The Acton Free Press

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1921

A DREAMER

I keep a-sayin' to myself—when autumn's a-sizzlin' so;
"I'd like to be down yonder where the honeysuckles grow!
I'd like to find the meadows, with the daisies cool and deep;
And have the whippoorwills an' whippoorwill to sing me to sleep.

An' yet when I was with 'em—by the shadow of the pines,
Where the hummin' bird was browsin' in the woodbine' glory vines,
I was evermore a-sayin', in the lonesome day an' night;
"I'd like to be up yonder, where the city shine so bright!"

It's still the same old feelin'—the restlessness that seems
To keep the most p-movin' for to realize its dreams!
An' when we realize 'em, an' reach the highest hill,
We're lookin' for the valley, an' we're old-time dreamers still.

—Frank L. Stanton.

THE FUDDLERS' TEA

The President's Temperance Campaign suggests two or three stories, says the Recorder, of London, Eng.:

When a certain Methodist Chapel was built half-a-century since, much of the money was raised by a series of teas. These teas were not only given by groups of people in the Church, but sometimes by groups more or less outside the Church. The steward was a prominent factory owner, and the Chapel-going men in his factory had made themselves responsible for one of the teas, which had been unusually successful.

Calling his work-people together and reminding them of the success that had attended the teetotallers' tea, the steward challenged the others: "You fellows who never come to Chapel, you fuddlers, why don't you give us a tea and see if you can't beat the teetotallers?"

The idea caught on and so well did the fuddlers' tea go that the proceeds exceeded handsomely those of the teetotallers' tea!

A while ago I was at a village temperance meeting. The local preacher who had been planned the previous Sunday felt that the Hillside folk were somewhat lukewarm on the subject and needed rousing. "You people who live here in the villages don't know much about it, but I have been in London and other places and have seen the public-houses and 'restraints' full of people getting themselves drunk."

It was like a former Sunday School superintendent at the same place who, one hot afternoon, when everyone was listless and tired, announced: "Hymn 83, 'Little drops of water,' and let us put some spirit into it."

A GOOD CITIZEN

A recent examination in the public schools brought forth the following answers:

What is an impulse?

An impulse is what the doctor takes hold of to use if you are sick.

Name the vowels.

Vowels ain't got no names. They are under the stummick.

What are the duties of a citizen?

The duties of a good citizen is not to spit on the sidewalk and to hold his banana peels till he meets an ash can.

Name the races of mankind.

Bicycle race, horse race, potato race, automobile race and other kinds.

Who was Nero?

Nero was a Roman Emperor. A song has been written about him called, "Nero My God to Thee."

WHAT ALCOBRONZE IS

Possessing the lustre and color of gold, stronger, tougher and harder than ordinary bronze, a new alloy of copper and aluminum bids fair to have a wide use. The new metal has been named alcobronze. It is stated by its sponsors that the new alloy can be wrought, forged or rolled without deterioration. It also resists the action of the air, acids and salt water. This makes it particularly suitable for forgings, propellors and other ships' parts.

OBLIGATIONS THAT ARE HANDICAPS

Be careful about the people to whom you put yourself under obligation. Many a young man has made a wrong start through accepting a favor from one who was coarse and unprincipled. Ashamed to introduce him to his friends, he was driven to accept the companionship of the other's associates. He could not censure what he disapproved of in one to whom he was indebted without seeming to himself to fail in gratitude. Stand on your own feet as long as you can, but, if you must put yourself under obligations, be indebted to one from whom it is an honor to receive a favor.

SURE CURE

Servant Girl—"I'm so awful sleepy in the morning, doctor."

Doctor—"Ah! Have you a sweetheart, may I ask?"

Servant Girl (blushing)—"Yes."

"Who is he, may I ask?"

"He's the night policeman."

"Ah, then, give him up, and fall in love with the milkman."

THE BEAN OF HISTORY

The common bean is a native of South America, and was introduced into Europe during the sixteenth century. Now it is represented by over 150 varieties. The big, broad bean is the bean of history, and its origin is so remote that it is doubtful. It is probably a native of Southwestern Asia and Northeastern Europe. The broad, but not thick, lima bean, called by some Boy beans, are natives of China and Japan, and they are as old as any other cultivated vegetable.

