



The Acton Free Press
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THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 1, 1924

EDITORIAL

The Coming Fall Fair

In the old days at the Public School here, the master, who was a Latin scholar, drilled incessantly into the pupils the old Latin phrase "Tempus Fugit," with the translation, "Time Flies." Every thoughtful person realizes that "Time rolls its ceaseless course." The time for Acton Fall Fair will be here again before we know it. In about twenty weeks the date will have been reached. President Woodhall and his board of directors have matters well in hand, and have in outline a programme, which, if properly carried out, will mean a record-breaking fair. But they cannot do all that is necessary to be accomplished to ensure the success aimed at. It might be well for readers to stop a moment to think about whose fair this is. Frankly, whose fair is it? It belongs to every citizen of the four townships adjoining Acton. If it is your fair, it is your opportunity. What are you doing or intending to do to make the fair of 1924 a great success? You may say that you do not know what you can do and so it will not be out of place to mention a few things which you might do. First of all you would encourage the management a very great deal if you would call upon Mr. W. J. Atkins, the new secretary, and pay him your one dollar membership fee for 1924. Why should there not be 500 hundred, or even a thousand members? Once a member in good standing, your interest will be aroused and you will be anxious to know what else you can do. Make preparation to take an active part. If you are a farmer, decide at once to have an exhibit of grain or live stock, or both. The lady of the house may be good with the needle, or with the baking cabinet, with the preserving kettle or the butter ladle, or with the flowers every woman loves. Or you may be a vegetable specialist, if so prepare some entries along your particular line. You may be a chicken fancier, exhibit your best. There is a flower department, examine the prize list and pick out the contests that interest you most, and get to work at once. If you have to guard your exhibit you must start now. If everyone would assume a little personal responsibility and prepare, say two entries, the fair would be one hundred times as valuable to the community as it would be if ten individuals made all the exhibits. Remember now is the time. Be a booster! Do not be a groucher.

Curtailling Public Expenditures

Representatives of the Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce from St. John, New Brunswick, to Vancouver, British Columbia, at a National Economy Conference held in Ottawa recently, passed this important resolution:

Whereas we have the greatest confidence in the financial stability of Canada, and in its future development, nevertheless we feel that the present burden of taxation is hampering business, preventing the influx of capital and immigration and, therefore, retarding our national progress. It is recognized that consistent with a policy of rigid economy there must and should be expenditures on public works necessary for our national development, but there should be no expenditure which cannot be justified on the basis of national requirements and sound business principles. Therefore it is resolved that the National Economy Conference, representing the commercial interests of Canada as expressed through Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce throughout the Dominion, urge all Governments to unite in an effective effort to curtail public expenditure both as to capital outlay and administration costs. In the judgment of this Conference economies can and should be made in administration. It is for the Governments to say how these can be best effected, but it is believed that much can be accomplished by departmental amalgamation and closer co-ordination, by the adjustment of staff and working conditions to present day requirements, and by close study of every detail of administration, including such matters as the publication of reports, whose value may not justify the cost.

The Conference requested the Dominion Government to consider the advisability of calling together representatives of the nine Provincial Governments to determine whether substantial savings in the total cost of governing the country could be effected by closer co-operation and the elimination of duplication and overlapping in taxation and other matters. This movement for economy is a national movement, wide and its direction is towards a more efficient and economical government.

The British Empire Exhibition

His Majesty King George, in opening the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley, London, last week, appropriately recalled its great predecessor, the Exhibition of 1851, held in Hyde Park. Behind the latter was an idealistic motive, especially emphasized by Prince Albert. It was fondly hoped that so splendid an assemblage of the products of industry, illustrating the economic triumphs of Great Britain under a policy of free trade, would give a powerful impetus to the cause of world peace and hasten the era of unfettered international commerce.

So-Called Government Control

The daily papers report that "A crowd estimated at 25,000 people, stormed the doors of a Montreal brewery last Friday night, where each person calling was given a bottle of beer to take home, and each was served with a free glass of beer. The crush to get in the brewery was so great, that police reserves had to be called out. The crowd included many women with children in their arms, old men walking with crutches, young women and men, and persons in all walks of life. Thousands of persons lost their hats, and many suffered large rents in their overcoats. It is estimated that 5,000 failed to get in. If that is the kind of Government control we are to be invited to accept, in lieu of the Ontario Temperance Act, well may Ontario people pray: "From this may the good Lord deliver us."

