

The Action Free Press

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H. P. MOORE, Editor and Publisher

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EDITORIAL

Municipal O. T. A. Special Officer Desirable

Since the retirement of Chief of Police Cooney Acton has had no special officer for the enforcement of the provisions of the Ontario Temperance Act. A competent officer would accomplish two desirable ends: 1st, he would take prompt action where infractions of the law occur, and 2nd, the penalties, in all cases where a fine is imposed, would be paid into the town treasury instead of being repmitted to the Provincial License Board, as is necessary because of the lack of a special officer.

What One Paper Thinks

Apparently at least a few United Statesers think as we do regarding that republic's place in the post-war negotiations. Witness this from our outstanding paper as the Brooklyn Eagle: "There can be nothing more humiliating to our national pride, nothing more injurious to our sense of self-respect than the spectacle of this great country holding aloof while the nations of Europe wrangle over questions arising from a war which we helped to win. We have no moral obligation involved, enlightened self-interest would still dictate the employment of every means to discover a peaceable way out of the present difficulty."

How the South Sees It

Our recent Ontario Referendum election was closely watched all over the world. And some people at a distance see things in the result which we did not appreciate ourselves. For instance here is some of that sort of thing in a clipping from the St. Louis Globe-Democrat: "The resolute public sentiment hostile to the liquor traffic shown by the vote in Ontario will add an important factor in enforcement which is lacking in many places on this side of the border, and will add to the risks of the contraband trade and inevitably diminish it. Probably the chief result of the vote will be to reduce the trade in Michigan to much less conspicuous proportions and transfer the intensive activity in imports to the part of the boundary adjacent to Quebec along the St. Lawrence. Quebec is still wet—so near in fact to the point of saturation in wetness as to be the antithesis of dryness."

The "Wolf" Cry Won't Apply

It is going to be rather difficult hereafter to stamper the public into buying heavily in advance of requirements because a shortage is threatened in a staple article of consumption. Sugar has taught people a lesson. At the beginning of last year a general impression began to prevail that sugar was going to be very scarce indeed by about the time the fruit-preserving season was in full swing. Somebody proved it by statistics, and jobbers with a little money loss began to buy all they could carry. In the retail market housekeepers moved up available stocks and started prices moving upwards with a speed which was accelerated by holders refusing to release supplies in view of the profits they anticipated. In the course of a few months the price of both raw and refined sugar doubled. Then the demand fell off. The larger number of consumers had filled their bins and wanted no more. As no real shortage existed stocks began to accumulate until some of the speculators were forced to sell. Finally prices broke, and by the end of the year raw sugar was down to one-third of the original quotations and one-sixth of the peak figures. A good many operators were badly hurt in the process, but no sympathy need be wasted on them as they deserved what they got. Once bitten, twice shy. The householder who was deluded into rigging the sugar market against himself early last year, will be very wary about "impending shortage" scares for the next few months anyway.

Undesired Reflections

Now that the victory over the forces arrayed to bring about an industrial and political revolution in Great Britain has been won, the opponents of Premier Lloyd-George are busy detracting from the credit due him for the brilliant leadership he has displayed throughout the crisis. A week or so ago, when the miners had been persuaded to allow volunteers to save the collieries, enemies of the Prime Minister, who had rashly jumped to the conclusion that the crisis was at an end, endeavored to anticipate popular acclaim by charging him with having foreseen and in part brought about the whole situation for election purposes, a suggestion as diabolical as the tactics alleged. Now that, whatever may still be on the knees of the gods, in respect of the miners, it is assured that there will be no general strike, we are treated to fifth-hand reports of what unnamed cabinet ministers have said to unnamed other people in detraction of their leader, and are told that the House of Commons abrogated the dictatorship of Mr. Lloyd George and thus brought about the great labor split which removed the gravest internal peril of the British Commonwealth has faced in modern times. The defeat of the Triple Alliance was effected by the British people. It was the response of the nation to the call to arms issued by the Government that gave the labor chieftains pause and convinced them that they would only injure their cause the more the longer they persisted in maintaining the challenge they had thrown down. But without the strongest and most determined leadership, broken and ineffectual voices only would have been heard in answer to the demands of the great unions. Without the most skillful leadership the Government and the general public might have been manoeuvred into a position from which extrication would have been possible only at a heavy cost in life and property. The private soldiers won the Great War, but the story might have been very different one had there been no Marston Foot. The British ship of state has weathered one of the fiercest of storms, but surely it is to the credit of the helmsman that it was not necessary to call all hands to man the pumps.

