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EDITORIAL

At the Council meeting on Monday evening the by-law authorizing the taking of a vote on the question of closing the beverage room in the Revere House was passed. The Councillors had no alternative in the matter. Under the new regulations as laid down by the Liquor Commission in Toronto when a petition has been sufficiently signed (25% or more) the said petition is forwarded to Toronto, along with the certificate of the Municipal Clerk. The Department in Toronto sets the date and gives complete instructions as to the taking of the vote. We are told that the cost to the Village will be in the neighborhood of three hundred dollars. If this is a fact there is something wrong with the regulations. In late years most of our legislation has been framed by city bred and educated men who are strong on the fine points of law but short on common sense. Under the old Local Option law a vote could be taken at a cost of but a few dollars, but now we must put up with the Liquor Commission's instructions and make the best of it. Speaking of the question itself The Standard advises that people be allowed to follow their own best judgment in the matter. We have had the beverage room in operation here for some months and each individual has had the same opportunities as his or her neighbor to observe its workings. Nothing is gained in abusing the other fellow because of the opinions he holds. Let's be fair enough to give our neighbor the right to do his own thinking and when the voting has been completed on June 28th we shall have had an honest verdict from the electors of Markdale. The Standard has nothing more to say in the matter but if either side desires publicity our advertising columns are available at the regular rates.

Now that the Conservative Executive of the Grey-Bruce riding has decided on holding a convention on Wednesday, May 15th, there is no longer any question as to the number of candidates who will be in the field at the next Dominion election. Miss Agnes Macphail, the present member for South-East Grey, has been again chosen by her supporters. Dr. Hall of Walkerton, member for South Bruce, was chosen by the Liberals of Grey-Bruce at a big convention held in Hanover last year. Who the Conservatives will select on May 15th is not yet known but no doubt they will put forward the person considered the strongest candidate. With three candidates in the field it will be a merry scrap with one guess as good as another as to the victor. Miss Macphail is a splendid campaigner. She has a big following and is a long way from defeat at the present moment. Dr. Hall has been strong in the Bruce riding and according to reports he has been busy in the Grey portion of the new riding. He is backed by a good organization and they will also be in the fight right up to the last minute. The Tories are also well organized and with an active candidate will poll a big vote on the day of the election. It's time enough to say who is elected after the ballots have been counted.

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THE WEEK AT OTTAWA

by Frederick Edwards

Back in January, in his series of five radio broadcasts, Prime Minister R. B. Bennett said, in effect: "The welfare of the Canadian people is paramount." He has since given effect to reform legislation in support of his declaration—the eight-hour day, the compulsory weekly day of rest, unemployment insurance, farm loan amendments to help the rural districts, the "poor man's" Budget, a large programme of public works to help abolish unemployment—are some of the measures introduced, while it is certain that important legislation will be introduced to alleviate abuses disclosed before the Royal Commission on Price Spreads.

The Prime Minister is in England to attend the King's Silver Jubilee celebrations. Parliament is on a five-weeks' holiday. But machinery to care for the welfare of the people is still operating.

Thursday saw the opening of a health conference called by Minister of Health Col. D. M. Sutherland, attended by ministers of health or other representatives from all the provinces except Quebec. Primary features of the opening day were possible compulsory annual examination of all Canadians and the suggested appointment of a Royal Commission to make a broad study of ways and means to bring the advantages of state medicine to all persons.

The Royal Commission, favoured by most of the provincial representatives except Dr. G. W. Weir of British Columbia, would start investigations next fall and would include in its personnel appointees of the Canadian Medical Association and the faculties of medicine of the universities. Col. Sutherland also thought that labour, financial and insurance interests might be represented so that the whole subject could be widely canvassed. Ontario, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, through their ministers of public health, expressed agreement with the plan.

Compulsory national health insurance was also discussed at some length without any decision being reached. Members of the conference agreed that medical research should be a Dominion responsibility, but that education of the public in health matters (which it was unanimously agreed was of vital importance) should be cared for by the provinces. Hon. George Hoadley, Alberta, Minister of Health, insisted that the best medium was the multiplication of free clinics where people could go for examination and advice. This was generally agreed upon.

Are the Ottawa trade pacts satisfactory? The best answer is in the results achieved. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports that for the fiscal year ended March 31 last Canada's exports to British Empire countries totalled \$341,323,978 against \$278,025,134 the previous year, an increase of more than \$63,000,000 or 22.8 per cent. Exports to foreign countries, also showed a gain of \$17,000,000, or 5.6 per cent., totalling \$318,151,016 against the previous year's figure of \$301,318,011.

The Canadian radio commission will broadcast May 6 a series of six programmes in connection with the King's Silver Jubilee celebrations. The broadcast will last from ten a. m. to four p. m., during the course of which His Majesty will be heard.

At a meeting of the directors of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers' Association, held here Thursday, Roy Sayles of the Renfrew Mercury, resigned as managing director of the organization.

The annual meeting of the association. It was decided, will be held in Toronto the last week in July.

There is considerable speculation regarding filling of the thirteen Senate vacancies. Among those mentioned most freely as possible appointees are Hon. G. B. Jones and T. Bell, both members from New Brunswick; Col. T. Cantley and H. B. Short, from Nova Scotia; Hon. Arthur Sauve and Hon. J. D. Chaplin, Dr. Peter McGibbon and Sam Charters, all from Ontario. There is also some gossip as to members retiring, twenty-five members having announced their intention of not again contesting their constituencies. Two of them are Liberals.

