THE HOME OF

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THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 21, 1924

EDITORIAL

Canada Tax Rate Lowest in the Empire

It is interesting, and often encouraging to compare our position as citizens of Canada in the matter of national taxation. In 1914 our per capita taxation was $21.21; last year this had increased to $42.63. In Australia in 1914 the people there paid $27.39; they now pay $57.32. New Zealand in 1914 was paying $55.32 per head; they now pay $96.03. South Africa's per capita tax to-day is $111.06. Coupled with our favorable showing is the fact that Canada is making a sincere effort to come out with a balance budget this year, and as well to curtail expense in every possible direction. This country is in favorable position; its future is not mortgaged beyond the point of redemption. The call to-day is for a vision and the determination to master all the hard work necessary to make that vision come true.

Team-play and Co-operation Necessary

J. B. Reynolds, President of the Ontario Agricultural College, speaking at Cainsville the other day, deplored the lack of team-play, such as that which carried the Canadian Olympic hockey team to victory, on the part of the farmers of Ontario. The farmer, he declared, would not play the game in the spirit of team-play. An irksome task was discipline, and all, especially the farmers, were in need of this discipline. They were falling down in their marketing, where co-operation was needed more than anything else. Crowded markets and quick individual selling resulted in poverty among the farmers. He cited the success of co-operative farm marketing methods among the dairymen of Denmark, and added that hard necessity drove the fruit growers of California to unite.

Handling the Transient Traders

Guelph merchants sent a delagtion to wait upon the Provincial Government last week to press for legislation dealing with transient traders. It is felt in many towns that existing legislation is not sufficiently adequate to properly protect local merchants from those who come in to sell goods for a few weeks, and then leave for new locations evading the payment of annual taxes, and escaping often with a small fee imposed by a faulty transicht traders' by-law, and frequently without the payment of any fee. By proper co-operation the towns of the Province should be able to secure legislation which would adequately cover those whose business methods are most unfair to the permanent business man who has municipal and business taxes to pay, and naturally has other community responsibilities to meet.

Speech from the Throne Impressions

Editor Hunter, of the Kincardnie Reporter, attended the opening of the Legislature. Among other things, he says: "The Speech from the Throne gave the temperance people a little jar. It looks as if there might be some temperance legislation submitted to the electors. Col. Currie says there will. He promises to introduce some kind of a booze idea. Well, Colonel, you better go easy. Howard Ferguson can get along without you quite easily, and you will find this session that you will not be allowed to run all over the pasture as you did last session. Toronto served notice on you last January. You will have to be good, or you will be dropped from public life. While in Toronto we heard many express the feeling that Government control of liquor would be the move. We doubt this, but one can never tell what a Government with such a big majority will do. We will have to wait and see."

The Prevention of Destructive Fires

Among the important recommendations made at the closing session of the Dominion Fire Prevention Association convention at Ottawa last week, were: That the Federal and Provincial authorities establish fire inspection bureaus for the purpose of conducting aggressive and systematic inspections in co-operation with local fire departments. That the Dominion Government provide necessary funds to continue the work of the association in determining standards of fire-resisting roofing materials. That special regulations be made covering the storage, handling and sale of gasoline. That all municipal bodies be urged to promulgate by-laws for the proper control of buildings used as garages and apartment houses, owing to the extreme hazard to life and property. If the people of Canada will co-operate in these suggestions there is no doubt the number of fires and amount of losses will be very considerably reduced.

Revenue Increasing; Debt Decreasing

The net debt of Canada was reduced by $4,140,495 in January over December, and by $8,591,399 compared with a year ago, according to the January financial statement as sent out in a press despatch. Revenue increased by $810,466 in the month and expenditure by $2,130,091. In the twelve months there was a total increase of $6,056,124 in revenue over the same preceding twelve months and a total decrease of $378,345.10 in the expenditure for the same preceding twelve months. The total gross debt of Canada on January 31, 1924, was $2,037,161,043.04, and the total net debt on that date was $2,411,388,604.54.