Rural Mail Carriers' Salaries

Considering the fact that the rural mail carriers of Canada are obliged to provide themselves with conveyances for the daily delivery of the mails, they are the poorest paid civil servants in the country. Their remuneration is less than that of the average laborer, who has no outlay beyond his clothing. For his work, the rural mail carriers have united to request from the Post Office Department, the following: 1. \$70 per mile per year, as salary. 2. Permanency of occupation during efficiency and good behaviour. 3. Statutory holidays, and two weeks' holidays each year, with substitute supplied by the Department. These requests are just and reasonable. This would make the average salary about \$1,400 per year. In the United States the men who are doing the same work receive \$75 per mile per year, two weeks' holidays and two suits of clothing. The request of the Canadian Rural Route men should, in all conscience be granted. It is due to these faithful servants of the public. In their own interests every rural route carrier should unite with the Association and press their claims upon the Government.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Parents! Teaching your children to be careful is part of your business. Many motor accidents would be avoided if the danger of playing on the streets were properly impressed. The Ontario Safety League directs special attention to this fact.

Last Sunday was Lord's Day Alliance Day throughout Ontario. In hundreds of churches the theme of the Fourth Commandment was presented in timely and forcible sermons. It is an historic fact that the countries which have disregarded or abrogated the Sabbath have invariably lost power and prestige.

Amendments to the Budget, promised by Hon. Mr. Robb, whereby exemption for children under the income war tax act is increased from \$300 to \$500 per child, is welcomed in all parts of Canada. This further cut in taxation for the present fiscal year will add a very considerable amount to the cut of twenty-four millions previously announced.

Canada will receive from the British treasury the sum of \$3,000,000 in final settlement of war accounts between the two Governments. The British treasury is returning to Canada, at the same time, the \$67,000,000 of Canadian Bonds which were received in the early days of the war, as a loan, but were never marketed, the securities being used merely as collateral.

It is gratifying to learn from reports presented at the annual meeting of the Ontario Library Association that during the past year ten more towns in the Province have been supplied with public circulating libraries. Ontario now possesses 460 such institutions, which is asserted to be the largest number in proportion to population in any country, state or province in the world.

The new arrangement between Canada and the United States by which stolen property of residents of one country, seized by the custom authorities of the other, may be returned to its legal owner, is a sane plan and should be effective. One immediate effect will be to release a large number of automobiles stolen from United States citizens and smuggled across the border.

Ontario's requirements of liquor for medicinal purposes aggregated in value \$4,840,875 during the fiscal year ending October 31 last, according to the annual report of the Board of License Commissioners, just issued. My, what a cure-all some doctors must consider booze to be! Does any other drug entering into physicians' prescriptions, for all ailments combined, cost one-tenth of this sum?

Thousands of students at the High Schools and Colleges are now reviewing with a view to the June examinations. All their work is leading up to the securing of an education. What is education? It may be asked. Education is the formation of such habits of thought and action as will enable us to live sanely and happily, to know how to make knowledge when we need it, and to be of real service to the community of which we are a part.

The Beaverton Express entertains little doubt as to the views of the sane and intelligent citizenry of Ontario when it comes to a shown-down. The loud yapping of a few interested ones, which is constantly being dinned into the public ear, largely to keep themselves in the limelight, is not in any sense symptomatic of public opinion, but rather the source of disgust, the purpose being very transparent. The Ontario Temperance Act is all right; a proper effort should be made to amend it, but it is all that is necessary to render it effective with possibly an amendment, where its intent is evident.

QUAINT, BUT GOOD

One meets with marked characters among the clergymen in the remote parts of England, where grown-up people may still be found who have never seen a railroad or a gaslight. "Smith, of Gumsfoot," was one of this class. He was rector of the place for half a century, and he never knew when they had once lived.

Smith's appearance suggested one of the old patriarchs—tall, well-proportioned, stalwart, eye as keen as a hawk's, intellectual head and ample beard. In fact, when his photograph was exhibited in a store window, children gazed at it with awe, thinking it a picture of the Father of the Faithful.

He was fond of nature in every form, and knew the habits of birds, beasts, fishes and reptiles. He was a bee-master, and walked about, to astonish his friends, with his hands covered with live bees. They knew him, he said, and favorite insects to a stranger was, "Have you said your prayers?"

Some ladies, accompanied by officers of the army, visited Smith's church, a small, old, timber-and-iron-wood edifice. "I want to ask you a question," said one, "will you answer me?"

"Have you said your prayers, today?" "Yes." "Well, the officers getting out of the way, he called them back, and said, "Did you say your prayers this morning?"

"We are ashamed to say we did not," they answered frankly. "There's grace in you, after all," said the rector. "If you are ashamed of yourselves, go kneel down on that grave and say the Lord's Prayer with me." The rector knelt, and thanked the old man.

His favorite dog used to follow him to church, where he remained during the service, keeping very quiet. On being remonstrated with, the rector replied: "Why should not my dog come to church? He is a better Christian than half my parishioners!"

