

The Markdale Standard

Published every Thursday at
The Standard Printing Office
Main Street, Markdale, Ont.

\$1.50 per year in Canada.

A. E. COLGAN & SON, Publishers

THE MATTER OF LOCAL RELIEF

We have heard on several occasions the remark that Markdale has been fortunate in the matter of relief during the long siege of depression. No doubt that is true in so far as the village financially is concerned but it is a fact when the unfortunate individual or family is taken into consideration? There is not enough work locally to employ all the men who depend on day labor for a living and we know that many of them have not earned sufficient to provide for the keep of themselves and families. It is true that no person has starved to death but we are of the opinion that there are some children in the village who have not been provided with all the necessities—not luxuries—to keep them strong and healthy.

The Dominion and Provincial governments have made provision for the relief of those who are unemployed and there is no good reason why advantage has not been taken of those provisions. Markdale people have a right to give the same consideration to their unemployed workmen as is given to them in other centres. Merchants have provided most of the relief by giving goods on credit to those unable to pay. Is it fair that they should be compelled to carry the burden of relief? No doubt some will say that they are not compelled to supply the goods but most of the local dealers have a sympathy for the unfortunate which compels them to give credit far beyond their own business judgment. We believe a fairer distribution of the burden of relief would be had were the Council to act under the regulations of the Provincial Welfare Department and provide for all families where the income is not sufficient or where there is practically no income. The matter should not be left entirely with the members of the Village Council, who feel that the interests of the taxpayers is their first concern. Citizens who have the time and are in a position to procure the information should make some move in the matter. Representatives of the several churches in the village might get together and organize for a methodical plan of relief.

A DUTY WELL PERFORMED

We attended a hockey match in the local rink on Friday evening last in which Flesherton and Markdale teams were the opposing forces. The game was a good one and was hotly contested, with every player giving his best in the interests of his own team, but the one thing which impressed us most was the performance of the referee, Mr. Reg. Boyd of Flesherton. Naturally he would be a supporter of the team from his own town and more particularly so because a younger brother, George, was playing. Usually when a local man acts in such a capacity he is inclined to favor either team, sometimes his favorites because his sympathies warp his judgment and at other times the opponents in order to demonstrate that he is fair. Reg. Boyd did neither. To the spectator who did not know him he would look like a complete stranger. He was fair to both teams in every decision and handed no favors to either. He saw every play as it was made and gave his decisions in a fearless and impartial manner. In the last few minutes it was his duty to send two of the Flesherton players to the penalty box and he did it in spite of the fact that it might have meant the loss of the game for Flesherton. Reg. Boyd is a young man and we believe a real one. If he performs every duty in life as well as he did the one here on Friday evening he will win the admiration and goodwill of all with whom he comes in contact. If all had the qualities of this young man this would be a better world in which to live. Here's wishing you good luck and all the other good things which you deserve, Reg.

Religious Forum

The Meaning of Lent

The word Lent is an old Anglo-Saxon word which means spring. It gives its name to the forty days of penitence in the springtime of the year. The essential idea of Lent is not merely a "giving up" of something—a spiritual addition. It is an opportunity for self-mastery. It is a means by and through which we may enter upon a larger, deeper spiritual life.

The world never needed Lent as it needs it now. Life is so strenuous, the pace is so rapid. There is no time for contemplation. We are apt to forget that we have immortal spirits, that we are the sons of God. We live too much only for the temporal and the seen, forgetting that the gain of the whole world at the cost of the soul is unutterable folly. We need to rest and to think sanely. The highest life cannot retain its necessary poise without withdrawal for a time from the strain of the busy life.

Lent stands for all this. It aims to teach us to be better, stronger, purer, saner; to give up the lower for the higher; to make a new start.

Lent urges us to forsake all malice and selfishness and every form of sin. It bids us ask ourselves these questions: "What are we doing for our souls?" "Do we regularly pray?" "Do we systematically study the Bible?" "Do we open our hearts for the entrance of the spiritual?" "Are we earnestly endeavouring to put Christ first in our hearts?"—Selected. p1

Miss Macphail's Weekly Letter From Ottawa

This week has been an encouraging one for me. At last the Royal Commission for a thorough investigation of penitentiaries and of scientific methods of treating lawbreakers has been appointed. The single unemployed men in camps are in the way of being given work with wages. A courageous member of the governing party made a "money" speech which exactly suited me, and the Press Women entertained the four women Parliamentarians—just think, four of us!

