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VOL. XXI., No. 15. ABBOTSFORD, B. C. FRIDAY, FEB. 18, 1921 8 $1.00 PER YEAR

ABBOTSFORD TO HAVE SERIES OF LECTURES

On Monday afternoon February 14 a meeting of the Parent-Teachers Association was held in the school. It was decided to continue making cocoa for the children who bring their lunch to school. It was also decided to hold a social in the G. W. V. A. club rooms on March 2nd. Mr. Davis was asked to communicate with the University authorities to arrange to have a lecturer come out at a later date.

The Misses Steede attended a recital in Vancouver on Thursday.

Hear Report of W. I. Delegates

The Sumas Women's Institute held their last monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. St. G. Yarwood. The report of the delegates to the recent conferences at New Westminster was received. The fact that their representative, Mrs. F. B. Fadden, was again elected member of the advisory board for the division, was very gratifying to the ladies, who passed a vote of renewed confidence in their representative, while thanking their delegates, Mrs. Simonds and Mrs. Murphy.

The programme for 1921 was presented by the directors and accepted. An interesting array of subjects and speakers for the year was announced.

Arrangements are being made to hold a dressmaking course in the near future.

Surrey Council Award War Memorial Contract—The Cost to Be $1600

CLOVERDALE, Feb. 17.— The council has unanimously decided to accept the tender for the erection of Surrey's war memorial at a cost of $1600 The structure will be composed of grey granite crowned by a cornice of the same material, and surmounting this will be the captured German gun. The monument will be placed on the municipal grounds southwest of the hall, where it can be viewed from all the main roads. Clerk Lemax is anxious that no name of any Surrey soldier who died in the war should be left off, and he would be glad to receive any information that will enable him to have a complete record. It is expected the monument will be ready for unveiling within three months.

Reeve Mackenzie informed the chairman of the school board when he presented his estimates covering extraordinary expenditures, that the council owed the Bank of Montreal $30,000 and could not recommend further expenditures unless authorized by the people.

The popular play, "A Ladies' Aid Meeting At Mohawk Corners," was repeated by the Ladies' Aid of Abbotsford at St. Paul's church, Huntingdon, on Monday evening to a good audience, who greatly enjoyed the humor and pleasantries of the proceedings. In addition, Mrs. Ryall, Mrs. Fraser and Mrs. Walters gave recitations and Mrs. Whitchelo and Mrs. McInnes gave vocal selections. All the members of the cast were present and each one was a success in the part taken. The Huntingdon Congregational Guild greatly appreciate the kindness of the Abbotsford Ladies' Aid in visiting them and rendering the play.

RURAL SCHOOLS ARE INEFFICIENT

Victoria, Feb. 16. —A plea for better efficiency in the matter of educating children attending rural schools was made by Mr. J. A. Catherwood, when addressing the House yesterday afternoon. The member for Dewdney, who attraced notice on both sides of the House when he mentioned that of the four members Dewdney had sent down to Victoria since its incorporation in 1894, two of them had attained the high office of Prime Minister, stated that too many of the children were being urged to take up a profession. Such studies should be left to the University, while the country schools should devote more attention to the three R's. Mr. Catherwood urged the government to continue efforts already made to eradicate the mosquito pest in the North Shore fruit districts and also to co-operate with the Dominion authorities with a view of protecting the low lying lands from the yearly danger of Fraser River flooding.

The brass band organization met again in the G. W. V. A. rooms on Tuesday evening with a good attendance and enthousiasm. They have made arrangements to have their practises in the Orange Hall The members of the L. O. L. are showing a great interest in the association and are anxious to do what they can to encourage and assist them. A good many instruments are already available, but money is needed to make the band a real success, such as will be worthy of the town. The gentlemen of means will no doubt contribute to this worthy cause.

LARGE LOANS TO P. G. E. RAILWAY

VICTORIA, Feb. 17.—Mr. A .B. Buckworth, as manager of the P. G. E. Railway at a salary of $6000 a year, apparently is not making much of a success with the post, according to figures presented to the House yesterday by Hon. John Oliver in response to several questions asked by Mr. Bowser. Since the government took over the road in July, 1918, the company has loaned no less than $14,399,668.40.

Mr. Buckworth took office in August last year, and the following month showed a deficit of $31,121. In October it had jumped to $35,492, and again in November to $35,118. In December, for some unstated reason, the amount was $48,558 on the wrong side, as against $15,564 in December 1918. These deficits were experienced in spite of the fact that the Dominion government is paying a subsidy of 4 cents per car mile for mail service from February, 1918, and 9 cents per car mile from December 8, 1920.

The directors of this road are Hon. John Oliver, Hon. John Hart and Hon. J. W. deB. Farris. As in the Matsqui dyking scheme, the same Northern Construction Company are employed on the cost 1 plus system. the plus on this occasion amounting to 5 1-2 per cent. of the total expenditure.

The W. A. of the G. W. V. A. wish to thank the general public for the splendid attendance and particularly the ladies who donated the refreshments.

BEER HANDLING IS BURNING QUESTION

VICTORIA.—Government control is the chief topic of interest in legislative circles, and innumerable comments and opinions are heard with regard to the passing of an act which is being designed to meet the wishes of the electorate, and at the same time promote the fullest temperance possible.

