

BACKUS DEAL IS BIG ISSUE SAYS DRURY

Premier Addresses 4,000
Huron Electors At Meeting
in Goderich.

SUSPICIOUS OF MEIGHEN

Will Fight Effort of Govern-
ment To Take Over
Water Power.

[By Staff Reporter.]
GODERICH, Aug. 11.—An emphatic
detailed explanation of the Backus
deal, involving both Hon. G.
Howard Ferguson and Hon. Arthur
Meighen, featured two powerful ad-
dresses at the annual U. F. O. picnic
here today. By Hon. E. C. Drury,
premier of Ontario, accompanying the
leader of the Provincial House was the
minister of highways, Hon. Frank C.
Higgs, who defended at some length his
"good roads" policy.

Leaving London by motor early in
the morning, the two speakers were
able to stop off at different points en
route and note road work already com-
pleted or under way. Arriving at noon,
they were the guests at a luncheon of
the district farmers, at which gathering
the premier delivered his first address.
Directly following the indoor program
sentiment all three riders, despite heavy
intermittent showers, listened atten-
tively throughout addresses by both
members of the cabinet. The latter's
arrival was the signal for a demonstra-
tion by their followers, who repeatedly
cheered or otherwise applauded them.

Lake of the Woods Deal.
"I want to say a word about the
Backus deal and the Lake of the Woods
deal," Premier Drury declared during
the course of his remarks. "This is one
of our biggest issues, and quite as im-
portant as any boundary dispute. The
Lake of the Woods is international and
interprovincial water. A big portion is
in Ontario."

"In 1898 the time was recognized to
regulate the levels of this lake. Ontario
made an agreement with the owners of
the Norman dam by which the Govern-
ment would still regulate the levels, but
the owners could, with a thirty-day
notice assume control. Later it became
an international issue. American lands
had been flooded. The international
commission set and considered the
question."

Board Appointed.
"A joint board of four engineers, two
from Ontario and two from the Domini-
on Government, were appointed to
regulate. Meanwhile Backus, the Ameri-
can (who was not an invention of
our administration), bought the Norman
dam and the Lake of the Woods timber
limits, but with certain added restric-
tions. A mill was to be erected for one
thing. Under the old agreement a joint
board still controlled."

"On the strength of certain commit-
ments by Backus the town of Kenora
spent a million dollars in improvements,
but later complained to the Farmer
Government, industries claiming that they were on the verge
of ruin. Now the entire development
of that portion of Ontario depends upon
Kenora, and we felt the situation
worthy of the utmost consideration."

Must Go Through.
"We were determined to have Backus
go through with his obligations. He said
he had not the water power. We re-
plied that we would lease him the
White Dog Rapids with certain restric-
tions. We were to have control of the
Norman dam under the direction of the
minister."

"We were not giving them anything.
We said to them to give up the
right of the original 30-day agreement,
and we were to control the levels. You
have read in the papers that the old
empire of timber, the English River
limit they claim we gave away. It was
as nothing compared to what the old
Government gave to their friends just
before election. As a matter of fact
we put it up for sale on very stringent
terms."

Had No Bidders.
"In 1915 the old house put it up for
sale and there were no bidders. Their
conditions were:
1. The purchaser must build a mill to
cost one and three-quarter millions.
2. Two hundred men must be em-
ployed.
3. A ten per cent bonus to be paid.
4. Royalties at 40 cents for spruce
and 20 cents for poplar.
For comparison here were our re-
quirements:
1. A mill to cost two and one-half
millions.
2. Employment for 1,000 men.
3. Two hundred and fifty thousand
dollars, all to be paid and forfeited if
agreements are not fulfilled.
4. Royalties exactly doubled."

"Who says we gave it to them? There
were four bids, including one from
Backus. Our learned critic, the former
minister, said the others were fake.
If so Backus gave away \$25,000 for no
need. They say Backus can't be trust-
ed. We don't have to trust him we
have the security."

