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THE DAILY NEWS

DAILY EDITION

Friday, October 30, 1942

EDITORIAL

Speculating About Hepburn . . .

When Mitchell Hepburn resigned last week as Premier of Ontario, the Daily News suggested that more would be heard from him in public life. The most of Canadian newspapers in their editorial comment have expressed a similar view that this fiery and youthful figure will bob up again in some prominent place. The Winnipeg Free Press speculates that Mr. Hepburn will figure prominently in a federal national government move. It comments as follows:

We have become accustomed in Canada to Mr. Hepburn providing us with sensations, and the resignation of the Ontario premier provides us with the latest in the long series of spectacular doings that is associated with his name. There can be only one certainty in the situation, which is that the country, despite Mr. Hepburn's protestations to the contrary, has not yet heard the last of him. His record, his abilities and his animosities combine to suggest that final retirement, at his age, is not to be expected.

Although reasonable presumptions do not always provide a safe foundation upon which to build judgments regarding Mr. Hepburn, it is today reasonable to believe that he has found his position as a premier of Ontario, whose chief policy is one of bitted opposition to Mr. Mackenzie King, an increasingly difficult one. The growing strength of the C.C.F. must also have been causing him a good deal of anxiety.

He has deliberately chosen his successor—Gordon Conant—and himself retains "for a short time" a seat in the cabinet. Obviously some strategy is here in play. Had there not been, Mr. Hepburn would either have called upon his logical successor, Mr. Harry Nixon, to form a government, or he would have left it to the members of the Liberal legislative group to choose a premier, a procedure for which ample democratic precedent exists, notably in Manitoba at the turn in the century and in Saskatchewan in 1926 when Mr. Dunning went to Ottawa. In either case a stable government could have been formed, for there are only 21 Conservative members in a house of 90. Mr. Nixon could have found a substantial following. An elected successor would obviously have had no difficulty.

Instead of recommending Mr. Nixon, however, and in spite of that member's long and valued service since 1919 in the Legislature, Mr. Hepburn chose Mr. Conant, who has been a member of the Government only since 1937, has never revealed any special qualities of leadership or worthy distinction, and whose sole qualification, so far as can be judged at this distance, is an identity of interest and belief with Mr. Hepburn himself.

The announcement has already brought Mr. Nixon's resignation from the cabinet. Undoubtedly the likelihood of defection was taken into account by Mr. Hepburn in planning his move and it may be permitted to ask a few questions as to the immediate probabilities of the future. Is the arrangement deliberately designed to destroy the coherence of the original Hepburn following, and thereby to force a coalition between those members over whom Mr. Hepburn retains absolute control and the Conservative opposition under Col. George Drew on some such program as "Total War Now" (Globe and Mail model)?

But there are other possibilities. There may well be some relationship between the tactics chosen by Mr. Hepburn and the forthcoming Conservative convention to be held here in December. When Mr. Meighen issued the first call to the convention he made it clear that he regarded it as an opportunity to form a national government. Anyone interested in that cause and duly accredited was to attend. That invitation has since been sharply modified, but Mr. Meighen remains the Conservative leader and his influence will be powerful in the convention planning. Is it not therefore possible that Mr. Hepburn's resignation is designed as a bridge over which he can more easily pass from the Ontario premiership to a prominent place in the ranks of a national government dominated by the Meighen-Drew-Globe and Mail wing of the Conservative party? This, in spite of Mr. Hepburn's avowed determination to seek ease and leisure, is not to be forgotten.

The Canadian public, in the light of all the circumstances and possibilities of the present, would be well advised to keep its fingers crossed and wait upon events which are not likely to be long in unfolding. Certainly it will appeal to many people as reasonable that Mr. Hepburn will not be satisfied with the humdrum routine of his onion farm until he has made at least one more attempt to unhorse Mr. Mackenzie King.

SPORT CHAT

Britain's hard-luck story of the week: Eddie Steward, formerly of Bradford and Southport Football Clubs, is 26, hard as a drill major's heart, and until recently was a physical training instructor in a crack British regiment. He wanted more action and applied for transfer to the air force as a gunner, or to the Commandos or the Paratroops. In short, Eddie yearned to liquidate a few Nazis. He received his transfer just the other day. He went to another unit—as a helper in the stores' department.

Tragedy: Preston North End were travelling to Scotland to play Glasgow Rangers in a charity football match and broke their journey to visit their former winger, David Willacy, a fighter pilot. They arrived at the station in high spirits only to find that a couple of hours earlier David had been killed in action.

Perseverance: Jimmy Tompkins fought half way up through Fulham junior soccer teams until in 1939 at the age of 27 he was a regular left-half on Fulham's big league team. When war came Jimmy joined as a private and fought his way up all over again. Now he's a major and believed to be the only peacetime professional footballer to have attained this rank.

Police attended a Bath City-Swansea Town soccer match with a bucket of disinfectant. Each time the ball went out of bounds into adjoining fields, ball and shoes of the men who retrieved it.

were washed in the liquid. Foot and mouth disease had struck nearly every head of cattle in the district.

Dynamo Sports Club, one of the oldest sports societies in Russia, replied thusly to a message of greeting in which the Arsenal Gunners football club expressed desire to visit the Soviet and play some football after the war:

"We certainly await with impatience the day when we shall be able to meet you on the football field. Just now we are possessed by a single thought—to rout the Hitlerite hordes."