While officially very little has been said by Premier Oliver or members of the cabinet, still opinions carefully gleaned from both sides of the House point to a fairly liberal act.

It seems fairly certain that regularly-licensed hotels will be granted the privilege of selling beer, and perhaps light wines. This would undoubtedly apply as well to clubs, although the most drastic supervision of clubs if they are given this privilige, is predicted. This question of the sale of beer, which may be served on hotel dining tables, promises to be the most contentious question in the debates pertaining to the new measure. It is also stated by officials, who will not speak over their names for publication, that persons from outside the province will be permitted in their hotel rooms to drink the liquor they buy under permit at the government stores. Their hotel rooms are registered homes of those visitors while in the privince.

This will practically mean the old license system, insofar as regular hotels are concerned. Liquor may be consumed in the rooms of regularly registered guests, according to the present plan. Beer and light wine may be served in the dining-rooms. However, it is hinted that the question of keeping close check upon hotel proprietors will be threshed out so that their licences will be in jeopardy when the privileges of the act are abused. Certain leeway may be required where hotelmen are forced to eject undesirable guests for unseemingly conduct

Conservative members of the House are vigorous in their criticism of some of the suggested clauses of the act as outlined by the Premier on Friday afternoon.

He was just fishing around to find out where we stood," said one upcountry member, "but he will get that only when he shows his hand."

This member declares that districts along the boundary must be afforded ample protection against bootleggers' activities, else the traffic will be worse than under the present law.

Discussing, in an interview, the question of moderation, Mr. Bowser leader of the opposition, Monday refrained from openly declaring himsely upon any issue, but as he understood it was drafted, would throw the province wide open, with liquor as easily obtained as in the old days

"Grant clubs the privilege of selling beer and where will it stop?" he asked, in discussing the beer situation. "Once you give that privilege any ten men may form a club and get away with it. And what is to hinder the frequenters of the club from mixing whisky with his beer? He can buy liquor at the government stores, carry it quietly in his pocket, and put it in his beer."

On the proposal of sealing with a government seal private stocks of liquor after a certain time had elapsed following the enactment of the new law, Mr. Bowser declared that such a step would be unconstitutional. Any man would still have the right to import for his own use in any quantity. How then could a provincial government pass legislation superseding privileges granted by the federal authorities, he asked.

Meanwhile lobbyists for and against the beer clause are becoming active, and with the introduction of the bill late this week, there will follow one of the most spirited campaigns ever conducted in Victoria

The G. W. V. A. dance on Thursday was one of the most successful dances given this season. The attendance was good and everybody enjoyed themselves, and it is hoped that the G. W. V. A. will sometime give another such enjoyable dance

PERSONALS

Mr. Murray Rhodes and Mr. Dan Smith left on Tuesday on an extended visit to Bella Colla.

Mrs. R. H. Eby has returned from a visit in Victoria.

Miss Simlett of Vancouver was the week-end guest of Miss Agnes Gillen and leaves on Easter Sunday for England where she will spend a few months.

Miss Sinclair has returned from a visit in Vancouver.

Mr. J. L. Preston has gone to visit his father, who is very ill in California.

Mr. McPherson of Vancouver is substituting for Mr. Collison of the Bank of Montreal, during his illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Olafson of Craig Mill Alberta, were the guests of the Farrow's for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Downing, Vancouver, were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Whitchelo.

Mr. and Mrs. George Orr of Sardis were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Wright.

A pleasant house party was held at the home of H. Neil, on Monday night, when everyone present had a jolly time.

The Intermediate football team of Abbotsford journey to Mt. Lehman last Saturday to play the game, and although the boys made a good showing, they were defeated with a score of 1-0.

Mrs. M. Shore entertained the ladies of the Embroidery Club at her home on Tuesday afternoon.

The anniversary services will be held in the Presbyterian Church on Sunday, February 20th. The Rev. F. Letts will conduct the service both morning and evening.

A Sunday school concert will be given on Tuesday evening in the Presbyterian Church. A good programme has been prepared. All welcome.

Mrs. Clarence McCallum of Mission spent a few days this week with her mother, Mrs. A. Ryall.

Board Members Meet Premier

VICTORIA, B.C., Feb. 16.—The Associated Boards of Trade of the province who met the government this morning, were congratulated by the premier on the celebrity with which they presented their resolutions and discharged the business for which they had come. They had made a record which other visiting deputations might emulate.

As to their various requests, the premier said that the $300,000 voted by the Dominion parliament twenty years ago for a bridge across the Fraser River, was for a railway bridge, and in event the vote had elapsed long ago and the Dominion government now refused to recognize any responsibility in connection with such a subsidy.

As to the preservation of the remaing patch of green timber along the Pacific Highway, the premier said that the government would have to provide $300,000 to purchase it. As it formed part of the railway belt and was the property of the Dominion government, he rather felt that the federal authorities were the ones who should be approached on the subject.

The Ladies' Aid of the Presbyterian church have given the contract for the new pews in the church to the contractors, Messrs Irwin and Gibson, who hope to have them completed in a few weeks. This will add much to the comfort and appearance of the interior of the church. The exterior of the church, through the Ladies' Aid, was recently painted.

On Saturday evening Miss Manning gave a Valentine party for her pupils, in the Masonic Hall. The evening was spent in games and contests. Then dainty refreshments were served, followed by dancing, and all had a very enjoyable time.

