

The Acton Free Press

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OUR NATIONAL THANKS GIVING

Canada's National Thanksgiving Day is to be observed next Monday. May it be a time of real thanksgiving from the heart. Our country never in all its history had greater cause for gratitude to our Heavenly Father. A year ago, when we were earnestly endeavoring to give sincere thanks to the Almighty for his manifold mercies, it was with the black cloud of war pressing us. Our sons were in the conflict, they were falling wounded and dying on the battlefield. Our hearts were oppressed with the uncertainty of the outcome. All of life's activities were at the highest tension. To-day, the cruel war is over. Hundreds of thousands of our soldier sons and heroes have returned home, and are again engaged in the pursuits of civil life. The conditions of national life are gradually being brought back to the normal again. Verily, we have unusual cause for thanksgiving to God on this occasion. Gratitude is a virtue of the highest type and should be cultivated assiduously. It engenders a deep and lively sense of benefits received; an ardent love to the benefactor; an effort to make all possible returns to the donor in expressing our thankfulness; and a determined resolution to exercise gratitude at all times and in practical manifestations. On this coming Thanksgiving Day our homes will naturally be happier, because of the returned members from overseas, and in the happy reunions and visitations which are associated with the observance of our National Thanksgiving Day. May we all have the truly thankful spirit and remember what we owe to the Creator and Ruler of all things for the benefits and blessings which surround us.

EDITORIAL

The American Brewers' Review takes a different view of personal liberty than some who talk loudly respecting it in this country. It says: "The so-called personal liberty argument in behalf of alcoholic drink loses its force. Consideration of the public welfare continues to grow and overshadows the right of the individual. The drink question must be fought out upon the ultimate foundation of moral, hygiene and social order—in other words, the public welfare. If the public welfare requires the suppression of the alcoholic drink traffic it should be suppressed."

As the day for nomination approaches new candidates are from day to day being put in the field throughout the province. The United Farmers of Ontario propose to contest some sixty-five constituencies at the forthcoming Provincial election. They have already sixty-three men in the field. In addition the agricultural organization is co-operating with labor in several essentially urban ridings. Such is the summary of the statement supplied the other day at the offices of the new political party. The effect of this large number of new men of a new party coming into the hundred and eleven Legislative constituencies in Ontario is of a character which political computers in the old parties would like to determine. It is the unknown quantity of a confusion campaign. But the 20th inst. will give the solution.

Organized labor throughout the world raises a protest against that arch enemy of the workingman the liquor traffic. Labor unions everywhere are declaring the beneficial results of prohibition in Ontario the past three years. Hon. G. D. Robertson, Minister of Labor in the Dominion Cabinet, declared: "The prohibition-legislation enacted first by our provincial, and strengthened and confirmed later by our Federal Government, has, in my judgment, greatly increased the efficiency of our Canadian workmen, as well as their sobriety and has brought untold happiness and comfort to their wives and dependent children; that the economical and safe operation of our public utilities has been greatly enhanced, and that it is the experience of our business men that the general commercial prosperity has greatly improved, all of which has a tendency to increase national prosperity and contribute to human happiness."

The Globe believes that dissolution of the Union Government and an appeal to the country would have been premature had it occurred before the return to Canada of the overseas forces. The public would have regarded the holding of a general election in the early summer of 1920 as a reasonable compliance with the understanding arrived at when at the coalition negotiations were under way. The postponement of an election till 1922, after the census results of 1921 are known, cannot be considered as anything but a distinct breach of faith. It means that the Borden Government—plus a Liberal-Unionist infusion of blood—will have been able to hold power in Canada for eleven years without once submitting itself to the ordeal of an election upon normal party lines. The election of 1917 might have had a very different result had the voters on that occasion been told that the purpose of the Premier and his colleagues was not merely the winning of the war, but the creation of a new party, seeking to build its fortunes upon the destruction of the historic Liberal Party of Canada, from which in the past has come most of the progressive legislation embodied in the statutes, and from which, in the future, leadership in the development of the democratic form of government is most likely to come. Many patriotic Canadians who were proud to call themselves Liberal-Unionists in 1917 will refuse to follow the leaders now into the Conservative Camp.—Toronto Globe.