Control of Dam.
"Last year we got control of the
Norman Dam. The Dominion Govern-
ment apparently has been satisfied with
the commission acting. Later, how-
ever, Mr. Meighen thought it wise to
place the control on a permanent legis-
lation basis in place of the order-in-
council. That would give us absolute
control of the Winnipeg and
English Rivers. I thought, and do still,
that it was a splendid act. It came be-
fore the House, but was persistently

You won't have to
leave your home
to meet

MIRACLE

Mothers!

Baby needs the
health and strength
in a food
63 years has
proven right.

**Borden's
EAGLE BRAND
Condensed Milk**

blocked. I was told that Backus was
against it. The town of Kenora was
against it. I thought I think.
"Mr. Ferguson (the same one who
said Meighen had to come in to save
Ontario water power from the private
interests) rose, and in a lengthy and
clever address sought to prove that we
were going to give away the rights of
the province."

A Tricky Deal.
"It looked like defeat, and rather
than have that I withdrew the bill in-
tending to bring it in the next session.
I then wired Premier Meighen, asking
him to use his influence in keeping the
same commission on the job. He
agreed to do this, and you can imagine
my surprise in May when a bill was
introduced by the Dominion to take all
the power away from the province. I
was not even told, but read it in our
learned critic, the Globe."

"I protested without avail and the
bill passed. By it Canada assumed
control of this Ontario water. This
will not be tolerated. It is much more
than mere sentiment. It has got to be
fought in the civil courts of the land.
If we allow one like this we must al-
low another. Principle is involved, and
we can't tolerate such interference
with the Meighen administration at
Ottawa."

Ferguson Involved.
"Notice incidentally that the chief
Ontario defender of the Federal Govern-
ment was our friend, G. Howard
Ferguson (I give his full name so you
will not confuse him with the other
Fergusons) and he opposed me poor
little bill for friendly co-operation
whereby there would be satisfaction on
all sides and we would still retain con-
trol of our own water power."

Dwelling upon the record of his Gov-
ernment, the premier laid stress on the
point that one thing necessary
for good legislation was a free hand
to pick the best material for posi-
tions. "And I give credit," he said, "to
the U. F. O. following that I have never
yet been besieged by a bunch of 'hun-
gry office-seekers,' as was the case of
the old parties."

Revenue Doubled.
Touching briefly on the big problem
of natural resources, he advised that
the receipts from such had been
doubled by the Farmer Government
and in replying to the many charges
of extravagance, he insisted that the
not taken the trouble to analyze the
financial situation, and had, upon be-
ing challenged on the floor of the
House, been unable to back his allega-
tions in a single item."

"Road conditions of five or six years
ago," said Hon. C. Biggs, "are not
the same today. We are therefore fac-
ing the big question as to what to do.
We have, I believe, adhered strictly to
our promise at election time. We do
not want a few good roads, but we need
reasonably good ones for all."

Improving Highways.
"In place of having four or five high-
class pavements, we are trying to get
each county served adequately by the
provincial highways. As far as pos-
sible we are using local material. We
have crushed rock brought from the
nearest reasonable distance. We have a
few roads where the wear and tear is
unusually large number of cars is
necessarily severe, and it is our policy
that only in cases like this do we pro-
pose to build high class roads. We'll
build these only where the traffic is so
great the present road cannot be ade-
quately maintained in any other way."

Greater Interest.
The minister proceeded to show the
greater interest that was being mani-
fested by the counties and the town-
ships in road-building and lauded their
noticeable improvements. Along such
lines, touching on what he termed one
of the most important planks in their
platform, the township roads, the speaker
said that these had never received
the attention of the last Government,
but pointed out what had been and was
being accomplished by usage of the
government's offer of financial aid."

Cannot Be Hurried.
"We receive considerable criticism,"
he concluded the minister, "but we cannot
hurry these jobs. We must start with
the ground work first. The drainage
etc., and not put the top of a road on
until the foundation is ready for it. All
I ask is for patience. Do not expect
impossibilities and in a few years you
will have a road system in Ontario not
to be equalled in North America."