The Annual St. Patrick's Social will be held at the home of Mrs. H. Fraser on March 17th.

I have now a full line of the following Stock Foods and Disinfectants:

Zenoleum —A de-orderizer of national reputation; also a disinfectant for poultry and stock. Guaranteed the best of its kind on the market.

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Creameal —Best on the market as a perfect food for all young stock. It is just the thing for them during the time when there is but little grass.

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Pine Apple a tin 23c
Squirrel Brand Peanut Butter, a tin 24c
Aunt Jemina Pan Cake Flour, 2 for 35c
Golden Cross Baking Powder, 2 for 35c
Australian Marmalade, Kiddie Brand, 50c tin 40c
Roman Meal, a package 29c
Stove Pipe Varnish with Tin and Brush 19c
Extra Choice Salmon, large tins 24c
Finest Indo-Ceylon Tea, 5 lb. lots 65c quality $2.05

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THE ABBOTSFORD POST

Published Every Friday

J. A. Bates, Editor and Proprietor

Member of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers' Association.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18th, 1921

Down in Victoria the most important matter that the members are interested in this week and perhaps next week, and maybe the week after is the new Moderation Act—the selling of liquor in sealed packages.

The government does not appear to have the backbone that was displayed about election time. It may be that things have happened on the hustings that has changed the attitude of the government and now there is the bluff to defend something unseen by the general public. But on the face of it the premier acts rather queer for a man of his usual bluff manner. There is a nigger on the woodpile somewhere and the opposition wants to take a definite stand on the plebiscite as was placed before the people and voted on—selling of liquor in sealed packages.

The way the government appears to be handling the Moderation Act is characteristic of the way they have handled the Prohibition Act, and the people have only the government to blame for not enforcing an act that they themselves passed.

It is not good boosting for the welfare of the Fraser Valley for any town to object to what another town is striving hard to get. Local pride does not demand that one town be the deadly enemy of another town just because that town is after something that will help that town to grow and prosper. It would be far better to get in and help them and when secured ask for the same courtesy to be extended in return. In the Fraser Valley there is need for several good highways—one on the south side of the river and one on the north side. The one on the south will naturally form the part of the inter-provincial highway, while the one on the north side will be for the development of the lands on the north side of the river and enable the sons of the soil to market their produce at the coast cities. On the both sides of the Fraser there is a large area of land full of fertility that will make the Fraser Valley one day one of the best districts in the province, and as the coast cities increase in population and grow in prosperity, will be able to ship to the residents there a large amount of produce. The sooner the two roads are built the sooner will the Fraser Valley be more thickly populated and prosperous. We each do a lot of boasting about our own little district, but we should never forget that there are just as industrious and bright people in some other part of the Fraser Valley as in our own home town or district, with ambitions just as great. Let us keep boosting good and hard for our own district, but let us hide the side that attempts to make it unpleasant for for any of our neighbors.

Nobody Wants the Baby—

The Moderation Act is a homeless orphan. Hon. John Oliver declines to accept responsibility for it as a Government measure. The leader of the Opposition says the responsibility for the framing of the legislation is a duty laid on the Government by the electors. The Prohibitionists say they have no responsibility for the terms of the measure. The Moderationists have no suggestions to make.

Politicians of all classes and kinds are afraid to touch the measure for fear that when put to the test it will backfire and break some political reputations.

Meantime the infant Moderation Act is crying feebly for nourishment. Someone will have to take the baby and nurse it through the ills of infancy, and the quicker the better.

Already hints of one or more lobbies for extensions of the Act beyond the scope of the Referendum questions are in circulation. Any suggestion that liquor interests are influencing the course of legislation will do great injury to the Act.

Legislative courage and efficiency are necessary in dealing with the very important and highly experimental matters of policy governing the framing of a Moderation Act. The present game of hide and seek will only lead to indecision and inefficiency.

Every member of the legislature definitely made his campaign on the basis of an honest effort to carry the Plebiscite into effect. An Act doing this, doing nothing more, and doing nothing else, cannot involve any member in personal discredit if the Moderation system fails. The strict adherence to public honor marks out the path of sefety.

Hydrid legislation, giving way to secret influences will be certain to break down, and bring disgrace on the Province and its Legislature. It is no time for partisan politics or back-room conferences. The Plebiscite Questions cannot possibly be misunderstood.

Excess will bring certain repeal.—Vancouver Sun.

New Constitutional Practice—

Round table conversations about proposed legislation may have been the ordinary and proper thing in the parliaments of Henry VI., but as Mr. Bowser pointed out to Premier Oliver, consitutional practice in the last few centuries has been for the government to govern and for the opposition to oppose. Not, of course, to oppose everything, but to bring criticism to bear on government measures with a view of making them expressive of the concentrated wisdom of the whole house. Never, indeed, had a government less justification for departing from the accustomed course. In receipt of a plain mandate from the people, given in terms of their own choice, and returned to office with a majority sufficient to enable them to enact the necessary legislation, why should the ministers now go on a fishing exposition instead of producing their bill and standing or falling by the main principles on which it is based? Had the government submitted its bill in the plebiscite it would have been a different matter. Not having taken that course, but having called for a blanket instruction it is now too late for it to ask everybody just what they would like. In Quebec the administration has at least the courage of its convictions. It is bringing down a liquor bill on which it deliberately takes its future But then the Quebec government seems to have convictions while the British Columbia government seems to have nothing but differences of opinion.—World.