HE DIDN'T ONE TIME

"Why do you turn for every road hog that comes along?" said the missus rather crossly. "The right of way is ours, isn't it?"

"The reason is plainly suggested in this epitaph:

"Here lies the body of William Jay,
Who died maintaining his right of way;
He was right, dead right, as he sped along,
But he's just as dead as if he'd been wrong."

MEET THE "SUCCESS" FAMILY

The father of Success is Work.

The mother of Success is Ambition.

Some of the other boys are Perseverance, Honesty, Thoroughness, Foresight, Enthusiasm and Co-operation.

The oldest daughter is Character.

Some of the sisters are Cheerfulness, Loyalty, Courtesy, Care, Economy, Sincerity and Harmony.

Get acquainted with the "old man" and you will be able to get along pretty well with the rest of the family.

HER REASON

As the Sunday School teacher entered she saw loving in great haste a little girl and her smaller brother.

"Why, Mary, you aren't going away?" she exclaimed in surprise.

"Pleathe, Miss Anne, we've got to go," was the distressed reply, "Johnny just thwallowed hith collection."

Across the road from the Collins' farm was the Eli Snyder place, which comprised fifty or sixty acres. When I first saw this place, over sixty years ago, there was a small clearing on the Queen Street front and on the third line. It was as pretty a maple and beech bush as ever grew around here. The ground was level and the bush in consequence presented a fine appearance.

Eli was a carpenter and builder and farmed and cleared up the bush between times. I remember, as a boy seeing him and his father-in-law, Philip Hematreet clearing up acre after acre there. In the spring they made prime maple syrup and sugar in this fine sugar bush.

In addition to the maples and beeches there were a number of fine rock elm trees among these woods. Over fifty years ago a terrific thunderstorm passed over these parts and a bolt of lightning struck one of these big elms. It was splintered into a thousand pieces. These straight-grained splints made excellent bows, and every boy in the village who used bows and arrows secured ample quantities of splendid elm for their bows that summer.

For years the part of the grove opposite Sandy Marin's house on the third line was a famous camp ground for the old-fashioned Methodist camp-meetings. In this leafy temple most impressive and influential services were held and a number of the leading preachers of the early Methodist Church in Canada took part in them. It is related that Egerton Ryerson, the first editor of the Christian Guardian and for years Minister of Education for Upper Canada, preached at one of these camp-meetings. His brothers, Rev. William Ryerson and Rev. Edwy Ryerson also took part in services there. Revs. Dr. W. H. Griffin, Alexander Sutherland, Wm. Willoughby, John Carroll, J. E. Dyer and others were also preachers at these services. Much good resulted and as a result new members were received in all the local churches.

When Eli Snyder lived on this place his wife invariably had a famous flower and vegetable garden. She seemed to have an unusual faculty in making things grow. Her radishes were the earliest and tenderest in the early summertime. Her strawberries were the envy of every other amateur gardener in the vicinity. Her sweet corn and cucumbers were always in demand. Mrs. Snyder was a woman of industry and she used it to good advantage.

Mr. Snyder built a fine home there—fine for the times, between fifty and sixty years ago—and it still looks well. When that house was erected there was only the little old Grand Trunk station between it and Wilbur Street. And the residents of Acton had a foot path through the railway yards and over to the third line in that direction.

It was on this place that Mr. and Mrs. Snyder's two sons were born, William Nelson—Nelson for Dr. Nelson McGarvin, who was a warm friend of the family—and Louis Philip—the later for his maternal grandfather, Philip Hematreet. The oldest son, W. N., is City Clerk of North Bay, and the younger, L. P., is Inspector for the Royal Bank and resides at Montreal. Both Mr. and Mrs. Eli Snyder died in Toronto a number of years ago. Their daughter, Miss Berta, is a nurse in Toronto.