I regard the Royal Commission as competent. The chairman, Mr. Justice Archambault, a former member of Parliament, has had an extensive experience as Crown Prosecutor for the district of Montreal. Mr. Craig, K.C., is former Attorney General of Manitoba, a man highly regarded. The officialdom of these two members will be counteracted by the humanity of the third member of the Commission, Mr. Harry Anderson, until recently editor-in-chief of the Toronto Globe, whose deep interest and wide study of penal matters is well known.

The Reference which will determine the scope of the Commission's work is very wide, allowing for not only investigation into the six penitentiaries of Canada, but a study of penology and such liberal experiments as are being tried.

Hon. Norman McLeod Rogers, Minister of Labour, stated that to continue relief camps which had been set up as a temporary measure would tend to institutionalize them and to encourage an attitude of hopelessness on the part of those for whom they were designed to make provision in a period of economic extremity. He said that preliminary arrangements had already been made for absorbing from time to time those in the camps into gainful and useful employment, which will permit the closing of the relief camps, as such, not later than July 1st.

The Government has made arrangements with the two railway systems for the employment of ten thousand of the men now in relief camps on maintenance work. A survey is at the moment being made of all the men in camp, which will enable them to be classified according to training, age, etc., and in order to prepare men for release from the camps they are, from the 1st of March, to be paid \$15.00 a month, half in cash, the rest to be set aside until such time as the man leaves the camp. This arrangement

will ensure a man who leaves camp of his own free will some means of support while he is seeking industrial re-establishment.

For many years we have heard radical speeches on money made by members in the Southeast Corner, but rarely, if ever, by members of the party in power. Long ago we were told that "a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump". The Parliamentary example of that truth is shown by the wisdom and strength of the speech on money made by Mr. Tucker, Liberal member for Rosthern. Speaking in favour of the nationalization of the Bank of Canada, Mr. Tucker argued that the central bank should be used as an instrument to prevent deflation at the beginning of a depression by at that point increasing the amount of money in circulation and, on the other hand, preventing booms through inflation by holding down the amount of money issued in days of prosperity. In other words that the central bank ought to be a control bank.

Mr. Tucker said that the chartered banks had the power of making and unmaking money, and that such power should rest in the hands of the Bank of Canada. To quote: "If the Bank of Montreal or any other bank can issue credit against the bonds of this country, why could not the Bank of Canada issue credit against these bonds and issue it on a non-interest bearing basis? I cannot see why an institution which happens to be owned and controlled by a government could not do the same as a private institution." He had said that between 1919 and 1932 Canada had actually gone into debt through bank loans at the rate of a million a day, but because this had been done through ordinary banking institutions it was not called inflation. He asked why would it be called inflation if a publicly owned bank were to lend a million dollars worth of credit every day on a non-interest bearing basis, with which to retire the debt to private concerns which bears interest. By doing so, Canada could, in twenty-four years, exchange all her interest bearing debt for non-interest bearing debt (Federal, Provincial and municipal debt included).

The chartered banks lend this debt-burdened money to the governments which, by way of taxes, collect money from the people to pay the interest. "It simply means that we are draining from the masses of the people over a million dollars every day of the year for the payment of interest; we are piling it up in the hands of the big financial interests. . . . It is not surprising, therefore, that we have unemployment to-day and are unable to look after the needy, the old, the blind and the totally disabled."

When Mr. Dunning and Mr. Bennett interjected slighting remarks, such as "That's the stuff" "At last we've found it" Mr. Tucker seemed not to notice the interruption, but some time later he said "I noticed a certain tendency to regard my ideas as fantastic, but let me point out to the Hon. gentlemen that according to the last Canada Year Book fifty-four per cent. of the entire taxation of this Dominion (Federal, Provincial and Municipal) goes toward the payment of interest on the Dominion debt." He then pointed out to Mr. Dunning that his whittling down of estimates here and there, would be of little use with this great interest bill "gnawing at the vitals of the nation and preventing us doing the things we should be doing." He appealed to his fellow Liberals for sympathetic consideration.

The Trade Treaty between Canada and the United States which was signed so shortly after Mr. King's coming into power is now before the House. Both leaders have used it as an opportunity to tell of the sins of omission and commission of the other. Mr. King blames Mr. Bennett for not putting the treaty through much earlier and Mr. Bennett charges Mr. King with having sold his country out. Both of them went back into ancient history and built up a long elaborate case which may have historical value but certainly is not interesting to listen to. I have a feeling that the people, both in and out of the House, have less interest than ever before in political wrangling.