TAXATION OF PRESENT PERIOD DEFLATION

The wisdom of adjusting taxation to conform with the requirements of trade during the present period of deflation is becoming more and more evident. To the great relief of all lasses, the luxury tax has gone, but the excess profits tax and the extreme supertaxes on income remain. The abolition of the two latter and the introduction of "a tax on the turnover of all business transactions," advocated by the President of this Bank at the annual meeting of shareholders last month, should meet with general approval.

While prevailing conditions are causing business men to exercise the greatest caution in entering into new commitments, industrial concerns are nevertheless, readjusting themselves to the present order of things. Factories which were closed in the late months of 1920 are, generally speaking, resuming operations, although on a reduced scale, but a considerable number have found that their only prospect of keeping open lies in the reduction of their operating costs to an absolute minimum. It would be quite misleading to say that factories have closed, even temporarily, at all points. There are many industrial centres which continue to report business as satisfactory, with orders on hand sufficient to keep plants in full operation for some months. To-day, in the large centres the unemployment problem is becoming less acute, and in the rural districts there does not appear to have been any such problem apart from the usual midwinter slackness. Careful surveys of business made at the close of last year indicate that generally speaking, the turnover of retailers during 1920 was equal to that of the previous year and, in some cases very much better. From one important prairie city it is reported that the leading silversmiths did more business during the Christmas shopping season than they had ever done before, and at the present a very hopeful spirit exists. Commercial travellers are now able to secure business where application for it a few months ago was hopeless. Caution, however, is still being shown by the buyers, who look for further reductions in the prices of goods, and credit is being granted more sparingly. Meanwhile, persistent efforts are being made to liquidate stocks accumulated or purchased when higher prices prevailed.

RESOLUTION PASSED ASSOCIATED BOARDS

Highway Bridge connecting Mission District with Matsqui District replacing present ferry at Mission City.

Whereas: It is absolutely essential that the construction of a highway bridge at this point to promote the immediate future development of the Mission and Matsqui districts.

Whereas, these two districts are already in a high state of production and their location is such that produce finds a natural interchange.

Whereas, the Mission district produced berries during 1920 to the value of $1,107,220.00.

Whereas, the shipment of berries from Mission City over the government owned Canadian National Railway would greatly stimulate the people's railway and greatly assist the grower to reach a great number of Canadain western points by a direct route.

Whereas, it would be a connection link between the highways on the north and south side of the Fraser River.

Whereas, the Matsqui and adjacent farmers find a natural market for their hay and grain at Mission City, which is a central distributing point, having at the present time several extensive dealers in these commodities.

Whereas, a substantial interchange of trade has already has already been established between the districts on each side of the Fraser as above mentioned through the many years of free transportation on the connecting ferry,

Whereas, Ferry transportation should not exist where transportation by bridge can replace it without unsurmountable difficulties,

Whereas, during the months of May, June, July and August of the year 1918, 8,369 vehicles and 20,319 passengers were transported by the Mission-Matsqui ferry, plainly demonstrates the great need of a highway bridge connecting these highly developed districts,

Be it therefore resolved, that this board implore the good assistance of the Associated Boards of B. C. to use what they consider the best means of approaching our Dominion and Provincial Governments for the construction of this all-important highway bridge at a point at Mission City within a very reasonable time.

THE SCHOOL TEACHERS' STRIKE

The British Columbian has endeavored today to lay all sides of the Teachers salary controversy before the citizens of New Westminster. On the surface it appears from these statements that the salaries to be paid the teachers of this city during 1921 under the school board's decision will be on an average lower than the schedule in force in the schools of nearby centres.

This seems then to justify the contention of the Teachers' Association that the question is a fair one for negotiation and especially arbitration, as voluntary arbitration has been provided for in the School Act.

This may be taken as a tacit recognition of collective bargaining by the Department of Education, and it is about the only position possible in these days. In fact few citizens would take the position that the School Board should deal with teachers individually if teachers have decided to organize in an association, which is virtually union organization and all that this implies in bargaining for increase in salaries.

In the situation, is there not an opening for a calm and reasonable consideration of the situation in the offer of Mayor Johnston for a conference of the Teachers' Association, the School Board and the City Council? The citizens certainly want a reasonable view of the difficulty taken by those in whose hands lie the administration of the schools and also of civic affairs. The ratepayers will not be slow to express their opinion of the Teachers' demands if these are shown to be unreasonable.—Columbian.

GOES TO CALIFORNIA

Abbotsford.— Mr. L. Preston, a well known resident, left on Thursday for California in consequence of the serious illness of his father, Dr. J. M. Preston, physician.

When the storm king is rampant, and the telephone wires go down, the trouble is almost instantly known at headquarters and steps are immediately taken to affect at least temporary repairs. Usually, the service is out of commission for only a short time, for every preparation has been made for the emergency. When you see a storm raging, when you hear the wind, remember that the telephone troubleman is checking up his kit to see that everything is ready when the news comes that the wires are down. Before the storm is over he is on the job to keep continuous the service on which the public depends.