Leaving Goderich for Stratford the
premier and minister of highways in-
spected the work under way on the
Goderich-Stratford highway and ex-
pressed themselves highly pleased with
the progress.

Open Shop Issue.
President McParland claimed that it
was not really a fight for the ac-
knowledgegment by printers of the 44-hour
week but a struggle for the open shop.
He claimed that some publishers were
willing enough to sign up, but insisted
upon this being kept secret. He sug-
gested that a species of terror was in
existence. While six thousand men were
jobless over this question, 30,000 were
working under the 44-hour week agree-
ment.

Serious Position.
He then outlined the situation in New
York and Chicago, pointing out the
great seriousness of the position of the
unions. If 1,000 men went on strike in
New York that would mean an addition
of \$7,000 per month in strike pay. The
union was financially unable to carry
an extension of hostilities. The kicking
against the ten per cent increase must
cease. Any man preaching concessions,
he said, or advocating a reduction of
the assessments, was preaching a de-
fealist doctrine similar to that used by
Germany during the war.

He then asked that the convention be
petitioned to give the executive commit-
tee the right to reopen negotiations with
the publishers. The ultimate decision
could then be submitted to a referendum.
His suggestions were adopted by the
convention unanimously.

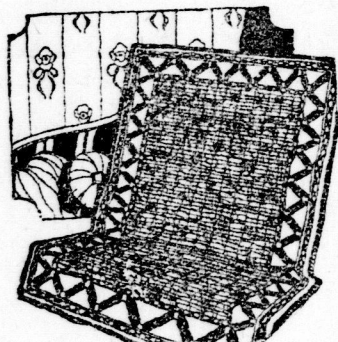
MARINE NEWS
SARNIA, Aug. 11.—The vessel pas-
sages at this port today were:
U. F. O. 2:20; Gary, 11:11; Walters,
11:40; Princeton, 2:50; Garretson, 3:50;
Oll, 4:10; Frick, 4:30; Stembrenner, 5:
O'Connor, 9:10; Lamberman, 11:15; Edin-
born, 11:40; Glenlivet, 12:40; Stone,
12:50; Williams, 2:30; Conneaut, 2:30;
Tremble, 2:30; Reiser, 5:10; Harry Jones,
7:10; Fitzgerald, 7:30; Roberts, 8:20.

Down—Calcutt, 10:30; Harvard, 2:50;
Farrell Ralph and Sonnet, 9:10; S. U.
son 11:10; Hart, 11:30; Lewiston, 12:30;
James Davidson, 1:40; Wm. Reiss, 4:30;
Verona, 5:30; Campbell, 5:40; Yates,
7:10; Mitchell, 7:30.

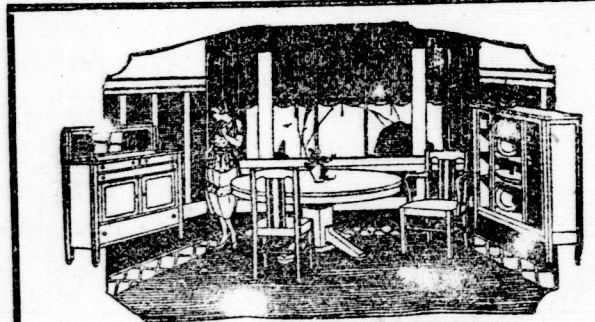
WOMEN!

**All
Furniture
10%
TO
50%
OFF**

**FINEST DOMESTIC RUGS
REDUCED NOW 25 PER CENT.**



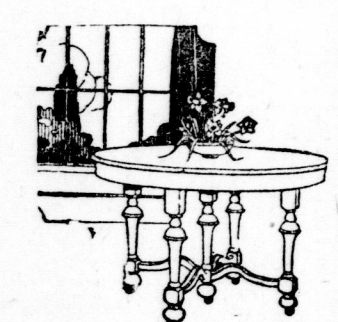
Here you are given
your unrestricted choice
of any Rug in stock at
a genuine discount of
25 per cent from the
present low prices. Ax-
minsters, Velvets, Wil-
tons, Wilton Velvets,
Brussels and Fibre
Rugs, all 25 per cent
off! A wonderful array
of patterns and colors
to choose from.