Not the Future, but the Present

That not so much thought should be devoted to Canada's future, which is safe, but to the citizen's own stewardship, was urged by Sir Edmund Walker at the Young Men's Club of the Board of Trade last week. "We are apt to measure our happiness by consideration of whether we are prosperous at present or not," he remarked, "but the real measure of a country should be whether it is a desirable place in which to live." Sir Edmund recalled improvements over conditions thirty years ago. He declared that it was a pleasant surprise for Europeans to drive through some residential parts of Canada on a nice summer day.

Prohibition in the Foreground

The foreshadowing of another O. T. A. referendum in the speech from the Throne last week, is bringing the discussion of prohibition to the foreground. That in spite of the inherent weaknesses of the O. T. A., and the rum-running and bootlegging that seems so hard to put down, prohibition has wrought a wonderful improvement in conditions in this Province, the unbiased observer will readily admit. Many of the younger generation, whose memory does not antedate prohibition, may be impressed with the amount of liquor-drinking that goes on, but those who remember the days of the open bar, can see a vast improvement to-day. Anti-prohibitionists say that they would not care to go back to the open bar and point to Government control as the ideal solution. Government control is being tried out in certain provinces now, and is working out in a way that makes it questionable whether it is really an improvement over the old open bar. When we say that conditions have improved wonderfully under prohibition, we are not talking at random. Figures furnished by the Government Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa show that the per capita consumption of spirits in Canada is less than one third what it was ten years ago. The convictions for liquor crimes are less than 40 per cent. of the number ten years ago. What the result of any substantial increase in liquor consumption would mean with our present motor traffic, would be horrible to contemplate.—Walkerton Telescope.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The order paper of the Provincial Legislature contained the following question by J. G. Lethbridge, U. F. O. member, last week: "Did the present Government dismiss the sheriff of Halton county, and if so, why?"

The Ottawa correspondent of the Mail and Empire ventures the prophecy that the Dominion Government will not survive the present session, and that dissolution may come as early as May. The wish is manifestly father to the thought. Time will tell.

An experienced British statesman says: "Putting the MacDonald Government beside the Government that has just retired, and contrasting them man for man and Government with Government, it is quite possible to say that neither with respect to experience nor ability has Great Britain suffered by the change."

The modern dance has come in for no small amount of criticism and deservedly so. Some practical headway may be made, now that the matter has been taken up by the higher officials in the Roman Catholic Church. There is no ban on dancing but the "modern dances," as they are known, have come in for scathing criticism.—Carelton Place Canadian.

It would not be at all surprising if the six per cent. sales tax was abolished or lessened at the coming session of Parliament. Since the new tax was imposed, starting on January 1st, business throughout Canada has been particularly unsettled, and the new tax is blamed for it. Manufacturers are hard hit by the new tax, and when the manufacturer is affected, so likewise is the workingman.—Cobourg Star.

Hon. W. F. Nickle is to be commended for his announcement through the License Board that standard hotels will be held to "strict accountability" for infractions of the law. Hotelkeepers know the law and, having been warned, should be given no "second chance." A conviction should bring immediate license cancellation. Altogether too much has been said about the "impossibility" of enforcing the O. T. A. The "impossibility" is only present when the will to enforce it is absent.—Farmers' Sun.

Dr. G. C. Creelman, whose experience as President of the Ontario Agricultural College and afterward as Agent-General of Ontario in Britain, gave him opportunity of forming an expert opinion on immigration problems, says Canada's chief trouble is that "we have become a nation of bosses. Nobody wants to work with his hands. We need more pick-and shovel men, and we need more skilled workmen. It takes four years to make a carpenter, but one does not see anyone learning the trade any more."

Events are proving that there is as large a percentage of Conservatives in favor of prohibition as of any other party in the Province. It is stated the Ontario Temperance Act proved a bone of contention at a Conservative caucus at Toronto last week. Under the leadership of Messrs. McCausland and Currie the wet element of the party fought hard for a referendum. But they met with such a stern opposition that it was finally decided to leave the matter over until a later date.