"You write that the hour is near when the sportsmen of Britain will display their fighting ability on the territory of Europe. We are glad to read this statement, which reflects the spirit of our British friends."

CLOSE RACE IN BOWLING

People's Store and Sav-Mors Still Separated by One Standing Point

In Wednesday night's games in the Mixed Bowling League Sav-Mors and Stones took three games from Twerps and Chinese youth Association. People's Store took three games by default from Madges and Pushovers won two out of three from Tollers.

High scorers for the evening were Rose LaBelle with 276 and Stan Saville with 284.

Individual scoring:

Chinese Youth—			
M. Lee	91	139	145
Lamb	110	118	112
V. Lee	163	105	99
Law	216	142	139
G. Lee	180	214	183
K. Lee	166	185	256
Handicap	39	39	36
Totals	965	942	961
Stones—			
S. Burnett	149	114	105
D. Burnett	193	156	114
Dickens	100	174	140
Ray	188	129	188
N. Stone	126	130	145
B. Stone	136	129	151
Handicap	134	134	134
Totals	1026	966	977
Twerps—			
B. Olsen	106	121	115
E. Daly	240	76	155
Billard	137	109	89
W. Olsen	139	114	147
A. Daly	180	166	211
Thompson	254	162	205
Handicap	117	117	117
Totals	116	865	1039
Sav-Mors—			
LaBelle	276	167	180
Alger	118	198	140
E. Stegavig	207	171	145
P. Stegavig	139	285	177
Reaugh	228	214	229
Bach	250	178	206
Handicap	244	24	24
Totals	1242	1237	1161
People's Store—			
Peterson	170	192	237
Bichard	148	186	141
L. Felsenthal	74	122	128
Cambell	172	174	174
Ballingier	229	202	190
Manze	132	155	130
Handicap	72	72	72
Totals	997	1103	1072
Midgets—			
Defaulted.	1	2	3
Pushovers—			
Wrathall	126	135	171
Comadina	159	131	
B. Saville	99	103	147
S. Saville	284	271	189
Pierce	197	237	163
DeJong	160	173	154
Kinsior			165
Handicap	67	67	67
Totals	1092	1117	1045
Toilers—			
A. Kellett	135	116	182
A. Garland	154	148	229
K. Garland	186	155	191
C. Fraser	134	128	118
T. Fraser	132	139	209
C. Kellett	199	178	243
Handicap	78	78	78
Totals	1018	942	1250

The league standing to date:

Peoples Store	14	4	14
Sav-Mors	13	5	13
Stones	9	9	9
Pushovers	9	9	9
Toilers	8	10	8
C. Y. A.	7	11	7
Twerps	6	12	6
Midgets	5	13	5

REDUCING TRAVEL

LONDON, Oct. 30 (AP)—With the object of reducing winter rail travel, service men and women stationed less than 50 miles from home will have to pay full rail fare when going home on leave, until March 31.

Basketball Buzz

Wednesday night's basketball card was the most balanced so far this season with no one-sided wins particularly on floor play. Scores were not actually close, yet the games were interesting throughout.

Captain Angus MacPhee, Dry Dock centre, still carries a clear head but we are looking forward to next Wednesday when his ship-builde's lock horns with Uncle Sam's Headquarters team reportedly the strongest outfit in these parts. It's going to be a battle regardless of the outcome as man far man the teams are well balanced.

Don Fitch took time off from his duties at the Dock Wednesday to romp through the United States Transport team for a clever fourteen points in that style particularly his own. If his "trick" knees hold out the young man will be a definite threat for top scoring honors.

Local boys on the Air Force team, Jack Lindsay and Rupert Fulton, are looking well and holding their end up on the squad. The Fliers haven't had any great luck so far, having lost their first two starts.

Coach Allison of the United States Headquarters takes his boys very seriously by reports and intends to make a first class team from his fine material. Allison, a junior college mentor from the States, is himself a clever player and will stand watching by his opponents.

Helge Holkestad, former local boy, who now lives in Vancouver, has apparently cracked the Senior A ranks and will play for Stacey's in the Vancouver City League. Helge will be the first boy from here to make that particular league and deserves credit even though the actual season is not in operation as yet.

We noticed W. W. C. O'Neill, High School principal, at the games Wednesday and his boys won for him. A student crowd is still conspicuous by its absence. Maybe graduation has robbed the school of its pep—or has it? Students, it's your duty so don't fall down on the job. Get together and do something about it.

Hector MacKenzie, league president, secretary, financial wizard and referee, even has his missus on the job as scorekeeper and timekeeper and she is efficiency plus. Hec must have a way with the ladies as he has coached ladies' basketball in Kamloops for some time, eventually landing the Provincial intermediate title for the Okanagan centre.

Following is the schedule for basketball play tonight at the Armory:

- United States Headquarters vs. Grenadiers.
- Midlands vs. Air Force.
- United States Transport vs. Signans.

GIRLS LEFT THEIR KILTS

LONDON, Oct. 30 (AP)—Travellers are more careful of their possessions than they were before the war. Included in the latest sale of unclaimed articles left with the Southern Railway, however, were nine girls' tartan kilts, a riding saddle and 17 large frying pans.

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