

Potato Embargo Is Discussed By Island Members

Resolution Urging Further Efforts To Secure Removal Of Ban Discussed By Messrs. J. H. Myers And A. E. MacLean.

Speaking during the debate in Parliament on Feb. 12th, on a resolution passed with regard to the British potato embargo, Mr. J. H. Myers, one of our representatives for Queen's County, said:

"In rising, Mr. Speaker, to second the resolution now before the house I feel that I cannot add much to what has already been said by the mover of the resolution (Mr. Smith, Victoria-Carleton). I might however, explain to a certain extent the condition in which the farmers of Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick find themselves.

"Prior to the last eight or nine years we did not have a very great potato problem in Prince Edward Island because until then we were known as mixed farmers and nobody had specialized in the growing of seed potatoes. Since the year 1921, however, we have profited from the services of a gentleman who was sent from the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa. Mr. Murphy—not a bad name—came to our part of the country as an expert on potatoes and proceeded to educate the farmers of Prince Edward Island in respect to the growing, selection of seed, and grading of certified seed potatoes. Since that time may I say that wonderful strides have been made in the growing and care of the crop throughout the growing season, the digging, marketing and grading of our certified seed potatoes. However, while we were receiving those instructions and making advances in connection with our potato crop, other provinces and countries were doing likewise, so that at the present time we find there is keen competition from the provinces of New Brunswick, Ontario and Quebec, and especially from the state of Maine. Farmers in those places are beginning to grow potatoes in quantities as large as they can, but I do not think they will ever reach us in quality.

Increased Crop

"This year there has been an immense crop of potatoes throughout the Dominion. Reading a report only a short time ago published by the Bureau of Statistics I learned that the increase in this year's potato crop over that of last year amounted to 12,000,000 bushels. We had plenty of potatoes in Canada last year and there was no necessity to import any for our own consumption. Undoubtedly, however, small quantities came in on some occasions. But if one adds 12,000,000 bushels to a normal crop of potatoes he can readily see the position in which the farmers find themselves. The market for our certified seed potatoes has always been in the southern states, along the Atlantic seaboard, and for the information of hon. members may I say that the Potato Growers' Association of Prince Edward Island has upwards of half a million bushels of potatoes stored in warehouses at New York harbour. We have no guarantee whatever that these potatoes will find a market, because the state of Maine, which is able to ship her potatoes to the southern states without the addition of the duty to which we are subjected, has been able to compete successfully for our market. As a result they are shipping immense quantities. Another factor is that the farmers in the southern states are so badly in need of funds that they are not in a position to buy first class, certified seed for their next year's crop.

"Our table stock market was usually in Cuba and the West Indies, but we have been practically shut out of the Cuban market because the tariff against our potatoes entering that country is almost prohibitive. We used to ship vast



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ground; then they come out of their hiding places. I repeat, I do not blame the people of Great Britain for trying to keep clear of such a pest. But to fear that potato bugs would be transported to England in sacks or barrels of potatoes is simply to fear something that will never happen. I am positive, sir, that there is not a man in this house who ever saw a potato bug in a barrel or a bag of potatoes. It simply does not happen. This has been very clearly pointed out by the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Weir) and his officials who for the last six weeks have been endeavoring to get the embargo removed. But for some reason or another the British authorities appear to have decided to maintain the embargo. Let me explain to the house that we in our turn have an embargo against potatoes imported from England."

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): "I had suspected as much."

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): "We have an embargo on many English commodities besides potatoes."

Mr. MYERS: "We have an embargo against English potatoes, and rightly so. You could not get a farmer throughout the whole length and breadth of Canada to consent to its removal. The reason for the embargo is that British potatoes are infected with a disease known as potato canker—the very worst disease that can affect a potato crop. Our potatoes are free from that disease."

Some hon. MEMBERS: "No."

