

# Liberal Address By Hon. William Hughes

The following address was given last night by Hon. William Hughes, Provincial Treasurer:

A few days ago I had the pleasure of mailing to the Old Age and Blind Pensioners of this Province the following letter:

"The enclosed old age pension cheque is your special payment due you apart from your regular monthly cheque."

"On November 1st you received an increase of \$5.00 per month. This special payment and the \$5.00 per month increase which you are to receive are due to the Dominion-Provincial arrangement signed in July last, and proclaimed September 24, 1947."

"Our opponents allege that we are exploiting the pensioners in this Province. In 1934 the only full year in which pensioners were paid was in 1934. The Conservative administration, the average monthly cheque to old age pensioners was \$12.25 and the total amount expended was \$167,000. In November, 1947, the average monthly cheque to old age pensioners was \$17.25 and the total expenditure for this year will be \$586,000. In the same month the average cheque to blind pensioners was \$27.75 and the amount paid was \$33,000. Next year, with the present number of pensioners, the old age pension bill will amount to \$521,000. However, reducing the rate from forty to twenty-one at which a blind person can qualify for a pension, and the easing of some of the regulations applying to old age pensioners, some people not heretofore eligible may now get an old age pension, and the

expenditure on old age and blind pensions will be about \$1,000,000 in 1948. In 1934 the expenditure on pensions was \$167,000 whereas in 1948 it will be about \$1,000,000. I trust that I will live long enough to be again accused of exploiting the pensioners of this Province.

**Financial Record**

On September 15, 1947, Hon. W.J.P. MacMillan, O.B.E., speaking on behalf of the Party he led, said these words, "Let us look at the financial record of the Government to its credit. Ever since the present Liberal Government came into power, the financial history has been one of profligate expenditure, with little or a substantial nature to show for it, and the piling up of huge deficits consistently year after year, until at the present time, we are, as a people, submerged in the greatest over-all provincial debt in the history of the Province. So great is the debt of Prince Edward Island today (Dr. MacMillan goes on to say) that we are practically facing financial bankruptcy."

I saved only the recent Federally determined hand-out granted by Ottawa and accepted under pressure by the Province, because of the financial morass into which the Province has been led by the present administration."

The worthy Doctor did not state how he arrived at such an alarming conclusion, nor did he use even the figure to prove the accuracy of his statement. I will shortly

(Continued on Page

## TRAINING SCHOOL

(Continued from Page 1)

to the Veterans' Wing. When I tell you that as soon as the rooms were completed they were immediately occupied by Veterans, I am sure you will agree with the Board that it was far more important to have the Veterans hospitalized here without the delay which it would have been to have held such a function. As it was, we were able to admit our first Veteran patients on the fifth day of November, 1946.

"You will realize too, that once we increased the capacity of our Hospital to 200 beds it was necessary to greatly increase our staff and our student nurses. This necessitated increasing our facilities for housing and training these student nurses. The result was, that on August 15, 1946, work was commenced on the building in which you now are and which will be used as a training school and dormitory.

"It is fifty-four years ago that a young lady, Miss Sarah J. Arthur, and Miss Ella M. Tynan graduated from the training school of this Hospital. Since that time almost 200 young ladies have received their diploma from this institution; 200 ladies who have provided leadership in matters pertaining to public health not only in this Province but far beyond its shores. At the present time, we have in training 62 girls; 62 girls whose minimum educational standard must be Grade XI, who must be of the highest moral character and in the best of health; 62 girls who will receive instruction in three years from those specially qualified and trained; three years of special study, intensive training and discipline. Then 62 young ladies who will be particularly well-qualified in their particular lines of endeavour.

"It is fast becoming a serious problem for the Boards of Institutions such as this to provide proper facilities for the training and educating of young women in the

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

**BIRTHS**

**MACLEER**—At the Charlottetown Hospital, November 25 to Mr. and Mrs. John F. Macleer (nee Blanche Campbell), a daughter.

