

The Acton Free Press

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EDITORIAL

Rumors have been current that the Provincial Government is taken, find no confirmation at the Parliament, at the same time that the prohibition referendum is taken, finds no confirmation at the Parliament Buildings.

There has been launched in the United States a strong propaganda for the introduction of the metric system for weights and measures for that country, Canada and Great Britain.

There is surely room for serious thought in the following statement: "With the stupendous total of nearly \$2,100,000 lost in wages by the thousands of strikers in the metal trades industry in Toronto, who have been out since the first of May, the men have now bowed to the inevitable and will return to work, defeated."

Many towns, which have gone into the Ontario Housing Scheme have been very aggressive in the building of necessary houses. The Ottawa Reformer says: "The Ottawa Housing Commission has under construction 100 houses in all, 70 of which are being built independently by the Commission in the best residential parts of the town, for sale under the government housing plan."

The recommendations of the Royal Commission on Industrial Relations for a national conference in Ottawa of Federal and Provincial Ministers with representative employers and workmen on the subject of industrial relations has been accepted by an Order in Council, which outlines also the basis of representation, the proposed form of procedure, and the objects in view.

Sometimes we hear it suggested that Acton might save a few dollars per month if fewer lights were used on Mill and Main Streets. To cut off any lights on either of these streets would be most unpopular with the people of Acton.

In Halton, the political pot, so far as present appearances would seem to indicate, has not yet begun even to simmer. The Liberals long ago placed E. H. Cleaver, of Burlington, in the field as their candidate in the coming general elections for the Province, and they think they have in Mr. Cleaver a strong candidate, both as to personality and his ability as a platform speaker.

Farmers will not object to a fixed price for wheat provided there are fixed prices for boots, clothing and all other articles farmers have to buy. But farmers will not tamely submit to any separation of the sheep and the goats, with the farmer compelled to play the part of the goats.—Farmers' Sun.

At the very time when the world is demanding the utmost from every man, when each worker is urged to exert himself to the ultimate limit, so that production may be increased, men are showing a restiveness in harness. The remedy for all this lies with each individual man or woman. The old ambition for work must be restored; we must learn again the pace for our unrest, nor are the incessant strikes across the pathway that leads to contentment.—Simcoe Reformer.

The big Liberal Convention at Ottawa has gone into the history of Canada. It was dominated by a progressive spirit and adopted a platform calculated to cope with the exigencies of present day affairs. Its delegates followed up their declaration of tariff policy by reiterating support of the reciprocity agreement of 1911 with the United States, and by approving co-operative agricultural credits and taxation of luxuries and big incomes.

It may be singular, but it is significant, that at the big Liberal Convention at Ottawa last week the following strong and comprehensive resolution on prohibition was introduced by a woman, Mrs. Bentley, of Elgin, and seconded by Mrs. Ball, of St. Thomas:

"Whereas the regulation, restriction and prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquor, within their several jurisdictions are vested in the provinces, this convention is firmly of the opinion that when, for the effective enforcement of restrictive or prohibitive legislation enacted by any province, supplemental federal legislation is, by the Legislature of said Province, deemed necessary, such legislation should be enacted by the Federal Parliament."

The resolution was carried without opposition. It will have far-reaching and most beneficial effect if it gets upon our statute books.

Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King was chosen at the National Convention of Liberals at Ottawa last week as the leader of the Liberals in Canada. It is a fine comment on the broad-minded view of the delegates of the convention that Hon. W. S. Fielding, who was a supporter of the Union Government at the last general elections, should have received 438 votes to Mr. King's 476 on the fifth and last ballot for the leadership. Hon. George P. Graham and Mr. D. D. McKenzie were given very creditable votes on the first and second ballots, but Mr. King and Mr. Fielding led from the outset. In the choice of Mr. King the leadership of the Liberal Party has come into able hands. He brings into this high and important position the vigor of middle life; an energetic well-informed and gifted mind; a wide experience in parliamentary affairs and of the demands required from a statesman in the position to which he has been called, especially in matters of industrial life which to-day are so strongly insistent.

