

Mr. Hemming Interviewed on Continued Delay in Revoting Wharf Repairs

Comment on the action of the Dominion Government in postponing the vote for the repairing of the Charlottetown railway wharf until the next parliamentary session was invited by The Guardian from Mr. H. K. S. Hemming, secretary-treasurer of the Import and Export Company of Prince Edward Island. It was to Mr. Hemming that Public Works Minister Fourrier's assurance was given on Sept. 8 last, that the vote would be placed in the Supplementary Estimates for this year. Subsequently Mr. Fourrier said this was not being done.

"In the first place," Mr. Hemming told a Guardian representative, "I believe the Government will change its mind. At the present moment Prime Minister King is asking all the Provincial Premiers to put their faith in him regarding the all important question of taxation and I believe it is all together too wise a politician to have it broadcasted that Ottawa is continuing to treat the smaller Provinces unfairly."

"In the second place I do not regard this as so flagrant a breach of faith on the part of Mr. Fourrier as at first sight it appears. I feel that he has been made scapegoat by the Ontario members of the Cabinet. As he looks some days to reply to my letter I think that he consulted the Cabinet before promising on September 8th to have the necessary money voted in this session's supplementary estimates. At that time there were probably several Ontario members of the Cabinet away from Ottawa, but when he had to make an announcement in Committee on a simple question of money, he was bound to obtain Ontario's consent to the spending of money in this Province."

"Do you really believe Ontario is in this matter?"

"Certainly do," Mr. Hemming replied. "Moreover, they have for years used their influence to prevent what they regard as unnecessary expenditure in this Province away down in the Gulf."

"Do you think that a very strong statement to make?"

"Plain speaking."

"Yes, but on Saturday you said in your address that it is time what I am doing. I was in business for seventeen years in Toronto and took a more or less active part in the public affairs and I believe that I understand the mentality of the Ontario people."

"You see, Ontario is the largest Province in Canada, the most populous and the richest. There have been a generally accepted shibboleth for the last forty or fifty years that as Ontario pays a more of the Federal taxes than any other Province they are being mulcted for a lion's share of the money spent in the other eight Provinces. It was because of this feeling that the Ontario broke up the last Dominion Provincial Conference since then Premier Drew, in a recent speech, had admitted that the manufacturers, wholesalers and big retailers of Ontario make enormous sales to the other Provinces and that it pays Ontario to have those Provinces prosperous, so that they will have more money to spend. That is encouraging but it will take many years to induce people of Ontario to forget this shibboleth and regard the Dominion as a United Nation."

"I have several times in the past advised the employment by our Provincial Government of a strict class representative to the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec with headquarters in Toronto, employing a stenographer. He should be a good speaker and thoroughly versed in the wonderful possibilities of this Island. He should spend his whole time in contacting the different members of the Ontario Government, the manufacturers association, the Boards of Trade in Toronto and other cities, the commercial travelers, the editors of all the daily and weekly publications, the brokers of all the stock-exchanges including the promoters generally."

"Ontario businessmen are decidedly progressive and, if you show them how they can make money out of this Province by developing its remarkable products, they will work for the raising of the money and placing it in charge of their business management."

"These business men are sadly ignorant of our economic position. They know it that we are the farthest Province from Ontario and

that we are terribly handicapped by heavy freight rates. They admit that we can produce a superior potato and that we have the makings of an excellent tourist trade. On the other hand, they do not know the very great extent to which our farmers and fishermen and more diversified production, nor do they realize that central Canada is not our market, as they are producing similar lines to ours to an exporting excess, while the United States levies heavy duties on almost everything that we do for them. They have not yet been told that in the outside world there are almost two billion people, most of whom are very hungry and who are glad to buy the excellent food that we sell them and pay good prices for it also."

"Another Year's Delay"

"Well, Mr. Hemming, this is all very interesting but do you realize that if the vote for the Charlottetown harbor repairs is postponed until what they call the March session it will probably be August before it passes Parliament, and the contractors would not be able to start work until the spring of 1947. That would mean the loss of a whole year before any ships would be allowed to enter the harbor. It is important, therefore, that no time be lost by the press and people of the Island in demanding, or rather commanding, that this vote be passed before the present session adjourns. The amount of money required is so comparatively petty that I cannot believe that the members of the House of Commons would not gladly give their consent."

"Now, Mr. Hemming you have made a very serious charge against the Ottawa Government of discrimination against the smaller Provinces. Do you really feel quite sure of your premises in this matter?"

"Well I know exactly how I felt when living in Ontario, but let me cite a particular circumstance in connection with our harbor improvement. I will remember that on April 1st, 1945, the necessary repairs were attempted to let the contract till the following November. That meant the loss of a whole year."

