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THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 28, 1922

EDITORIAL

The New Year

A Flower unblown; a Book unread;
A Tree with Fruit unharvested;
A Path untrod; a House whose rooms
Lack yet the heart's divine perfumes;
A Landscape whose wide border lies
In silent shade 'neath silent skies;
A wondrous Fountain yet unsealed;
A Casket with its gifts concealed;
This is the Year that for you waits
Beyond to-morrow's mystic gates.

—Horatio N. Powers.

We wish you all a very Happy New Year. Good wishes are cheap, if we stop with wishing. The son who is turning his mother's hair white by his selfishness, wishes her a Happy New Year on the first day of January, with all the heartiness imaginable. And the girl whose irritable temper keeps the household in a turmoil, scatters her good wishes broadcast on New Year's Day. When we say "Happy New Year," let us not say it idly. Make it a promise rather than a wish. Put into it all the determination we possess. Say it sincerely.

Good Crops in Ontario

Official reports show that in every crop save flax and sugar beets the yield in Ontario is larger this year than it was last, and flax and sugar beets are very minor crops in comparison with others. Not only do all the chief crops of the Province show a greater yield than that of last year, but in most cases this increase is a substantial one. Rye shows an increase of one and a quarter million bushels; buckwheat, one and a half millions; barley, four millions; mixed grain, four and three-quarters; wheat, nearly five, and oats forty-two million bushels. In hoe crops husking corn shows an increase of nearly two and a half million bushels, and potatoes and turnips, 11,000,000 bushels each. The yield of alfalfa is 100,000 tons over that of 1921, while the ordinary hay crop exceeds that of last year by close to one and three-quarter million tons. It is certainly gratifying that the crops have turned out so satisfactory. The lower prices, however, offset the advantage of the big crop to a very considerable amount.

Co-Operation of Educational Effort Toward a Common Ideal

The National Council of Education is the organization of a number of citizens of Canada who are united in a concerted attempt to rally the best public opinion behind the Schools of the Dominion. The object of the National Council is commendable. "The corporate sense which moved Canada to Federation, the spirit which moved her during the war, are now invoked to make her one in education, not by centralization of authority and control, nor by uniformity of system and method, but by co-operation of effort towards a common ideal and the evolution of a high national purpose." Important questions relating to education on this basis are being considered, and in order to further the objects of the organization a second conference will be held at Toronto during Easter Week of 1923. Education itself must be endowed with a high moral purpose; its entire process must be employed in advancing a fuller realization of the great spiritual heritage which is common to all, indicating the power of the ideal as a means of realizing the New Age.

Backing Up the Leaders

Do you ever think of the column upon column of church news to be found in the majority of newspapers every week? This is good in its place, and by no means a small place either, but how much backing do you give the press to the actual accomplishment of practical ideas and ideals? People don't always move en masse, hence the need of individual action and employment of talent. Where you find one person who comes offering his services, about nine out of ten have to be coaxed or cajoled into what is plainly their duty. In the average congregation did you ever notice how comparatively small the proportion is who are doers? There may be preachers, good wishers or folk on the occasional staff, but week in and week out take a round dozen of the real helpers and you often have few left whose genuine workable sympathy is at the disposal of pastor or other promoter of the things that need to be done. We think what's wanted right now is an "All-together" spirit, banishing ceremony, or waiting to be pressed into service, just take hold of the first duty or opportunity. A genuine surprise awaits a score of people who will agree to put it to the test.—Brussels Post.

A Loss to Canada
Irrespective of creed there is wide-spread sorrow throughout the Dominion that that historic church, the French Basilica at Quebec, has been ruthlessly destroyed by fire. It is gratifying to learn that the fire did not originate at the hand of a lawless incendiary, as was at first reported. From an historic standpoint the loss is irreparable, both as respects the sacred edifice, the date of which erection goes back to 1633, and the valuable contents which comprised valued paintings, religious treasures, sacred utensils and embellishments. This ancient and stately edifice was one of the finest churches in the Dominion. The loss is great to the Roman Catholic Church; it is just as great to Canada, as a representative cathedral of the great church to which it belonged.

