

The Acton Free Press

Member Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association
Municipal and Town Weeklies of Ontario

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1926

THE ACTON FREE PRESS is published every Thursday morning at the Free Press Building, Main Street, Acton, Ontario. The cost of a copy is 5 cents, a year, 40 cents. Postage is charged additional to others in the United States. The name and address of the person to whom the paper is sent is indicated on the address label.

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EDITORIAL

The Separate School Supporters' Claims

Premier Drury has surely acted judiciously in the matter of the Separate School claims now being agitated. Replying to a Separate School deputation the other day, he said, "It is not a matter of determining a new policy, but rather a matter of the legal interpretation of rights which you have in virtue of the Act of 1863 and the further Acts of 1867 and 1880." This is considered a fair statement of the situation. The petitioners can have no quarrel with the opinion of the Government that the first step should be a definition of their legal position by the highest tribunal. It was the course suggested by the Hearst Government. The Government of to-day will be quite justified in sending to the courts the questions involved in the petitions of the Separate School supporters.

New Debaters in the Federal House

The debate on the Speech from the Throne has brought out speeches from some of the new members, and most of them have made a splendid impression. Particularly was that of Paul Mercier, Liberal member for Westmount St. Henri, who, though the youngest member of the Quebec contingent, showed that he has the ability to progress for a long way. And the mover of the address, E. J. McMurray, of North Winnipeg, also made a fine impression when he led off in the debate. Franco J. Logan, another new man, of Cumberland, N. S., contributed an appeal for fair play for the Maritime Provinces in regard to their rights under the Intercolonial Railway question. The Maritime people were not asking charity, he said, but were simply seeking a fair deal when they placed their railway demands before the government and the country.

Hydro-Electric Revenues

Now that the Queenston-Chippewa development units are coming into operation it begins to look as if the Hydro system will be able to show profitable returns for the construction and equipment expenditures. The cancellation of contracts for the supply of power, which fully load two generating units of the Queenston-Chippewa plant, will result in a revenue to the Commission of approximately \$2,000,000 per annum. The official statement just issued by the Hydro-Electric Commission shows that Chippewa begins to earn a considerable part of the revenue needed to pay interest on the investment, although only a 110,000-horse power load, out of an ultimate of over 600,000 horse power, is now being generated. It is believed that the first five units will more than carry the interest on the money to be spent upon the entire installation of nine units, four of which are to be very much the largest in the world, and capable of generating 75,000 horse power, each. The ultimate cost of the development will be close to \$80,000,000.

Manufacturing Industries Growing in Numbers

Acton is doing exceedingly well in the matter of acquiring new manufacturing industries. During the past year three very desirable new businesses have been established. The shoe manufactory of Messrs. Hewett & Son, "Shoemakers to Children," is now employing upward of fifty hands; the knitting mill of Mr. Amos Mason has received the machinery and will soon be in operation on hose, and other lines of knitted goods; and the Halton Gloves Works of Messrs. Spielvogel & Son, which is busy with numerous orders for fine lines of ladies' and gentlemen's gloves. In addition to these, the Acton machine shops have recently greatly enlarged their capacity with new machinery and are turning out large quantities of automobile accessories, which are being shipped to dealers in many sections of the country—east and west and Mr. W. J. Patterson is operating a wholesale abattoir just outside the town and supplying meat to retail butchers all over the province. Acton does not make much fuss over the establishment and enlargement of industries in its midst but its place of importance as a manufacturing town is acknowledged everywhere.

Education Should Strengthen the Will and Enlarge the Common Sense

It is a joy to see the desire of many of the young people in all our communities these days aspiring to the attainment of the higher reaches of education so as to fit themselves for life's activities and requirements. It is a great satisfaction to all citizens who sympathise with these youthful aspirations to realize the present day opportunities of advanced educational institutions for educational attainments in so many different forms. Much, however, depends on the intelligent attitude of the young people who set out to attain this higher education, and how they regard it when attained. The college graduate whose diploma spoils him or her for usefulness, is only half educated, if that. If a young man shrinks from the thought of manual work because he is the product of university training, or a girl holds aloof from the kitchen because she knows something of Latin and Greek or French, neither of the two can lay claim to an education, in the strict sense of the word. Education does not mean filling the head with facts. It means the drawing out of one's best, the development of one's powers. An education which does not strengthen the will, enlarge the common sense, and help to fit the claimant for the practical crises of life is unworthy the name. Fortunately the time is past when it was assumed that educated men and women were in a class by themselves, set apart to do special things. The difference now recognized is that educated people are the ones who do the same things better than other people do them. The result is that plenty of university graduates don't care about the commencement exercises are over, and start down in the grim and noise of some big manufactory, while the girls who won credit as star students prove proficient in the practical duties which belong to home life.