Additional Police Protection

The unseemly breach of the peace at the town hall and on the street last Wednesday evening demonstrated clearly the need for additional police protection in town. A chief of police of the type of the late Chief Lawson, who for so many years was always on call when occasion demanded, is an imperative necessity. A further protection against unbecoming or unruly conduct would be to swear in the caretaker of the Town Hall as a constable. The Council will act wisely if they legislate promptly in this matter.

They Trust Britain

A refreshing faith, not only in British probity, but also in British future prospects, comes in an interesting way in an item in the Seattle Times: "The magnitude of the Budget surplus is sufficient proof of the soundness of government finances in Britain. It can pay its debts to the United States and will do so in good time, without even being remotely threatened with bankruptcy. France's case is less satisfactory, but it will be assisted by the German indemnity, of which it will be the principal beneficiary. Its resilience under pressure, military or financial, is historic. It also will pay. None of the great nations of western Europe will commit suicide either by going bankrupt or by going Red."

Amity and Unity in the Churches

The signs of the times point very conclusively to greater unity in Christian effort and a more democratic spirit of Christian association and fellowship. This is noticeably evident in the action taken by the Synod of Huron of the Anglican Church at its session at London last week. The Synod by resolution empowered its bishop to authorize clergy of other communities to preach in pulpits of the Anglican Church, and to allow his clergy to preach in other pulpits, under such circumstances as may appear to his judgment. Bishop Williams explained that it was proposed to enter into such relations especially with those communions which are leaders in the movement for church unity.

Australia's Immigrants

Australia, too, is calling for more people. And their immigration figures for the last year or two stand above our own. Just how the people are flocking in is shown in an item in the Perth (Australia) Western Mail: "Australia is only one of many seekers for men and women. Last year there were 64,000 applicants for free passages to the Dominions, covering some 130,000 people, and of these 37,000 received free passages, 5,400 men and 1,000 women going to Australia, 3,700 men and 400 women to New Zealand, and the rest to other countries. It is expected that during the current year these figures will be largely exceeded, especially if sufficient shipping accommodation can be available. There is room and opportunity for many thousands of newcomers, particularly rural workers, every year in this State. Its future welfare, economic and industrial and social, is vitally linked with large numbers, and in putting forth every energy to secure more people, the Government deserves the active sympathy and support of every citizen."

A Sound Proposal

In the encouragement of desirable immigrants, Canada long ago accepted the principle of state aid to settlers in farming districts. That policy was found to be necessary, and it has proved to be successful. The farmer is the settler, most desired in Canada, yet the immigrant who engages in farming must undergo heavy initial expenses. While other classes of newcomers can go to work at once with little or no outlay, the farmer must have credit or capital to utilize for land, labor, stock and machinery. It has cost Canada no small sum to compel a better balance than existed naturally between urban and rural opportunities for settlement, but mounting agricultural production, demonstrated effectually during the war, has justified the principle adopted. State aid to farmer settlers, necessary in the past, is equally necessary for the future. There being no more free land for use by the Government to encourage farming, the suggestion heard in Parliament to make loans to farmer settlers is sound and logical. Realization that the Government backs him financially should inspire the newcomer with greater faith in his venture. The immigrant who arrives in Canada, experienced in agriculture, has wealth to invest in the country, and the Government can go into partnership with him with good prospects.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Sixty-two of the eighty-one ridings of Ontario gave "dry" majorities in the recent Referendum. Ontario's aggregate majority is 171,335.

There is much satisfaction in learning that Rome's anarchist leader persists in his hunger strike. May he hold out to the bitter end—Hamilton Spectator.

The re-entrance of Uncle Sam into the Councils of the Allies brings him into the ante-room of the League of Nations. He will not remain long outside.—Mail and Empire.

The Minister of Justice has amended the Criminal Code by making it a criminal offense for intoxicated persons to drive motor cars. This will greatly strengthen the clause of the Motor Vehicles Act covering this offense.

In Guelph they fine teamsters who drive over sidewalks. Two were fined in Police Court on Friday for this offense. In Acton, although a municipal by-law forbids this damaging practice, it goes on with impunity whenever the driver finds it more convenient to drive over.

Forest fires benefit no one and they rob the workingman, the merchant, the farmer, and indirectly every one. Forest fires are fought not only in the bush, but in towns and cities. When Canadians of town and farm and forest are all determined to stop forest fires, then our forests will be freed from the ravages of this foe.