"The Montreal contractors, Fort and Co., during the winter of 1937 made all the necessary preparations for the work but unfortunately, because of high railway freight rates, did not start their heavy machinery to Charlottetown until it could come down by boat. It was only, therefore, by the end of June that they actually got to work. They bought and paid for special steel re-erected timbers, cement and gravel to the value of \$175,000.00 when the war broke out the first week in August our friends from Ontario got to work without delay and ours was the first contract to be cancelled. I happened to be in Toronto at the time and on my way home I called upon Mr. Fort and Co. in Montreal so that they could not deny the facts but said they would gladly continue the work if we could induce the Ottawa Government to reverse their cancellation. They explained that they would demand cash payment of all their expenditures."

Someone HAS TO PLOUGH

"... I see no reason to believe that there can ever evolve an economic system so ingeniously contrived that everyone will have a high living standard and social security waiting for him as a matter of right, whether he works hard for it or not."

"... life on this planet being as it is, someone has to plough and reap, to plan and build, to exercise qualities of initiative, foresight and daring; and only this totality of productive effort can provide a real and enduring basis for material welfare and economic security..."

"Government can distribute no benefits that individuals, through their labour, do not provide..."

"If we ignore this fact, the result cannot fail to be diminished incentives, dislocation and discontent, and a strong upward pressure on costs of production — matters of considerable moment in relation to our post-war objectives of a high level of production and employment at home, and an expanding external trade."

GEORGE W. SPENNET,
President



Morning Smile

"How long have they been married?"

"About five years."

"Did she make him a good wife?"

"Oh, she makes him a good wife and a really good husband."

Ellen's Diary

By an Island Farmer's Wife

(Continued from page 2)

son of others happiness. And you know James was having similar thoughts. You seemed to be very quietly he went about his day. And then, after all, you grew accustomed to the change, and you had at his place a time or two or had gone as usual to tidy up his room the way he already in order and so empty. And when you came out and shut the door, you closed your eyes for a moment, and then you turned, and there he was, looking at you with a smile that was just what you needed. You had to give way before the advance of time. Judy came and Julie and she was already in the kitchen, and you had to occupy your mind with some of the work of the house, a goodly portion of their day.

James is absent tonight, having gone down the driveway. The lock is in the car, his armchair is vacant and the other things are scattered about the yard. I heard a faint rustle of wings as a passing bird touched the grass, and I saw a flash of red as a crow flew over the fence. I was alone in the house, and I felt a little lonely. I hope he will be back soon. I am ever so concerned at being left alone on my own island farm for I am sure that Aunt Kitty Mahoney will be here soon. She will be a bit frightened if you need to stay a night, if any one carries you off at night, they'd be sure to fetch you back in the morning.

Until tomorrow—Diary—Good night.

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Canadian's Got Action

"On my return home I immediately called upon Premier Campbell and the local Government and they lost no time in writing me. Dr. Cyrus MacMillan asking him to immediately attend to the matter. He also called upon Mayor Holman who had just returned from Ottawa and felt that Dr. MacMillan could be depended upon to have the cancellation reversed without loss of time. He got a mail explaining the great importance of the matter including the fact that if the coal and ships direct to England during the war, a great saving of time and money could be made. Furthermore, we had a large number of unemployed who had been placed on dole pay 40 p.c. Northwest Territories Government paid for the raising of the matter and an unknown amount for other things about \$75,000 to cover the job all of which would have been spent on wages."

"Ontario Wouldn't Let Us"

"During the next session of Parliament every delegation that went to Ottawa from the Island stressed the need for continuing the work in the spring of 1940 as all the materials were on hand. Colonel Ralston and other members of the Government all promised to have the matter attended to and nothing was done. During the following summer Dr. Cyrus MacMillan, came to see me and I said to him, 'Dr. MacMillan how is it possible to account for what appears to me to have been a whole series of blunders?' His reply was, 'Why, Mr. Hemming, you of course know, Ontario wouldn't let us.'"

Note the word 'us'!

I could give you several other proofs of the fact that Ontario has been practically the whole cause of trouble in this matter but it would be a story altogether too long for The Guardian to publish. It should not, however, be forgotten that during the last meeting of the local Legislature Premier Jones told the members that he had been promised in Ottawa that this particular work would be proceeded with during the past summer. Further, that as the necessary funds were passed in 1936 by Parliament and that the cancellation of the contract was made by order in council, it was but logical that the reversal that cancellation could and should have been made by an order in council, thereby obviating all the unnecessary delays. Nor should it be forgotten that the special steel and other materials were suitably removed from Charlottetown by steamer at night. Lots more could be said—but I leave that to you."