Mr. MYERS: "We are practically clear of that disease, especially in Eastern Canada; it is not known there, and we do not wish to run the risk of importing the disease. This is what would happen if we admitted potatoes from the old country: The United States would immediately put an embargo against our potatoes because they do not wish to run the risk of potato canker affecting their potatoes, and rightly so. But it is one thing to maintain an embargo for a cause that exists, it is entirely another thing to maintain an embargo for a cause that does not exist. My understanding of the case is that in those European countries from which England imports her potatoes the potato beetle does not exist; but they have the potato beetle in France, and I understand that no French potatoes are imported into England at the present time."

"For the last six weeks efforts have been made by the Minister of Agriculture and his department to have the question brought to a head. Experts from the department are over in England at the present time trying to secure the removal of the embargo, and New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island have sent delegates to London to support those department officials. The object of this resolution, sir, is to have the House of Commons go on record as requesting that the embargo be removed, or at least suspended for the time being. We from the maritimes have always backed up our hon. friends from western Canada in their efforts to secure better conditions in their section of the dominion, and as a special favour we now ask those hon. members on both sides of the house to support this resolution and so help to bring about the removal of the British embargo against our potatoes."

Mr. MacLean's Remarks

Mr. A. E. MACLEAN (Prince): "Mr. Speaker, I desire to thank the hon. member for Victoria-Carleton (Mr. Smith) for having brought this matter before the house. As the hon. member for York-Sunbury (Mr. Hanson) has just said, this is an important matter to the people of the maritimes. We have had a large crop of potatoes but there is no market available. The farmers have been compelled to sell potatoes at as low as ten cents per bushel, and everyone will realize the difficulties under which our farmers are operating."

"As has been pointed out, a delegation from the maritime provinces, supplemented by a man from the Department of Agriculture, was sent to Great Britain in an endeavour to have this embargo removed. Our information up to the present time is that they have not been successful in their mission. It is very hard for the people of the maritimes and of Canada as a whole to understand why our friends in Great Britain have not seen their way clear to lift this embargo. It is too bad that something has not been done, even of a temporary character, because it would have relieved the situation. This relief must come quickly in order to be beneficial, because the distance being so great it is impossible to ship our potatoes to Great Britain in the summer time and have them arrive in good condition. No doubt the delegation has done everything possible, but I agree with the hon. member who moved the solution that this house should take strong and definite action on this matter. I understand that the delegation is about to return, and if a cablegram could be sent, possibly this evening, to the ministry in Great Britain asking

"Now, we cannot blame the English authorities for trying to keep clear of this pest, but apparently they misunderstand the real situation. I have been growing potatoes practically all my life. We dig our potatoes in the fall and store them in potato houses and potato cellars, and never in my experience have I seen a potato bug in any of these storage places. The Colorado beetle simply does not follow the potato crop. Even before we dig our potatoes those lads are very wise, for at the very first appearance of a white frost they burrow into the ground or conceal themselves in the grass and leaves along the fences, and we see nothing more of them until next summer when our crop is three or four inches above

FORUM

FANCY DRESS CARNIVAL

FRIDAY, FEB. 19

Good Prizes

LEAFS SHUTOUT BY BRUINS 3-0

(Associated Press)

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 16.—The Boston Bruins played their best brand of hockey tonight to register their first victory of the season over the speedy Toronto Maple Leafs, who were shut out, 3 to 0.

The first period was cautiously played and ended without a score. In the second, Frank Jerwa was bumped at the Leafs' blue line but he managed to slide the puck over it and Dit Clapper nailed it. He passed left to Barry and Marty aimed a hard shot that struck goalie Chabot's right skate and bounced back into his net for the opening tally.

Art Chapman intercepted Happy Day's pass in the third period, pivoted in quickly and drove a 15 footer into the Toronto net. The Leafs then cast caution to the winds and put on a terrific five man attack. These tactics were costly, for Cooney Weiland was on the outside of a scrimmage when the puck sailed out of it and the tiny third centreman beat the pack down the ice and poked his shot through Chabot without great difficulty.