Owing to the excessive cost of new books, because of the high prices of paper, binding materials, and all labor involved, the sales are very materially curtailed. It may be a salutary experience after all, however, if people are driven back to the lower-priced classics, which may be found in every library for their reading.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, May 23, 1901

Victoria Day to-morrow. Single fares over the railroads to-day and to-morrow.

Mr. W. Trick has added a neat new porch to his residence on Mill Street.

Mr. James Matthews had 10,000 starburst plates of the newest and best varieties set out in his market garden last week.

John McNamee, who has for six years occupied the shop on Mill Street between Hynds' Jewellery store and Cooper's tailor shop, has removed across the street to the larger premises lately vacated by T. Blitham & Son. This makes a splendid and attractive shop. A new colored quarter oak case and other fixtures have been put in. Billy now has a very commodious and attractive shop.

Mr. C. P. Goodery, who has been entertaining marshes, has here for nearly five years, last week purchased the brick house and lot on Main Street belonging to John H. Kennedy. The price paid was \$1,200.

The Acton Golf Club will play a match over the links between the married and single members to-day.

Miss Kenney, of Toronto, who has long occupied the new and attractive store, has opened dressmaking and ladies' tailoring parlors at the residence of Mrs. L. Moore, 1110 Main Street on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, until June 10. The Divisional Court commences at Niagara Falls on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 20.

11. New uniforms have arrived and will be issued at the Army on any of the above named evenings.

BORN

LINDSAY—In Esqueping, on Friday, May 4, to Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Lindsay, a son.

MARRIED

JOHNSON—ANTHONY—At the Methodist Acton in Esqueping, June 23, by Rev. E. W. Holden, Charles Johnson and Anthony Anthony, both of Erin Township.

THE POWER OF SUGGESTION

The other day we heard James Knox, a teacher of seamanship, emphasize some very salient points on the subject of the following several incidents to illustrate the advisability of positive, rather than negative, self-suggestion.

"I went into a man's store the other night and asked for a collar. The clerk wrapped it up, took my \$5.00, and politely opened the door with 'Nothing else, was there?' That fellow actually made me feel like a thief. I also intended to buy."

"A week or so later I went into another store to buy a collar. This time I sold me a collar. After ascertaining the style and also he opened a box and said, 'How many do you want?'"

"No, I'll take only two." After this enterprising fellow handled me in the same way as before, I was driven to suggest four collars to me. I came in to purchase one, but for some reason or other I took only two.

"Next time you come in I'll say eight," was the rejoinder.

"I also recall a ready-made men's clothes shop and asking for a light-weight black overcoat. The clerk said, 'Do you want a velvet collar or one to match the goods?'"

"Both positive statements."

"If I buy the coat I'll take the velvet collar," I calmly answered.

"Shall we cut your coat, this way or that? Indicating two style sheets."

"Both positive."

"If I buy the coat I'll have it cut that way," said I, still careful.

"With a final flourish of the bolt of cloth, and a pleasant confident smile the salesman said, 'Step right over here for your measure.'"

"After my measurements were made I heard 'Do you want to pay all cash to-day or only part?'"

"I'll take it on credit, and you'll be glad to do it," I said.

"After my measurements were made I heard 'Do you want to pay all cash to-day or only part?'"

"I'll take it on credit, and you'll be glad to do it," I said.

LADS AND DADS

"My biggest job on earth is being a good father to my boy," was the word of a prominent New York City business man in a recent public address.

Many a man made his money late, and after he has made money, more than he can use, he would give it all to be remembered after he has died.

To be a friend of your lad at sixteen and to be a father to him at eighteen means that you must have begun before he was six or eight. The dad in the lad's hero in those days, and God bless and honor the father who surrenders his crown to another.

FACTS About Coal Supply

Owing to the public being careless about placing their orders for next winter's coal, there were several million tons left unshipped during April of this year last year. This shortage cannot be made up.

To keep mines going we have to take an average monthly tonnage of coal from the mines in care as soon as mined. We can get only the same number of tons per month in December as we do in May.

If the public do not get their supply of coal in now there will be a shortage when next winter's cold winds blow.

PRICE-FOR-MAY

NUF	\$15.50
STOVE	\$15.50
EGG	\$15.25
PEA	\$13.00

Advance is 10c a ton per month.

J. B. Mackenzie

N. MacLeod, Manager
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LINEN INDUSTRY IN CANADA



Dominion Linens, Ltd., Mangle and Ironing Department, showing Callenders, Hydraulic Mangle, Folding and Measuring Machines. Total floor space about half an acre.

