

The Acton Free Press

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H. F. MOORE, Editor and Publisher.

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Residence

EDITORIAL

A good many drivers of motor vehicles and horse-drawn conveyances evidently do not realize that the law says: "Vehicles shall not stop on or obstruct crossings, and shall reduce speed when approaching crossings."

It was somewhat of a relief to hear the other day, through a dispatch from Montreal, that daylight saving time has not been adopted and will not be adopted by the railways of Canada this year, so far as is known at present.

April 23rd will be the seventieth anniversary of Canada's first postage stamp, the three-penny red postage stamp, designed by Sir Sanford Fleming and bearing the picture of the beaver, and first put on sale for the benefit of Canadian letter writers on April 23, 1851.

During the closing months of President Wilson's administration it was freely stated that the United States would probably cancel the indebtedness of the Allies to that country which was incurred during the war. It is now reported, however, that the new administration, under President Harding, will insist that the powers associated with it shall repay the principal and interest, which now approaches \$12,000,000,000 in the aggregate.

Councillor W. E. Smallfield, of Renfrew, whose father founded the Renfrew Mercury fifty years ago, and who himself conducted it for many years, has notified Mayor Hugh MacDonnell of his resignation as councillor, having accepted a lucrative position in Toronto. Mr. Smallfield's removal to Toronto will make a vacancy which will be acutely felt in Renfrew. As a municipal legislator he has been of great value to that town. He was mayor for several years.

The Yukon Still Busy

Someone asked the other day whether they were still getting gold in the Yukon district. The Government reports recently issued show that during 1920 the Yukon Territory gold output was 110,600 ounces an amount scarcely worth while overlooking yet. In sympathy with other things the cost of production has increased enormously during the last few years. When, if ever, this labor cost is reduced, it is probable that large quantities of gold-bearing gravel, which has not yet been worked to any degree, will be washed, materially increasing the output. No, the Klondike is not going to be left entirely alone for a while yet.

Increase of Federal Taxes Imperative

The enormous costs of the war to Canada must be met. The Dominion Government is obliged to get more revenue from the country to meet this from some source. Various methods have been put into operation. The luxury tax has been experimented with, proved disastrous, and has been abandoned. The income tax is a complex method and is not proving either equitable or satisfactory. The excise tax is important but the necessary inspection is cumbersome and expensive. The business organizations of the country, such as the Manufacturers' Association and the Retail Association, favor a tax on business turnover and enlarged sales tax. The consumer, in the final analysis, said that includes every citizen, has to pay all taxes anyway, and perhaps lower prices and more prosperity will follow, making conditions easier for business on the internal side.

"Open Shop" and Organized Labor

The Nashville, Tenn., Advocate presents a very sane view of labor's best interests in the following: "We respectfully affirm that we have not seen or read anything which, in our opinion, would justify us in concluding with, quite a number of editors that a plea for the 'open shop' means a plea for the extermination of organized labor. There is no doubt that some who in their own business are practicing the principle of 'open shop' have in view the extermination of unionized labor, but that all or any considerable part of those who are in favor of the 'open shop' are in a conspiracy to denigrate labor, as some so seriously assume and glibly assert, is a conclusion which is not supported by fact so far as we can discover. We believe, as we have often stated, that labor has a perfect right to organize. At the same time we as strongly believe that if a man does not care to join a union, he has a right to work where he pleases and to employ, whomsoever he pleases."

A Method of Senate Reform

The current number of The Canadian Magazine contains an interesting article from the pen of Senator L. G. Power on the reformation of the Senate, which he calls "The Second Chamber." The senator admits the utility of the existing system, by which senators are appointed, without any responsibility to the electorate by the Government which happens to be in power. By this method the Senate Chamber becomes lopsided and supports the administration which is governing the country. Senator Power recommends that the Dominion should be divided into ninety-six senatorial districts, one of which should be assigned to each of the members now occupying seats in the Senate. As vacancies occur they should be filled by election for the district when the vacancy occurs. The franchise should be the same as that for the House of Commons, and the manner of election should be the same, mutual ballots, as that for the Lower House. The senators thus elected should serve for life, he argues. If the Senate has any real function, and Senator Power argues that it has, this method of securing members would be a vast improvement upon the present system of appointing worn-out or unsuccessful politicians to this haven of security from the popular will and franchise of Canada's electors.

"Liberty," with a Vengeance

The action of the Liberty League in issuing a writ applying for an injunction to prevent names of voters being placed on the lists in Toronto for the Referendum, except by voters appearing in person, will likely prove a boomerang. Anyway, it's a fine spirit of "liberty" this Liberty League is manifesting. The disfranchised voters will not have their opinion of the Liberty League exalted a whit.

Judge's Charge to the Grand Jury

In his charge to the grand jury, Justice Lennox, at the Brockville Assizes last week, deploring the increasing crimes among young people, said that "something must be done to stem crime in its incipency." He laid emphasis on the fact that thefts of automobiles were becoming notorious and expressed regret that boys from 14 to 16 years of age were to be found smoking cigarettes to their great injury.