Religious Forum

How to Equip Ourselves for Life

Every worthy citizen prides himself upon living as honorably and uprightly as he can. During the course of his earthly pilgrimage he desires to acquit himself creditably and when this life is ended, to leave a good name behind him.

Now when a youth decides upon his life occupation, he takes every pains to learn all that experienced people can teach him about the principles and the methods of the work. He spares no effort to become well versed, and proficient in all respects. He would count it utter folly to neglect to thoroughly equip himself for his life task, for he knows that the fund of wisdom and of skill so indispensable to success comes to no man ready-made. Unlike the animals and the birds, man cannot depend upon mere instinct.

But in the development of his moral and spiritual nature, is he so keenly aware of the need of training? It may seem to him that he can trust to moral instinct. Can he not take conscience as his guide? May he not trust to moral common sense?

By way of answer let us suppose a number of infants were put off on an island by themselves and left there without any contact with the outside world for the balance of their lives. What would be their moral and spiritual condition? Take our own community and shut it off completely from all communication with the rest of the world, destroying all its Bibles and other books. What would it be like in a generation or so?

Conscience therefore, and public opinion, valuable as they are, are not in themselves a sufficient guide. For while God does speak to man through his conscience, he has provided other means for its education and enlightenment. The accumulated experience of the world's most religious nation is at his disposal in the Inspired Book. And man's experience of God's dealings ever since is taught him in the Church. Christ trained twelve apostles as the foundation of His Church. Knowing that there must be nurturing centres of moral and religious enlightenment, the Church has ever been His appointed agency for keeping man in touch with his Saviour and his God, and with Divine principles. Are we not told in Christ's own words that we must come unto Him if we would have light!

Institutional religion carried on by Christ's human instruments admittedly is not perfect. Yet God has seen fit to put the treasure of Truth for man's enlightenment in earthen vessels. In other words, he has entrusted it to human instruments to communicate it to their fellows. So until God reveals another method of enlightenment, to take the Church's place, it stands as the Divinely appointed instrument of blessing. We are therefore in duty bound to keep in touch with organized religion and the means of grace until we can prove that God has revealed to us something better.

Now the more people there are who live as if they can dispense with the influences and kindly offices of the Church, the less and less enlightened and dependable public opinion is going to be in each succeeding generation. For it is just as useless to expect to live in entire dependence upon the moral inheritance of our ancestors as to try to live in idleness upon the property they may have bequeathed. We must have our own experience of God and of redeeming grace to live upon, and we ought zealously to make use of every opportunity for our enlightenment.

THOU SHALT NOT KILL!

Drive Carefully!

BARRHEAD W. I.

The April meeting of the Barrhead Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. John Varty. The meeting was opened in the usual manner with 17 members and five visitors present. The roll call was well responded to by house cleaning suggestions. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Secretary and were followed by correspondence. It was decided to send a delegate to the conference at Guelph. One letter was read by the Sunshine committee. The program was put on by the married ladies, with Mrs. McNicoll in charge. A paper was given by Mrs. McNicoll on "Graves Disease or Goitre". Community singing was then enjoyed. "Easter Thoughts" was read by Mrs. Hargrave and a paper on health by Mrs. A. White. Instrumental music was given by Miss Leila Varty. A paper, "Where we build better times," was read by Mrs. E. Smart. Community singing was again enjoyed and Mrs. Torry put on a contest which was won by Mrs. H. Thibaudeau. Another contest sent by Mrs. Hatton and conducted by Mrs. McNicoll was won by Miss C. Davidson. God Save the King was sung at the close. A very dainty lunch was served by the hostess, assisted by her daughter and the lunch committee.

VANDELEUR W. I.

The meeting was held at the home of Mrs. F. Boland with the President in the chair, and was opened in the usual manner. A suggestion box was held of "Topics you would like discussed during the year." The roll call was answered by "A Noted Canadian woman and her work". A number of letters were read. It was decided to send two girls to the Girls' Conference in Guelph in May. Community singing was enjoyed by

all. A drawing contest was put on by Mrs. George Shaw. Mrs. W. Swanton and Mrs. H. McGee were the prize winners. A very tasty lunch was served by Mrs. Thos. Freeman and Mrs. R. Freeman. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Thos. Shannon on Wednesday, May 22nd. As it is the annual meeting, we would like all members present and hope for a full paid up membership for the next year. Please keep the date in mind. A pot luck lunch by all the members will be served.

New England Ladies' Aid

The April meeting was held on Thursday, April 18th, in the Church basement. The meeting was opened by singing the hymn "I gave My Life for Thee," and prayer by Rev. C. McAuslan.

The President read the first five verses of 27th Psalm. The minutes of the last meeting were read, adopted, discussed and signed by the President. The roll call was answered by eight members with a verse of scripture with the word "Reward". The next meeting is to be held at the home of Mrs. Stanley Clugston the third Thursday in May. Word for roll call "Mother". The program will be missionary. It was decided to invite the Kimberley young people to give their play "Let's All Get Married", in New England Church on Friday evening, May 3rd. Weiners, buns and tea will be served.

A splendid program was given which included readings by Mrs. Geo. Wiley, "The Three Houses"; by Joy Wiley "My New Shoes"; Mrs. Roy Kirkpatrick "Small Things"; by Mr. McAuslan "Making Good Intentions Effective"; and by Mrs. Nelson Wilcox "Get Together".

The meeting closed by singing a verse of "I am Thine, Oh Lord" and the closing prayer by the pastor.

House Cleaning Time

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