Women's Music Club

The regular meeting of the Women's Music Club was held on Monday evening, February 15th at the home of Mrs. Keith Rogers. The program for the evening was taken from Mozart's compositions, and reflected great credit on the different members taking part.

The program follows:

Piano—Mozart—Miss Berna Heustis.

Piano—Romance—Miss Lillian McKenzie.

Violin—Menuett—Miss Hornby.

Vocal "Peace and Content"—Mrs. Lawson.

Piano—"Tuba Mirum" (Requiem) Mrs. Rogers.

Vocal: "The Violet"—Mrs. MacMillan.

Piano—"Fantasia C. Minor"—Mrs. Full.

Vocal—(a) "A Warning." (b) "Lullaby"—Mrs. Henderson.

Piano—"Fantasia D. Minor"—Mrs. Dingwell.

Following the program, refreshments were served by the hostess and the members made further plans for the Hart House String Quartet Recital which is to be given under their auspices, in Charlottetown, early in April.

ACCEPTS CHALLENGE

We, the Gaytown Hawks do hereby accept the challenge put through by the Maple Leafs. The game will be played Saturday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock.

embargo was placed against United States potatoes and that we were allowed to export our potatoes to the British market. Then the United States, seeing that we were given this privilege, and knowing that Canada had the Colorado beetle the same as they had, got busy with the Minister of Agriculture in Great Britain, and succeeded in persuading Great Britain to have the embargo apply to Canada as well as to the United States. I do not know whether there is any difficulty on that account, whether Great Britain feels it cannot lift that embargo and allow our potatoes in without giving the United States the same privilege, or whether there is some other reason, but I am strongly convinced that there is some stronger reason than the potato beetle and I should like to know whether the government can find out what that reason is. Apparently the United States were not satisfied with shutting us out of their own market by a prohibitive tariff, but they tried to use their influence with the British government in an endeavor to have this embargo placed. I think in all fairness now, when we are looking to closer relations within the empire, to bigger trade within the different dominions, Great Britain should be approached very strongly and definitely on this question and asked for immediate action. I wish to compliment the hon. member on bringing this matter before the house and I can assure him of my most hearty support."

LOOKING 'EM OVER

BY "TEC"

TODAY'S RACES

Well, here's two lineups I think would go far.

First	Goal	Second
McCann, Moncton	Defence	Capitals
Gross, Abbies	Moncton	
Graham, Rangers	Left Wing	
Lennon, Truro	Centre	
D. James, Rangers	Miller, Tigers	
R. Winger	Shields, Truro	Moncton
Alternates		
McManus, Caps.	A. Taylor, Rang.	
Jemmett, Truro	E. Mosher, Caps.	
Kane, Abbies	C. Lawlor, Halifax	

There is a lot of interest being taken in today's horse races and the new course has been surveyed and laid out. It will be to the west of the previous course, that is, further towards York Point. The ice should be good and fast times are expected when the classy brigade dig in their toes.

In the free-for-all will be such ice champs as Miss Possibility, who, although she did not make a formidable showing on clay last year, has real whizz and showed it by winning every start on ice last winter at Marshall, Maine, where they certainly know how to cut loose. Major S. 2.12 1/2 is good for quarters in 80 seconds any time, and Hush, a new arrival to the fast brigade is said to have as much lick as anybody's horse. Last but not least perhaps, is Volo Rico, 2.04, winner of the fastest third heat in the Maritimes last year, 2.08 1/2. This is his first appearance on the frozen surface and he may not take to it, having some peculiar notions of his own at times, but maybe he will, and if so should put up a tough struggle for a place.

Class A Trot and Pace has two old rivals for trotting honors, Briar Mac, 2.14, who has poked his nose out in front more times in ice races in the last two years here than any other speedster. Johnny Walker, who has sometimes beaten Briar a heat or perhaps a race, will endeavor today to snatch the trotting laurels. Lealock, 2.09 1/2, a pacer, will start with them to increase the excitement.