Getting Over to "Easy Street"
The ambition of many men is manifestly to get on "Easy Street." This ambition, so often expressed, has had rather a beneficial influence upon young people entering upon the activities of life. Getting on "Easy Street" early in life is not the most desirable accomplishment nor does it tend to afford the keenest zest to life's experiences. As you read the life stories of great men you find that few of them in their youth wrote "Easy Street" as their address. Some of them came from "Poverty Lane," and "Difficulty Heights" was the birthplace of even more. The outlook in these localities is not pleasing, the houses are neither convenient nor attractive, but there seems to be something wonderfully bracing in the atmosphere which makes up for all lacks. "Easy Street" is a good place for those who have done their work. It is not likely to harm those whose habits are formed. But the very last thing you should regret, young people, is that your birthplace was not on "Easy Street."

Large Audience of the Home Town Newspaper
Everybody has written about the trials and tribulations of the country editor, but a few have written about his joys; says the Elizabethtown, N. J., News. He stands ahead of the preacher, the lawyer and the public speakers, because he never talks to empty benches, but speaks in all the homes where his paper goes. He never makes impromptu speeches which generally disgust the audience, but writes with deliberation and premeditation. The preachers influence for good seldom reaches further than his congregation, while the editor's field for good reaches all the congregations in the community. The lawyer makes a great speech in the court house and only one or two hundred persons hear him, but when the editor writes a good editorial it is not only read by his own subscribers, but it is copied in various papers in the commonwealth. The editor distributes more flowers than a florist, and he asks nothing in return for them but thanks. He has an opportunity to do the individual citizen a service and he never hesitates to do it, if consistent with his obligations to the public. The editor has the greatest opportunity to convert men and women to his way of thinking on public questions. As the lighthouse on the shore warns the ships from the rocks, the editor can warn the public from frauds and fakers. The editor has the greatest opportunity to protect society from evil by standing for the law and creating public sentiment for it. He never tires of boosting his town and country, and if both do not grow it is not his fault. He helps the deserving young men with words of commendation, and restrains him by precepts of counsel. His field of usefulness is broader than anyone else's in the community. For his efforts, for settlement, he has a sufficient reward in seeing things get better. He rejoices in his opportunity for service to his fellow-men, his town and his country, and goes on his way rejoicing whether or not he gets any returns for it.

EDITORIAL NOTES
Now that the jails are all empty, the ships all scrapped, and wars all ended, we look forward to the New Year without misgiving.—Kingston Whig.

The Vancouver Sunday Sun, in a leading editorial a week ago, had this time exhortation to the Premier of the Dominion: "This nation is not Quebec, is not British Columbia, Ontario, or any one province. This is Canada." That is the type of loyalty true Canadians can most appreciate.

Attorney-General Raney has reversed some things. Over in the States the Ku Klux Klan generally advises victims they select to beware. Here in Ontario Mr. Raney advises the Ku Klux Klan to keep out of this Province or the courts will send them to the penitentiary.

The Ministerial Association of Woodstock have gone on record as being opposed to Sunday funerals and have passed a resolution asking the local undertakers and cemetery boards to co-operate with them in eliminating burials on Sundays. This action might reasonably be copied in all communities.

Over in Detroit medical experts are finding motor speeders lacking in mentality. Three speeders were declared mentally defective last week, and ordered not to operate their machines until further notice. Wonder if the cause of speeding on Canadian streets and highways is due to similar causes?

The import and export trade of Canada for the month of November this year was \$50,108,781 greater in value than for November, 1921! Figures issued by the Department of Customs and Excise show that the grand total of Canadian trade for November was \$208,020,232, as compared with \$151,911,451 in November 1921. This looks like improved business.

