The Acton Free Press

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H. P. MOORE, Editor and Publisher.

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EDITORIAL

When Our Boys Marched Away

Seven years ago this week the bugle call to arms for the late war was first heard in our streets. Many of our boys promptly responded and enlisted for the cause of King and country and home. And they continued to go until the foe to peace and freedom was subdued. And many of them sleep in France and Flanders to-day. "Their name liveth for evermore."

Another County With no Bonded Debt

In referring to the fact that the County of Dufferin is free from debenture or bank indebtedness, THE ACTON FREE PRESS says that this is "a position unique among the counties of Ontario." THE FREE PRESS evidently has overlooked the fact that Simcoe County leads in this—as in other respects—this county having completely wiped off its indebtedness over a year ago.—Barrie Examiner.

The Guelph Road a Provincial-County Highway

The Reeves of Nelson and Nassagaweya Townships have been notified by the Department of Public Highways that the Guelph Line in these townships has been designated as a Provincial-County Road by the Hon. F. C. Biggs, Minister of Highways. With the Seventh Line of Trafalgar and Esquesing, and the Guelph Road in Nelson and Nassagaweya, running north and south, being made Provincial-County Highways, and the Toronto-Sarnia Provincial Highway running through the county from east to west, and the Toronto-Hamilton Highway also crossing the county, the Province is surely dealing generously with Halton.

The New Law Forbidding Liquor

The Pioneer, which has a broad view of the Province as a whole says Without a jar the new prohibitory law came into force on July 10, and already the Province has, as a whole, adjusted itself to the new conditions. There have been a few flurries in some localities, and perhaps a disposition on the part of the authorities to deal easily with late shipments, but on the whole there is little reason for complaint. There have been, however, abnormally large stocks secured by the bootleggery fraternity which they will be busy disposing of for some weeks, if not months, and it will be some time before things are running smoothly, and full benefits are reaped from the new legislation.

"All of a Gang Guilty of Deed of One"

This is the view of Hon. Mr. Doherty, Minister of Justice. As an outcome of queries in regard to the Hotrum-McFadden murder case, for which both men paid the penalty last week, the Minister emphasized the fact that a Government must exercise every care to protect the lives of the people, and quotes the law governing such cases, as follows: "If several persons form a common intention to prosecute any unlawful purpose, and to assist each other therein, each of them is a party to every offense committed by any one of them in the prosecution of such common purpose, the commission of which offense was, or ought to have been known to be, a probable consequence of the prosecution of such common purpose. There apparently exists in the public mind in regard to this case a widespread impression that the guilt of each of these men of the crime of murder depended upon whether or not he had fired the fatal shot. This impression is entirely erroneous."

Peace Restored After Centuries of Ill Will

The tercentenary celebration at Penetanguishene last week had a dramatic climax when the Indian Chiefs of the Hurons and the Iroquois "smoked the pipe of peace," after an enmity which had existed between their tribes in Canada for two and three-quarter centuries. With all the pomp and solemnity of past history thus there came to an end one of the bitterest feuds that ever raged on the North American continent, a feud that was raging when the first white man set foot on these shores, and whose echoes were heard in the council halls of the Old World. Last Wednesday morning the present tribal head of the remnant of that once powerful Huron nation returned to the domain of his ancestors to puff the pipe of peace with the present chief of the Iroquois nation that was once the terror of the whole of the eastern portion of the continent. Together the two buried the hatchet, a sign that the past had been forgotten, and that peace had at last been established between the two peoples. Surely this was in all respects a Christian as well as an historical act.

The Council Members' Honorarium

Commenting upon the recent action of our Council in voting themselves remuneration for their services for the year, the Beaverton Express says: The payment of the Village Councillors has been a live topic of consideration up in Acton for some time, according to the FREE PRESS, and it has been settled, however, by the Council voting themselves each the sum of $50 while the Reeve is to receive $100. This appears to us to be the proper thing. Why should any community, be it village, town or city, expect the services of capable men for nothing. They could not secure the work of the veriest "Dub" for the smallest job without pay, yet men capable of handling thousands of dollars and directing works involving many thousands are expected to give their time for nothing. Unfortunately this is not all it involves—too often the service is rewarded by the most exasperating ingratitude and abuse. Doubtless this is a strong factor in the generally admitted deterioration of municipal life. There is neither emolument or honor therein hence these offices have fallen to men of small calibre with ideas as small as their egoism is large. There would be a tendency to improve the class of citizens in public life if their services were reasonably rewarded. Acton is the first village to see how it will work and the process will be watched with interest.