**30 PER CENT OFF ALL
DINING-ROOM SUITES.**

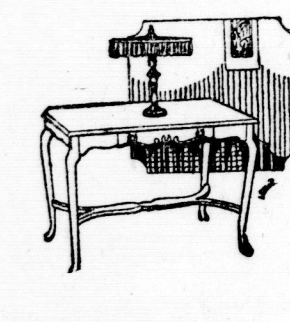
Values galore, in this great August Sale, in our
dining-room furniture department. With 30
per cent off the already reduced prices, many
suits are now BELOW PRE-WAR PRICES!
A few are suggested below. Note the exception-
ally low prices:

\$200.00 Suites reduced to	\$140.00
\$250.00 Suites reduced to	\$175.00
\$350.00 Suites reduced to	\$250.00
\$500.00 Suites reduced to	\$350.00



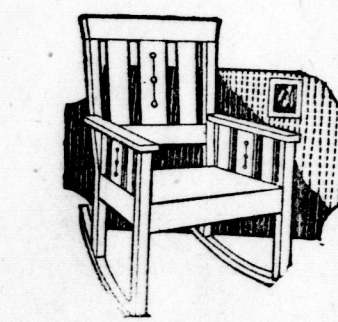
\$49.00

Even pre-war prices were no
lower on Tables like this.
It's in the favorite William
and Mary design in Jaco-
bean, and walnut finish.



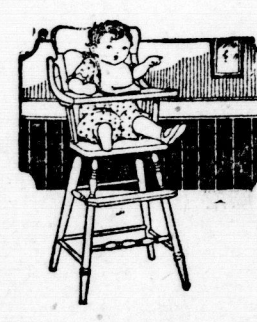
**HANDSOME
WALNUT
LIBRARY TABLE**
\$33.00

Other designs at \$39, \$45,
\$50, \$65, \$75 and \$100.



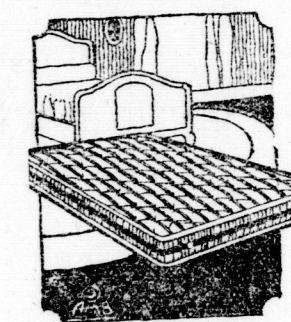
\$9.95

Don't pay more for a comfort-
able Rocker like this, when our
price is so extremely low! This
Rocker is built of solid oak,
mind you, and is suitable for
living-room or porch.



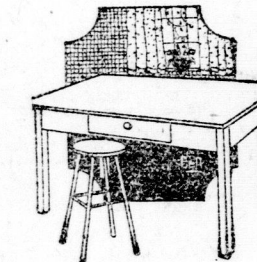
\$3.95

Safe, practical and built to last
a lifetime are these High Chairs.
They're comfortable, too, with
adjustable food trays, and come
in golden oak finish.



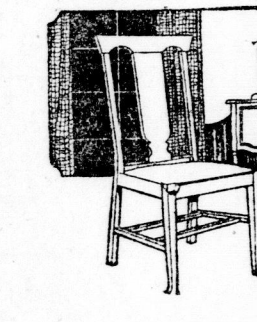
**SPECIAL FELT
MATTRESS, \$8.95.**

This is the finest \$15.00 Matt-
ress made, pure white felt,
covered in finest art ticking.



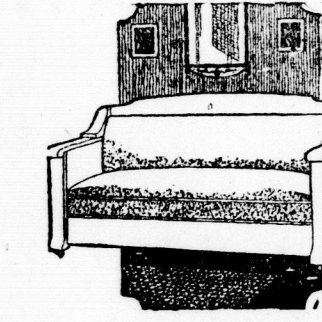
**KITCHEN TABLE
\$5.95**

Here's a big value that
housewives will hurry down
tomorrow for. It's well built
of maple, natural finish, and
has a large cutlery drawer.



