THE HOME OF

The Acton Free Press

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H. P. MOORE, President and Editor.
G. A. DILLS, Manager and Assistant Editor.

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THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 1, 1923

EDITORIAL

Newspapers That Drop Out

The passing of the Bruce Peninsula News, of Lion's Head; the Hepworth Journal, the Preston Progress, the Hensall Observer and the Chatham Planet, all within the past month, is unmistakable proof of the difficulty the present day publisher has to contend with in issuing a paper. Communities that are desirous of having the boosting influence of a local newspaper should give it their whole-hearted support.—Milverton Sun.

Parents! Do You Know the School Your Children Attend?

There is an unaccountable indifference on the part of many parents as to the schools their children are attending, the character and ability of their teachers, and the comforts, sanitary conditions or otherwise of the school premises where they spend so many hours every week. The Public Schools of Detroit not long ago held a "Know-the-School week." During the entire week the schools kept open house, with no specially prepared programme, but the regular work of the school going on as usual. Thousands of parents took advantage of this opportunity to see their children at work, to become acquainted with their teachers, and to get an idea of the school premises. The only change made in the school routine was in time. Realizing that most of the parents were home-keepers or wage earners, the authorities decided to keep school during this week from noon on, instead of beginning at nine in the morning. Some schools held a special evening session from six-thirty until nine for the benefit of fathers. The school teachers report that the "at home" week did much to bring about closer relations between children and parents, the school and the home, with results to all concerned wholesome and instructive.

Respect Law by Living up to it

Folk who wink at wrong-doing and regard law violation as a trifling matter are travelling a dangerous path as it relates to their own sense of honor and good morals and as far as their word or deed exercises an influence on the community. There is no surer way to give a black eye to progressiveness and an upward climb than to make light of principles that develop the true spirit of manhood and womanhood. There are neighborhoods where high moral character is sustained and the youth grow up strong and virile with convictions and valid reasons for them and go forth to bless whatever part of the world their lot may be cast. A man need not be a ninny because he is a faithful son to his parents, a good helper among the young folk and with a thought and purpose of as thorough a preparation as possible toward making his way in the world. Love for sobriety, clean speech, conduct that will make rather than mar, with a reverence for the good and a sworn enmity toward that likely to degrade or lower the standard will provide surroundings in which healthful growth will show itself. High ideals and lofty purposes will not thrive where the soil is poor and the air full of malaria. Reverence the statutes, have moral backbone and stand true to your colors. Be an example worthy of following.—Brussel's Post.

A Dominion Bankruptcy Act

Important conferences of leading commercial, industrial and financial organizations in Canada have been held recently in Montreal and Toronto to consider what can be done to remove complaints in connection with the administration of the Dominion Bankruptcy Act. As a result of these conferences a number of amendments, which it is hoped will remedy defects, have been agreed upon and a permanent committee appointed to submit them to the Dominion Government and watch their course through Parliament. The proposal for a Dominion Bankruptcy Act was first actively taken up in the fall of 1917 by the Canadian Credit Men's Association. Two years were spent by the Canadian Bar Association, the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and other organizations in discussing proposed legislation, and finally a bill was introduced into Parliament and became law on July 1, 1920. The Act superseded the various Provincial enactments dealing with insolvent estates. The Act has already been twice amended and still apparently stands in need of further amendment. Those who have studied it agree that the principle of the legislation is in every way satisfactory and that such difficulties as have arisen are solely on the administrative side, the Government apparently having failed in many cases to appoint qualified trustees and to limit their number to business requirements. The new proposals are intended to remedy this.

Conservatives Honor Samuel Charters, M.P.

Samuel Charters, M. P., for Peel County, and editor of the Brampton Conservator, very manifestly lives in the hearts of the Conservatives of his constituency. He was honored last week with a complimentary banquet and 600 men and women from all parts of the county attended. Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen graced the occasion with his presence. Mr. T. W. Duggan, the head of the Dale Estate, presided at this happy gathering. Mr. Charters is to be congratulated upon the splendid prestige he enjoys among his constituents.

The Coming General Election

According to the Constitution the Legislative elections for the Province of Ontario must take place before the end of October next. The elections may be held in October or any time before, as the Drury Government may decide, but not later. We shall therefore see much activity in the political parties this year and the session of the Legislature just commencing will witness much jockeying for position in an endeavor to make ammunition for the campaign. A good deal of the ammunition manufactured will be of the "dud" variety, more for noise than anything else.—Markham Economist.