There is a very strong feeling in England in some quarters that if the spirit of the terms of the Peace Treaty are to be fully observed we should discontinue the practice which has been so general the past four or five years of referring to the Germans with offensive names. A popular London weekly says: "Germany is now, technically, a friendly power, or soon will be. That being so, we suggest that our press might, with advantage, discontinue its spitefully habit of using the words 'Hun' and 'Boche' on all possible occasions. We shall soon have the German Embassy again occupied and it would really be deplorable if its chief were commonly referred to in print as the 'Hun' Ambassador, or the 'Boche' diplomat. It is not because of our love for the Germans, but regard of our own reputation for good manners, that this suggestion is made. We shall be sorry to part with 'Boche.' The name was an inspiration. 'Hun' has no merit, except brevity, and all persons of good sense will be glad to see it go." It will be difficult indeed, in view of the fact that Germany was the cause of the war, and because of the terrible atrocities committed, to follow the course suggested. Really, though, that is the spirit which makes for large-heartedness and the true measure of sterling manhood.

No apology is offered for the insertion of the following paragraph in this column. The Free Press is not a religious weekly, nor does it desire to be regarded as a "goody-goody" journal. Nevertheless the following from that influential secular farm monthly, Rural Canada, is fully endorsed in all its reverent setting:

"The Family Altar—We follow in the good old style—always in vogue—with Rural Canada, and put God in. The family altar of the pioneers and of our fathers, which too many of us have forgotten, or have been ashamed of at times, made Canada the Canada it is to-day. How much farther we might have been along, how much more we might have accomplished in service to ourselves and to the world if we had but followed more closely its teaching and have allowed the Infinite Spirit to rule instead of our own petty, finite minds and wills! More happy and more blessed will that now home be where the groom (or if he is too weak and cowardly, the bride) goes to it that God is enthroned there. The very wholesome sermon along this theme in Knox Church two weeks ago, by Rev. J. C. Wilson, the pastor, has since caused serious contemplation in the best of numbers of his hearers."

DETROIT UNDER PROHIBITION

Toronto, August 9, 1919. The following is from an article in the Christian Questioner by Mr. Frank B. Eater, Special Inspector, of the Outlook, who has been visiting Detroit to see how the prohibition works in the biggest dry city in the world. The writer says: "I called on James Cousins, Detroit's mayor, a good liver himself, tolerant, well-bred with a twinkle in his eye. Formerly he was a Commissioner of Police, and he is therefore no theorist about conditions." He said, "I have never been a teetotaler. I voted wet, but if another election were held I would vote dry. I believe teetotalism is a mistake. It is a revelation: it has upset all the alarmist predictions of the wet, and more than sustained the coolest predictions for dry. I am in favor of prohibition for Detroit because it has made us a better town, and I believe the public as a whole is impressed with its benefits. The personal liberty arguments do not appeal to me. The question is, will it bring the greatest good to the greatest number? Here in Detroit it has been reduced sixty to seventy per cent. Child welfare has received the most pronounced benefit. Dollars in appropriations could not have effected. Collections are better, merchants report greater business from the working classes and the banks show a great increase in deposits. There has been no increase in the number of drug addicts. There has been boot-legging, to be sure, but Detroit is the largest dry city in the world, and we have no more smuggling than we expected."

The Superintendent of Police, said: "This is my answer: Only half past five and a Saturday, pay day, and no getting ready to go home. In the house days we used to be always here until after midnight, often all night; what with murders, cutting, swagging, shootings, gambling, family quarrels, women screaming, beaten up men, we were as busy here as a department store on a Christmas Eve. Let me tell you that Detroit, boot-legging or not, is a better city to live in."

H. AINOTT, M.D., M.C.P.E. Board of Social Service.

USED TO KISSING

They were in an elegantly furnished room in the West End of London. They approached each other from opposite directions. One of them was as white as a sheet, the other blushing red as a cherry. Presently they met, and although dozens of eyes were watching them, they kissed each other. They had scarcely been side by side twenty seconds when a man approached with the fire of battle in his eye. With cool insolence he raised the stick he carried and then, on horror, he struck a sharp blow on the nose of the pale one who went spinning several feet away. There was no heart-breaking or crying, not even a murmur. Billiard balls are used to that sort of thing, and the bowlers' little too. It doesn't require a genius to make trouble or create a disturbance.