Another Charge on the Newspapers

This office has received notice from the Postoffice Department that the postage rate on newspapers is to be further increased on and after January 1, 1922. The Government does like to make the publishers happy. This is an additional burden which publishers are obliged to bear.

Making Disarmament Sure

Leading British papers say that British, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand Premiers are desirous of an immediate meeting with Japanese and United States representatives at any convenient point in the United States, so as to discuss Pacific problems and clear the way for the ensured success of the disarmament conference.

Welcome to the New Governor-General

Lord Byng, the new Governor-General of Canada, will be accorded a welcome to this country which has never been surpassed to any of his predecessors. He already has a warm spot for Canada, as many of Canada's sons have for him. It is believed he will be popular with all classes.

School Teachers' Superannuation

More equitable plans for the distribution of the Teachers' Superannuation allowances are being considered by the Department of Education of the Province. It is expected that increased allowances will be given, with special provisions based on age and years of service. Forty years of service is at present necessary before superannuation is allowed, but under the new proposals it is anticipated that annuities will be given to those who retire after serving 25, 30 or 40 years. This would appear to be a more reasonable plan.

Something to Live Up To

The Carleton Place Central Canadian says: "On July 7, THE ACTON FREE PRESS entered its forty-seventh year, for forty-three years of that time under the direction of its present editor, Mr. H. P. Moore. THE FREE PRESS is one of our most valued exchanges and a model of neatness and able editing. Mr. Moore is one of the most highly esteemed of the newspaper fraternity and richly deserves the success he has attained. The C. C. congratulates THE FREE PRESS on passing another milestone and ventures the hope that our friend, H. P. Moore, may long be spared to be its guiding star."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Board of Railway Commissioners of Canada will in the near future take steps to reduce the freight rates on Canadian railways. Isn't it high time they should?

Canada's nationhood is giving her a place among the nations and attracting desirable trade. A strong Italian steamship company will now make Canada a regular port of the line.

Lads fascinated by the idea of banditry should ask themselves, in the light of the tragic end of Hotrum and McFadden, if that is the sort of death they would wish to die.—Globe.

In Colorado Judge Horton sentences motor thieves to attend church regularly for one year, with the option of breaking stones. It might be well to sentence motor Sabbath breakers to a similar penalty.

One comparatively small fire in the Parry Sound District destroyed 6,000 acres of forest. This was the result of some one's carelessness. The fire protection campaign of the Department of Forests and Mines cannot be too aggressive.

"Hunting a job" is now the profession, and not "accepting a position" as of the past few years. If you have a job which in anyway helps you to meet expenses, better hang on to it for the present, whether you like it or not.

The expected rush to Ontario Government dispensaries, when the law forbidding further importation into the Province went into effect, has not materialized. There were 23,040 fewer physicians' perscriptions in July than there were in March.

In the appointment of the ninety new King's Counsel among the lawyers of Ontario the Drury Government certainly deserve credit for selecting men of prominence irrespective of their political affinities. It was not always thus.

At last meeting of the County Council a by-law providing for the issue of debentures for $100,000 to be spent on county roads was passed. It is sincerely to be hoped this sum will be spent so as to assure something of permanency in the roads.

The County rate was struck last week at 6½ mills on the dollar. This levy is added to the rate of each municipality in the county. This is half a mill lower than last year; but how did they do it? Of course no municipality in the county will object.

The County Council has endorsed a resolution of Oxford County Council in favor of the keeping of Ontario prisoners condemned to the death penalty in some central place, and that all executions take place there. This would appear to be a desirable undertaking.

At the recent meeting of the Union of Canadian Municipalities held in Ottawa, a resolution was adopted protesting against Ontario municipalities having to include on their voters' lists the names of all persons over 21 years of age and qualified to vote in Provincial elections unless the extra expense is borne by the Province.