Ontario public accounts were brought down in the Legislature last week. Hon. Peter Smith shows a good balance of ordinary receipts over ordinary expenditures, amounting to \$681,589.41. Cash in the banks amounts to \$18,784,466.53, as against \$5,671,303 at the end of 1920. The Farmers and Labor men are evidently able to make just as good a financial showing, relatively, as any of their Grit or Tory predecessors.

Premier Drury was not far wrong at a public meeting in Massey Hall, Toronto, last week, when he declared himself in favor of public ownership; but the public had a right to know, within a fair degree of accuracy, the cost of works to be undertaken. He added, that the Government intended to find out why they had not had it. This latter referred particularly to the largely increased cost of the Chippewa Queenston Electric plant.

The Electors Evidently Think Differently
Mr. R. J. MacLennan, President of the Ontario Bar Association, thinks "there is great need of a legal education for all our legislators." The electors decided at the last election that the different Legislatures had too many lawyers. Their numbers were very considerably reduced, the President of the Bar Association notwithstanding.

The Progressives and the Dominion Government
The Progressives' viewpoint was expressed by Hon. T. A. Crerar, in the debate on the Speech from the Throne. His party were ready to support the Government wherever they could do so, said Mr. Crerar, but they also held themselves in readiness to criticize and oppose if they considered that such was the proper course. His party found much that was cheering in the Government's declaration in the Speech from the Throne and they refused to be pessimistic as to whether or not the Government would refuse to fulfill its promises. As to the negotiations, Mr. Crerar said "he had not understood" that he was invited to enter the Cabinet as a member of a Liberal administration but he had been unable to enter in any case. Mr. Crerar, and subsequently some of his followers, stressed the need of wider markets and of the reconstitution of the Wheat Board, which Mr. King said would be referred to the Agricultural Committee of the House for a full consideration and a report. Mr. Crerar said his party were in the House to assist as far as possible in giving good government to the country and they would support all measures which they considered were for good government.

The Horticultural Show
The members of Acton Horticultural Society have undertaken a praiseworthy enterprise in their plans to hold a flower show in August. During the four years since the organization of the Society the results have been very satisfactory, and manifested in every part of town by the wealth of blooming flowers and thrifty plants surrounding our homes and in some public places. In fact the results have also extended to numbers of our farm homes of the community. Now the Society desires to still further extend its influence. By means of an annual flower show the practical value of the Society will be more widely demonstrated. The public will find a keener interest; the members will aim to produce the best horticultural products possible, and the influence will be greatly extended. To accomplish desired results it will be necessary for members generally to interest themselves to win success. There is no reason whatever to hinder Acton having a thoroughly successful horticultural exhibition. And not members only, but our citizens should have an interest. Nothing attracts outsiders to a town more than well kept lawns and attractive flowers and shrubs. To make a fair it should be every home in town should grow flowers enter at the flower show. As they do this their homes will be rendered attractive during the summer and all who visit the town will take notice, admire and make favorable comment and form kindly opinions. The Horticultural Society numbers over two hundred members. Every home in town should have at least one member. It only requires hearty cooperation to make Acton a beauty spot in the province this summer, and the proposed flower show in August an abundant success.

EDITORIAL NOTES

With admirable diplomacy and military skill General and Premier Smuts quelled the South African revolt. He did not give the revolutionists time to turn around.

With the substantial surplus of the Post Office Department of last year, it would seem reasonable to hope that letter postage will soon be reduced to its pre-war rate of two cents.

Hon. Mr. Meighen, the official leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons, evidently intends to honestly earn his salary, for he's "agin the Government" on every issue.

"Most of the worrying about prohibition failing to prohibit seems to be done by people who admit that they don't want prohibition," says the St. Mary's Journal. This is rather a trid fact. Few people have thought of the matter in just this light.

"Tommy Church has been heard in Parliament. He denounces partyism, but says the Tories are the only loyal people, and the dear old Conservative party should be in charge of the Government, of Canada at all stages and at all times."

One of our Halton boys has met "hard sledding" in Manitoba after a long period of successful public life. Premier Norris has lost his majority in the Provincial Legislature, and is obliged to rely on the country. The U. F. M. want the reins of power.

Barrie's waterworks system has a surplus for the past year of \$2,799.00, after paying all expenses, including the debenture for the year. This is the form of real action hopes for after a few years, when the services are installed in all the 400 homes and factories which have applied for water.

The criticism of Police Magistrates who have no regular legal education may sound well, but any layman of common sense, who has a good knowledge of the statutes governing the type of cases he has to deal with, may be an eminently successful magistrate. Fairness, good sense, and reasonable sympathy are not always the product of four years' education in law.—Mail and Empire.

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TEAS STEADILY ADVANCING

"Teas—Advances from primary market continue to indicate a situation with upward tendencies. Locally there are no ranges but the market area indicates there is a definite possibility for a rise. Values as importers state spot prices are still far below cost of replacement."

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