There are two more good races for this afternoon in addition to those mentioned, each of which will test the judging ability of the officials to the utmost.

Finishing touches are being put to the track this morning by Victoria Driving Club officials and with good weather prevailing a record crowd should be on hand when the first heat is called at 2 p.m.

GRAPPLING STYLES IN JAPAN

While the cauliflower industry is progressing in this country in a way that is rapidly lining the pockets of the headmen with a pleasant coating of doubloons, their brothers of the fraternity are having a rather lean time in Japan, where they have gone on strike for better pay, shorter hours and retirement pensions. There are a few here who may not be entitled to fairer treatment in the first two respects, but whom the public would gladly see pensioned off.

Incidentally while fans may think some of these lads who groan and grapple around here are tough, they are a lot of lilies compared with the Japs. The latter are trained from the cradle and fed on half raw beefsteak when other children are still sipping milk. They grow to a huge size, sometimes are seven feet tall and weigh around 400 pounds. Their early training consists in taking running dives at masses of movable stone and wood, hitting them with mighty grunts. After a few years of these gentle exercises the candidate is considered fit to learn the 48 holds that make up their particular game.

Matches are staged in a 12 foot ring and the sole aim of the contestants is to squash each other into submission. The champions are allowed the distinction of wearing a straw rope around their waists, and associating with the elite of society. The step-up in community life does not help their pay much.

THE OL' DISEASE

A "Fan" has written me asking me, "if I wouldn't mind 'lining up' two Maritime All-Star aggregations, first and second choice."

MAROONS 7 AMERICANS 1

FORUM, MONTREAL, Que., Feb. 16.—(By the Canadian Press)—The Montreal Maroons climbed out of the cellar position of the Canadian section of the National Hockey League standing by trouncing the New York Americans 7-1 here tonight.

and they depend mainly on what the patrons feel free to give them and presents from their admirers.

ABBIES KEEP REPUTATION

A Halifax Exchange in a report of the recent Wolverine-Abbie game says in part:

"The Abbies came here with a big reputation and when the contest was over they still had it. Walter Lawlor and Steve Estabrook at centre gave sparkling exhibitions and "Baldy" Schwab on the left flank also put up a fine game. The defence of the visitors, Tommy Oliver and Harold Gross worked hard and gave Goalle Ray Stull strong support. They very seldom rushed up the ice, but when they did they were dangerous and gave "Skeet" Kuhn in the Wolves' nets several anxious moments. Jack "Hurricane" Kane scored one goal but his playing was not impressive. Ray Stull the Island net guardian had hard luck, both of Irvine's tallies going in off his body.