It is predicted that building costs are likely soon to take a drop. When these costs reach a reasonable level, as they are bound to do eventually, there is every probability that a building boom such as Canada has never before experienced will follow. The scarcity of dwelling houses in cities, towns and villages is becoming more and more marked.

The Premiers' Conference, which closed last week in London, England, agreed that the war reparations receipts from Germany should be apportioned as follows: Great Britain, 86.85 per cent.; Minor Colonies, .80 per cent.; Canada, 4.35 per cent.; Australia, 4.35 per cent.; New Zealand, 1.75 per cent.; South Africa, .60 per cent.; Newfoundland, .1 per cent.; India, 1.20 per cent.

"DOIN' FOR OTHERS"

I met her coming out of a thorny tangled patch of blackberries by the roadside one torrid day in late August. Her faded calico dress was torn in many places and the back of her hands were scarred and bleeding. She had a limp old sunbonnet that had fallen to her shoulders. On her arm was a large tin pail almost full of the big, shining berries. She was thin and gaunt, stoop-shouldered and with the perspiration pouring down her sallow and wrinkled face. I had spent many summers in that locality and I knew her well.

"It is hot, hard work picking berries to-day, isn't it?" I said.

"Terrible," she said. "But I got a nice lot of 'em—more than I can make use of."

"I suppose that you find ready sale for them in the village."

"Yes, if I wanted to sell 'em, which I don't. I cal'late on givin' most of 'em away."

"You do? You have come away out from the village on such a scorcher of a day as this to gather berries and then give them away?"

"That's it. You see it is like this: I ain't hardly a thing to give in return for the things folks give me, so when the berry season comes I like to go out and gather berries and give 'em to folks that has been good to me. It's one of few ways I have of doin' for others. Then there's sev'ral old folks an' sick folks I mean to take some o' the berries to—folks too poor to buy 'em an' not able to go out to the woods an' fields an' git 'em. The best part o' gatherin' berries is the pleasure of givin' so many of 'em away. Old Granny Smith said last night that she did wisht that she could have some nice wild blackberries from the hills she used to run over when she was a girl, but that she'll never see no more, old an' feeble an' crippled up as she is. She will be turribly tickled when I take her a mess o' these berries this evening. I'm thankful I am still strong enough to go berryin' an' I begin with the first wild strawberries an' never stop until the last o' the blackberries are gone. It's my way o' doin' for others."

"Doin' for others!"

The old woman had discovered one of the secrets of happiness in life. She was happier than many women and men of wealth who are never found "doin' for others." Her happiness came from springs of gratitude and unselfishness that had their roots in a good heart. She knew a joy unknown to those who seek only their own happiness and in "doin' for others" she obeyed a divine impulse that cannot fail of a divine reward.

A GENERAL WHO INSPIRED HIS MEN

If you want to be a popular commander feed your soldiers well. Skobelev, the famous Russian general, knew that recipe for military success as well as he knew others, and practiced it. So at least we may assume from what Mr. Frederic Villiers, who saw much of him during the Russo-Turkish war says of him in Five Decades of Adventure, from which we cull this pleasant anecdote:

Skobelev met me in his temporary dining room, an arbor of greenery a few paces in front of his little tent. A curious figure the general looked as the leaves fluttered about his clean-shaven head. His big yellow beard seemed to cover the upper part of his tightly buttoned gray overcoat, and his high Russian boots were splashed with mud, for he had just ridden up from San Stefano, the seaside quarters of the Grand Duke Nicholas.

His tent was furnished with the utmost plainness. Three books that he prized most were on a little table, and a small piece of candle stuck in a tin candle holder stood beside them. The scanty library consisted of Badeau's story of the American Civil War, Schuyler's Campaigning on the Oxus, and the Life and Adventures of Napoleon.

Just as the meal was announced Skobelev said to me, "Here's a little ceremony you may find interesting." And taking me with him, he reviewed a body of some twenty company cooks who were drawn up outside his tent. Each man held a pannikin of ragout.

"Do as I do, Villiers," said Skobelev.

We walked down the line, each holding a spoon and tasting the contents of the soup kettles and pronouncing them good. The cooks then made a left turn and filed off toward the camp. Skobelev was fond of doing such little things. He used to say that "the rations of the men should be good enough for the general."