After Mr. and Mrs. Snyder left this place and bought the farm now owned by Wallace Lasby, and the thirteen acres which the late Robert Wallace surveyed into building lots a few years ago, another branch of a pioneer family of Acton made this their home. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Speight and family left the home they had built for themselves at the corner of Church and Willow Streets—now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. John Brown—and took up their residence there. Both Mr. and Mrs. Speight died there. I just recall meeting Mr. James Speight, the head of the big Speight Waggon Works which then flourished at Markham, at the funeral of his brother Samuel. James, or "Jim" as his brother Mike called him was Warden of York County at the time.

Some of you older folks will remember the little nag the Speight folks drove in those days. The story went around that this little driver was in harness from Monday morning until Saturday night. It stood hitched at the gate whenever it was not trotting back and forth to town. The home management committee never seemed to think of two things at a time. Tom Speight, the Georgetown machinist, was a boy at home at the time. After breakfast it would be "Tommy, go over to Mr. Warden's for the meat, and you hurry back." Tom would get over to town and back on his errand, and as he took in the meat he would be saluted with "Tommy, you go right back to Mr. Hill's store and get a bag of salt; we haven't a bit in the house." Tom would obey and take in the salt and about this time it would be found that something else was needed and Tommy and the nag would have another trip to town. Sometimes Mrs. Speight, or "Aunty Sam" as all her nieces and nephews called her, would drive over on an errand herself. She was great for "mushing on the lines" and the pony always went at a lively gait when she drove.

Mr. and Mrs. Speight must have spent about half a century in Acton.

Later residents on this little farm were W. H. Rutledge, the butcher, James Barry, the milkman, and for a number of years Mr. and Mrs. James Quantie and their daughter Annie had a happy time there. They improved the place very much during their ownership. Mr. David Storey has the place for a time, then Mr. Emsley and now it belongs to Councillor Bell and his brother-in-law, Mr. Alf. Storey. It has gone back to strawberries again and last season Mr. Bell picked hundreds of baskets on the two patches there.

When John M. Warren was in the Council here a few years ago he projected the continuation of Mill Street through this property to the third line. But the scheme has not yet materialized. I someway hope my old bones will be spared to move about the old town until this new street is opened and houses built on the new lots it will front. It's been my old-fashioned opinion for a good many years that this is the natural direction for Acton to grow and I would much like to see my prophecy fulfilled. The waterworks and electric light are out that way already and it would be very easy to extend them clear through to the third line.

Say, I'm pretty tired to-night, so I'll just knock off right here.

The Old Man

McGill Centennial Convocation—Lord Byng, Governor-General, after receiving the degree of Doctor of Laws, followed by the new Chancellor, E. W. Beatty, K. C., President of the C. P. R.

BANK-NOTE LAUNDRIES

Washing bank-notes to make them presentable again is a United States economy that saves Uncle Sam hundreds of thousands of dollars every year. And this is the way of it.

The process by which the paper is cleansed is just as simple as washing one's soiled clothes. The "bills" are soaped, scrubbed, rinsed in cold water, and finally dried and ironed.

The whole apparatus is mechanical. The machine consists of different sets of rollers, each set performing a selected part in the cleansing.

First the "bills" are placed on endless bands which pass in and out the series of heavy copper rollers. The first set of rollers revolve in a special kind of soap. This, with the rotation of the rollers, scrubs the paper clean.

The dirt removed, they then pass to other rollers, revolving in clean water, and are thoroughly rinsed.

From these they pass on to the last set of rollers, which are heated. When they finally emerge they are not only dry but ironed smooth, and look as fresh and feel as crisp as the day they were issued.

Introducing bank-note laundries into this country has been suggested as a means likely to save 350,000 bank-notes every week, as well as preventing the germ-laden paper from spreading disease.

It is not generally known that Bank of England notes average a life of only sixty-three days. Immediately the bank receives a note back from the public it is not put in circulation again. The moment they accept it and the cashier's signature is torn off, it automatically becomes cancelled.

Often a heap of signatures weighing twenty pounds accumulates in a day. The mutilated notes are kept at the bank for about five years and then burnt.

