

The Markdale Standard

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We wonder why it is?

There was an unusual commotion in a quiet section of the city on a recent early morning. A neighbour was leaving, moving to distant parts. Neighbours were calling. Regret was expressed by all because of their leaving, and they were told how much they'd be missed, and how much they were liked. Best wishes for a safe journey and for a pleasant and profitable sojourn was voiced by all. And then came good-byes. And mayhap a tear. A little girl came stumbling by, sobbing hysterically. Her playmates were leaving. Here was stark tragedy. Other eyes were bedimmed.

We wonder why it is we mortals always wait till friends, loved ones, or neighbours are going away for an indefinite period, to tell them how much we like them and how much we've appreciated having them for companions and neighbours?

Such procedure seems a sort of empty gesture—similar to putting flowers on a casket, when they mean nothing to the deceased, who in life would have cherished even a tiny rosebud given in friendship. It would be much nicer if we would tell our neighbours before they are planning to remove to some distant clime, that we are proud to number them among our friends and enjoy associating with them.

This may bring to us as Odd Fellows the thought that perhaps we too are a bit derelict in our duty to a fellow member. He may have received a cordial welcome on the night he was admitted, those present congratulating him heartily, expressing pride in having him as a member and inviting him to be regular in his attendance at our meetings. Such solicitude making him fairly glow with pride. But perhaps at the very next meeting he is practically ignored—spoken to in greeting by a pitifully small number, and that only, in the briefest way, then left alone to amuse or entertain himself as best he can. His enthusiasm receives a severe jolt, his ardour cools, and is it any wonder? When this happens, whose fault do you think it is?

To the query there is only one answer, and that the quite obvious one—our own.

Our friend has gone. Yes, we told him, as we gripped hands, that we wished him well, and expressed the hope that fate would deal more gently with him in his new home than it had in the one he was leaving. He thanked us in all sincerity. But we have a guilty feeling that a word of kindly greeting, a pat on the back, a little sympathy when to him the situation was dark and the future held little or no hope—it is then, we suspect, that our sympathy, our expression of friendship would have meant most to him. But, human-like, we, too, waited until the parting time had come to tell him we liked him and were glad to have had him for a neighbour and a friend. Why do we do it? Why?

We should do everything possible to cultivate the practice of our principles and professions among ourselves, which, if successful, will naturally have its influence in our contact with the world at large.

Emerson wrote:

"Not gold, but only men can make
A people great and strong—
Men who for truth and honour's sake
Stand fast and suffer long.

"Brave men who work while others
sleep:

Who dare while others fly—
They build a nation's pillars deep,
And lift them to the sky."

We can't buy one's affection with gold—neither can a lasting place in their memory be purchased with gold. Kindness—words of cheer—sympathy—are the pillars upon which we must build if our structure is to endure. And that edifice will stand if bound together with the strong three-fold cord of friendship, love and truth.—Dominion Independent Odd Fellow.

VANDELEUR W. I.

Mrs. Russel Freeman was hostess for the September meeting of Vandeleur Women's Institute. After the usual opening the roll call was answered by twenty-two members on "Why and how I like milk". It was decided the members give a succession of ten cent teas to increase their finances. The regular program consisted of a reading by Mrs. Swanton, "Sarah Emma's Photographs"; a contest put on by Miss Dora Boland was won by Mrs. Frank Taylor and Mrs. Clive Dolan; a very interesting address on Health Diets was given by Dr. Thompson. The meeting closed by singing the National Anthem. Lunch was then served by Mrs. Frank Taylor and Mrs. Frank Davis. The October meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Chas. Boland.

BARRHEAD W. I.

The Barrhead Women's Institute meeting was held at the home of Miss Emma Littlejohns on Thursday evening when there was a good attendance of members and visitors. The meeting opened by singing the Ode and repeating the Lord's prayer. Mrs. Whitehead presided in the absence of the President. The members responded to the roll call by telling what they first remembered and when. Several items of business were dealt with and it was decided to have a social evening at the home of Mrs. Torry. Community singing was then enjoyed. A paper was given by Mrs. Hatton on "Contentment"; Mrs. Allen White put on a contest which was won by Mrs. H. Thibodeau; a spelling match with C. Davidson and Anna Wilson as captains and Miss McAllister giving the words resulted in Anna's side winning. The match was much enjoyed by all. At the close of the meeting a pleasant social hour was enjoyed and a dainty lunch was served by the hostess and lunch committee.

Star Editor Reaches His Allotted Years

We are a day or two late in offering our hearty felicitations to Mr. Joseph T. Clark on the occasion of his 70th birthday; but we assure him it was not because we couldn't decide whether to do it or not. It was because we couldn't be sure that actually he is 70. He doesn't look it; and his writings, while they suggest ripe judgment and a tolerant spirit, have always done so. Perhaps nobody of equal importance in the community is so little known to the general public as the editor of a great paper, who is content to be just an editor, and whose name does not appear in print as lecturer, orator or Public Nuisance No. 2. We doubt if 1 per cent. of the Star's readers know the name of the editor. Not one in a thousand, probably, knows him by sight.

The Big Little Man

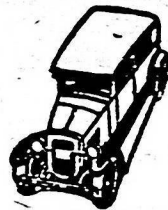
Perhaps it is just as well for their romantic ideas, for Mr. Clark is imposing mainly by his intellect. The story is told that once when he applied for a job on a newspaper, the editor looked him over critically, and said "No. You're too small." This was in the days when an editor had to depend on his fists to make good what he had said with his pen. The applicant took his hat off, leaned over the editor who was seated and jammed it on him. It completely covered head and face and chin. Even as a young man, Joe Clark was big where it is important that a man who strives for supremacy in the world of ideas should be big.

And he has grown no smaller with the passing of the years. With a brief interval as editor of Saturday Night he has been editor of the Toronto Star ever since it was founded. He has been one of the chief reasons for the remarkable success of that newspaper. He has given it not only direction but character. He has made few enemies for his paper, and has not in the world, we think, a personal

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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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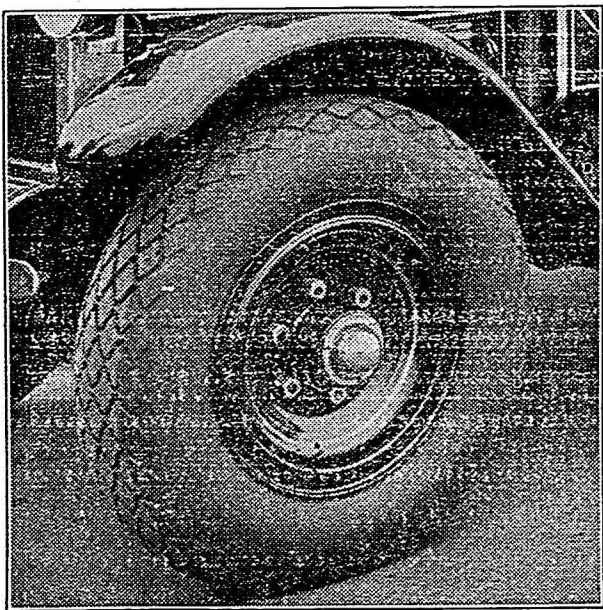
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