At the roll call after a battle the general would step up to certain units and compliment them on their personal bravery, saying that he had "had his eye upon them during the action." His soldiers all loved him and would have marched gladly into the very jaws of death if Skobelev had led them.

WANTED TO BE A PARSON

"And what, dear little boy," asked the minister, "do you intend to be when you grow up?"

"A farmer, sir."

"Very good indeed! To supply the natural food—meat good."

"And you?" turned to the second.

"Please, sir, a schoolmaster."

"Even better! filling the mind of the rising generation with mental food—yes, even better."

"And you?" turning to the third.

"A preacher, sir."

"The best of all, my dear little boy, for filling the soul with spiritual food is far worthier than either filling the mind or body. And what bids you to become a minister?"

"We always have chicken for dinner when you come, sir," replied the boy.

HE KNEW

Mr. and Mrs. Jones had been invited to a friend's for tea, and the time had arrived for preparing for the visit.

"Come along, dearie," said Mrs. Jones to her three-year-old son, "and have your face washed."

"Don't want to be washed," came the reply.

"But," said the mother, "you don't want to be a dirty little boy, do you? I want my little boy to have a nice clean face for the ladies to kiss."

Upon this persuasion he gave way, and was washed.

A few minutes later he stood watching his father, washing.

"Ha, ha, daddy!" he cried. "I know why you're washing!"

NOT QUITE THE SAME

Gertrude—"Mother, will you please buy me a new doll next time you go to town?"

Mother—"You do not need a new doll dear, your other one is not broken, is it?"

Gertrude—"No, mother, my dolly is not broken, but you have a new baby boy and I am not broken."

NOT SO SLOW!

A visitor was teasing May about her little baby sister. "She isn't as smart as my dog," said the visitor. "My dog isn't one year old yet, and he can run. "Well, your dog has twice as many legs," said May.

THOSE SUDDEN NOISES

Do you start at sudden noises? Jump at the slamming of a door? Are your nerves jangled? If so, take a few doses of DR. MILES' NERVINE—$1.50 will soothe the irritated and over-strained nerves. Guaranteed Safe and Sure.

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GETTING WISE QUICKLY

When Beth secured a position in her uncle's office, she resolved that she was going to be a successful business woman. Therefore, when she saw an advertisement offering to teach shorthand in thirty days, she wrote to the company having the course and eventually subscribed for a course of instruction by mail. She was cheated. Shorthand could be learned in thirty days, but it was not such shorthand as could be used in an office. Poor Beth! She had tried to get wise too quickly.

Throughout the country there are thousands of boys and girls in the same situation. Not only in offices, but in schools. The best things cannot be learned quickly. One must study and ponder over those things that are learned if they are to be made of use.

A new boy in an office tears around prying into this and that, having in his mind a desire to learn the business as quickly as possible. And boys in school do the same thing with their studies. But in their hurry they overlook essential things that would be of value to them in later years.

Sometimes it pays to go slowly and ask the way as we proceed. In offices there are always people willing to help a boy along; and in school the teachers are always glad to help a boy who shows that he is in earnest, and willing to give enough time to learn things well. We must pay for everything in one way or another, and the price we pay for learning is time spent in study. —H. W. Correll.

HIS MONEY NO BLESSING

The late Cornelius Vanderbilt is quoted as having said to a friend just before he died: "I don't see what good it does me all this money that you say is mine. I can't eat it; I can't spend it; in fact, I never saw it, and never had it in my hands for a moment. I dress no better than my private secretary, and cannot eat as much as my coachman. I live in a big servants' boarding house, am bothered to death by beggars, have dyspepsia, and most of my money is in the hands of others who use it mainly for their own benefit."

ANVIL SPARKS

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When double-faced people have to face the music they have no ear for music.

The sceptic who knows too much to believe in the Bible doesn't know enough.

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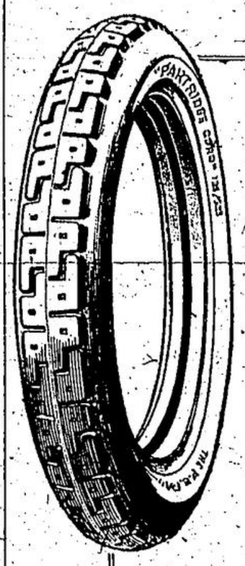

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