Co-operation of Home and School Urged

The importance of leadership by teachers and the value of home and school or similar organizations in connection with High School, were two points specially emphasized by President McCready in his opening address to the second annual convention of Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations at the O. E. A. convention in Toronto last week. Amplifying his chief point, Mr. McCready said: "Our best hope for getting ahead is in the leadership from enterprising teachers of vision who cannot do the best work for the communities in which they are placed unless they have the co-operation of parents and the home. To get this there is no better medium than the home and school association or kindred association."

Income Tax Returns, Industrial Returns, Excise Tax Returns Ad Libitum

One thing is absolutely certain the Government is helping keep up the cost of doing business by demanding so many reports filled out. No ordinary man can keep up with the demand for statistics on this, that and the other, to say nothing of income tax reports, excise tax reports, etc. And while we are in the humor we might point out to the Federal Government that they can save a whole lot of money if they cease sending out the dozens of reports, alleged news items, etc., that find their way to every editorial desk in the country each week, on route to the waste basket. Space is too scarce and composition too expensive for editors to bother with the bunch of junk that the Government departments keep turning out by the ton.—Renfrew Mercury. And they expect us to give gratuitous publication, too.

Will United States Comply?

The opinion of the fair-minded people of the United States as to a continuation of the hectic struggle for superiority in sea power is pretty fairly voiced in a recent issue of the Indianapolis News. "There is no doubt," it says, "that America and Great Britain could, if they would, do much to relieve the people of the two countries and of the world of the enormous cost of naval construction. The British Government has made an offer to our Government to put an end to competition in battleship building. The two greatest naval powers in the world, neither of which has anything to fear from the other, can set an example that will be of value and also further the cause of peace and make it possible to reduce taxation. Here is an opportunity of which the statesmen of both countries should be glad to avail themselves."

Doing Things for the Boys

In every paper one picks up nowadays he runs across an item about boys' work—mention of a Father-and-Son Banquet, of a Tuxis Square activity, more of these very well worth while, or plans for a summer boys' camp, or something of the type. And this is all evidence of a splendid movement. The boys of to-day have splendid advantages, much more than we of the older generations had, but in the majority of cases they are measuring up to these and showing the practical results of the things being done for them. The coming generation of boys is going to be a bigger and better class of men than their fathers. They couldn't help but be with the information regarding public speaking, citizenship, hygiene, bible-study, sport, nature-study that is almost pumped into them nowadays. But no one with any human sympathy will object but rather enthuse over these things, regretting that similar opportunities were not open to the boys of his younger days.

The Shoe Factory in Operation

Acton's Shoe Factory building, which has passed through a series of vicissitudes since its erection two years ago, is now in a fair way for becoming a real live of industry in our midst. Messrs. Hewitson & Son, whose successful shoe-manufacturing business in Brampton has outgrown the accommodations of their premises in that town, are to be the occupants of our factory with an important branch of their business. When the Council and the Special Committee ascertained that the Messrs. Hewitson were prepared to talk business in earnest they waited no time in presenting the attractive features of the building and the advantages of locating in Acton. Representatives of the Council and the Committee visited Brampton, and the Messrs. Hewitson visited Acton; and after a few days' negotiations an agreement was entered into. Operations will commence this week and by January 1st next the negotiating company will implement its undertaking to have at least fifty employees regularly at work in the factory. The agreement may not be quite as favorable in all respects as the one entered into at the outset of negotiations with the Reliance Shoe Company, of Toronto. It has the advantage, however, of being entered into with men of successful manufacturing and business experience; it will result in immediate occupancy of the building by a going concern, and will afford well-paid employment for a large number of persons who must be citizens of Acton. There is a possibility, too, that one of the members of the firm will make Acton his permanent residence. The fact that the agreement has been entered into by the Council has already given an impetus to real estate values, and it is confidently expected that the advent of this responsible new firm to Acton will be of considerable pecuniary advantage to the town, both directly and indirectly. A seemly attitude for our citizens to take will be to proffer to Messrs. Hewitson & Son, and the key men they may bring to superintend this business, a welcome of the large degree of cordiality for which Acton has always been noted.

HOME LIFE IN THE FLOWERY KINGDOM

Frequent earthquakes and low wages of servants account for the fact that Japanese families invariably live in separate homes. There is not one apartment house, not one family living in a hotel, save travellers, even in the decidedly Occidental city of Tokio, Japan, having an average of four daily earthquakes, cannot build heavy concrete skyscrapers. Homes there are of small size, made of wood, bamboo and tiles, built very light, so as to suffer the least damage from earthquakes. The most economic and practical size of a house of secondary, or about slight rooms and is two-stories high.

This is the size of house most commonly used all over the country. It is just the right size for the average Japanese family, which consists of about five persons. Houses thus being invariably small and the members of each family large, the custom of many families living in an apartment house is entirely unknown there. Then, too, labor is cheap, and a faithful and industrious maid-servant, who will do cooking and house cleaning as well as serving and running errands, can be hired for less than ten yen per month. There exists a close relationship between the master and the servant, who is treated as a member of the household.