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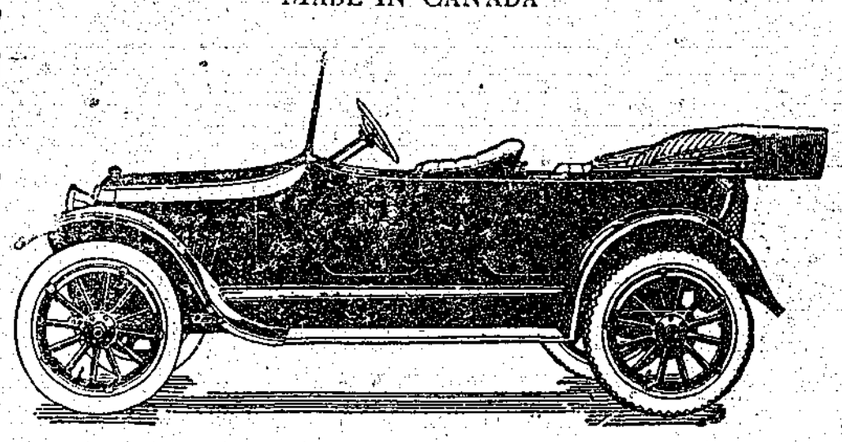

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PREMIER OLIVER HIS OWN PERSONAL VIEWS

VICTORIA. — Premier Oliver treated the legislature to what may be described as a profession of his personal faith with regard to the liquor problem. He explained carefully two or three times that he was giving his own views and not necessarily those of the government.

His speech was made on the motion asking the lieutenant-governor to cause to be placed before the House at an early date a bill to provide for government control and sale of liquor. He began by a defence of this unusual method of getting a bill introduced, and in support of his position he quoted a number of authorities. The plan adopted in the present instance is, it appears, the original method of the British parliament. The procedure which is now usual, of having the crown send a message accompanied by the bill which is proposed to be passed, is a comparatively modern innovation, not having been heard of before the days of King Henry VI. Having thus disposed of the constitutional criticism of his course, the premier proceeded to deal in general terms with what he thought a "moderation act should contain.

He declared it to be the desire and intention to keep the question out of the realm of party politics "if the leader of the opposition will permit." The government did not appeal to the opposition because of any feeling of incapability to grapple with the question, but in order that all classes of the people might be represented in the framing of this legislation. "Not htat we need their help, but that the people of the province shall be satisfied that the legislation shall be as near perfection as the combined intelligence of the House will permit." At the same time he intimated that the government would not attempt to shirk responsibility.

The premier then proceeded to read from the manifesto issued by him during election. He adhered to the statements therein contained that there should be no return of the bar and that the sale of liquor to boys and girls under twenty-one years of age should be strictly prohibited.

"There is a feeling," said he, "that the administration of the act should be independent of political influence and I share that feeling as far as possible. But we realize that the government must be held responsible for the effects of the legislation."

He continued to stand by the principle that the act would be best administered through a commission but a great deal would depend on the personnel of the commission. If the commission were not satisfactory the blame would undoubtedly be placed at the door of the government. He could not conceive that the best results would be obtainable from a commission absolutely free to do as it pleased and not removable, even for cause. The commissioners should be appointed subject to good behavior. They should have power to make regulations and to amend them as experience dictated. They should also have the power to establish such stores for the sale of liquor as in their judgement from time to time seem necessary.

"The commissioners should have a free hand but at the same time I believe that the number of places for dispensing liquor should be kept as low as possible. I believe it should be reasonably ample if there are stores in the principal centres of the prvince. The commissionedrs should have the power to employ such officers for the carrying out of the act as they think necessary.

The right of the individual to obtain liquor, and the quantity, the premier thought, should be dealt with by a system of permits. No person should be able to obtain liquor without a permit, and maybe the amount obtained should be endorsed on the permit. These permits should be revocable in case of abuse.

By way of dealing with the bootlegger, the Premier thought the buyer of the liquor should be liable to prosecution as well as the seller. He thought this would do away with much of the trouble.

There had been much complaint from the municipalities that at present they are put to great expense in the enforcement of the law, while at the same time they are deprived of the revenue which they formerly derived from the system. He thought the municipalities must continue to be relied upon for the enforcement of the law, as they have the machinery and understand the local condition. His idea, therefore, would be to give the municipalities fifty per cent. of the profits, but to empower the commissioners to withhold its share from any municipality that was lax in the enforcement. In such cases the commissioners themselves could undertake the enforcement in the lax municipalities and meet expense from the profits which such municipalities would otherwise have received.

He did not agree with those who thought there should be no profit from the sale of liquor under the act. He would take all the profit he could get out of it, but at the same time he would not like to have the bill regarded as one for the production of revenue.

As to whether hotels or clubs should be licenced, it was a very debatable point, but he was willing to listen to reason. He believed it was in the minds of some of the people at all events, that there should be no licencing of hotels or clubs. Others, including the Rev. Canon Hincheliffe, held that it was desirable that the poor men should not be deprived of their beer.

Canon Hinchliffe—I made no reference to hotel licences.

Premier Oliver— That may be, but I know the reverend gentleman advised me on more than one occasion that he was very desirous that the poor man should have his beer.

Mr. Sam Guthrie—There's another here.

Premier Oliver— There are a lot of them. I am out on a prospecting expedition and I have no doubt I will find lots of them.