News of Local Import

Secretary of Aylmer Fair

Mr. E. A. Hemstreet has accepted the position as Secretary of the Aylmer and East Elgin Fair Association, succeeding Nair Bradley, who resigned. Mr. Bradley succeeded his father, the late Junius Bradley, to the position, and has given faithful and efficient service.—Aylmer Express. Mr. Hemstreet is an Acton boy, a son of the late William Hemstreet, auctioneer.

Become a Member

Now that the canvass for membership in the Horticultural Society is in progress, cheer the directors in their efforts; become a member, and secure your ticket. Remember, one who plants a bed of flowers in the spring, and cares for it during the sultry days of summer, that the eyes of the passerby may be cheered by bits of color, has a right to count himself one whose patriotism keeps burning in times of peace.

Erin Teacher Found Dead in Toronto

The Toronto daily papers give particulars on Monday of a young woman being found dead in her room at the Carls-Rite Hotel on Saturday afternoon. Investigation showed that she was Miss Margaret Doherty, of Erin. She was 38 years of age, a teacher, and was on the occasional staff of the city schools. The cause of death is believed to have been narcotic poisoning. No inquest was considered necessary.

Brampton Factory Fails Before Starting

The Beaver Truck Co., that started to build a factory in Brampton, has gone to the wall. We have no idea how many people invested in their stock and bonds, but there were some. The people who advanced supplies for the new factory will sustain losses. Brampton Board of Trade and its investigators seemed to have picked rather a ripe peach when they undertook to guarantee the goodness and solvency of this truck proposition.—Brampton Banner.

Guelph Girl Marries Grandson of LaFayette

Miss Mary E. Smith, daughter of Mr. Frederick Smith, plumber, of Guelph, was married last week in New York City, to Capt. Gene. Pierre de LaFayette, great-grandson of the famous general, the Marquis de LaFayette, of France, who was associated with General George Washington in the revolutionary war, in 1776. This happy new couple will reside in New York, where Capt. LaFayette holds an important position as civil engineer with the United States Government.

Advertising the Fall Fairs

At the meeting of the Ontario Association of Fairs and Exhibitions at Toronto last week Mr. Joseph B. Hay, Publicity Manager of the Canadian National Exhibition, spoke on "How Should a Fall Fair be Advertised?" In the course of which he stressed the importance of the newspapers as an advertising medium. He said that with some of the large fairs 75 per cent. of the advertising appropriation went to the newspapers, the remainder being utilized for booklets, posters and novelty forms of publicity. He suggested a co-operative advertising policy for Ontario fairs, with or without Government assistance.

Fined $50 for Evading Law

A young man in Guelph pleaded guilty to a charge of illegally obtaining and using medical prescriptions for liquor, and was fined $50 and costs, with the alternative of two months in jail, one day last week. The charge was preferred by James J. Jones, chief investigating officer of the Provincial License Department, Toronto, who stated that the defendant had obtained three "scripts" from three local physicians on the same day, and had forwarded them all to a liquor vendor at the same time. The accused paid the fine. Crown-Attorney J. M. Kearns took occasion to remark that the Department intended in future to prosecute all cases of the kind.

THE WORD OF A GENTLEMAN

One day the old Southerner walked into a banker's office. The Southerner was a typical gentleman of the old school—suave, courteous to the point of punctiliousness, and honorable to a degree of martyrdom.

"What can I do for you?" asked the banker.

"Well," replied the Southerner, "somewhat more than thirty-five years ago I lent a man down South some money—not a very big sum. I told him that whenever I should need it I would let him know, and he could pay me the money. I need some money now, so I shall let him know, and I should like to have you transact the business for me."

"My good friend," replied the banker, "you have no claim on that money. You can't hold that man to that loan. You say it has been thirty-five years since you lent it to him? The statute of limitation has run against that loan years and years ago."

"Sir," replied the Southerner, "the man to whom I lent that money is a gentleman. The statute of limitation never runs against a gentleman!"

So the banker sent for the money, and within a reasonable time thereafter the money came. There was a courtly gentleman at the other end of the transaction also.—Epworth Herald.