This expensive bonfire may consist of 20,000,000 redeemed notes. To counterbalance the loss, upwards of 20,000 new notes are printed daily, so that the value of the notes in circulation at any time is rarely less than thirty million sterling.

By the American system, most of this waste is preventable. As the bank-notes are made from new white linen cuttings only, they are sufficiently strong to withstand cleansing several times.

SELECTED ITEMS

Poverty prevents a lot of people from getting the gout.

Don't think that a man looks the right way every time his head is turned.

As long as a man is able to keep out of a dentist's chair he may be able to suffer in silence.

A spinster says if it is true that man proposes and God disposes, some men fail to do their share.

A California man tied one end of a rope around his waist, and lassoed a cow with the other. He thought he had the cow, but at the end of the first half mile he began to suspect that the cow had him.

A Wisconsin editor illustrates the prevailing extravagance of the people of the present day by calling attention to the costly baby carriages in use now, while when he was a baby, they handled him around by the hair of his head.

"I am really beginning to believe," said an optimistic Englishman, "that the trouble in Ireland is going to be settled at last." "You are entirely wrong, said an Ulsterman, "there will always be trouble in Ireland while there are so many Irish there."—D. R.

ARTISTS IN COURTESY

Good manners are as much a fine art as music, but as some musicians play masterpieces badly, so good manners sometimes fail to produce the proper effect because of clumsy interpretation. Many young folks who wish to be polite, leave upon their associates the impression of awkward effort, in place of something gracious and joyous.

Stumbling through a Chopin nocturne is unfair to the music. Awkward manners are unjust to courtesy. The musician should keep working away at the music he renders till he can do it justice. All of us should be ambitious not merely to do the proper thing, but to do it graciously, so beautifully that our act will give pleasure. In a word we should not be content to be amateurs in courtesy, but should bend every effort toward becoming artists.

WHAT WOULD FOLKS THINK?

"Didn't I hear your Aunt Jane tell you not to go swimming?"

"No; she didn't say that at all. She only came to the door and shouted: 'Willie, I wouldn't go swimming.' And I shouldn't think she would. What would folks think if they saw a woman like Aunt Jane swimming in the creek?"—Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph.

WHAT IS PROHIBITION?

The definition of prohibition means to prohibit or stop the circulation of liquor. I think the way to firmly and effectually accomplish this is to stop the manufacture of it. In my opinion that would be a much more satisfactory way than allowing it to be made, and then fining a man when he is found with liquor.

The effect alcohol has upon the man or woman who indulges in it is easily seen. There is nothing to be said in favor of alcoholic liquors. Some people believe that it stimulates them, warms their blood and makes them more cheerful. But this is quite wrong. When a person has once formed the habit of continually drinking liquor, they nearly always become a slave to it, and it needs great will power to stop it. Liquor dulls the brain, and nearly every business man puts the question to an applicant for a position: "Do you drink or smoke?" It slows down the heart beat. It impairs the action of the liver, the kidneys and the stomach. It greatly harms the muscles of the body and also the nerves. It lowers a man's ambition and demoralizes his character. It multiplies lunacy, and crime.

In the slums of all large cities, the squalid wretchedness and misery of its inhabitants are due to the fact that they spend their money and energies to obtain liquor, and when they come home at night they are drunk and penniless. They do not provide for their wives and children, and consequently they live a hand to mouth life. There is a motto which I think is a very good one: "Where there's drink there's danger."

Prohibition is one of the real needs of a Christian and moral country. "Why I believe in the prohibition of the Liquor Traffic," is therefore, an important subject. There are many reasons and advantages in such an act.

Liquors and beverages containing alcoholic spirits are suppers of the pay roll and respect in any community. It enlarges the ideas as to evil-doing. In sixty-two of the worst United States cities in 1917, there were before the war-time measure and prohibition, 271,475 arrests for drunkenness. In 1920, in prohibition time, only 141,084 arrests. Therefore it would mean a greater amount of respectability in these cities. When prohibition comes into force, many of our jails and penitentiaries will be closed. The taxpayers will not have to pay for the upkeep of these places, which will be used for industrial and educational purposes.

