

The Markdale Standard

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Member C. W. N. A.

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WHAT WILL THE OUTCOME BE?

For the past five or six years, Canada, like all countries of the world, has been looking for a way out of the great depression and the resultant unemployment but to date very little, if anything, has been accomplished. True, millions have been spent on relief, but are we any further ahead because of such contributions to the unfortunate? The national debt has been increased by millions because of relief grants and this debt is going to increase unless a real solution of the problem is found. During the prosperous years, and they were abnormally so, we piled up debts which could easily have been paid if conditions had remained as they were but such has not been the case. We contracted obligations which must be met and a large percentage of our people are unable to meet these obligations, hence property values have fallen, in many cases as much as fifty per cent. We know of many cases where farms were purchased with a fairly good down payment and to-day the owner finds himself saddled with a mortgage in excess of the present value. This is true in other lines and as we see it there are but two methods by which this can be corrected.

Cheapen money or cheapen the services of those who are on salary. It is said that the income of the farmer has dropped forty-seven per cent. Has any other class of wage-earners taken a cut in wages to compare with the tillers of the soil? Members of parliament, Federal and Provincial, are still drawing the same liberal indemnities which were established during the prosperous times, and business institutions are struggling to keep their heads in the same class as the Joneses. Under present conditions it cannot be done without injury to a large portion of our people. We are going to have to resort to the standards of former lean years or use inflation of our money in order to establish equality among the peoples of this great Dominion. We believe inflation will produce less opposition than the other method and would therefore be easier to put into force. True, our foreign debts would become greater but under prosperous conditions they would be easier to meet and the saving in relief payments would more than cover this loss. Let's hope that the present parliament will not adjourn until some definite action has been taken.

SCHOOL REPORTS

S. S. No. 12, Holland
Sr. IV—Doreen Hammill 82, Marie Sutherland 82.
Jr. IV—Blanche Cathrae 74, Onolee Hammill 74, Doris Morrison 69, Harvey Dixon 62, Marjorie Dixon (absent).
Sr. III—Ted Howey 75, Glen Hammill 73, Ed. Saunders 73, Jack McCauley 70.
Jr. III—Maxine Connell 80, Marie Cathrae 68, Francis McCauley 68, Gwenneth Henry (absent).
II—Charlotte Norton, Willard Saunders, Freda Morrison, Yvonne Murray, Elva Henry, Wilda McCauley, Lorraine Mower, Billy Cathrae.
I—Ada McCauley, Vernon McCauley, Marion Dixon.
Primer—Norma Henry, Lois Murray, Douglas Cathrae.
Grace Wellerman, teacher

Religious Forum

Some Suggestions On Temperance Education

(Selected from Church Messenger)

A sub-committee composed of members of the General Board of Religious Education and the Council for Social Service of the Anglican Church has recently been studying the subject of Temperance Education and brought in the following suggestions to their two Executives which were approved:

The keynote of the Christian character must be that of obedience and service, not only submissive obedience and resignation to the Divine will (for which a kind of fatalism and unintelligent passivity is substituted), but a co-operative obedience, possible to those who acknowledge as sons the adoption in Christ of the Heavenly Father, that learns to associate itself with the will of God.

As there is so much unsound teaching abroad on the subject of personality, we think it advisable to point out that the whole march of civilization, where it is progressive, is based not only on the mastery of external nature but on the mastery over the animal side of human nature: eg. the keynote of the ethics of the Greeks was self-control, and we know that this principle of temperance ruled and dictated their noblest efforts.

The refusal to acknowledge the moral discipline of the teaching which inculcates sobriety, temperance, self-control in an effort to secure freedom, so far from resulting in true freedom issues in enslavement to evil habit and self-indulgence; in extreme form in the ruin of life, in all cases to a maiming of noble purpose and a curtailment of usefulness and true happiness. N. B.—Kipling's hymn in our Hymnal, "Father in heaven who lovest all" is a very fine expression of the place of discipline in life.

Everyone has a responsibility with regard to others, and all have a duty to be in some sense leaders. But Christian Leadership is always through service, not through the control and use of other people; there is no leadership comparable with that which depends on example, and to help others we must ourselves be strong. Self-seeking and ambition have no place in the Christian life. (The life of King George V. is very much in point.) To love our neighbour rightly, we must be ourselves worthy of his respect and love.

Intemperance is often the casual product of ill-spent time and mis-employed leisure. Young people (and older ones too) need to be encouraged in healthy sports and hobbies, and stimulated by suitable reading, so that leisure which is (it seems) bound to increase may be a blessing, not a curse. People old and young must be taught to relax without running into drunkenness and debauching, and healthy recreation is a very great help.

Without spiritual ideals and the Divine Grace and an understanding of what is best and highest in human life, few people can resist the temptation to self-indulgence. The challenge to high endeavour must be presented. The Gospel comes to those who are weak and by the attraction of its beauty and power leads and charms men, occupying them with what is higher and better. p1

House of Refuge Services

May 1—Rev. C. O. Pherrill.
May 15—Rev. H. S. Warren.
May 29—Rev. T. O. Miller.
June 5—Rev. A. Mills.
June 19—Rev. H. S. Warren.

M.I.O.F.
Saugeen Lodge No. 327
Markdale, Ont.

MONDAY, MAY 4th.—Regular meeting for general business. At this meeting representatives will be chosen to attend District meeting.

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Miss Macphail's Weekly Letter From Ottawa

It has been a week of drama. Hour by hour members followed events at Moose River mine; some times, like all other Canadians, hopeful and at others despairing, with the nervous strain finally broken by the rescue of the entrapped men from the old mine.

