

EMPHASIZES NEED OF EQUALIZING RURAL ELECTRIFICATION BENEFITS

"The Government should consider the amount of electricity used by the consumers as well as the density of the population when giving assistance on the rural electrification program," stated Mr. Harvey Douglas, Liberal Second Minister, in speaking on the Budget debate in the Legislature Tuesday night.

"I am a little doubtful about the policy of sticking six people to a mile," he stated. "There might only be four people to the mile but these four would be big consumers and I think they should deserve a little extra consideration."

"I think that this thing should be worked out according to the fiscal need. The fewer to the mile the more assistance they should be given. We are all paying taxes and we all should be treated alike. Districts should not be discriminated against because they are thinly populated. The fact that Prince Edward Island farmers cut down on their production of potatoes and hogs would not influence are North American market one iota.

"Potatoes provide Island farmers with most of their money," he stated. "Last fall when everything else was pretty high there was no money in the Province despite the fact that eggs, butter and other farm commodities were selling at good prices."

"Farmers should not be told to cut down on their potato acreage here," he continued. "If potatoes are not a good price the farmer will not lose too much and if they are good he stands to make a lot of money."

Potato Payments

"Two years ago I lost quite a bit of money on hogs but last fall I got it all back along with a lot more," he stated.

Mr. Douglas stated that conditions were poor in the country last fall but that farmers had received payments for potatoes during the winter so that there seemed to be quite a bit of money throughout the country at the moment.

He stated that two farmers had recently visited him to purchase pigs and he was surprised at the rolls of money they hauled out of their pockets when it came time to pay.

"The Dominion Government has been pretty good to Prince Edward Island during the past few years," he stated. "In addition to the grants we have received many other benefits from Ottawa. The Dominion Government is giving us a three million dollar gift this year for our potatoes. This support of our potato crop is the same as a floor price on butter. In the past they have also supported our eggs and our hogs. They provide us with a service at Borden that cost them a million and a half last year."

He stated that Island farmers lost the Island pork market last year because England did not have enough dollars to buy Canadian pork. "We could have more trade with England if they would produce what we want. If they made a car to suit us we could buy their autos as well as our own and American cars."

Industrial Opportunity

Mr. Douglas pointed out there was a need for manufacturing industries in the Province. He stated that the Government had done its part and that it was up to the people of the Province to get busy. "There is an opportunity for those with money to start manufacturing and cold storage plants," he stated.

"If the Island people do not take action then the Premier would be justified in getting people from outside the Province to start up industries," he stated. He added that there was a great need for more cold storage facilities in Kings County.

More Plows Needed

He congratulated the Minister of Public Works and Highways for his fine work in improving the roads but asked for a couple more snow plows in his own district. "Of the 42 plows in the Province there are only 10 in Kings County. I think we could stand a couple more plows in our district."

He stated there were plenty of good clay roads in Kings County but there was a need for more pavement. He pointed out that the other night he was able to drive from Charlottetown to Mount Stewart on the pavement but when he headed into Kings County he had to get a tractor to get home.

Mr. Douglas stated that Kings County was supposed to get more pavement in compensation for the paved road through Queens County and he pointed out that even districts in Queens County were clamoring for paved roads when the Trans Canada Highway passed through nearby districts.

Education

Speaking of education he stated that there was no discrimination shown against Prince of Wales College in the investigation by the Education Committee. "I think the standard of the College and of the Principal has been raised," he stated. "We received a most favorable impression of the Principal when he appeared here during the investigation."

He advocated an insurance scheme for fishermen and thought the Fishermen's Loan Board should insure the traps if the fishermen did not.

He extended his congratulations

Sarnoff released copies of a letter from the maestro which said that "Now the sad time has come when I must reluctantly lay aside my baton and say goodbye to my orchestra."

Toscanini's letter, written on his birthday March 25, said he would carry with him "rich memories of these years of music making."

It gave no details of his reasons for deciding to leave his orchestra.

Sarnoff's letter in reply said: "I realize that after more than 65 years of absolute dedication to the art of music you have fully earned the right to lay down your baton."