**GALLANT**—At the Prince County Hospital on Nov. 25, to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gallant (nee Helen McKenna) a son, 7 lbs. 11 oz.

**DEATHS**

**PIGOT**—At Brookline, Mass., November 25th, 1947, Mrs. Melvina Pigot, Savage Harbor, aged 58 years. Remains arriving home Friday morning. Funeral Sunday afternoon. Short service at the house at 1:30 followed with funeral service at 1:50 from St. John's United Church, Mt. Stewart.

## CARD OF THANKS

Messrs. John and William Hanns wish to thank their friends and neighbours and especially the Superintendent and Staff of the Experimental Farm and Mr. N. D. MacLean, for their acts of kindness, during their sad bereavement also to those who sent flowers, cards and letters of sympathy.

## N. D. MacLean

**UNDERTAKER EMBALMER**

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# The Central Guardian

This column is reserved for news of local interest, but advertising of a new way may be inserted at five cents a word strictly payable in advance.

**BY AIR to Montreal and Boston** in about three hours. Phone Mar 2 time Central Airways 2661 or 540.

**THE BASILICA** Choir practice called for Thursday is postponed until Friday evening at 7 o'clock.

**FIR FINISH** Mouldings and Hardwood Flooring in stock. MacDonal-Rowe Woodworking Co., Ltd.

**OUTSTANDING** value in radios—Just a few left—Capitol Electric next door to Prince Edward Theatre.

**FUNERAL YESTERDAY**—The funeral of the late Joseph Carr, who passed away at Dartmouth on November 22, was held yesterday afternoon from the Cutcliffe Funeral Home. Service at the home and grave was conducted by Major MacLean. The pallbearers were, Bruce Josses, S. MacLeod, Frank MacLeod, Austin J. Trainor, Ernest Austin, and Edward Dalziel. The Canadian Legion attended in a body. Interment was in the People's Cemetery.

**ENTERTAINMENT HELD**—The Charlottetown Council, Knights of Columbus, held a social evening for their wives or lady friends in their home Tuesday evening, which was very much enjoyed by all present. Some played cards to pass the evening while others very pleasantly spent it in dancing, the music being furnished by Messrs. Ding Connolly, Alf. McKearney, Aeneas Curley and Mr. Dolron. A hearty lunch was served by the Lecturers Committee after which all left for their homes looking forward to another entertainment in the near future.

**CLOSE OFFICE IN REMEMBRANCE**—The funeral of the late Mr. V. R. Smith, President of the Confederation Life Association who died suddenly in England on November 21st, will be held in Grace-Church-on-the-Hill, Lunenburg, on Saturday, December 27th, this afternoon. Out of respect to their late President, all Branches including the local one in this city will be closed at one o'clock.

**GIFT-BOX SUNDAY AT MURRAY HARBOR**—Sunday, November 24, was observed as Gift-Box Sunday in the United Churches of Murray Harbour, Little Sands and Murray River. The offerings of the gift-boxes were dedicated to the Missionary and Maintenance Fund of the United Church of Canada. A total of \$211.00 was presented by the people as an extra gift to the Missionary cause. The boxes are kept throughout the year and are brought annually to the Church in November for dedication.

**NO TRACE OF MISSING MAN**—No further information has been received as to the whereabouts of Mr. Dan Matheson, C. N. R. policeman, who has been missing from his home since the night of Friday, November 14, when he was last seen in the vicinity of Prince Street wharf. City policemen were called out about 10 o'clock yesterday morning to investigate some floating object, which was seen off the waterfront. On going out in a tug from the Marine wharf they found only various pieces of refuse floating with the tide. Other dragging and patrolling operations were carried out during the day, but no trace of the missing man has been found.

# close parts of their institutions

gotten anywhere. These men are a credit to their profession and they have the confidence of the community in general and of the patients in particular.

"This great building which I understand, he used particularly for nurses in training, and here there has been provided every physical opportunity necessary for this. In such an institution it is imperative that nurses be fully qualified and eminently fitted for their work and with such an array of doctors and specialists to teach, inform and prepare them for graduation, there is provided the nucleus from which will develop the capable and efficient nurses without which the institution would not function properly.