"Bootleggers" and Law Enforcement

The talk of rich harvests reaped by the bootleggers is all moonshine. When these gentry are called on for fines of a few hundred dollars they usually find difficulty in scraping together the money, and sometimes do not succeed. Under license, the riches gained from the traffic in liquor were flaunted in the face of every community. Beer barons were as much recognized products of the trade as poverty and degradation. Nor is it true that the Ontario Temperance Act is proving more difficult to enforce than other laws for the regulation of the liquor traffic. As far as Orillia is concerned, it is probably a safe statement that not one-tenth as much liquor is sold illegally now as was sold contrary to law under the license system.—Orillia Packet.

Sound for Prohibition

Last week THE FREE PRESS felt warranted in concluding that the Conservative party has no desire to be allied in any way with any proposal to enact legislation to make prohibition less effective. The opinion of one of the leading Consservative papers of the Province was quoted to substatiate this. This week it is gratifying to be able to state that in the Legislature last week Mr. F. Wellington Hay, the leader of the Liberal party, said emphatically that his party stands emphatically for the Ontario Temperance Act and "the fullest measure of enforcement. With the U. F. O. making prohibition one of the important planks of its platform, as it does, there does not seem to be very much hope that the Moderation League will succeed in accomplishing the moderating it so devoutly longs for.

The Legislature at Work Again

The Ontario Legislature opened its annual session last week with a lengthy docket of legislative proposals. The speech from the throne was one of the lengthiest delivered at any opening for some years. It touched upon the removal of the cattle embargo, the adoption of a selective immigration policy, the probe into the Hydro-Electric projects, and the development of forests and mine resources. It thanked the public for co-operating for the relief of the Northern Ontario fire sufferers and mentioned the progress that had been made in extending the T. and N. O. Railway. In the matter of the legislation that was to come, it mentioned bills respecting trade agreements, sales of securities, simplification of land titles, motor vehicle regulation, the incorporation of co-operative companies, and the prevention of the publication of race track information.

Michigan's Drastic Anti-Betting Bill

The proposed bill to be introduced in Michigan State Legislature is calculated to eliminate the gambling craze over there. It prohibits acceptance of bets on races or games of chance and the maintaining of any place for the registering of such bets, political nominations and election wagers included. It makes it unlawful for any person, or for officers, agents, servants or employees of any corporation, directly or indirectly, individually or by agent, servant or employee, to write, print, publish, advertise, deliver or distribute, or offer to deliver or distribute to the public or to any part thereof or to any person, any statement or information concerning the making or laying of wagers or bets, or the selling of pools, or evidences of betting odds on any races, contest or game, or on the happening of any event not known by the parties to be certain, or any purported event of like character. Betting on races at fall fairs is also prohibited. A penalty of not more than six months' imprisonment or $500 fine, or both, is provided for.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The progress of prohibition goes forward with surprising rapidity, and often in most unexpected places. The Scottish Independent Labor party, at its annual conference last week, gave an overwhelming vote for prohibition, instead of nationalization of the drink traffic.

These are the days of annual meetings and mercantile stock-takings. The individual might well follow the good example and check up on the year's progress, mental, moral as well as material. Such checking will mean better progress for the remainder of the year.

Mr. Charles E. Bailey, of Fergus, formerly of Acton, was elected a member of Fergus Town Council by acclamation at the recent municipal elections there. Mr. Bailey is following up his reputation of being a good citizen, and assuming his fair share of citizenship duties. He was a valued member of Acton Council during his residence here.

There is one feature in the speech from the throne at the opening of the legislature with which most people will heartily agree. This is the emphasis laid on the need of economy, and the promise that additional burdens will be avoided as far as possible. So far, economy has not been a distinguishing mark of the present Government.—Barrie Examiner.

STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER

With the January 11th edition of "The Canadian Baptist," the new editor and manager, Rev. Louis F. Kipp, B. A., takes charge. Mr. Kipp has been a leader in his denomination in the matter of Christian citizenship and could always be found fighting sturdily against the liquor traffic in every form as a social and political evil. He represents not the arm-chair or downy pillowed "take-it-easy" type of Christian, but the militant variety, active, aggressive, constructive. Characteristic of the man is his first editorial "On Guard," which we would like to have read by every citizen of Canada. Here it is in full:

The liquor traffic revels in "bush" fighting; a close-up battle is less to its liking. In fact, it masses its forces for an open engagement with the "dry" brigades only when it has unusual hope of success or when all avenues of escape have been blocked. Then it fights stubbornly, but with no great relish for the battle.

Just now the Trade is seeking to unite liquor and prohibition advocates in a campaign to secure sale of light beers and wines in prohibition areas. But it is working so carefully and cleverly that few realize they are being duped into supporting the brewers' drive. True to form, the liquor people have camouflaged themselves so well that many Christians people fall to discern the trap.