"Yet I am saddened, along with millions of people in America, indeed all over the civilized world, at the thought that we shall no longer be privileged to look forward to your broadcasts and concerts which for so many years have ennobled our lives."

"That you have made your decision at a time that finds you at the very height of your artistic powers only adds poignancy to our deprivation."

EXTREME NATIONALIST

Chauvinism is the term used to denote unreasonable and exaggerated patriotism and pride.

CMA Concerned Over New Jap Trade Treaty

MONTREAL, (CP) — A spokesman for the Canadian Manufacturers' Association said Thursday it is concerned over a new Japanese trade treaty with Canada and its effects on the Canadian industry.

President J. D. Ferguson of Rock Island, Que., said the association is "apprehensive" lest the reduced rates of duty accorded Japan result in greatly increased importations of many lines of manufactured goods produced in new factories with modern equipment by "skilled labor which receives but a small fraction of the hourly wage paid the Canadian worker."

The association, however, was glad to see Canada reserved the right to establish special values for duty for any imports entering the country in such increased quantities and under such conditions as to cause or threaten serious injury to domestic producers.

It was essential the government "act promptly and adequately in all such cases" because failure to do so might well result in irreparable harm to both Canadian industry and labor.

Lumber Dealers Meet Saturday

MONCTON, (CP) — Retail lumber dealers from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island will join with others from New Brunswick in a two-day convention here Friday and Saturday, it was announced today.

The New Brunswick retail lumber dealers are hosts. The convention will start with a curling match with New Brunswick rinks competing against the combined forces of the Nova Scotia-Prince Edward Island association.

Italians Eager To Move To Canada

ROME, (AP) — The Canadian embassy's visa department here is digging itself out of an Italian rain of applications to emigrate to Canada.

"We were literally flooded," said an embassy spokesman. "We received 20,000 letters from all parts of Italy."

The letters were eager response to a program for some 5,000 un-sponsored immigrants to Canada. The first group of 450 railroad workers already has been processed.

Nearly all of the others will be specialists — mechanics, electricians, carpenters, shoemakers and other skilled workmen. The first group will begin arriving in Canada about June and it is expected that the entire movement of about 5,000 will be completed by July, said the spokesman.

In addition, the visa department here is issuing about 2,500 visas monthly to sponsored immigrants — those who have first-degree relatives in Canada.

Suggests Banks Contravening Law On Anti-Combines

OTTAWA, (SP) — A Montreal Liberal has raised the issue of whether the chartered banks are contravening Canada's anti-combines laws.

Leon D. Crestohl, representing Montreal Cartier, fired a series of questions Tuesday at T. H. Atkinson, president of the Canadian Bankers' Association, to ascertain whether the banks have combined to maintain uniform rates and whether this uniformity conflicts with the anti-combines legislation.

Mr. Atkinson, a witness before the Commons banking committee, said there is greater competition between banks than ever before.

and that this competition for business is keener than between any other industries.

By keen competition, he did not mean price-cutting, for that, said Mr. Atkinson, would be "poor competition."

Uniform Rates However, there were certain uniform rates among banks, but these, he felt sure, were not covered by the combines laws.

There was a tendency towards uniformity on rates of exchange charges on cheques, but this was not "complete uniformity." There was also uniformity on bank tolls for handling saving accounts, cheques and on the rates of interest allowed by banks on savings accounts, Mr. Atkinson said.

But there was great variation on interest rates charged on bank loans. A bank might lend money to one man at 4-1-2 per cent and charge another man, getting the

same loan, five per cent. Mr. Crestohl wondered how the banks could get certain privileges, could agree on prices and on price maintenance and yet not come into conflict with the combines laws.

Minimum Rates Mr. Atkinson said he wanted to make clear that the agreement is on minimum rates and that these are not necessarily the rates which banks could charge if they so desired.

Committee chairman David Croll (L—Toronto Spadina) interjected that the combines legislation bans prices "agreements" and does not specify whether that agreement is "reasonable" or not.

Earlier, the banking chief said branch banks did not do a good job of informing the public about the boost in charges on cheques drawn against savings accounts and there has been criticism about higher tolls from the public.

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