The Acton Free Press

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1920

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H. P. MOORE, Editor and Publisher.

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EDITORIAL

Sir Henry Drayton's war taxes are bringing in the money. Inland revenue returns for September totalled nearly twelve million dollars, or over seven millions more than in the preceding year.

Attorney-General Raney deserves credit for appointing, in the person of Mr. W. A. McCormick, a new Police Magistrate at Amherstburg. Mr. McCormick was formerly prominent in Conservative circles, and is highly recommended as a faithful and conscientious individual.—Farmers' Sun.

The business of the country is evidently progressing favorably. An increase of almost twenty-five millions is shown in the customs receipts for the six months ending October 1, as compared with the corresponding period of last year. In the month of September there was an increase of more than $670,000 over September, 1919.

The Christian Guardian, one of Canada's oldest publications, came out last week in a complete new make-up of the popular magazine form, with cover in three colors. The Guardian was founded in 1829 by Dr. Egerton Ryerson, afterward minister of Education for Upper Canada. It is the official newspaper of the Methodist Church and has had a succession of talented editorial writers. The Guardian has always exerted a powerful influence; never more than to-day with Rev. Dr. W. B. Creighton as its editor-in-chief and Rev. S. W. Fallis as the publisher. It will be popular in its new form and well deserves the new title assumed: "Canada's National Religious Weekly."

Waterways have always played an important part in the commercial history of the world and perhaps at no time more than during the late great war. Austria and Germany were able to transport a great deal of their war material by way of rivers and canals while to some extent the same might be said of other countries. At the present time in Canada considerable is being heard of the proposals to develop the St. Lawrence route as a joint enterprise between Canada and the United States, meeting with some opposition in both countries. A project which is contained wholly within Canada and which would be of great importance to the Dominion in relieving her railroads and in moving her wheat crop, is the Georgian Bay Canal, which would be a useful addition in the opinion of many business men to our transportation facilities. It would provide a means of transportation during a large portion of the year and would be of vast service in the transportation of much of our wealth. It would provide an outlet free from all international hitches and under purely Canadian control and would probably in time rank with the Danube and other commercial rivers of Europe.

An Ideal Citizen's Characteristics

Here is a fine sentence recently uttered by Dr. Marion Leroy Burton, the new president of the University of Michigan: "The trained citizen of tomorrow will actively oppose the business man who profiteers, the laboring man who shirks, the politician who sets private gain above public weal, the citizen who selfishly enjoys the blessings of democracy without meeting its demands, and the man of means who fails to accept his wealth as a social trust."—Michigan Advocate.

The Fall Fairs

Is the fall fair losing its attraction? It would seem so judging from a conversation the Sentinel-Star had with a gentleman who has visited most of the fall fairs in this district this year, and who is one man who from a long connection with fall fairs should know. Not only were the exhibits greatly less in number from previous years, but the crowds attending are not as large. He could give no definite reason for the falling off in interest, but the fact remains that at none of the fairs visited was the competition as keen as in previous years. The only apparent reason he could give was that special attractions and the automobile had taken interest away from the exhibits.—Cobourg Sentinel-Star.

"Trade Follows the Flag"

Trade follows the flag. That is the sentiment underlying the meeting of the Ninth Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, which met in Toronto last month. The fundamental impulse in the Anglo-Saxon race which has made it the colonizing force in the world is represented in the instinct to develop an export trade. This gathering of the Chambers of Commerce was designed to promote Imperial trade and foster Imperial relationships. The key-note among the addresses of welcome was delivered by Sir James Woods, who said if the same spirit which was manifested in the early days of the war was applied to Imperial trade much good would be accomplished. At one time he inclined to the view that Germany would never be given a place again in the world's trade, but more mature consideration had led him to the opinion that this was neither desirable nor right. The replies by various members of the delegation reflected more or less the lessons learned during the war. Lord Desborough declared it was a tonic to meet Canadians, and voiced a generally-prevailing sentiment that the time had arrived when the Empire could profit by closer trade relationships. Mr. Stanley Machin said that all through the war England had endeavored to "play the game" for the good of mankind. Mr. A. J. Hobson, in a masterly speech, declared that when the overseas Dominions signed the Treaty of Versailles, at the moment Britain abdicated her position as trustee of the foreign relations of the Empire, and instead of being a group of dependencies the Empire in spirit and in fact became a commonwealth of free nations.

The Farmers Have Increased Production

The efforts of our farmers this year have resulted through their arduous toil and the favorable weather conditions, in largely increased production. Ontario farmers have harvested approximately 18,274,000 bushels of fall wheat this year, an increase of 3,000,000 bushels over last year. The yield of oats is 128,000,000 bushels, as against 78,388,000 bushels last year, an increase of 50,000,000 bushels.

Canada Does not Need More Victory Bonds

Reports from Ottawa state that owing to the recently imposed luxury and manufacturing and merchandising sales taxes the current revenues of the Dominion are now sufficient to carry out the wise policy of paying our way as we go. There will be, in all probability a substantial balance to apply to the retirement of Victory Bonds. There will, therefore be no new Victory loan. Money accumulation in gratifying amounts in the hands of the average private citizen of the Dominion and other safe investments are now being looked for. In the case of people in this section the Acton six and a half per cent. waterworks bonds offer an excellent opportunity for investment.