This linen industry was initiated in Canada in 1802 by Mr. William Lymburn, Vice-President of the Dominion Linens Limited, Guelph, Ontario. Previous to this time, however, there had been several attempts at linen manufacture, and mills established in different parts of Canada, but all had resulted in failure. From the earliest period of human history all about the globe of the eighteenth century, linen manufacture was one of the most ancient and widely disseminated of the domestic industries of European countries. It was most largely developed in Russia, Austria, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Northern France, certain parts of England the north of Ireland and throughout Scotland. In the latter part of the eighteenth century, the invention of cotton spinning machinery gave the linen weaving industry a fatal blow. Domestic spinning and weaving began to shrink and with it the linen industry.

In 1815, of Darlington, England, a

machine was invented, which after many improvements and modifications has become the perfect system of machinery with which at the present day linen spinning mills are furnished. The discovery of a process for the mechanical spinning of linen yarn for weaving into cloth by power looms was much slower than in the corresponding case of cotton.

There are two branches in the modern manufacture, spinning and weaving, to which may be added bleaching and various finishing processes. The flax fiber is received in bundles from the scutch mill and after having been cleaned into various grades according to the quality of the material, is labelled and placed in store ready for the flax mill.

When the manufacture of linen in Canada was successfully started, the idea was to purchase yarn from the Continental and Irish spinning mills, who were being supplied with Russian flax, at a price much below that for which flax could be grown in Canada. As most of the linen manufacturers in Ireland were weavers only, buying their yarn from spinners, it was thought quite possible and feasible that the same method could be employed with success in Canada, and prior to

the war, the linen business depended entirely on these imported yarns to keep their plants in operation. In the year 1913, it is estimated that Russia produced about 400,000 tons of flax, and other European countries, including Great Britain and Ireland, 100,000 tons.

With the complete collapse of Russia in 1918, it became evident that if the linen business was to be continued in Canada, it would be necessary to establish a spinning plant here, to spin the Canadian grown flax, which with the improved methods of cultivation, were proven equal to or better than the Russian flax, on which the industry had relied previously to the war. A modern flax spinning plant, which would complete the chain of linen manufacturers and make the business a purely Canadian one has been installed at Guelph, and is now in full running order. This plant has been equipped with the latest modern dry and wet spinning systems. To secure the highest quality of linen yarns, workers were brought from Belgium via the C. P. R., who were experienced in water retting flax, similar to the finest Flemish and Belgian flax, which are used for producing the highest grade linens.

"SAFETY FIRST" IN LONDON

"They must have enormous traffic difficulties in London, England. And they are using the slogan as well as the principles of an accident-prevention campaign is evidenced in a recent item in the London Daily Mail:

"Ten of thousands of people are being maimed in our streets unnecessarily. Unfortunately, because the vast majority of accidents are avoidable, if only all affected by traffic observe the strict vigilance crystallized in two words: Safety-First. Certainly, our roads can be made much safer than they are. There are too many 'blind corners' and 'death-traps' all over the country. But when all of these have been cleared away, accidents will occur unless people, whether driving or on foot, look where they are going and at what is coming. Unfortunately, it is usually taken to avoid an accident, and often one falls. Traffic does not take its toll only from the careless."

WHOSE FOOT ARE YOU ON?

When someone stops advertising, someone stops buying.

When someone stops buying, someone stops selling.

When someone stops selling, someone stops making.

When someone stops making, someone stops earning.

When everyone stops earning, everybody stops buying.

Then the bread lines.

Don't block the traffic—Keep going.

MR. JONES

Your eyes are sore, irritated, inflamed, itchy, smart or burn, and you are tired, nervous, and you are suffering from the effects of poor nutrition. Buy **MR. JONES** Eye Drops. Sold by all druggists.

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Those living at a distance can do their Banking by Mail just as safely and conveniently as though done in person. Many farmers save themselves special trips to town by adopting our system of Banking by Mail. The Manager will explain this helpful plan. Write or see him, the next time you are in town.

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C. A. CONWAY, Manager

Mill Street, Acton

Business Directory

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Physician and Surgeon
Office and Residence—Corner Howe Avenue and Eighty-Fifth Street, the residence formerly occupied by Dr. H. Henderson, Acton, Ont.

DR. E. J. NELSON
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Acton, Ontario
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HAMILTON & SONS

Cor. Newark & Woodlark Sts. Guelph