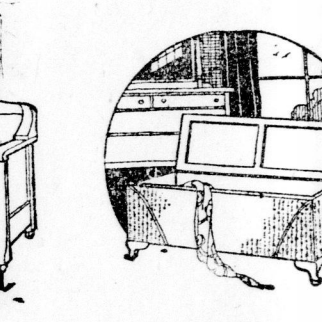
\$5.00

These Dinners come in solid
oak, fumed finish as well as
golden, and at this price
one should get at least a set
of four, and realize a tre-
mendous saving.



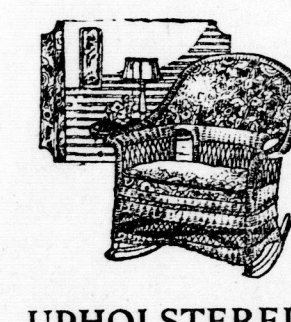
\$69.00

This is truly a "cheap" price
for this massive Davenport
Bed. The frames are solid
oak, the upholstery is imi-
tation Spanish leather.



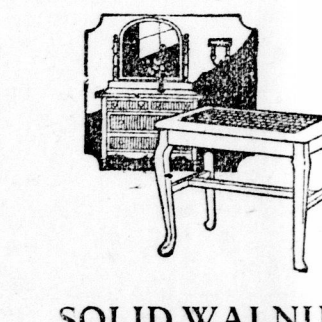
**SHIRTWAIST
BOX \$7.50**

Made of red cedar, covered
with jap matting.



**UPHOLSTERED
REED ROCKER**
\$19.00

Fine reed, upholstered in Eng-
lish tapestry, spring seat.



**SOLID WALNUT
BENCH, \$9.95**

Regular \$16.00 Benches, only
six left to clear at this low price.

**You Who Know Furniture Values--
Our Great August Sale Was Planned To
Your Advantage--Don't Overlook It**

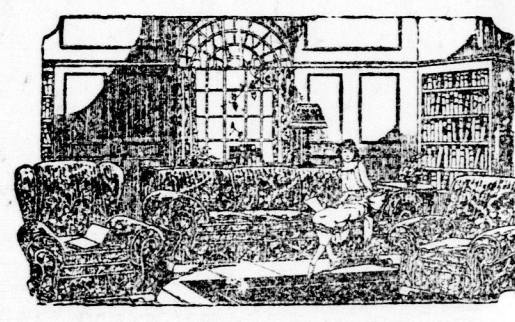
Who can better say that women are the best judges of furniture values than we, who
daily see what unquestioned judgment they show in selecting furnishings for the home?
Our great August Sale, with its added reductions of 10 to 50 per cent, is the climax for
value giving and low prices. It will be impossible to offer lower prices and still remain
in business. Planned to meet every woman's requirements of lower prices on the finest
furniture, this sale will attract thrifty housewives from every part of the city.

With but a few exceptions, everything in stock is cut to a ridiculously low price, including our entire assortment of high-grade
Rugs. It will pay you to anticipate your future needs and buy now. On complete furnishings for your home you can save hun-
dreds of dollars.



**ALL ODD BUFFETS AT PRICES
NOW CUT 35 PER CENT.**

Match up your dining-
room set, with a new
Buffet, now, for almost
"a song." Or replace
your present Buffet
with a newer and more
beautiful one. All the
period styles most in
demand are here, in
solid oak, American
walnut and mahogany
finishes. During this
sale, prices begin at
\$39.00.



**30 PER CENT OFF ALL
OVERSTUFFED SUITES**

And oh, such wonderful Suites they are, at such
almost unbelievable prices! We have them in
two and three pieces, all the wanted designs,
in mohair, tapestry, velour and damask. See
these marvelous values listed below:

\$250.00 Suites, three pieces	\$175.00
\$300.00 Suites, three pieces	\$225.00
\$350.00 Suites, three pieces	\$275.00

The Ontario Furniture Co., Limited

228-230 DUNDAS STREET, LONDON'S LARGEST HOME FURNISHERS.

A small cash deposit re-
serves any article or suite
for future delivery.

Watch for our advertise-
ments during this sale--
it certainly will pay you!