"And now, honourable chairman, ladies and gentlemen, in declaring this Nurses Training School of the Prince Edward Island Hospital officially opened, I compliment your Superintendent of Nurses and your Superintendent of Training School for the success you are achieving in your great and noble work while I beseech the betterment of mankind's suffering, both mental and physical, will, I hope, be used by our citizens as a necessity and appreciated by them while life lasts. We in our day see many changes taking place in all directions. I am happy to say, especially in democratic countries, are for the betterment of the community in which they occur, so that all may have the opportunity of using them, if the necessity arises, regardless of creed, race or worth, and that is as it should be.

"To the doctors and technicians of this hospital, may I also offer my congratulations on your having acquired a place wherein you can impart to the pupils and trainees the knowledge so essential and so important in the caring of the sick, the aged and the infirm. To conduct classes and carry out courses without the proper facilities, as you have done in the past, must at times have been most irksome and tedious, but I know you rejoice today in having at your disposal such a School as this modern and up-to-date in every respect. I know that it will lighten your responsibility in the teaching, examining and graduating of student nurses in their various courses, and will tend to a greater efficiency in your nursing class.

"To the patients in the hospital, may I say, that your welfare and restoration to health, is not only the concern of the doctors and medical staff and the nurses. It is the concern of everyone, to see that those laid aside by sickness, receive the greatest possible care. To that end, this school has been erected and opened today.

"To the people of Charlottetown, I say—you should feel proud that in this City we have one of the finest medical institutions, to be found anywhere in the North American continent.

"To the members of the nursing profession and to the nursing students, we all know the magnificent part the nursing sisters played in the last two World Wars. Possibly we did not realize, those of us who were on the home front, the great service they render our community. We did, however, when we were confronted with a shortage of nurses. This shortage was due to the fact, that many of them had enlisted, and secondly, we had not had facilities to train sufficient nurses over and above those required in normal times. The invaluable service of the nurses was never brought home to us more forcibly than during the last decade."

His Worship complimented the nurses on their faithful discharge of their duties, concluding by quoting "A Nurse's Prayer," as appearing in the June issue of "The Canadian Nurse."

## Health and social security measures

would be under consideration when the Dominion-Provincial Conference again meets and he felt the Province would be in a position to match any schemes which might be devised. It was hoped to interest the Federal authorities in making an experimental area in which it would set the pace for other provinces.

The Premier stated that the Province would have a Sanitary Engineer when Dr. Sharpe would be over next May.

Reference was made to such security measures as old age pensions, family allowances and the work carried on among the youth in the physical fitness program.

## Hon. Dr. MacMillan

Speaking as chief of the staff of the Charlottetown Hospital, Hon. Dr. W.J.P. MacMillan, O.B.E., warmly congratulated the trustees of the Prince Edward Island Hospital upon their splendid institution. The goodwill and mutual cooperation between the two hospitals of this city, he declared, is a perfect setting for the future development and success of both.

"This was the first opportunity he had of saying a word of praise and thanks to Dr. Wendell Macdonald, who serves both hospitals as an efficient registrar of the American College of Surgeons. "That great association which has done a wealth of work in elevating and maintaining high standards in the hospitals of this continent," Dr. MacMillan said it was most encouraging to note the progress and high standing of the Prince Edward Island Hospital. The new addition now being opened would make it one of the best in this country. The type of construction in the main building, he said, still stands as the best standard of hospital construction in this country from the important standpoint of economical construction, and incidentally makes for efficient management. He congratulated the contractors, Messrs. Schurman and Son on their good work, and said he was sure the nurses would properly appreciate their beautiful new residence.

Dr. MacMillan went on to emphasize the importance of the nursing profession, and to compliment Prince Edward Island girls on making the best nurses on the North American continent.