CAREFUL MEN

Speaking of carefulness in business, a financier recently said that some men were careful in only one way, the way that had an influence on their own pocket. He illustrated this point, according to a writer in the New York Sun, by the following story:

"A coal dealer whom I used to know shouted one afternoon to an employee who was driving out of the yard, 'Hold on there, Jim! That coal can't have been weighed. It looks to me large for a ton.'

"Jim shouted back, 'This ain't a ton, boss! It's two tons.'

"'Oh, all right,' said the dealer, in a mollified tone. 'Beg pardon. Go ahead.'"

In referring to the financial standing of another man, the banker continued: "It's no wonder he has money. He is the most suspicious fellow I ever heard of. He reminds me of a farmer I used to know. This farmer, whenever he bought a flock of sheep, examined each sheep closely to make sure that its fleece was all wool."

HE MET HIM

A London pugilist who had heard of the prowess of a Boot farmer, travelled north to find the provincial Hercules and add one more to his string of scalps. He located the noted strong man on his native heath, entered his grounds, and tied his horse to a tree. Going up to the farmer, he said:

"Friend, I've heard a great deal about you, and have come all the way from London to see which of us is the better man."

The Boot, who was as dour as he was husky, seized the young man by the middle and without deigning to answer hips threw him over a nearby hedge. When the pugilist came to he sat up and found the farmer's eye bent grimly on him.

"Perhaps," stuttered the pugilist, "you'll be good enough to thruw me my horse."

J. Standish, County Master

Of Halton County Loyal Orange Lodge for 1924

The annual county meeting of the Halton Loyal Orange Association was held in Milton on Tuesday, February 5, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

C. M.—J. Standish, Stewarttown.
D. C. M.—A. Patterson, Milton.
Chap.—N. Cook, Georgetown.
Rec.-Sec.—W. Brooker, Palermo.
Fin-Sec.—R. McCartney, Georgetown.
Treasurer—V. Bradley, Hornby.
D. C.—W. E. McCready, Milton.
Lecturer—J. Roberts, Campbellville.
1st Deputy Lecturer—W. Evans, Oakville.
2nd Deputy Lecturer—E. Bradley, Hornby.

An interesting event was the presentation by P. C. M. P. Nally of a Past Master's jewel to Past County Master Bro. Jas. McDowell, of Hornby.

A VISIT FROM "MA"

The way in which an Oklahoma editor announced that his mother was coming to visit him may seem a trifle breezy, but it is safe to say that there isn't a mother living who would not be glad to have her advent hailed with such genuine delight and pride. This is the way he spread the glad tidings abroad:

The editor of the News-Republican is going to tog up a little this evening. Going to change collars and put on a pair of cuffs, if we can find any. Going to get shaved and going to get our shoes shined and the pegs cut out, so we can walk right pretty.

Ma's a-comin' down to see us. You know who ma is? Ma is our only ma, and she's a good one, too—one of the old Ohio Quaker sort, you know.

Ma lives in Kingfisher. She was our ma when we were born; she was our ma out in western Kansas when we hunted prairie coal; she was our ma when we drank parched corn coffee in old Oklahoma in '98, and she's our ma now. She's the best ma we ever had.

If you see us to-morrow walking down the street with a little woman with a smile on her face you'll know that's ma.

If you never had a ma you should get one—and one like our ma, too.

RIDDLES

Why is the letter "E" like despair? It is the end of hope.

What is the difference between a policeman and the watch in his pocket? The watch is on the policeman and the policeman is on the watch.

Why is a tight-rope walker popular? He is always on cord (encored).

Everything has what a pudding has. What is it? A name.

Why is a man approaching a burning candle like one about to get off a horse? Because he is going to a light (alight).

Which flower does a shoemaker like best? Lady's slipper.

PROFESSIONAL INTEREST

A one-legged beggar for years had his station against a certain lamp-post near Central Park. Supported by crutches, he offered to the passers-by such trifles as shoe-laces, pencils and collar buttons. Benevolent Mr. White was among his regular patrons, many of whom frequently gave without asking for his wares in return.

One evening about eleven o'clock Mr. White was walking back from a dinner party, and coming up behind the mendicant, was considerably startled to see him unstrapping his supposed missing leg, preparatory to going home.