The Province's revenue for the past fiscal year from automobile fees totalled the sum of 3,477,430. This figure is over half a million dollars in excess of the revenue of \$2,945,300 which was received during 1921, and the Department expects with the increased license fee of \$1.00 and the increase in the number of cars to reach an aggregate of about \$4,500,000 in 1923.

Mr. O. R. Church, editor of the Streetsville Review, and Reeve of the village, is a candidate for the Wardenship of Peel for 1923. Bro. Church must have concluded that since Halton found in E. A. Harris, of the Burlington Gazette, that newspaper men make good Wardens, he will be glad to serve Peel in the same capacity. Halton has found that its three Wardens who were newspaper men, Messrs. R. D. Warren, Arthur S. Forster and E. A. Harris, were very efficient in the Wardens' chair.

GEMS OF THOUGHT

To "disturb nothing is the motto which men of the world always affect. They think it vulgar to wonder or be astonished at anything. They are much content to be trifled and charlatanized, that they think the result of all high qualities must be shallow—W. Matthews.

To ye ye not laugh, O. late-learned friends, when men praise those dead whose virtues they discovered not when living? It takes much marble to build the sepulchre. How little of laud and plauder would have repaired the garret—Hawker.

The confidence is the title-page which heralds the contents of the human volume, but like other title-pages it sometimes jumbles, often misleads, and often says nothing to the purpose.—W. Matthews.

God made the country, and man made the town. What wonder, then, that health and virtue should most abound, and least be threatened in the hills and groves.—Covper.

O, how many deeds of ceaseless virtue and immortal fame the world has wasted had it been such as to sell all this to-morrow!—Lord John Russell.

Courtesy is a kernel of the forbidden fruit which still sticks in the throat of a natural man, sometimes to the danger of his choking.—Pulver.

The frost is God's blough which he drives through every inch of ground in the world, and covering each and every part of the whole.—Pulver.

Let the farmer for evermore be honored in his calling, for they who labor in the earth are the chosen people of God.—Jefferson.

Being reproached for giving to an unworthy person, Aristotle said: "I did not give it to the man, but to humanity."

A man must be both stupid and uncharitable who believes there is no virtue or truth but on his own side.—Addison.

Suppose that a man would advertise to take photographs of the beauties he got many customers?—D. L. Moody.

The savious prate only that which they can surpass; that which surpasses them they censure.—Collyer.

A true and genuine impudence is over the effect of ignorance, without the least sense of it.—Hester.

You are more inclined to ask curious questions, that you obtain necessary instruction.—Quesset.

The gods conceal from men the happiness of death, that they may endure life.—Lucan.

He who is only just to cruel. Who so saith could live were all judged justly.—Byron.

Language was given us that we might say pleasant things to each other.—Covper.

No nation can be destroyed while it possesses a good home life.—J. O. Holland.

He that is good for making excuses, is seldom good for anything else.—Franklin.

In the commerce of speech we only coin of gold and silver.—Joubert.

THE HOME PAPER

A few of the reasons why the home folks should support it:
1.—Because, when you were born, it was the home paper that introduced you to the world.
2.—When you grew up and graduated the home paper gave you another writing-up.
3.—When later on you found your life companion and were happily married the home paper gave you a new and yours a nice notice.
4.—When sickness and misfortune invaded your home and you were carried to your friends and neighbors by the home paper.
5.—When you had been successful in a business venture or had been promoted, it was the home paper that heralded your ability.
6.—If you sold out or moved to another location the home paper followed you with news of friends and neighbors.
7.—When some unscrupulous person tried to injure your character, it was the home paper that came to your aid.
8.—Because the home paper boasts your town and its institutions, its people, its schools, its churches, and helps to promote good fellowship in the community.
9.—Because the live merchants offer money-saving bargains and protect you from catch-penny mail order houses.
10.—And last, when you are finally laid away, it is the home paper that prints condoling news of your demise and that extols your virtues so the hearts of those who mourn are made to feel thankful that the home paper stuck by you from cradle to grave.

