

THE JARVIS RECORD

Telephone 27, Jarvis, Ontario

Published Every Thursday Morning

Member Canadian Weekly

Newspaper Association

A weekly devoted to the interests

of the Village of Jarvis and the

Township of Walpole as well as nei-

ghbouring townships in the County

of Norfolk.

Subscription Rates

To all points in Canada, \$1.50 per

year in advance. To the United

States 50c additional for postage.

Advertising rates upon request.

Papers are sent to all subscribers

until definite instructions are re-

ceived to discontinue. The date to

which subscription is paid in indicat-

ed on address label.

A. I. MILLER,

Editor.

A Soft Job

The softest job in Parliamentary

circles to-day is undoubtedly that re-

cently awarded position to Ross W.

Gray, M.P. who was named Liberal

Whip in the Federal House. It is

the Whip's duty to see that his party

is in a majority in the house at all

times. Considering the standing of

the parties in the house, we can't

imagine that Mr. Gray will be re-

quired to remove his feet off his

desk on very many occasions.

Trial For Murder

The trial of Harry O'Donnell is at

present, proceeding by Judge and

jury in the city of Toronto. The

Proceeding to date reveal a fresh

horribleness of the slaying. Through

the evidence of Canada, public opinion

in this particular case has reached

a high point. The people will de-

mand the most severe punishment

for the slayer. The evidence to

date does not eliminate any of the

previous findings against O'Donnell,

who has so far displayed other than

casual interest in the proceedings.

Clean Sidewalks

The majority of citizens appear to

take pride in keeping the sidewalks

adjoining their property clean. Suf-

ficient in number, however are those

who let their sidewalks continue to

be an inconvenience to the pedestrian.

A by-law is in effect in the

Village making it compulsory for all

citizens to keep their walks shoveled

and if it is not done the Council

may authorize the work done and

charged to the property owner. We

are informed that the Council feel

the necessity of the enforcement of

this by-law.

Shall We Loosen Our Belts

The butchers, the bakers, and the

grocers most cordially agree that if

we all eat more we shall help the

farmer. And there are many doc-

tors who also will agree. They do

not think that a glass of orange

juice and a slice of toast make a

good breakfast. They do not re-

gard that as a proper foundation

for starting the day's work. Cer-

tainly, it is not in line with the old

American tradition of a breakfast

of ham and eggs, a stack or two of

pancakes, fried potatoes, porridge

and a generous quantity of coffee

and cream. When a man had that

under his belt he could look the

world in the face with confidence.

We have been aping the Contin-

ental breakfast—a roll and a cup

of coffee. But no workman in

France begins his day on any such

slim diet. He takes a bowl of

thick soup, half a loaf of bread and

butter, and two or three glasses of

vin ordinaire.

In England they eat kidneys, bac-

on and eggs, kippered herring, por-

ridge and a mountain of toast and

marmalade for their maternal meal.

The Scotch are even more given to

hearty breakfasts. They begin with

a quart of porridge, then half a fin-

nan-haddie, bacon and eggs, and finally

toast and marmalade in vast

quantities. In Holland and in the

Scandinavian countries cheese, ry-

e bread and half a dozen kinds of

smoked fish are served with the

morning coffee. Of course, at the

fine hotels in France, Italy and

Spain the traveler finds the typical

coffee and roll, but when he gets out

among the people who do the work

of the world he finds they want

something of a good deal heartier.

—The Enquirer, Cincinnati, Ohio.

DON'T TELL ME!

Don't tell me what you will do!

When you have time to spare;

Tell me what you did today

To ease a load of care.

Don't tell me what you will give

To your ship when comes in from sea

Tell me what you gave today

A fettered soul to free.

Don't tell me the dreams you have

Of conquests still afar;

Don't say what you hope to be

But tell me what you are!

—Grenville Kleiser.

PARLIAMENTARY

OBSERVATIONS

When the curtain rises on the

Federal parliamentary stage next

Thursday and the national setting

stands fully revealed the obvious

comment which will occur to all

spectators will be that if the legis-

lators fail to achieve some first-

rank results, it will not be for want

of doughty problems with which to

grapple.

It is doubtful if any Parliament of

Canada, let alone one with so high

a percentage of tyros amongst its

members—has ever faced a situa-

tion more replete with challenges

and opportunities to wise statesman-

ship. Five years of depression

have been cumulative in the debit

balance which they have been piling

up for the Dominion, and all in-

dications point to the inevitable day

of reckoning being close at hand.

With the depression having sown

the wind of unbalanced budgets, ex-

penditures uncontrollably in excess

of income, and of reduced railway

revenues, it is the task of the legis-

lators who take their seats Thurs-

day to save the Dominion from re-

peating the whirlwind.

The main problem is, of course,

the financial one. Federal income

has failed to balance Federal out-

lay. The truth is that when Canada

plunged into the greatest depres-

sion of which history has any record

she faced problems which, though

for a generation had been accumulat-

ing, had escaped national observa-

tion. These problems, with ad-

verse trade balances and a cessation

in international lending, assumed

such proportions that it was only by

the most heroic emergency meas-

ures that national bankruptcy was a-

voided.

Municipal, provincial and domi-

nion authorities were caught with

gigantic unemployment relief pro-

grams for which there was no pre-

vious preparation. Transportation

drifted on the tide of emergency bor-

rowing. With falling world prices

rail transportation costs could not

meet interest on borrowed capital.

Obviously some improvement in pri-

ciple was necessary before these

problems could be tackled without

extreme hardship to Canadian citi-

zens everywhere. Canada has pur-

sued policies with the other coun-

tries of the Empire which have re-

sulted in substantially raising world

sales and general commodity prices.

The time has arrived when the

solution of these problems of rail-

way deficits, relief burdens and un-

balanced budgets, in the national

interests, cannot be deferred. One

figure may be given to indicate the

seriousness of the situation. In the

space of three years Canada has

gone into the hole to the extent of

more than \$471,000,000 without tak-

ing into consideration the netting

out of consideration the netting

of the Dominion has had to ad-

vance no less than \$75,000,000 in

order that the Western provinces

might be able to carry on and meet

their obligations. The first prob-

lem is the question of unemploy-

ment relief. For the current year

it promises to reach a total of

\$45,000,000.

Until these three situations, involv-

ing a total burden of approximat-

ely \$170,000,000 annually, are cleared

up, it is obvious that Canada

cannot hope to meet her national

expenditure sufficient to meet her national

expenditure, and leave a balance

over to be applied to debt retirement

plans. Can the Parliament, which opens

Thursday, accordingly evolve a so-

lution for the railway problem? Can

it place the Western provinces back

on the road to solvency? And can

it effect an improvement in econ-

omic conditions in the Dominion to

the point that the unemployment re-

lief problem will largely dissolve? It

will be by reference to its re-

sponse to these matters that the

success or failure of the new Par-

liament will be judged.

There are other matters, sub-

sidiary when compared to the big

three, but still of first-rank impor-

tance. Foremost among them is

the stand the 150,000 holders of wheat

which the government must market

profitably if it is to avoid loss on

its \$106,000,000 guarantee to the

wheat pool. Then there is the

question of the competition of Japan

for the competition of Japan for

the wage and living conditions to

our industrial workers. Finally

the broad question which is

developing steadily to the point

where a decision must be made as

to whether the scheme of Imperial

THE JARVIS RECORD, THURSDAY FEBRUARY 6, 1936

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