"Well, my friend," said the gentleman, "I should think you would get very stiff indeed, being bound up like that all day."

The rascal looked at him keenly for a moment. Then he said, "What's your line, partner?"

THE VIRTUE OF POETRY

Poetry has been to me its own exceeding great reward. It has soothed my afflictions, multiplied and refined my enjoyments, endeared solitude, and given me the habit of wishing to discover the good and the beautiful in all that surrounds me.—Samuel T. Coleridge.

SWEET THINGS—NOT ALWAYS REALIZED

Banker who says he will loan all the money you need at 4 per cent.

Your sweetest girl who prefers the street car to a taxi.

An assessor who reduces the valuation of your property 50 per cent.

Paved road all the way and no detours.

Husband finds all buttons sewed on and his socks darned.

Wife prepares ideal meal and is highly complimented.

Girls who are never hungry and do not care for entertainment.

He stepped to a telephone, called a number and got it immediately!

The baby is asleep now.

Here's that book I borrowed.

You gave me too much money, here's you're change.

Certainly, we can give you two aisle seats, centre, in the second row.

That story you told was the best one.

A square-corner luminous collar button.

Face powder and rouge that would stay put at least thirty days.

A permanent wave that is really permanent.

QUITE IMPARTIAL

In the difference that would sometimes arise between members of his tenantry the Duke of Argyle was often invited to arbitrate upon the matter in dispute, and he used to tell a characteristically Scottish story on one of the occasions. Two tenants having wailed upon him and asked him to decide the question at issue, the duke put what he always regarded as a very necessary preliminary question.

"Will you abide by my award?"

"Well, your grace," was the reply of one of the hard-headed old disputants "I'd like to ken first what it is."

HER DAILY EIGHT

Opposed to the dietetic advice of many physicians to-day is the record established by an old English country woman. This old dame, who lived to complete her century, was fond of saying that "Folks should take their meals regular," and that, for her part, "all her life she had eaten a dowbit and breakfast, a staybit and a dinner, a mornet and a crummet, and a bit after supper"—eight meals in all.

SPECIAL HOTEL FOR DOGS

A hotel for dogs only is being successfully operated in New York. The owner of a valued dog going on vacation takes his or her pet there, checks and registers it and a clerk gives it a private kennel and a private place to play and exercise. The owner goes away feeling that his dog friend will be perfectly safe until he returns. In connection with this hotel there is an expert veterinary surgeon who is always ready to look after stomach aches and all sorts of dog troubles. Special food is provided for the dogs according to their needs. They may even be sent to school while their owners are away so that they will have learned to behave better. The man who owns and runs this hotel says that the bulldog is the best guest of his hostelry, and that the chow is the worst.

THE DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS

The announcement of the dates of High, Middle and Upper School entrance examinations, just made public, come as a surprise from one point of view as they are later in the year than has been the practice in the past. Heretofore all these examinations have been completed before the end of June, but according to present arrangements the exams this year run into July.

The dates are as follows:
Middle School, June 23rd.
Upper School, June 23.
High School Entrace, July 2, 3 and 4.
Model School Entrance, July 2, 3 and 4.

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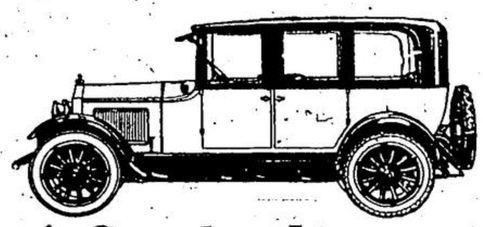

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S. SCUTCHINGS, President. J. LITTLE, Secretary.

ACTON L. O. L.
NO. 467
There will be a Special Meeting Friday, February 22, 1924, held in Oddfellows Hall at 7.30 p. m. Several candidates are to receive the Blue Degree. The Degree work will be put on by the Degree team from L. O. L. No. 2521, Guelph. All members of the order are cordially invited.
H. RITCHIE, W. M. G. DUTCHBURN, R. S.

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