A FISH STORY

A famous English musician, who has recently died, once found himself at a musical "at-home." In the course of the evening's fortune, a young lady attempted a very difficult song, which she sang with exaggerated expression and many blunders. Next to the great composer sat an elderly lady, overflowing with gushing ignorance and vivid superlatives.
"Oh, sir!" she murmured, "do you not adore her singing? Is it not full of soul?"
"Well, madam," he whispered, with a twinkle in his eye, "for my part I think there is more of the founder than the sile about it."

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RUNNING AN EGG FACTORY

Every flock of hens is an egg factory. Like any other factory the flock can be given the best materials in the world to work on and still fail to produce enough to pay for running the plant. Good feed is sufficient variety is necessary for egg production, but the ability to manufacture eggs from feed must be the first.

It pays to cull out the poor layers any time, to save the feed and labor they cost, but to make a profit on them it is best to cull in the late summer or early fall, before the rash of spring chickens lowers the market price of old hens.

Shop up all the hens and pullets some evening. Count them and decide just how many can be readily kept during the coming year without crowding, for this is very likely to hurt egg production and increase the danger of disease. The next morning the flock is ready to be culled.

You are better without the following:
1.—Poor layers and all old hens.
2.—Cripples, and hens with broken-down abdomens or frozen toes.
3.—The sick, quiet, inactive hens that spend much time on the roost.
4.—All "crow heads" with long, slim heads and beaks.
5.—All hens, coarse-headed hens with sunken eyes.
6.—All very short, stubby hens with feathers extremely heavy for their size.
7.—All late-hatched immature pullets and those that are early hatched but which spend much time on the roost.
8.—All hens that molt before August 1.
9.—The persistent sifter.
10.—All hens with solid, fat abdomens.
11.—All hens having bad habits (canthals, feather-picking, egg-eaters).
12.—All cockerels not needed for breeding purposes.
The following will really earn their keep:
1.—Strong, healthy, vigorous hens with short, neat heads and strong beaks.
2.—The hens with long, deep, pointed bodies and parvies top and bottom toes.
3.—The hens with long, deep, pointed bodies and parvies top and bottom toes.
4.—The hens with sharp, worn feathers, especially worn tail feathers, but having a bright, healthy look.
5.—The hens that molt late.
6.—The winter, heavy, friendly hens.
7.—The early layers and those late to roost.
8.—The vigorous hens with the faded look and shanks.
9.—The hens with soft, pliable abdomens.
10.—The hens with the thin pelvic bones, spread wide apart.
11.—The early-hatched, well-grown pullets.

IN CONGLAND

A stranger going through Congland is at a loss to know what to do, and spend the night or remain as long as he feels inclined. This is expected, for no conversation is required to negotiate the arrangements, but if the stranger is tired, he is "out of love" because hospitality in Congland is expressed in a strange fashion. To give their guests a real welcome the host and hostess gather all of their neighbors and friends around their home and plan for the evening's entertainment. They dance for him, and are so anxious to see him a pleasant visit that they keep the dance up all night. He is expected to appreciate it, and naturally should not show any signs of fatigue. After a sleepless night he is surprised to find his hostess to come in the field, bright and early, with her clear in her mouth, because in Congland only the women work, the men prefer to take a stroll. They consider smoking offensive. The women not only do all the heavy work in the fields, but sell the produce as well. The men take over the domestic duties. It is no strange sight to see a man of the house engaged in doing the family washing, and then hanging the clothes out to dry on the branches of the tree in front of his house. After he has his "Monday's work" out of the way he takes his sewing basket and sits down to the needle and does the family mending, and does it well.

ALL THE DIFFERENCE

The policeman giving evidence, and was being strictly cross-examined by the magistrate.
"You," he carefully, said his interlocutor, "What was the prisoner doing?"
"I was having a very heated argument with a taxi-driver, yer worship."
"But that doesn't prove that he was drunk," said the magistrate.
"No," replied the policeman, smiling reminiscently, "but there wasn't a taxi-driver there!"

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