"The big problem now," he added, "is to get more girls to train. This country is desperately short of nurses. Hospitals have had to

# Personal

The many friends of Mrs. William Toombs of North Rustico are pleased to hear she is making a satisfactory recovery after her recent operation in the P.E.I. Hospital.

Col. Conrad concluded by quoting a resolution passed at the provincial convention of the Canadian Legion commending the Department in this connection.

**Fisheries Federation Committee Discusses Irish Moss Grading**

Directors of the P. E. Island Fisheries Federation met in session yesterday at the hour of 11 a.m. for the purpose of disposing of routine business.

Following this, the Irish moss committee of the Federation met in the Legislative Chamber at 2:15 p.m. under the chairmanship of Mr. John B. Myrick, for the discussion of proposed compulsory grading regulations.

There was present Dr. A.W.H. Needler, director of the Biological Station at St. Andrew's, who explained the results of his research of the samples of Irish moss collected both in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. It should be of interest to the Island producers of moss to know that the Nova Scotia product rated much higher than the Island gathered moss. This was attributed to the fact that Nova Scotia moss is almost entirely raked from sea bottom instead of being gathered from shore.

Also attending were Dr. Levitt, representing the MacLean Cocoa Mills, Mr. Ambrose, of Portland, Maine, representing Kraft Foods.

**Too Late To Gladly**

LOST—GOLD LAFEL PIN, anythrust spray. Finder, leave at Guardian, Reward.

## PERSONALS

The greetings of the Rt. Hon. Ian MacKenzie, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Dr. Walter S. Woods, Deputy Minister, who found it impossible to be present on account of prior engagements, were conveyed by Lt. Col. F.B. Conrad, M.M., E.D., District Administrator of the Department.

"I do," he said, "would like to congratulate the Board of Trustees of this Hospital on the completion of this of the two splendid additions to your hospital buildings. It truly is an achievement in these days when building materials and supplies are so scarce."

"The Department of Veterans Affairs had a minor part, at least, in the building of the wing known as the Veterans Pavilion. We were very happy to assist in the hospital situation in this Province, before November, 1946, was rather grim. Hospital space was at a premium and we were forced to send the big majority of our sick and disabled veterans to hospitals in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec. With the opening of the Veterans' Pavilion however in November, 1946, the picture changed, and since that time we have sent very few veterans to hospitals in other Provinces.

"I know that we are all agreed that veterans must have the finest medical attention and care that it is possible to get, and I feel perfectly satisfied that our island veterans are now receiving that attention and care.

"I would like at this time to pay a small tribute to the work of the three consultants in this Province: Drs. Campbell, Lea, and Howson, who have rendered such magnificent service to the veterans of Prince Edward Island. Just a word of thanks also to the nurses and staff in the Veterans' Pavilion who by their untiring cheerfulness and devotion to duty, have assisted so materially in restoring many patients to normal health. The excellent work of the Canadian Red Cross Society is also worthy of commendation. They have done much to encourage the veterans,

## PERSONALS

through instruction in handicrafts, visiting patients regularly, distributing cigarettes and reading matter, supplying radios, and in co-operating with the Department of Veterans Affairs in supplying films for our weekly motion picture show."

Mr. Wells, Montreal representing the same concern; Mr. Ray Stewart, representing the Jertson Company; Mr. Walter Shaw, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. J.J. Larrabee, Inspector of Fisheries in Prince Edward Island. Discussions took place with regard to minimum percentage of grading specifications. Some of the requirements for the setting up of other essential points were thought to require further study.

The Committee feels much progress has been made and that great benefits will result if Island moss can be brought up to a higher standard.

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## PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PLATFORM

### 8.—OLD AGE PENSIONS—

The Progressive Conservative Party introduced Old Age Pensions in Prince Edward Island and are prepared to pioneer still further in the interest of our aged people. When elected to office, we will urge that Old Age Pensions be granted and paid without property lien, and become effective at the age of sixty-five years.

(To Be Continued)

Inserted by the Progressive Conservative Party

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