We thrill to the heroism of the miners who hourly risked their lives to save others. We know it is right that great effort should be made to save three lives, but why are we indifferent to wasting and rotting humanity buried in inactivity and hopelessness?

The Drama Festival has been engaging the attention of Ottawa this week. A renowned playwright, Mr. Granville-Barker of Great Britain, is the adjudicator and to him falls the difficult task of deciding which of the many plays presented from over Canada is the best played. I have not had the opportunity of attending any of the performances but have read with interest the daily comments of Mr. Granville-Barker and to-day had the pleasure of meeting the cast of Vancouver players who presented "Waiting for Lefty."

The play has to do with unemployed youth, the frustration and impoverishment of their lives. The Vancouver group are for the most part unemployed and had at the beginning no thought of entering the national Drama Festival, but the extraordinary popularity of the play in Vancouver and the opposition of the police of that city to the performance spurred them on. A tag day and the net receipts of the many presentations of the play in their home city made it financially possible for them to come to Ottawa. It is ironic that this radical play should be presented to a fashionable and official audience in the capital city after the police of Vancouver thought it unsafe for local consumption.

Even the Big Show on the Hill had its dramatic moments this week with Gerry McGeer and Tucker the chief actors in the piece. Before the bill to set up an Employment Commission passed these two fighting Liberals made one last and splendid effort to convince the government of the need of far-reaching economic and financial changes.

One had a sense of tension as the indomitable Gerry McGeer presented his case with small regard for the feelings of the government. He pointed out the error of dealing with unemployment as though it were a temporary condition. "What justification can there be for putting this commission to work under an Act that is limited to one year?" he asked. And this question I am sure, has formed in many minds. He dealt at length with the long time policies of Great Britain and United States.

"When Great Britain found that a deflationary policy had put her in the hole, she abandoned the gold standard, repudiated her gold debts in toto, suspended her war debt payments and then proceeded to finance recovery by issuing Bank of England sterling bills as national currency. Further, Great Britain refunded her national debt at lower rates of interest and established a managed currency system."

Great Britain's next step, Mr. McGeer said, might be described as an intelligent trade policy. She proposed to finance her trade and develop it by balancing exports and imports. She bargained with every country that would bargain with her, on the definite understanding that importations from that country would be governed by its purchase from Great Britain.

As a national policy Great Britain scrapped outmoded factories, the government assisting private industry by way of bonus. Planning in agriculture was instituted. For products such as milk, butter, eggs, cheese, poultry, potatoes, pigs and bacon, marketing boards were set up to regulate production, distribution, competition and prices. Many instances are available in which individual liberty and rights were sacrificed, controlled and regulated for the national well-being. "To induce the production of wheat, a price of \$1.40 a bushel was guaranteed for all home production and farmers who had emigrated returned to England to farm at a profit

after having gone broke in other countries."

As a result of these and many other changes, registered unemployment in Great Britain in this year is the lowest it has been in five years, and the index of general business activity has reached the 1929 level.

Mr. McGeer enumerated in detail the Roosevelt programme and showed that there was 15 billion dollars more money in existence in the United States at the end of 1935 than there had been at the end of 1933 and that the unemployed figures in that nation had dropped from 13 million to 9 million in the same period. He paid glowing tribute to the work of Franklin D. Roosevelt and said that he believed future generations will add his name to "that illustrious gallery that is now exclusively reserved for the names of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln."

Among the very best of the new members is W. A. Tucker of Saskatchewan. He has ability, information and convincing earnestness. Sitting, as he does, in the over-flow section of the Liberal party, he finds himself facing the treasury benches. It may be the complacency and indifference that he sees there that rouses him to great effort. But whether it does or not he hammers home his well arranged facts with logic and spirit. In this case he was pointing out that it was most unlikely private industry would do much toward providing employment. Taking housing as an example, he proved by elaborate tables of taxation figures that the person who invests in houses has to pay a tax on his own investment, while the person who invests in government bonds has interest paid on his investment and further if the house owner cannot keep up his taxes, his property is confiscated, while "the bondholder with his principal in cash, howls to high heaven if you even touch his interest. You are selling out the home owner in order to pay interest to the bondholder."

The chairman of this Employment Commission has been announced and he is none other than Mr. A. B. Purvis, president of Canadian Industries Limited, an Englishman who has been only ten years in Canada. As Tommy Church said: "Mr. A. B. Purvis of St. James Street is the chairman of the new Hallelujah Chorus of government achievements." The company which Mr. Purvis heads has some connection with the Duponts, the munition people of the United States and with British munition interests, it is said. Or to put it Mr. Pouliot's way "Mr. Purvis may be a very excellent gentleman but I see no use of having the commission presided over by a man who is associated with big American interests and who is interested in explosives. I do not see why he should come here and burst in this country."

Certainly the other members of the commission will need to be excellent if Canadians are to have confidence in it.

The Women's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church are having a national convention in Ottawa this week and I had the pleasure of entertaining some women from Grey-Bruce. It is seldom I have the opportunity of having people of my constituency visit me here, which made the occasion one of special interest to me; Mrs. John Marshall, Durham, Mrs. Walter Hastie, Holstein, Mrs. Gemmel, Markdale, Miss Irene Middaugh and Miss Maud Mitchell of Dundalk, being among the number.

AGNES MACPHAIL
House of Commons, Ottawa

Business Directory

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WALTER E. HARRIS, Barrister and Solicitor, Etc. Office on Main St., Markdale.

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. 1046 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.

AUCTIONEER

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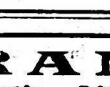
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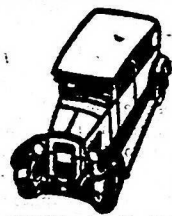
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