WILL AWARD MEDALS

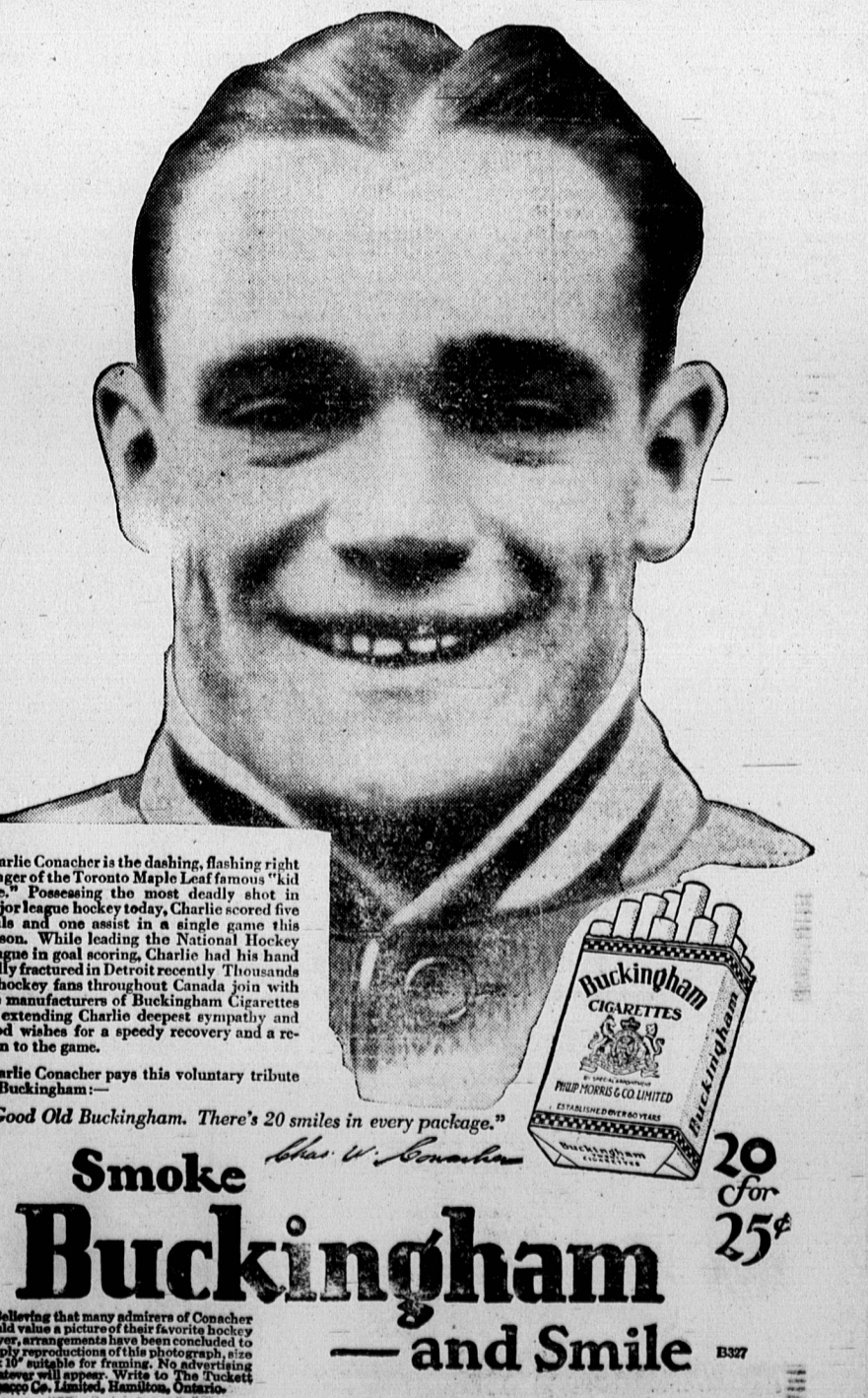
Maritime championship team will be presented with gold medals this year, and a committee consisting of H. O. Schryer, C. D. Shipley and Joe McManus has been appointed to take care of the matter. Gold medals will go to the senior champions, silver to the intermediates, and bronze to the junior title holders.

CURLING

DOMINION LIFE TROPHY

Mike Campbell J. A. Bentley
David MacLeod Theo. Sentness
Hal Spillett F. A. Johnston
Judge Duffy H. A. Ebers
Skip 12 Skip 9

Matches will be continued in both Dominion Life and Junior Series tonight. Gordon Hughes' team will play Jack Fraser, Mike Campbell will play Theo. Sentness.



Charlie Conacher is the dashing, flashing right winger of the Toronto Maple Leaf famous "kid line." Possessing the most deadly shot in major league hockey today, Charlie scored five goals and one assist in a single game this season. While leading the National Hockey League in goal scoring, Charlie had his hand badly fractured in Detroit recently. Thousands of hockey fans throughout Canada join with the manufacturers of Buckingham Cigarettes in extending Charlie deepest sympathy and good wishes for a speedy recovery and a return to the game.

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