$2,000,000 This Year from the Motorists

Ontario motor car users have contributed about two million dollars in license fees to the Provincial Treasury this year of grace 1920. There has been an increase of over 25,000 automobiles alone this year over the number licensed last year. The fact is interesting that in 1903 there were but 220 motor vehicle licenses issued. In 1917 the number of passenger vehicles in operation in Ontario had increased to 78,861; in 1918 to 101,945; 1919 to 127,960; and in 1920 to 153,000. Commerical vehicles increased in numbers during these later years from 4,029 to 15,800. The number of motorcycles has increased only 400 in the four years. This $2,000,000 will go a considerable distance in the construction of improved roads throughout the Province.

About Those Signs

Several weeks ago the Free Press made a suggestion in this column that Acton be a little more adequately advertised to the people coming into the town, by stationing signs at the four main roads over which motorists and others approach. The plan was very favorably spoken of by several citizens. And yet no move has been made by anybody to put the suggestion into effect. If the Council is too busy preparing to get water into the new mains to carry out the idea, perhaps the garage men might find it a profitable enterprise. In our recent trip of 400 or 500 miles through Western Ontario and Michigan we found many of the towns and cities had signs at their limits of welcome and information. These were regarded with much greater favor than the places which lack such courtesies.

Why it is Good to be British

"Trafalgar Day," October 21, will be celebrated in every school throughout the Province, and the Navy League of Canada is offering $100 in prizes for the four best stories written on, "Why it is good to be British." The particulars of the competition are: Prizes—1st, $50.00 for pupils of the High School and of Upper Schools, also for boys and girls who are educating themselves through home lessons; 2nd $25.00 for pupils below the High School grades in public or private schools; 3rd, $15.00 for pupils below the High School grades in public or private schools; 4th, $10.00 for pupils below the High School grades in public and private schools. Not less than 200 and not more than 500 words. The study and writing of essays on this subject should instil a fine spirit of loyalty and admiration for our empire in all pupils who enter the competition.

Room for Community Work

The Community idea is growing. Every day one reads some new story of how some man or woman, in a rural section usually, wakes up to a realization of the emptiness of the lives of the people and leads the most enterprising spirits of the district in organizing for better things. Most frequently this comes through the church, as is quite to be expected. Sometimes a big-hearted doctor takes time from his practice to start something. Sometimes again, a little woman who reads in one of the women's journals what has been done elsewhere, is the originator of the new movement. A preacher expressed the need pretty well the other day when he put it like this: "I found when I went to my new charge in the country that the lives of the people were absolutely colorless. The farmers were thinking of nothing but banking money for their children and were making slaves out of their wives in the attempt. The boys and girls themselves, so soon as they grew old enough to appreciate that there was anything else than cows and wheat and work in the world, naturally gravitated to the city where they could at least accomplish a little financial freedom for themselves and an escape from the drudgery of twelve hours or more a day spent in a round of labor for which they saw no return. It wasn't any wonder they wanted to go to town. And so I started out to see what could be done to remedy matters." In that little hamlet now they have a community hall, a community choral society, a community athletic association, a rink, a library, and frequent entertainments and lectures on subjects both the farmers and their wives as well as the boys and girls are interested in. As a result the generation now growing up is not leaving for the city as did their brothers and sisters. A stereoptican is one of the big features and one of these days, so that preacher says, there is to be a movie machine. All this in a centre not much larger than Crewsons Corners. This is the sort of thing that is going to solve the problem of the deserted farm. It will help also to solve several other pressing rural problems such as that of farm labor and of what to do with the long winter evenings. And why should not some similar steps to those suggested here be undertaken in two or three of the rural communities in this district? Limehouse, for instance, would seem to offer splendid opportunity for a trial of the scheme. And there is no reason either why some of the same ideas should not be tried out at say Speyside and Crewsons Corners. Possibly the churches are the best fitted to initiate any movement in the matter and in these days of co-operation between the several denominations there should be little difficulty in getting together for what would seem to be more worthy work than some the church has been attempting to carry on for the past two or three decades.

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FOR SUNDAY READING

The colored brother who referred to a sort of religion that has no very definite experience by saying, "what a man's got that he doesn't know, he can lose, and not miss it," was a sound philosopher. Better have a religion that would be missed if it were gone.

Worldliness has been defined as a looking at the things that are seen, but only closely enough to see their market value. Spirituality is that further look which sees their eternal value.—Harry Drummond.

The Bible is God's epistle to mankind; and what greater affront can be shown to an earthly friend than to throw by His letters unopened and unread.

"What is eternity?" was a question once asked at the deaf and dumb Institute at Paris, and this beautiful and striking answer was given by one of the pupils: "The life time of the Almighty."