He hoped, the premier continued, there would be no attempt to fool the public in this matter, but that each member would act according to his conscience. At any rate the government was not going to betray the confidence of the people by indulging in any questionable practises. If liquor were allowed in hotels or clubs there should be precautions against abuse. It was evident, however, that liquor could not be measured out to a man according to his circumstances

Mr. Farris—Or his capacity.

Premier Oliver—I am not an authority on that. There are other members whose judgment would perhaps be better on that point.

As to the constitutional aspects of the legislation, the premier said he had drawn the attention of the government at Ottawa to the result of the plebiscite and had intimated the possibility that the province might ask Ottawa for supplemental legislation so as to obviate any question as to constitutionality. He believed, however, that if the buying of liquor were made illegal, the constitutional difficulty would be got out of the way.

As to the keeping of liquor in their houses by private persons, he had heard of half carloads and whole carloads and several carloads being imported by individuals, and it was safe to assume that there was a considerable quantity in the hands of individuals in the province. The suggestion had been submitted, and it appealed to him as reasonable, that after a certain time the liquor in the hands of private persons should be sealed by the government. In this way its sale could be prevented, because the possession of liquor not so sealed by the government would be punishable by fine. Persons having it could use it themselves but could not sell it.

He concluded with an appeal to the opposition not to take a hostile attitude, with a view to preventing the working out of the act. If they did so, the result might be disastrous to the people of the province.

The debate was adjourned until Monday on motion of Mr. W. J. Bowser.

Dorchester House, Montreal

DOMESTIC SERVANTS NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

HALL — DORCHESTER HOUSE

In the midst of the city of Montreal, half-way between the uptown and downtown business districts, on the corner of two of the best residental streets, there stands, surrounded by large shade-trees, a substantial and comfortable old-fashioned stone dwelling-house. On one of the pillars of the wide hospitable looking entrance is a brass plate announcing the house to be Dorchester House, the Canadian Women's Hostel of Montreal.

This house is the Montreal headquarters of the association, which with the aid of the Government has undertaken to provide a welcome for the women of the old lands coming to make their homes in Canada, no matter what may be their nationality or religion. The house stands for a welcome to these women from beyond the sea, but it also stands for many other things, such as safety for even the most inexperienced traveller, kindliness and assistance during the first days of natural bewilderment in strange surroundings, employment for those seeking work, and a friendly headquarters until the stranger feels herself firmly established in the new land.

During the five years the association has been in existence the hostel has proved a boon and its workers have befriended thousands of girls and women from the old lands. Since the removal in May, 1920, of the hostel to Dorchester House, its present beautiful and spacious quarters, the promoters of the work have been enabled more than ever to provide a veritable "home from home" for the girls and women newly arrived in Canada.

Montreal, a port city in summer and the great railway terminus of the east at all seasons, forms a sort of gate-way to all parts of the Dominion west of the Maritime Provinces. Thus the functions of the hostel include the entertaining for a few hours of rest, of travellers bound for the distant west of Canada.

An explanation of the methods of work of the hostel shows how every precaution is taken for the safety and comfort of the travellers. Before the boat arrives in dock or the boat train is due at the station the name of every unaccompanied woman and girl on the boat has been received at the hostel. The deaconnesses of Dorchester House meet the boats and trains no matter at what hour they may arrive. The girls can identify them by means of a purple badge worn on the arm, and may be provided themselves with a small purple button by the immigration authorities. But whether wearing the official button or not, if in need of help of any kind, if without friends in the country, if disappointed in meeting expected friends, they need only speak to the wearer of the purple badge and their difficulties will vanish before wisdom and experience.

The strangers are straightway brought to Dorchester House where they may obtain comfortable rooms and board at a very small expense, or if domestic workers without employment remain 24 hours free of charge, during which time a post is found for them. Those going on to the west are taken to the hostel for a few hours rest while the procedure for the remainder of the journey is explained to them, and they are started on their way. In the meantime the hostel advises friends at the end of the journey of their impending arrival.

If no such friends exist a representative of the hostel in the nearest centre arranges for a church home for the friendless girl in her new home and through this connection ties of friendship are soon formed.

A casual visit to Dorchester House at any hour of the day or evening impresses the visitor that the house lives in every way up to its motto of a "home from home." The girls who have once had a taste of its hospitalities never fail, if in the city, to keep in close touch with its good times. There is no trace of "institution" about the home where the girls go and come in the freest possible manner under the kindly supervision of the Lady Superintendent who soon becomes also their mother-confessor and best friend in the country. The big lofty rooms are furnished with artistic yet homely taste, and the girls' own sitting-room, with big chairs and couches and a piano, is an ideal spot for friendly gatherings and joily afternoons and evenings.

During the year of 1920 about 1,400 women and girls from the old land were entertained in some way by the hostel. Many of the girls came to Montreal without prospect of work, without connections or even acquaintances in this country. The employment bureau of the hostel found positions for those wishing to remain in Montreal without charge to them, and afterwards kept in touch with them to see that they were happy and contented and had met with fair treatment.

As the largest field by far for women's work in Canada is domestic service, the girls, if at all capable in that direction, can be placed directly in good homes in the city. If further training is necessary the hostel arranges for classes in house work, and a few lessons in Canadian methods of housekeeping, which may be obtained at the hostel, are very helpful to any of the overseas women.