In sharp contrast was the very cooperative and generous debate on the need of employing experts on

various national and international subjects in the Prime Minister's office in order that the Prime Minister might have some time and energy left to consider policy. In this case each sought to help the other and all members were sympathetic, realising at least in part the terrific burden put upon the first Minister of the Crown in these troubled and difficult days.

The Press Women's Club of Ottawa is composed of a group of energetic, clever and likeable women whose numbers have been swelled by the three women who are now in the Press Gallery of the House of Commons. This is the Club that was host to the four women parliamentarians, the Hon. Cairine Wilson, the Hon. Iva Fallis, Mrs. Black and I.

So many women wanted to attend the luncheon that none of the small dining rooms in the Parliament buildings would accommodate them, so the unique party was set at a horse-shoe shaped table at the top of the main dining room. After very excellent food had been served, including a festive cake in honour of Mrs. Black's birthday, very interesting speeches were made by several members of the Club reviewing the history of women and expressing joy that as many as four had come to Parliament to assist in the government of Canada. We, too, each had an opportunity of expressing the thoughts which such an occasion inspired.

AGNES MACPHAIL

SCHOOL REPORTS

Kimberley Senior Room
Number on roll 28; average attendance 25.08.

Best in spelling (one error), Pat Weber.

Form II—Russell Chard, Thelma Ellis, Annie Haynes, Kathleen Fawcett.

Form I—Pat Weber, Dorothy, Fawcett, Ted Weber, Lottie Wickens, Alma Cherry.

Jr. IV—Alma Wickens H., Ivan Camack, Nellie Haynes, Gordon Chard, Elvie Morwood, Mervyn Ellis, Lois Weber, Mervyn Gilbert.

Sr. III—Gloria Belfry H., Harold Graham H., Donald Graham H., Junior Allen, Donald Belfry, Lincoln Wilson, Kendall Chard, Garry Ellis, Reg. Fawcett, Leota Gilbert.

Gladys Currie, teacher

Kimberley Junior Room

Jr. III—Clare Dillon H., Irene Wickens, Audrey Fawcett and Dalbert Wickens equal, Vernon Fawcett, Elda Foster*, Odessa Foster*.

Sr. II—Marjory Belfry H., Barbara Allen, Jackie Haynes and Betty Graham equal, Gwen Ellis.

Jr. II—Billy Cargo.

I—Merle Smart H., Leona Kirkpatrick H., June Belfry H., Eleanor Ellis, Vernon Cornfield, Shirley McMullen, Philip Cargo, Jackie Dillon, Eunice Foster.

Sr. Pr.—Gladys Haynes.
Jr. Pr.—Willie Haynes, Dorothy Haynes, Iona Smart absent.

Best in spelling, Leona Kirkpatrick, perfect.
* denotes absent for several examinations.

Jean Carruthers, teacher

W.M.C.O.P.
Saugeen Lodge No. 327
Markdale, Ont.

MONDAY, MARCH 16th—Regular meeting. The D.D.G.M. will pay the lodge a visit at this meeting.

PRESTON YORK, Noble Grand
W. J. COLGAN, Rec.-Sec., Markdale

Business Directory

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DENTISTRY

L. G. CAMPBELL, L.D.S., D.D.S., Dental Surgeon. Graduate of Ontario College of Dentistry and University of Toronto. Office over the Post Office. Office hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments made by phone.

DR. J. A. McARTHUR, Dentist. Office in the Artley Block, over the Perkins hardware store. Entrance at south-west corner of building, Toronto Street.

FRATERNAL

L. O. L.—Markdale L.O.L. No. 1045 meets in the Orange Hall, Markdale, at 8 o'clock p.m., the first Thursday in each month. Visiting brethren cordially invited. J. W. Stoddart, W.M.; A. E. Scott, Rec.-Sec.

A. F. & A. M.—Hiram Lodge No. 490, G.R.C., Markdale, meets in the Masonic Hall, Reburn Block, at 8 o'clock p.m., on the second Thursday in each month. Visiting brethren cordially invited. W. J. Halbert, W.M.; A. E. Colgan, Sec.

R. B. K.—Victoria Preceptory No. 282 meets in the Orange Hall, Markdale, at 8 o'clock p.m., the third Thursday in each month. Visiting brethren always cordially welcome. G. W. Littlejohns, W. P.; A. E. Colgan, Registrar.

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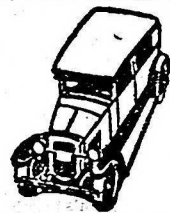
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