Hon. Canon Cody, Minister of Education is suggesting that the pupils of the schools be less burdened with home work in the future. The Mail and Empire remarks: "Cutting down the home work would give the Government the school children's vote if there were one, and ought also to secure it the vote of the perplexed parents who will not have to answer so many questions."

The strenuous life of President Wilson of the United States the past two years or so, and especially the past year, has resulted in serious inroads upon his health. He is regarded as a very sick man. Specialists have decided that it is absolutely necessary that the President should detach himself from public business for the time being and give himself up to rest. The announcement to that effect is taken in Washington to mean that his condition is grave. The President was blessed with a good constitution and his health was generally excellent. But these facts give no assurance that his present illness is not serious. Men of great physical vigor, who are never prevented by sickness from doing a hard day's work, sometimes keep the engine working at high pressure too long, and make a hopeless wreck of the human machine. It is hoped, however, that the rest prescribed will result in complete restoration for the President.

An amendment to the criminal code places criminal responsibility upon those whose carelessness or negligence results in fires and destruction of property, as shown in the following enactment: "His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows: 1. Section five hundred and fifteen of the Criminal Code is amended by inserting the following subsection immediately before subsection two thereof: (1a). Every one is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to two years' imprisonment who by negligence causes any fire which occasions loss of life or loss of property. The person owning, occupying or controlling the premises in which such a fire occurs, or on which such fire originates, shall be deemed to have caused the fire through negligence if such person has failed to obey the requirements of any law intended to prevent fires or which requires apparatus for the extinguishment of fires or to facilitate the escape of persons in the event of fires, if the jury finds that such fire, or the loss of life, or the whole or any substantial portion of the loss of property, would not have occurred if such law had been complied with."

The old-time prophets are completely at sea over the political situation in Halton. Mr. Ford, the U. F. O. candidate is conducting a vigorous campaign and naturally is appealing more especially to the farmers for support, and will probably draw from both sides of former straight Liberals and Conservatives, but will get but few votes in towns and villages, and his election will depend altogether on the rural vote. Should it fail to elect him, it is more than likely that that would be the end of the movement in Halton to bring out farmers' candidates for parliamentary honors, as the mutual distrust engendered by the defeat of the candidate would be fatal to the whole scheme of a purely rural representation. Mr. Cleaver, the straight Liberal candidate, is also an out-and-out temperance man, and the referendum vote being taken on the same day as the election, should naturally help his chances. He is also in close touch with the farming interests, and has as good an idea of their needs as the average man on the farm, being born and brought up on a farm, he knows what farm life is. Their interests, therefore would be perfectly safe in his hands. Dr. Nixon is again the Conservative candidate, as expected, and will probably poll the full party vote in the urban centres, and those in the rural parts who do not favor Mr. Ford's candidature. So it's going to be anybody's election until the ballots are counted on the night of October 20.—Milton Reformer.

Acton is honored to-day in having in session here in their annual convention the teachers of the Inspectorate of Halton and Wentworth. No body of men and women with more important and arduous duties and functions will visit our town this year. The education of our children and young people is a great matter and it affects and influences their whole future life. Education does three things for all who come under the training of the competent teacher. It stores up knowledge in the mind; it develops the powers of the mind; it puts the pupil gradually into possession of these powers. The degree therefore in which the pupil is educated is a measure of his usefulness and success in after life. Education is the most enduring kind of property to acquire—a property of mind and heart which no disaster can wreck or ruin. In the schools companionships are formed and friendships established which if properly supervised and directed by wise and observant teachers enrich the scholar for all time. The heart needs a trained mind, therefore the work of the teacher is important indeed. If there were more general cooperation and encouragement on the part of the home with the efforts of the teacher, results would be vastly more salutary, progress more marked and the relationships of teacher, pupil and home more cordial and intelligent. Increasingly insistent also is the demand that the schools of this Dominion teach citizenship—that they equip the child to do the full duty of a good citizen. It is not forgotten that the schools have for generations done excellent work; but the experience of the last four years has brought the realization that a change in method and in subject-matter—a shifting of emphasis—is urgently required. A young man may be an expert in arithmetic, spelling, in writing, grammar, geography, and every other subject on the curriculum and may, none the less, display qualities of wastefulness and idleness. An altered type of training, a new view of relative values, in some respects—must come. A knowledge of the fundamentals on which rests the structure of democracy must be a part of all instruction worthy the name. Education may make or mar a nation—it has done so in Europe and elsewhere. Thrift taught in the schools encourages industry because children wish to earn so that they may save. And, more than ever in its history, this old world needs to go to work. Production must be increased. Produce, save, invest, must become the universal slogan. In the deliberation and discussion of the very practical themes prepared for the programme of the institute in session here to-day and to-morrow, effective results will be achieved and help in hints for improved methods will be presented.