To disgust all prohibitionists with the operation of "dry" legislation in Canada and the United States is the goal of the beer and wine dealers now. When there is deep distrust of the present laws, the proposal to substitute wine and beer sales will come. The adoption of that method is the entrance of the thin edge for the return of the old-time liquor system. The bar of former days may not come back, but the sale of drink at tables in taverns—as ice cream is sold in the stores—is as bad. In fact, some students of the trade declare it is worse.

The daily press is filled with bootlegger stories, of rum-running launches, of private stills and bursting cellars and club lockers. "Every boy in town knows how to make home-brew," is another favorite expression. Blindpigs and tigers and liquor for sale everywhere is another assertion. Liquor propaganda—pure and simple!

There are hundreds of thousands of citizens of Canada and the United States who have not the faintest idea where they could buy a bottle of "bootleg." Even if they found such a resort, they would not have the "pass-word." By scores of thousands boys are growing to manhood without ever having seen an open bar with its legalized sale. Will they seek a back-lane dive, in company with a whiskey wreck, to secure their first drink? Not likely.

The profit of the trade is dangled before electors' eyes. These are enormous and especially attractive to Governments in days of falling revenues and huge expenses. The Province of Quebec ended its fiscal year recently with a surplus of over five million dollars. Over four million of that came from the Quebec Liquor Commission treasury. The "success" of the year was wired the continent over. It has a tendency to influence the course of action of other provinces where cash is needed.

But when the four million dollar whiskey surplus was being announced with a great flourish of trumpets, the City of Montreal was raising $400,000 for charity. And drink was responsible for a big share of the distress requiring attention!

Christians, attention! Let not the Trade—cunningly concealed in story and street gossip—implant in you disgust of the law and the conviction that "things were better in the old days than they are now." Souls are more valuable than dollars; a small surplus honestly secured is better than a huge one obtained by the Province becoming a big bar-tender.—Pioneer.

1,754,929 LBS. MORE "SALADA" SOLD

This tremendous increase in the sale of "SALADA" Tea is reported for 1922, over the year 1921. This increase alone in Tea is sufficient to supply the entire Dominion of Canada for nearly three weeks.

THE FOOLISH BOYS

Two little boys from town lost their way in a dark wood, and had to stay the night in a little farm house. In the middle of the night, they heard voices in the next room. They put their ears to the thin wall, and listened.

"Get the big kettle hot early tomorrow morning. I must kill our little chaps from town."

The poor boys were frightened out of their wits.

"Good gracious! This man is a man-eater!" one whispered to the other, and they jumped out of bed in their horror, dressed quickly and climbed out of the window. But when they reached the yard, they found the big gate locked, and there was no shelter but the pig-sty. They crept in and waited for the morning. At length they heard a noise in the yard, the door of the sty was opened, and a man appeared with a knife in his hand.

"Now, then, come on, you little chaps. Your hour has come."

The boys came running out with a shriek, and fell on their knees, begging him not to kill them. The man was quite puzzled to find them there, and asked why they thought he was going to kill them.

The boys said, in tears, "We heard you say yourself, last night, that you were going to kill us this morning."

The man replied, "You foolish boys! I didn't mean you, but the two little pigs I bought in town a little while ago. I called them my little chaps for fun. That is all you get from listening. What one says innocently is heard by another with mistrust and suspicion, and often enough, as a consequence, brings a lot of unnecessary sorrow and trouble."

WHEN OUR FAULTS WEAR HALOS

As long as we recognize our weaknesses for what they are, there is hope for us, but the situation is serious when we regard our faults as admirable. Often it happens that people whose sharp tongues have cost them many friends will speak contemptuously of some tactful acquaintance, and seem to pride themselves on their bluntness as if it were a virtue rather than a fault. Those who are hard and ungenerous will sneer at the gentle and considerate for their "sentimentality." And it has become quite common of late for the unprincipled to boast of their freedom from "hypocrisy," as if the virtues of the good were only sham.

We can get the better of our faults as long as we know them, for what they are, and fight them in the open. But if we allow them to wear the masks of virtue and surround ourselves by halos, then defeat is likely to be our portion.

SHORT AND SWEET

Following is the weekly correspondence between a wife at the sea shore and her husband in town. They have been married a lot of years and the letters from the lonely wife are of a touching nature. They are all alike and so are the replies.

Dear Fred—Please send cheque.
Dear Lottie—Enclosed find cheque.

Neighborhood News--Town and Country

ERIN

A Co-operative Association was organized at Hillsburg on Saturday.

Mrs. Maud Milloy has sold her property on Main Street, recently occupied by Mr. Thos. Neville, to Miss Baird.

On Thursday evening last Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Austin entertained the members of the Erin Turf Club and their wives to an oyster supper.