No matter how comfortable the home, however, the girl alone in a strange community longs for recreation and the companionship of young people with a glimpse of faces from "over there." This is where Dorchester House again steps in. The house is open to the girls at all times and they may obtain any one of the three meals a day for the small charge of a shilling, a quarter in Canadian Money. The use of the recreation rooms is entirely free of charge. There is never a day goes by that the girls do not drop in for tea and a visit. Thursday afternoons and evenings are gala occasions every week, for Thursday is a half-holiday for the domestics in most Canadian homes. The girls come to tea alone or in groups, and the meal is not well over when the rugs are rolled back from the sitting-room floor and a dance is in full swing.

At all times the girls send their parcels, and get their mail at Dorchester House, and come with their troubles and sometimes "bring a grouch and leave without it," in the words of the Lady Superintendent. In cases of illness the hostel arranges for the girls entering a hospital if necessary, and if a rest is all that is required the patient can arrange to stay at the hostel. At the Christmas season holiday feasts at Dorchester House are the order of the day. Several of the city churches, as well as the hostel authorities, provide entertainments for the girls, and sometimes from 150 to 200 guests attend these parties.

During the summer of 1920 "Cupid" made of Dorchester House his Canadian headquarters for a few weeks. In one week five weddings took place in the parlor of the hostel. The brides who had come over to marry their boys were met by the Deaconesses and brought to Dorchester House, where the marriage was solemnized, and a little wedding tea-party given to celebrate the occasion after which the pair were given a send-off to their new home, usually in the far distant west.

At Christmas, 1920, cards and letters poured in from all parts of Canada to Dorchester House, Montreal, from grateful girls

Process of Deflation Continues

During January there was some slackening of the demand for credit, but this condition is not such as to warrant the conclusion that liquidation has run its course. Merchants and manufacturers are seeking to realize on their stocks, and it would appear that this process must continue for some time. The commercial loans of the banks have not contracted proportionately with the decline in prices, for at the end of December they were still $94,695,296 in excess of the total of a year ago. It must be borne in mind, however, that the marketable wealth of the country is greater in volume—and, even at the reduced prices, greater in value—than a year ago. A well-known economist has pointed out that "in many cases, changes in price have no significance at all. It is a matter of concern to the former whether the surplus of his eggs, which he sells, rises or falls in price. It is a matter of indifference to him, however, whether the price of eggs that he produces for his own table, rises or falls. It is a matter of great concern to the farmer what price he gets for the part of the crop which he sells, but for the much greater part of his crop which remains on his farm, price fluctuations are a matter of indifference." This last refers to mixed farming; where fodder and feed are available, there has been no undue haste to market live stock, and as has been already pointed out, the prices of dairy products have maintained their usual seasonal increase. The amount of grain in the hands of farmers is greater than in normal years, and the tendency to hold it is still in evidence.

In the case of commodities other than agricultural products, further declines appear to inevitable. Buying by the public cannot be expected to become normal until the prices demanded of the actual consumer are more in line with the reduced costs of raw material. In canada the general fall in prices has been slower than elsewhere. The decline in wholesale prices in Canada during 1920 was 10 per cent., as against 25 per cent. in the United States. Our contiguity with that country should prepare us for an eventual equilization of prices as between the two, when the discount on the Canadian dollar is taken in to consideration.—Bank of Commerce Monthly Letter.

REACH NO DECISION WITH GOVERNMENT

VICTORIA.— No decision was reached between the government and Pitt Meadows municipality in regard to the proposal of the municipal council to take over control of the dyking in that area. Reeve W. J. Park and Mr. McDermott, municipal clerk, yesterday interviewed the Premier, who requested particulars in writing. Little difficulty is anticipated in transferring this control however the present system of a dual control by the provincial and municipal governments sometimes leading to confusion, and it is understood that Mr. Oliver looks with favor on the scheme, which will bring several thousand acres under more intense cultivation.

GOATS' MILK ICE CREAM

Ice cream made of goats' milk and flavored with rose leaves is a popular frozen delicacy in Greece and Crete, according to an American Red Cross worker recently returned from abroad. Goats' milk is whiter than cows' milk and ice cream frozen from it has almost the blue tinge of skimmed milk, unless colored with the petals of the rose. Why not try rose petals in American ice cream?

"Every day I find something new about my car." "So do I This morning I found three hairpins and a powder puff."

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We are justly proud of our meat market and of the high-class family trade which we command. We try to treat our customers right and they show their appreciation of our efforts by a constantly growing patronage. We refuse to handle any but the very best meats, whether beef, lamb, pork veal or fish. Come in and see us.

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WANT COLUMN

Advertisements under the above heading cost 25 cents per issue. Leave copy and money at The Abbotsford Garage.

FOR SALE— One Baby Grand Chevrolet, 1 Ford ton truck, 1 Ford Passenger. These cars are in A1 condition and terms can be arranged Gray-Dort Garage, Mission.

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"In the last analysis," the government must take responsibility for the bill. "If that is the case," he asked, "why not take it in the first analysis?" Bring in your bill as all other governments have done before you." He had been informed that a bill was prepared before the election but in spite of this the premier said the other day that he was still open to conviction. What the premier seems to be getting at was that he was not quit sure what the attorney-general would permit, what was in accordance with the arrangements made by the attorney-general before the election.

Premier Oliver—The statement that legislation was prepared before the election is absolutely incorrect.