The drinking of liquor deprives the home of the weekly earnings. Drink often makes children practically starve. To make the money for the necessities of life, wives often pawn their wedding rings, furniture and keepsakes, probably never to see them again. Drink breaks up many homes as well as often sends children into the world penniless. Many of the men of towns and cities earn their weekly wages, only to spend the greater part of it for liquor.

If we had total prohibition the bootleggers would not make as much money as they do. Many of the Citizens' Liberty League say that prohibition stops personal liberty. Their want of liquor is only their selfish desires. When it is needed for medicinal purposes it may be obtained from dispensaries. If we have total prohibition we will be a better country, mentally and physically.

The liquor traffic, bootlegging and bar were and are the first and foremost of our hindrances to Canada's welfare. If we have total prohibition Canada will be at the very head of the world, from the moral, educational and financial standpoint.—Newmarket Era.

REMARKABLE PHOTOGRAPHIC TELESCOPE

A remarkable new type of telescope used for photographic purposes has recently been constructed for Harvard University. This instrument was specially designed for photographing large areas in the sky, such as portions of the milky way, comets and groups of stars. The large ten-inch objective is a "doublet" consisting of four lenses, while the length of the telescope is only fifty inches. Thus a circle of ten inches in diameter is covered with remarkably sharp definition, corresponding to eleven degrees in the sky. The second objective, also a doublet, is of six inches aperture and its tube is thirty inches long. This second lens serves as a control or check, in case any faint object is found on the negatives made with the large lens. Sometimes new comets are discovered as very faint patches of light, resembling a smudge or defect on the photographic plate. This is "checked" by the duplicate exposure with the smaller lens. A five-inch visual objective, with an eyepiece, is attached to the others on the mounting and serves as a guiding telescope. The observer keeps his eye at the eyepiece and gives the telescope a very slow motion in either the east-and-west or north-and-south directions, to cover any inequalities in the performance of the driving mechanism, or fluctuations due to trembling of the earth's atmosphere.

THE TROUBLESOME QUESTION

An old Irish laborer walked into the luxurious studio of an artist and asked for money to obtain a meal, saying that he had been sick and was too weak to work. The artist gave him a quarter, and then seeing possibilities for a sketch in the poor fellow said:

"I'll give you half a dollar if you will let me paint you."

"Sure," said the man. "That's an easy way to make money, but—I'm wondrin' how I'd get it off afterward."

SAFETY RULES FOR STOVES AND FURNACES

1. Place stoves, furnaces and pipes far enough from walls and woodwork to avoid overheating.
2. Cover—nearest wooden surfaces with sheet asbestos, sheet iron or tin. If iron or tin is used, leave an air space behind it.
3. Where stovepipes or heating pipes pass through walls, enclose the pipes in galvanized iron, double-walled, ventilated thimbles at least twelve inches wider than the diameter of the pipes.
4. Protect the floor beneath the stove with sheet metal, and have it extend forwards at least twelve inches directly beneath the door of the ashpit.
5. Surround the base of the furnace with brick, stone or concrete.
6. Make sure that all pipes are free from rust, and that all joints and connections are sound and tight.
7. Fix a guard about the pipe in the attic so that nothing may be stored against it.
8. Never pour coal oil into a coal or wood stove, even when the fire is out.
9. Never put ashes into wooden boxes or barrels, have a strong metal can.
10. Study the drafts and dampers.
11. Do not let the stove or pipes become red hot.
12. Keep stoves, furnaces, flues and chimneys clean.
13. Inspect the chimneys and flues to be sure that they are sound.
14. Do not dry wood in an oven.
15. Do not hang wet clothing too near to a stove.
16. Keep curtains aways from stoves and pipes.

TOO LONG A COUNT

Mother (to battered son): "Johnny, how often have I told you to stop before fighting and count a hundred?"

Johnny: "That's what I did, but the other kid's mother only told him to count ten."—Boston Transcript.