"FLOROGRAMS" AND "FLOROFONES"

General G. O. Hquier, a member of the United States army signal corps, has discovered, says the Washington Post, that growing trees serve well as substitutes for antennas in sending and receiving wireless communications. It was discovered that while the war was on, signal officers of the United States army, with a string of lines across well as substitutes for antennas in sending and receiving wireless communications. It was discovered that while the war was on, signal officers of the United States army, with a string of lines across well as substitutes for antennas in sending and receiving wireless communications. It was discovered that while the war was on, signal officers of the United States army, with a string of lines across well as substitutes for antennas in sending and receiving wireless communications.

By the aid of this discovery it is declared that wire antennas supported by lanky towers will no longer be necessary for receiving wireless communications, as all that will be needed is to drive a few nails into a tree, attach a wire to it and then connect up the receiving instruments.

LIGHT

An enthusiastic admirer came rushing up to Arnold Bennett, the English author, at a reception in Chicago recently. "O, Mr. Bennett," she cried, "I am so delighted to meet you! You have been a wonderful help to me!" "Indeed? In what way, might I ask?" "Oh, that last book of yours! It has taught me to concentrate." "To concentrate? Well, well, that's nice! Now tell me, what are you concentrating on?" "Oh, on lots and lots of things!"

POWER FROM AIR

The idea of getting power from the oxidation of carburetted air is a very old one. In 1878 the Abbe Huettenlocher and in 1880 Hupphens worked on a motor using a mixture of air and gas powder for fuel. September 28, 1919, Philip Lebon, the discoverer of illuminating gas, got the first patent on a motor using a mixture of air and gas. Two years later he built his first apparatus and it bore a striking resemblance to the motors of the future, except for a never explained danger threat which struck down Lebon one evening as he walked among the trees of the Champs Elysees, the roads of the world might have been riddled by motor cars, and the skies crossed by airplanes a century earlier.

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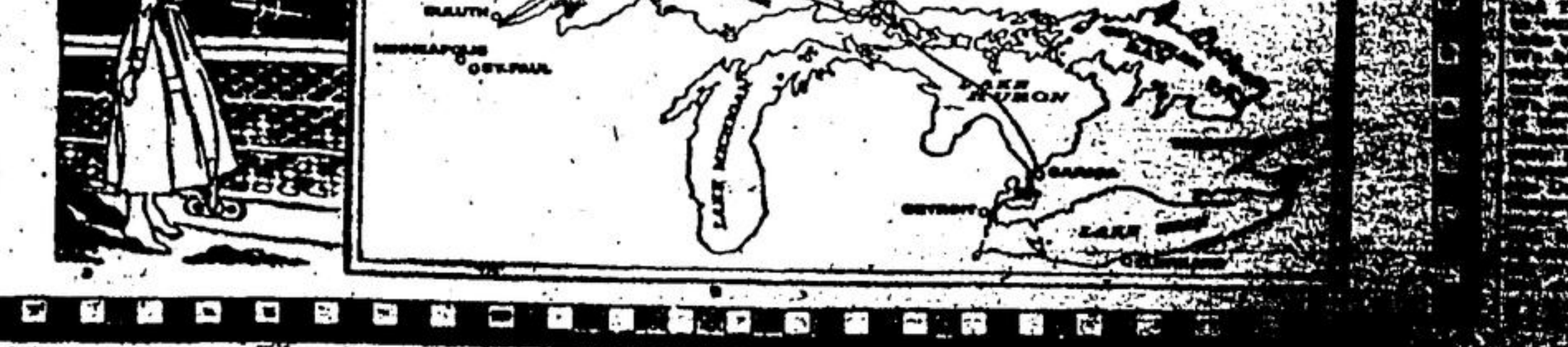
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