Mr. Bowser—I will have to take the honorable gentleman's word, but I was informed that a draft moderation bill was prepared in the department.

Premier Oliver—The only draft bill I ever saw was the one proposed by the moderation people.

Mr. Bowser—I am not surprised that my honorable friend has not seen it. There are lots of things going on in his government that he doesn't know about. I am informed that last year persons in the department were working on a moderation bill.

Premier Oliver—The honorable gentleman seems to know what goes on in the attorney-general's department even better than when he was there.

Mr. Bowser—I think I always had a pretty good idea of the work of the department when I was attorney-general. At any rate we didn't go to the legislature and say, "Please ask us to bring in a bill."

What was the use, asked Mr. Bowser, of talking of the legislature being superior to the administration. Of course the legislation is superior to the administration, and when the government fails to get a majority, it must tender its resignation or go to the people. But, all the same, this bill was not going to be framed by the sergeant-at-arms or the King's printer or the leader of the opposition. What was before the legislature was virtually a request to ask the government to do its duty.

Premier Oliver here suggested that the matter be submitted to the chair for a decision as to whether the method of procedure was in order or not.

Mr. Bowser—That is no way to avoid the discussion. I am pointing out that it is the practise of a weak government, afraid to face its responsibility. It is done for the purpose of drawing out the house, to toll how they feel on certain suggestions. Perhaps when the attorney-general finds out that certain things which he has promised cannot be done he will be able to go back and say that he did his best, but he could not carry it through.

One of the most important questions in connection with the bill, said Mr. Bowser, would be its administration. They might pass the best bill in the world, but if it were administered as the Prohibition Act, it would be a flat failure. It semed to him that if the government were in earnest, the legislature ought to be asked to select the persons who will administer the cat. But instead of doing this, the government themselves would make the appointments to the commission which the Premier says is to be appointed.

Let the bill be brought in like other government measures, and the Opposition would be ready to express themselves on the merits of the proposals, and to point out where they thought improvements might be made. The opposition were willing to bring to bear their experience to get a bill that would meet the mandate of the people of the province but they could not accept the resolution as proposed.

FARRIS MUST SHOW HIS HAND

VICTORIA.—"Will you come into my parlor," said the spider to the fly. This is the attitude of the Oliver government in connection with the moderation issue, but sooner or later a Minister of the Crown must assume the responsibility of sponsoring the bill in connection with the sale of liquor.

Such was the reply of Hon. W. J. Bowser, speaking in the House this afternoon, to the motion introduced by Premier Oliver on Friday. The leader of the opposition took the view that the Premier's move is unconstitutional, and that, the bill being one of revenue, must by Parliamentary procedure be fathered by the government. This contention, if applied will mean that Attorney-General Farris will be forced to show his hand in connection with the alleged compact with Vancouver hotel men.

MANDATE MUST NOT BE DODGED

VICTORIA. — The Conservative members of the legislature will vote against the resolution offered by the Premier, praying the Lieutenant Governor to place a moderation bill before the house. This was the announcement made by Mr. W. J. Bowser yesterday, during a speech in which he denounced the governments manoeuvre as unconstitutional and an attempt to shirk responsibility. The proper plan, he declared, was to introduce the measure in the usual way and to be prepared to stand by it. If this were done, the Conservatives would be willing and anxious to lend all the help they could toward perfecting its provisions.

Mr. Bowser went at some length into the instances of constitutional practise, showing that one great objection to the government's method of procedure was that it involved a double discussion of the whole subject, first on the resolution and then on the bill. When the people gave the present government a majority in the last election they at the same time placed the responsibility on the government's shoulders and not on those who sit to the left of Mr. Speaker. This responsibility the government could not shed.

Mr. Bowser pointed out that until the present government came into office there had been no suggestion in British Columbia of avoiding the regular constitutional practise. The first instance of such avoidance was in 1917 on the appointment of a royal commission to enquire into the overseas vote in connection with prohibition. Later, the proper constitutional practise was not followed when taken away from thirsty people the right to buy eight ounces. Other cases in which the government showed a lack of courage were in connection with the Pacific Great Eastern and the payments for injuries inflicted in the Vancouver Island riots. The present occasion was, therefore, the fourth time this government had shown itself afraid to take the responsibility which properly belonged to it.

Mr. Bowser pointed out that Premier Oliver has admitted that

OPPOSITION HAVE MANY QUESTIONS

Victoria, Feb. 12—Upper country members of the Opposition are showing considerable activity in connection with the operations of the Land Settlement Board during the past year and the amount of money expended. Several questions in this respect are due to be answered by the government when data is available.

Particularly active is Mr. W. A. McKenzie, of Similkameen, who is anxious to learn the extent of the money expended in his constituency especially during the month of November, 1920, just prior to the election.

Mr. J. W. Jones is asking particulars of the Land Settlement Board its members, and the amount expended during 1920.

Mr. R. H. Pooley (Esquimalt) is hot on the trail of certain liquor confiscated by the government, its amount, its present whereabouts, and the monies derived.

Owing to wrong information it was published in this paper last week that the proceeds of the G. W. V. A. dance were for the Hospital fund Latest information says it was wrong

The Loyal True Blue Lodge had a well attended meeting on Monday night and considerable discussion arose over the proposed change of the name of the True Blue Orphanage in New Westminster.