PERILS OF LIGHTNING

If you are out of doors in a very severe electrical storm, the Electrical Experimenter offers the following rules for your protection:

Keep away from wire fences. They may carry a dangerous electrical charge long distances. Cattle in pastures are frequently killed from the neglect of farmers to ground the wire of the fence.

Keep away from hedges, ponds and streams.

Keep away from isolated trees.

Keep away from herds of cattle and crowds of people.

It is safer to sit or lie down in an open field than to stand.

Drivers should dismount and not stay close to their horses.

Do not work with any large metal tool or implement.

If you are indoors:

Keep away from the stove and chimney. The hot gases from the chimney may conduct the lightning to and down the chimney.

Do not take a position between two bodies of metal, as the stove and water pipe, for example. An exception to being near metals is the case of an iron bed. One of the safest places is on a mattress in an iron bed providing you do not touch the metal. The metal surrounding you makes a safe cage which will prevent the lightning from reaching a person inside.

Do not stand on a wet floor nor draw water from the well or faucet.

Do not stand directly under a chandelier, near a register or on a register.

A STRANGE BABY

"Mother has put my bed right beside daddy's" said the little visitor, "and he can put his hand over on me."

That made the lady she was visiting ask: "What would you think of a great big baby, as big as our piano, who didn't like to be all alone at night?"

The little visitor did not answer, for she couldn't imagine any baby as big as a piano.

"It was a baby elephant," said the lady, "and it was being taken from one place to another on a train. It had to ride in the baggage car. Even a baby elephant can make a terrible noise, called trumpeting, and whenever the keeper left this baby, it began to trumpet so loudly that nobody else could stay in the car. So a cat was brought in, and the keeper rolled up in a blanket and went to sleep. All night long the big gray baby stood up, for it seemed to be afraid to lie down in the train. Every little while it would reach out with its long trunk and very gently feel of its keeper, as if to make quite sure that he was near. I think we can easily guess how that keeper treated the elephant, don't you? For if he had not been gentle and kind, the big baby would not have loved and trusted him as it did."—Exchange.

THE ATTIC STORAGE ROOM

What is the next generation to do when it would stage a costume party of the period we live in? There will be no attic stores to draw from, because as a people we have discarded to a large extent the attic storage. It is partly because the "homestead" has practically disappeared, and if we have an attic one year we have some other attic the next, and partly because the constant call of the rummage sale keeps down our equipment of vesture practically to what we have on our backs. But it is principally because in these days of apartments there is no attic to keep things in. We are always in light marching order.

And the attic principle is more than a matter of old clothes—it stands for respect for things that have served a useful purpose—a reverence for age. Our present discarding of the habit of saving old things, whether for sentiment or against a possible rainy day, is symptomatic of a general attitude toward life. We have no homesteads of custom or of thought any more than we have homesteads for the children to come back to. Many a child of today can point only to a place and say: "I was born in a house that stood where that big building is."—Carleton Place Canadian.

REMEMBER THE COUNTY

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We have secured the sole agency for Acton for the well-known HAPPY THOUGHT and all other Buck stoves. There are over 200,000 of these ranges in use now and the quality cannot be excelled. Prices are down from last year.

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With and without oven, at moderate prices. You are invited to call and inspect them.

Stovepipes, made in our own workshop of the good old staple English iron, also Elbows, Scuttles, Shovels, Charcoal and other Stove Accessories

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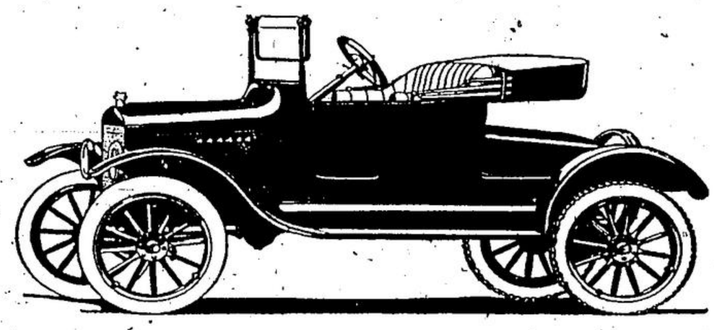

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