Webster On "Morale"

MORALE (Moral) n. Pl. See Moral, at the end of this column. The quality, or the power, of an individual, or of a body of men, to persevere, to overcome, to succeed, to do what they have undertaken to do, in the face of difficulties, opposition, and other hindrances. Webster's Morale is a book of 100 pages, written by Webster, and is the only book of its kind in the world.

HAT is Dr. Webster's definition. Many of us know the word only in its war-time application. Webster dwells firstly upon the usage of the word "morale" as applied to the commonplaces of everyday life. His allusion to its reference to an army comes later. And Webster is surely—melancholy so. It was their private-life morale that made such splendid soldiers of our boys when the time came for them to don the khaki. It was that, and that alone, that made them take the first step, and it was that which carried them through to victory. If their every-day morale had been neglected, the Army could have done little with them and success would not have crowned their efforts. It is the many little incidents of your daily routine that make up your morale—the morning shave, your clean linen, polished shoes, brushed clothes. Webster speaks of real spirit, hope and confidence. It is by attention to the small details of your personal appearance that these may be attained. The Gillette Safety Razor enters so much into the morale of every-day life as it did into that of the trenches. It helped our soldiers to maintain their confidence and bearing. It will do the same for you. The Gillette Safety Razor makes the daily shave come easy—there is no pulling or scraping—no bleeding, no stopping—just five minutes of period shaving comfort. And, afterwards, a chin that tells of morale and self-respect. Sold at most stores catering to men's needs. MADE IN CANADA. KNOWN THE WORLD OVER. 540. The Gillette Safety Razor Co. of Canada, Limited, Montreal, Que.

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Canada borrowed the money to carry on the war and to provide credits for Great Britain and our Allies.

CONSIDERABLY more than one-half of the Victory Loan 1918 was spent on our soldiers. This included \$312,900,000 for paying them, feeding them, bringing them home, separation allowances to their dependents, maintenance of medical services and vocational training schools.

\$59,000,000 of the Victory Loan 1918 was paid on account of authorized Soldiers' gratuities.

\$9,000,000 was spent at Halifax for relief and reconstruction after the disaster.

Other disbursements were not, strictly speaking, expenditures, but National Re-investments.

- To Great Britain for example:
 - \$173,500,000 was loaned for the purchase of our wheat and cereals.
 - \$9,000,000 for our fish.
 - \$30,000,000 for other Foodstuffs.
 - \$2,900,000 for Canadian built ships.
 - \$5,500,000 to pay other British obligations in Canada.

Making in all \$220,900,000 advanced to Great Britain.

To our Allies, we loaned \$8,200,000 for the purchase of Canadian foodstuffs, raw material and manufactured products.

The Re-investments will be paid back to Canada in due time, with interest.

These credits were absolutely necessary to secure the orders for Canada because cash purchases were impossible. They have had the effect of tremendously helping agricultural and industrial workers to tide over the depression that would have followed the Armistice, had we not made these credit loans.

As far as money is concerned, 1919 has been, and is still—just as much a war year as 1918. Our main expenditures for war cannot be completed until well on into 1920. Thus another Victory Loan is necessary—Get ready to buy.

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The following will give you a rough idea if you have to offer, but it will pay you to come in and see for yourself. In Silvertons we have a number of pretty styles in two shades of Brown, Burgundy and Navy. In Velours we have Brown, Taupe, Copen, Burgundy, Green, Black and Navy. These are of best all wool material. Also other cloths in assorted colors.

The styles being so varied, we can only give a brief general description of them. There are flaring backs and belted fronts. Some have all-round belts and buckles. The collars are mostly convertible and made of self material, plush or fur. Pockets and cuffs come in many pretty styles.

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