Other Papers' Opinions

DEFYING DANGERS

(Mt. Forest Confederate)

There are people who will wantonly court danger, no matter how much they know about it, nor how seriously they have been warned.

In October an eleven year old boy climbed a high tension tower at Port Colborne and lost his life. There was a danger sign on the tower. A companion called his attention to the danger, nevertheless the boy recklessly climbed the tower with fatal result.

There are thousands of people acting in a similar way every day with regard to all kinds of danger. It is not more information they need, it is just common sense that they lack.

Yet information should be persistently supplied so that responsibility may be rightly placed and lives of the intelligent saved. Newspapers by publishing items regarding accidents render a great service to the community in this respect. A pamphlet is to be issued for use in schools pointing out the hazards of climbing poles or towers, picking up wires, breaking insulators, flying kites and similar dangers.

"Touch not, taste not, handle not," is a well-known admonition of the Old Testament; "Swear not at all," is an equally emphatic one of the New. These, and most commands of the decalogue are prohibitions, but suggest affirmatives of abstinence and reverence. Some educationists go to the absurd length of saying that the negative form "don't" should not be used by parent or teacher. Nature says "don't" very emphatically when one grasps a hot poker or a live wire.

ON BEING OVERGOVERNED

(Alliston Herald)

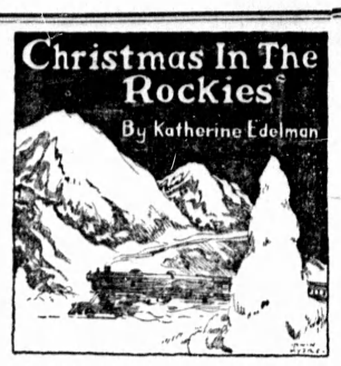
The cry of being overgoverned being reiterated over and over again by some people is becoming a bit hackneyed. It is true there are fewer cabinet ministers in Britain than there are thousands, perhaps millions, of men ride to hounds while the number in Canada will not total more than a few hundred. Not that there is any connection but that conditions are different. The people of Canada are content to be governed by various governing bodies and do not react favorably to a few agitators. In the United States there is a national government with its two houses, every state has a government, some with two houses of parliament, every state has its counties each of which has its governing body and every municipality has a council. In addition there are various educational bodies which function separately. There may be a few sporadic objectors to the multiplicity of governing or administrative bodies, but in the main the people of the United States like the system and are satisfied with it. It is the same in Canada where the opposition element is not numerous but powerfully noisy.

Current Crop Report

Reports from most counties state that livestock went into winter quarters in fairly good condition. The shortage of water in Halton is regarded as a serious problem, as in many other rural districts. There is little moisture in the ground and many wells are dry, with many farmers finding it necessary to either haul water or drive their livestock to the neighboring creeks. The situation appears increasingly serious this year and a major plan of reforestation is regarded as necessary to protect the sources of water. Haldimand reports a large quantity of hay being shipped to the United States, with the price remaining the same, around $8 per ton for alfalfa in the barn. Victoria County reports that fall wheat has had a good growth and is now well covered with snow. Many farmers there are short of feed, but this shortage has been lessened greatly by the good supply of fall grass. In Frontenac the shipment of brood sows has been quite heavy this fall. New milk cows are in good demand, but few are being sold.

CAUGHT IN WIRE FENCE

The deer that inhabit this section of the country are having quite a difficult time with the wire fences. Last week a fine doe became entangled in a wire fence at F. Gallagher's farm, near Belmore, and in its efforts to free itself, it tore its leg so cruelly that the animal had to be slaughtered to be put out of its misery. Wire fences have trapped several deer in this locality and on the day this animal was trapped, the local deputy game warden, Archie Ferguson, of Walkerton, had three calls of the same kind.—Mildmay Gazette.



CHRISTMAS in the Rockies! I felt thrilled, excited, as our train wound its way in and out through the mountains, thundering through the crisp, pine-scented air. Now, we were climbing an almost precipitous grade, now, slowing down for a dangerous curve, while every little while as a stretching plain was reached, the steady hand upon the throttle sent the long line of cars speeding like an arrow through the bright December sunshine.

We were on our way to spend Christmas with Uncle Jerry and Aunt Emma. They had sent a hearty invitation for us to come out, and now we were almost there. I held my breath at the sheer beauty of the scene that stretched before our eyes. Mountain peaks that seemed to touch the sky, canyons dropping thousands of feet, lakes covered by glittering thicknesses of ice, vivid green pines, looking like giant Christmas trees. I had never seen, never even visualized anything so beautiful.

A loud shriek from the big whistle, a slow crunching and grinding of brakes, and our train came to a stop. Uncle Jerry, rosy and smiling, stood waiting upon the platform, giving dad, mother, Helen and myself a true western welcome.

"Aunt Emma is all excited about your coming," he beamed.

A short drive through a wonderland of beauty, and the big sprawling ranch house came in sight. Aunt Emma stood in the doorway, and a cowboy, who was grooming a pony, looked curiously at us. I wanted to look around before going indoors, but tantalizing odors from the kitchen made me suddenly realize how hungry I was.

All was bustle and excitement, hurry and preparation. Even the horses and ponies in the corral seemed excited, as if they sensed something in the air. The afternoon and evening went by on wings.

Christmas morning dawned upon a world that looked even lovelier than it had yesterday. A million jewels hung on bush and tree, a sky of turquoise stretched itself across the snow-covered mountains and valleys.

