "The hon. member did not say so. He said it was the source you had quoted from."

### STRIKING COMPARISON

Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "I gave the member the figures with regard to customs collections under both Governments, from the Bureau of Statistics, which he said was the source of his information. Now I am giving him the Sales Tax figures, and I am again quoting from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, and as they appear in the Government publication."

"In 1928, under the Liberal Government, the Sales Tax collected amounted to \$7,681,089. In 1934—the year that the member from Belfast referred to—the Sales Tax collected was \$61,391,000. In other words, the Liberal Government, which was not imposing any taxes according to the member from Belfast, collected in 1928 in Sales Tax NINE MILLION DOLLARS MORE THAN THE PRESENT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DID IN 1934." (Loud applause.)

### WHEATLEY RIVER W. I.

This Institute met for the March meeting at the home of Mrs. Nelson Stead, with ten members and two visitors. Meeting opened by the President with singing of Ode and reading of Creed in the Roll call was answered with Irish Jokes. The minutes of last meeting were read, approved and signed. The Secretary reported receiving government grant. A letter was read from Provincial Convener of Agriculture, also a paper on Canada's National Poultry Breeding Programme. Several of the questionnaire papers were filled out. It was voted and carried that five dollars be given towards a new stove for school house. It was decided that a silver collection be taken at the April meeting. One member paid her fee. Next meeting at the home of Mrs. Robert Stevenson, roll call to be answered with "My favorite flower and how I grow it." It was decided that a program would be carried out for next meeting. The Program Committee: Miss Mabel Ling and Ada Stead. Meeting closed by singing National Anthem. Lunch was served by the hostess.

### NEW ANNAN SCHOOL

Report of New Annan School for the month of February:  
Grade IX—1, Olive Clark; 2, Audrey Tuplin; 3, William Dalzell.  
Grade VIII—1, Ruth Tuplin; 2, Edna Dalzell; 3, Robert Dalzell.  
Grade VII—1, Tessie McInnis; 2, June Dalzell; 3, Lloyd Clark.  
Grade VI—1, James Tuplin; 2, Ruth Enman; 3, Phyllis Moase; 4, Isaac Tuplin; 5, Ruth Dalzell.  
Grade IV—1, Reginald Dalzell.  
Grade III—1, Eleanor Dalzell; 2, Greta Baker.  
Grade II—1, James McMillan; 2, Gladys Enman; 3, Dorothy Baker.  
Grade I (a)—1, Gladys Moase.  
Attendance, 80% and over—Audrey Tuplin, Olive Clark, Edna Dalzell, Ruth Tuplin, June Dalzell, June Dalzell, Tessie McInnis, Francis McKay, Lloyd Clark, Ruth Enman, James Tuplin, Isaac Tuplin, Edna Dalzell, Phyllis Moase, Reginald Dalzell, Eleanor Dalzell, James McMillan, Gardiner Dalzell and Lloyd Enman.  
James S. Driscoll—Teacher.

### The Upper Room

The Holy Name Club Players under the personal direction of J. Austin Trainor are presenting the Monsignor Robert Hugh Benson's great sacred drama, "The Upper Room" at the Strand Theatre, Monday afternoon and evening, April 1st. Mr. W. J. Brown will direct the Choir, which will render many appropriate selections during the performance, assisted by Miss Jessie Blanchard, organist, and Miss Kathleen Hornby, violinist. This compelling drama of Our Lord's Passion leaves a message of deep spiritual power that should be heard by everyone.  
Tickets can be secured now at Reddin Bros., Kelly & MacInnis, Hughes Drug Co., Two Macs, and from members of the Holy Name Club.

### Gold Proposal No Effect On Canada

OTTAWA, March 21—Decision of Washington to sell gold to countries that can offer an attractive proposition would not affect Canada to any great extent financial experts here believed after reading a despatch from Washington making the announcement. With Canada exporting \$100,000,000 of gold annually, it has no cause to buy gold. They did not think it was an indication that United States will stop buying gold.  
Keen interest was expressed here as to what United States would accept in exchange for gold. If silver would be accepted, it might benefit the silver mines in this country.

### Reveals Loss Of Schooner

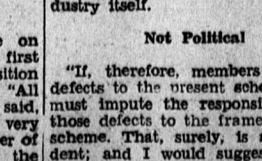
(A. P. By Guardian's Special Wire) PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 21—A letter received today by Jose Fernandes here from his wife in Brava, revealed the loss of the four-masted schooner, Burkland, owned by Olivia Madeiros of New Bedford, Mass., off Brava about a month ago.  
The Burkland sailed for Brava three years ago and since has been employed in trade between the Islands and continental ports. The ship was returning from Italy with a general cargo when it sank, according to the letter.

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