"Psychic" Canuck Astonishes Danes in the Far North

By Elsie Nemy
Canadian Press Staff Writer
WINNIPEG, Nov. 30.—(C.P.)—The first Canadian woman to live in Greenland, Mrs. Trevor Lloyd, is back in Winnipeg after a year that will live long in memories.

Ms. Lloyd, her eight-year-old daughter, Mona, flew to Godthaab where Mr. Lloyd was Canadian consul. Her experiences there, she says, almost made her forget "how easy it can be to live in a city."

"I thought I'd educate myself in the 12 months I spent there but I didn't have time," she confesses. "We did so much entertaining and I took Danish lessons and somehow the days just whizzed by."

"We lived in luxury compared to the rest of the people there," she says. "The Canadian consulate has electricity, hot and cold water and a furnace."

"Food was sent in once a year by the Canadian government. Mrs. Lloyd ordered hers before she left for Godthaab. Fish and birds were plentiful and occasionally they had seal and caribou meat."

Language was a problem. The Danes all spoke English but the Greenlanders understood only Danish.

Crop Production And Soil Fixtures

The texture of the soil has a great influence on the physical and chemical characteristics of the soil and consequently it has an important bearing on crop production. By soil texture is meant the degree of fineness of the individual soil particles or in other words the relative amount of gravel, sand, silt and clay present in a particular soil, states P. C. Stobbs, Field Husbandry Division, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

Coarse sandy or light textured soils permit more rapid percolation than the heavier silty and clayey soils because of their smaller moisture holding capacity. This moisture relationship in the soil has a direct relationship to crop production. In the drier sections of the prairie provinces, the sandy soils are often only marginal to sub-marginal land, while in the more humid sections of the country the sandy soils often form the more desirable agricultural land especially for the production of some important crops. The heavier clay soils on the other hand are often too poorly drained and too cold for many crops in the humid section, while in the drier regions they form first class agricultural land.

Other things being equal, the heavier clay and clay loam soils generally contain more plant nutrients for crop production than air liner

Greenlandic and Danish Sheik

Greenlandic and Danish Sheik took Danish lessons from the wife of a missionary head but admits she still isn't perfect at it. Mona, who attended Danish school, speaks the language fluently and "she often had to interpret for me."

Recreation was plentiful. "We had a good supply of books, the radio reception was clear and then there was a movie once a week in addition, we did a great deal of visiting."

Slacks, sweaters, fleece lined boots and a fur coat were her mainstay in clothing. "It's not really cold but it's usually cloudy and damp and the winds are terrible."

In June, Mrs. Lloyd was flown to the American military hospital at the south base where her baby son, Hush, was born. When they were flown back up the ice cap, "The trip back to Canada was also eventful. They came in a Danish freighter, across the Atlantic and up to Montreal, and en route ran into the tail-end of a hurricane from the Caribbean. The trip took 13 days."

There are many incidents she likes to recall. One day she planned a birthday party for her husband, asked a number of guests, but didn't mention any specific reason for the party. When the day dawned, May 4, the NBC news announced that Denmark had been liberated. "The Danes were overjoyed," she says. "I thought I was psychic." She says, "They kept on saying, 'Mrs. Lloyd, how clever of you to plan a party—how did you know Denmark would be liberated today.'"

Mrs. Lloyd will leave Winnipeg in January to join her husband at Dartmouth College, New Hampshire.

STAGE VETERAN HAMPSHIRE

MONTEREY, Calif., Dec. 3.—(AP)—George Marion, veteran of the stage, died at his nearby Carmel home Friday night following a heart attack.

Born in San Francisco, Mr. Marion acted in the original Lew Dock-Stader, Minstrel and in the Frohman productions in the 1890s.

He was associated with Anna May Wong and many of Broadway's famous theatre personalities, and directed 31 of the Elgfeldt productions.

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G. B. COOPER



S. R. SKILTON



E. W. HAYTER

R. W. Richards, General Sales Manager of the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company of Canada, announced the following executive appointments: G. B. Cooper, Assistant General Sales Manager; S. R. Skilton, Assistant General Sales Manager; E. W. Hayter, Manager, Advertising Department; F. G. G. P. Furness, Manager, Automobile Tire Department.

In addition, promotions in the field organization include P. F. Large, Assistant Division Manager, Alberta; J. Marlow, Assistant Division Manager, Saskatchewan; D. J. Lee, Assistant Division Manager, Manitoba; P. W. Mills, special representative, Western Ontario Sales Division; P. A. Lutz, special representative, Quebec Sales Division.