The Coningsby Women's Institute and Farmers' Club will meet at the home of Mr. Jos. Thomson to-night, Thursday, February 1. There will be a good programme including a debate, "Resolved that Life in Ontario is Preferable to Life in the Canadian West."

Rev. John F. Coughlin, C. S. B. R., of St. Patrick's Parish, Toronto, paid his aunt, Mrs. W. J. Dwyer, a farewell visit before leaving for Vancouver, where he will be stationed for some time, as he is going to locate a site where he intends to erect a church and college, and labor in the field for the redemptorious order for which he belongs.—Advocate.

MILTON

Mr. C. E. Golloway is in Los Angeles, Cal., where he will spend the balance of the winter with his son.

Judging by its looks, the flag on the post office flag pole must be the one that "For a thousand years has braved the battle and the breeze." A new one is about due.

Ice cutting at the pond is now in progress. The ice is thick and of good quality. It is expected an extra large quantity will be needed this year.

A. J. Waddie has been confined to his bed by illness for about a month. He is making little progress towards recovery.

The interior of Alex. Duff's building, formerly occupied by the Champion, is being improved for occupation as a store. It is a good stand.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be dispensed in Knox Church on Sunday, February 14.

Mrs. J. A. Finch, of Drinkwater, Sask., is spending the winter with her mother, Mrs. W. H. Halley, 7th line, Esquesing.—Champion.

GEORGETOWN

Mr. John B. Mackenzie was re-elected Chairman of the Public Library Board for 1923.

The new arena is proving a very attractive place. It is one of the finest structures in Ontario in a town of Georgetown's size.

St. George's Church raised $5,369.00 last year, $1,600 of which was for the Church Extension Fund.

Edison J. Whiteside, nephew of Mrs. R. F. Hessey left last week for his home near Saskatoon, Sask.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Maguire of Saskatoon, who have been guests at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Webster, Norval, have returned home.

John Wallace, M. P., of Yellow Grass, Sask., spent a few days last week with Georgetown friends.

Mrs. F. E. Parles, of Winnipeg, is visiting with her daughter, Mrs. (Dr.) Williams.

Mrs. S. Kirk has arrived home from Guelph Hospital and is progressing nicely.

Mrs. Campbell Laidlaw, of Ottawa, visited with Rev. Dr. McColl and Miss McColl last week.

While attending the funeral of the late Mrs. Bacon at Aurora on Monday of last week Mr. A. M. Grandy received the sad news of the sudden death of his father, Rev. Thomas Grandy, at Newmarket.

Mr. J. M. Skelton, of "Wildwood," who underwent an operation at Toronto General Hospital, is progressing quite favorably and expects to be home again shortly.—Herald.

BURLINGTON

The annual congregational meeting of Knox Church was held on Thursday evening, January 25. The general receipts were $3,530.60, and the expenses $3,576.40. The sum of $593.43 was given for missions. It was decided to call a congregation for Tuesday for the purpose of issuing a call for a minister.

Rev. Walter Millson, of the Department of Evangelism, is holding special services in the Methodist Church for two weeks.

At the meeting of the County Council held at Milton last week, Mr. Wm. Bridgman was re-appointed High School Trustee for Burlington.

The life members of the W. M. S. of the Methodist Church will give an "At Home" in the school room this (Thursday) afternoon, February 1.

The Nelson and Burlington Agricultural Society will hold its annual banquet at the Brant Inn on Wednesday evening, February 14.

Mr. W. H. Easterbrook, Deputy-Reeve of East Flamboro, was elected Warden of Wentworth County.

Robt. L. Clifton, formerly with The Windsor Telegram, has accepted a position with the Detroit Free Press as assistant State editor. Mr. Clifton is an old Burlington boy, and a son of Mr. and Mrs. George Clifton, Water Street.

The following officers of the town were appointed at last meeting of Council, and salaries fixed:

Clerk and Treasurer—Leonard Sykes, $100.00 per month.

Road Commissioner—Chas. Hunt, $21.00 per week.

Bower Supt.—Harry Mercer, $26.00 per week.

Chief Constable—Lee J. Smith, $1,500 per year.

Tax Collector—E. J. Corwin, $200.

Bell Ringer—Mrs. Graham, $10.00 per month.

Caretaker Town Hall—John Metcalfe, $75.00.

Medical Health Officer—Dr. A. H. Speers, $300.00 per year.

Member Board of Health—H. R. Howsome.

Assessment Commissioner—A. E. Truman.

Fence Viewers—J. W. Henderson, Wm. Sharp and J. J. Lyons.—Gazette.

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ONE CHESTERFIELD SUITE—Consisting of Chesterfield, Chair and Rocker, with Marshall Cushions, Spring Back and Spring Arms. Regular price $185.00. Special at $137.50.
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