Inside the ranch house a fire of crackling logs threw its ruddy glow over the living room. The dining table was spread with tempting foods. Breakfast of home-cured ham and sausage, fluffy flapjacks and syrup, steaming hot coffee with thick cream.

Then a short drive to the little church, an inspiring talk by the pastor, and the strains of the old and beautiful Christmas hymns; neighbors and friends stopping Uncle Jerry and Aunt Emma to wish them "Merry Christmas."

Back again through the clear, frosty air, and later the big Christmas dinner. Golden-brown turkey and dressing on a big blue platter, a huge mound of snowy potatoes, native vegetables and relishes, tempting pieces of mince and pumpkin pie. And best of all, an appetite that only the mountains can give.

A hundred things to see during the afternoon, the horses and ponies, the ranch equipment, the silver fox farm that Uncle Jerry had just started, and a special show the cowboys put on for our benefit.

Food again in the evening, and after, a happy time around the fire. The cowboys standing around the piano, where Helen played the old Christmas carols, their lusty voices joining in the beautiful words. I thought of the beautiful setting outside as they sang:

Silent Night, Holy Night!
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace!

I stole outside for a few minutes as they went on to the next lines. A new moon was sending its silvery light down upon the world, a million stars added their smaller gleam. Around me I felt the faint, mysterious noises of night in the open places, the stirring of unseen, unknown things. My lips and heart joined in the words that floated out from the warm, lamp-lit room.

Silent Night, Holy Night!
Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Saviour is born!

I have spent many a happy and memorable Christmas, but never one as wonderful, as unforgettable, as this Christmas spent in the Rockies.

Christmas Twenty Days

In Norway the Christmas celebration continues for 20 days.

The definition of a skyscraper is a barber who works on one of the new Trans-Pacific air liners.

Garage Mechanics To Be Licensed

A law that has been hanging fire for some years is to be put into effect after the first of January, when all mechanics employed in garage work must secure a license and give proof that he is a capable and qualified man. The new legislation has been brought down by the department of labor of the Ontario Government and penalties are provided for those who do not obey the law.

Every motor vehicle repairer with more than five years' experience and less than seven years' experience in the motor vehicle trade at the time such trade became a designated trade and who successfully passed the examination prescribed by the Advisory Committee shall be granted a certificate of qualification on payment of the prescribed fee.

The act also makes provision for the issuing of certificates in cases of repair men with more than two years and less than five years of experience.

"Every motor mechanic repairer who fails to pass such examination may try further examinations as may be prescribed by the Provincial Advisory Committee at the end of a period of one year."

This move will prevent any general handyman from tacking up a sign inviting the general public to have cars reconditioned by him whether he is a licensed repair man or not, and should prove a boon to the motorist who knows what it is to have a good motor ruined by the hands of an unskilled mechanic.

QUITE SUITABLE

The manager of a small dramatic company went raving to his band conductor during the rehearsal.

"Here on the stage," he cried, "we have the scene of the hero about to be lynched—and you play a dreamy waltz!"

"Er—yes, that's why!" came the response. "You see, it goes with a swing!"

A DIRECT HIT

He was boring the young lady to tears when in came her dog.

"Ah," he exclaimed, "have you taught him any tricks since I was here last?"

"Yes," she said sweetly. "If you whistle he will bring your hat."

A million dollars is being raised in the United States to educate people to be temperate. That's a lot of money, but it looks small when compared with the amount spent to make them otherwise.

Barber: "It's a bit thin on top, sir. Have you used our special hair tonic?"

Customer (curtly): "Oh, no, that's not the cause."

"Oh, George, I'm sure I can hear a mouse squeaking under the bed."

Well' what do you want me to do? Get out and oil it?"

The Bank of Canada has refused Alberta a loan. However, as many individuals know, this is not the first time a bank has acted that way.

He: "What happened when the boss caught you reading a novel instead of doing your work?"

She: "I lost my place."

Canada cleaned up at the Chicago show in wheat, oats, alfalfa and field beans which is a very respectable showing for a year in which the dry weather was supposed to have wrecked all hopes for good crops of any kind.

—HAVE YOU RENEWED?

The . . . Gift Shop

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For HER

Satin Blouses	$2.59
Pyjama Bags	49c
Child's Lingerie	85c
Gift Lingerie	$1.00
Boxed Hankies	15c, 19c, 25, 35c
Cedar Chests	80c, $1.85
Silverware	$1.00
Aprons	25c, 29c, 45c
Papetries	25c, 35c, 65c
Bath Salts	25c, 35c
Hot Water Bottle	49c
Silk Hose	69c
Silk & Wool Hose	35c, 45c, 69c
Wool Sweaters	$1.98
Lace Runners	29c, 39c
Tie Scarf	25c, 39c
Pillow Slips, pair	$1.00
Bath Towels	85c, $1.00

For HIM

Distinctive Harvey Hall Tie	$1.00
Boxed Ties	50c
Woollen Scarf	69c
Fine Socks	35c, 45c, 55c
Hankie Sett	45c
Shirts	85c, $1.00
Leather Ties	25c
Leather Gloves	85c
Toilet Setts	50c
Xmas Tobaccos ½lb.	40c, 50c, 65c

For Children

Baby Comb & Brush Setts	29-50c
Boys' Ties, boxed	25c
Boys' Scarf and Tie Sett	50c
Bath Robe	$1.29
Pullover, zipper	$1.00
Fountain Pen Setts	25c to $1.00
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