Chinese houses in cities are built closely together, and, with the exception of large business firms, business and dwelling occupy the same building. Usually a large front room being devoted to business and the rear rooms and upper part of the house for living purposes. In residential districts in the outskirts of the cities, houses are surrounded by spacious gardens, enclosed by wooden or bamboo fences, over which may be seen pine and maple trees. Japanese parlors of ordinary size is usually a square, six yards by four, with a few walls and many sliding paper doors. These screens and doors, when closed, give an air of seclusion to the room and many windows with shutters, which are slender frames of wood, and over which semi-transparent paper, give enough light to make it useful and comfortable. The floor is elevated above the ground and is covered with tatami, a thick soft mat.

In the well-to-do households, when people sit on the floor they sit on little square padded cushions about three feet square and three inches high. Beside this is a square, six inches by four, with a few walls and many sliding paper doors. These screens and doors, when closed, give an air of seclusion to the room and many windows with shutters, which are slender frames of wood, and over which semi-transparent paper, give enough light to make it useful and comfortable. The floor is elevated above the ground and is covered with tatami, a thick soft mat.

The panels, screens and shutters are changed according to the season in order to weather them comfortably. The Japanese bed, consisting of a thin mat of a few thick comfortable and a pillow, can easily be made up in any room. It is considered a mark of hospitality in Japan to make the guest's bed in the parlor and put the room at his disposal.

Got Asthma? Then you've never tried RAZ-MAN that E. J. Howard carries. He has an effortful as Templeton's famous Rheumatic Capsules is for Rheumatism. Ask for a free sample.

LONGER FOR TWO

The train was 20 minutes late. A man and his wife paced the floor of the battered station. The man approached the ticket window and rapped sharply on the counter. "Hay," he exclaimed to the lanky agent who appeared, "we've got to make connection at Rega with the X, Y. & Z. Will they wait a half hour for a passenger?" The lanky agent rolled his quid leisurely, and eyed the occupants of the room as he considered the question. "Wal," he finally decided, "reckon they'd wait longer than that for two passengers."

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THE CLAY BELT

The clay belt of Ontario is a stretch of new land in New or Northern Ontario, extending from the Quebec boundary westward, estimated to contain at least 16,000,000 acres of arable land of a rich clay or clay loam, remarkably free from stone, and therefore easy to break and cultivate. A large percentage is said to be tillable, and many settlers have already made good in this area. Such a percentage can be considerably increased by drainage. Several thriving settlements have sprung up in this part of the province, which is traversed by the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway and the Canadian National Railways. The clay belt varies in depth north and south from 25 to 100 miles.

THE ONLY WAY

If you toot your little tooter And lay away your horns, Within a week there's not a soul Will know that you were born. The man who tries to advertise, By short and sudden jerks; If the man who is always kicking Because he never works. The fellow who is on the job A-humpty every day, And keeps forever at it, He's the one who makes it pay.

AGREED ON ONE THING

"How unworthy I am of you, my love!" he murmured as he held her close. "Oh, Edwin," she sighed, "if you and father only agreed on everything the way you do on that, how happy we would be!"

TWAS IN A RESTAURANT

He—"That's a nice looking chap you took to. Is he a friend of yours?" She—"Yes, indeed." He—"We'll ask him to join us." She—"Oh, this is no sudden! Didn't you know he's the new maitre?"

The Fluctuating Dollar

At present, a dollar is worth only about 65c to spend; but it is worth \$1.10 to save. Because, dollars deposited in a Savings Account will steadily increase in buying power as the world gets on its feet again and the supply of commodities grows equal to the demand. Buy only what you cannot do without. Put your dollars away in a Savings Account until their buying power becomes more equalized.

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C. A. CONWAY, Manager Mill Street Acton

Keep Advertising!

Advertising is more than a business tonic; it is a necessity. That is why it is needed all the time. Of all advertising that which carries with it the greatest waste is what is known as the "once in a while kind."

Up until four years ago there was a certain soap that was known around the world. It had been the most persistently advertised article offered in the markets of the world during the previous hundred years. From the day this soap was first put on the market in 1812 it was advertised in a small way, but persistently and continuously.

For the last 50 years it has been one of the best advertised products in the world. Then the directors decided that because the factory was selling to capacity, advertising could be discontinued as a useless expense. In less than one year from that time the business of the firm dropped 35 per cent in volume.

That soap is again being advertised, and we understand it is necessary to spend \$5,000,000 in extra publicity, over previous appropriations to get back to normal. This firm was not a "flier in advertising." Its product had been used for generations and was known in the homes of the world, but it cost its makers \$5,000,000 to learn that advertising was as necessary to it as the raw products that enter into its making.

The history of merchandising is filled with stories like this, but only a few found it possible to win back trade foolishly thrown away.

Keep Advertising—It is the Steady, Constant Pull that takes you Over the hill and Keeps Business at Top-notch Pitch. Let the FREE PRESS help You!

Business Directory

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Office and Residence—Corner Lower Avenue and Fifth Street, the residence formerly occupied by Dr. M. West, Acton, Ont.

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