The Bible once found to be inspired of God will then become authoritive. When you have found a spring which has quenched your thirst do you not apply it again and again, if you become thirsty? If you meet other thirsty men and women do you not at once recommend to them the fountain that refreshed yourself. When a doctor has cured you of a painful disease do you not recommend his skill to others? If he proves himself equal to their cases does there not arise a popular confidence which exalts him into an authority? So it is with the Bible. It's practical usefulness to all classes and through all times proves it to be from God. Our confidence that it is from God sends it forth on fresh errands of mercy to men. But the proof of its divine skill lies in its divine power and healing.

EXAM. ANSWERS

A correspondent sends to the London Globe a list of "howlers" perpetrated by British school children and collected by the master. On the nature of gases, "An oxygen has eight sides." In natural history, "A cuckoo is a bird which does not lay its own egg;" "a mosquito is a child of black and white parents," and "a blizzard is the inside of a fowl." In the geography the following: "The equator is a menagerie lion running round the earth through Africa;" "a meridian is the place where they keep the time," and "the inhabitants of Paris are called Parlsites."

DAIRYING

Canada had 3,343 dairy factories in 1919, viz., creameries, 1,043; cheese, 1,835; butter and cheese, 442; condensed milk, 23.

Canada's annual dairy production value, $25,000,000; exports, $65,000,000.

Canada ranks fourth in world production of cheese. Exported over $40,000,000 worth in 1919, or 78 per cent. of total production of 100,000,000 pounds.

CAN'T KEEP DOWN THE SCOTCH

Two Highlanders stood looking at the imposing facade of a building in Westminster. The corner-stone bore the date in Roman characters, "MCMIV."

"Luke 'a' that, Angus," said one, according to London Tit-Bits. "Ah've never heeard th' name McMiy before, but there's a Scotsman who's got his name on one of the finest buildings in London. Ye can't keep 'em down, can ye?"

CAMPING IN 1920

It was dawn and very chilly in the camp, and one man was unable to find any of his outer garments. He wandered about, asking all his mates if they knew where they were. "Has any one seen by b-b-blanket?" he demanded and was told that no one had. "Has any one seen my t-t-trousers?" No answer. "Well, I'm jolly g-g-glad I have got on my nice few-warm pair of suspenders."

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FOR NOTHING

"What did the policeman bring you here for?" asked the judge.

"Nothing, your honor," replied the prisoner. "Absolutely nothing!"

"All right," replied the judge. "I'll give you sixty days and now you can't say you've never been given something for nothing."

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"O hear us when we cry to Thee
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Have you ever been at sea in a storm and seen the clouds lowering, the wind rising and the waves running mountains high, decks treacherous and the crew anxious? Unless you have, you cannot imagine its awful majesty, or the courage it calls up and the spirit it commands in men.

Many Canadians Have Never Seen the Sea—

Yet the sea is Canada's World-Trade highway. The sea and the Merchant Sailors make us prosperous.

But the Merchant Seaman's life is hard and perilous. He wages continuous battle against the forces of nature. The real sailor is not the deck steward or attendant on comfortable ocean liners. His ship is no floating palace. His voyage no pleasure trip.

The Real Sailor's Ship is the Tramp Steamer—

or Windjammer, beating against gales—decks awash—sleep a stranger for days and nights on end. Frozen in winter, dodging icebergs in spring, groping through fogs off treacherous banks, beating round the Horn, fighting through typhoons, or becalmed in the Yellow Sea. Tough going all the way.

Death Always Hovers Over the Wheel—

Is it any wonder, then, that the Navy League wants to make life comfortable for our sailors when ashore? After all, Canada is their home; and the home, while they are here, of the sailors of other lands. The Navy League endows, maintains or assists in maintaining every Sailor's Home, Institute and Welfare Society in Canada. And every dollar subscribed for the maintenance of these Homes and Institutes will be money well invested, and redound to our national prosperity.

The Sea is Our Heritage and Our Strength—

In proportion as we develop this Sea-Conscious Spirit so shall we advance in world civilization and trade. We can only develop our Sea-Conscious Spirit, by making life more endurable to Canadian Sailors. And it is for this purpose that a portion of the Navy League's Fund is set aside. To carry on its work next year, the Navy League must have $760,000. This money must be raised next week. It is not a large amount and borne in proportion from Coast to Coast it must surely be subscribed.

The Navy League of Canada

SAILORS' WEEK CAMPAIGN

October 18—23. Dominion Objective $760,000.

The work of the Navy League is—

to enlighten people upon the importance of the sea; so that Canadian products may be shipped, through Canadian ports, in Canadian ships, officered and manned by trained Canadians.

to encourage and to undertake the training of Canadian lads to man Canada's Navy and Mercantile Marine.

to formulate a fundamentally sound policy for the training of our present sea-faring population, to meet an emergency, so that Canadian overseas commerce will be adequately protected.

to support facilities for making the Sailor's life ashore endurable.

to provide for dependents of those who died to protect Canada, Nationally, Imperially and Commercially.

These objects can only be achieved through an organization representative of public responsibility and outside party politics.

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