"The author of 'Random Recollections of Some Noted Divines,' says that, while preaching, a quiet, and sometimes beautiful, he would take a flower-pot, or a bird's nest, or a piece of old pottery, or an Enoch on Sunday morning, or a fossil bone, into the pulpit, use it as an illustration, and then hand it round to the congregation.

One Sunday morning the lesson for the day was the narrative of the daughter of Herodias dancing before the king. He commented on it instead of preaching a sermon: "Impudent hussy, dancing to amuse an audience! So when she had had aught enough of her, he promised her whatever she might ask, to the half of his kingdom. Half of his kingdom, indeed! Why, he had not half, nor a quarter, of a kingdom to give. It was not his; he was only a tributary of the Roman Emperor."

"So she asked her mother, And who should a young lass ask, if a man promises to give her anything, but her mother? So her mother told her to ask for the head of John the Baptist in a charger. What a dead man's head in a dish! A pretty sight that for a young woman! A pretty sort of mother that! So you see that between the neck and the head of a saint's head."

There were some fashionable people in church, who had come over from the neighboring parish of Tenby. The preacher gave them a significant look, and then delivered the following: "Now mind ye, good women; where you dance, and how you dance, and with whom you dance; for they tell us there is new dances at Tenby that would please Herod a good deal more than it would either me or John the Baptist. Now, don't dance your souls away, whatever you do with men's heads, which I dare say you know how to turn with your capers."

When Smith went on his death-bed an old friend came to see him. "Dear friend," said the dying man, "let us say the Lord's Prayer together, as we have so often said it. We shall soon be out of it all."

READY-MADE AXIOMS
Business neglected is often lost.
Above all, that I am not a coward.
The bull-dog wins because he hangs on.
A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.
High interest generally means low security.
Let yourself and not your friends speak for you.
There is nothing in the world worth doing wrong.
A man's true wealth is the good he does for the world.
When speed sacrifices safety, 'twere better to go slow.
To be of use in the world is the only way to be happy.
Impossibilities are merely the half-hearted efforts of quitters.
Happiness is neither a vested right nor a self-sustaining state.
A customer offended is harder to be won than a stone cliff.
The biggest room in the world is the room for improvement.
Being overawfully on the job beats carrying a rabbit's foot for luck.
If you see good in everybody, nearly everybody will see good in you.
No one is useless in the world who lightens the burdens of it for anyone else.
The man who says he never makes a mistake probably doesn't know one when he sees it.
They who forsake the law, praise the wicked. But such as keep the law, consent with them.

JUST SIGNED HIS NAME
A famous preacher made a neat score on one occasion against an anonymous correspondent. "Whistler," he said, "on Sunday morning a note was handed to him by the usher, and upon opening it he found a certain dogma a sheet of paper the word 'fool'."

Using to the occasion, he exhibited it to the congregation, and said: "In my line I have received many anonymous correspondences in which the writer has written the letter, but forgotten to sign his name. But here is a strange thing—a man has signed his name and omitted to write the letter!"

Neighborhood News--Town and Country

GEORGETOWN
The Green men made a good job of flushing the pavement last Thursday evening.
Mrs. J. R. Ross spent Easter week with friends in Fisherton.
We have been asked to warn the boys and girls who have been breaking windows in the arena building, that they will be prosecuted if again found damaging the building in any way.
At a special meeting of Council the site for the Soldiers' Memorial was chosen and work will be commenced on the preparation of the plot as soon as possible. The site is the triangular plot at the corner of Guelph and Main Streets.—Herald.

ROCKWOOD
The new residence recently vacated by Mr. Ralph Caskinette has been purchased by Mr. Walter McWilliams.
Miss Jessie Gardner spent the Easter vacation with friends in Niagara Falls. She is back on the teaching staff at Acton Central School.
The Rockwood Choral Society, of over 70 voices, under the able leadership of Mr. H. Martin, gave a very excellent rendering of Manney's beautiful Easter cantata, "The Resurrection," at the Town Hall on Easter Monday evening.

MILTON
A. L. Hemstreet has sold his brick dwelling and lot, on the south side of the town, to S. W. Gasley.
Miss Elsie and Fred Harrison went to Washington, D. C., last week, on the excursion.
Mrs. H. Patterson and family left for Acton on Saturday from St. John, for Scotland.
Mr. E. B. Scott has gone to Trenton to visit his daughter, Mrs. J. L. Maude. James Vaughan has been promoted to the position of head clerk in the freight office at the C. P. R. station, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. J. Davidson, who bought a confectionery business in Oshawa.—Herald.


BURLINGTON
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Desinger have returned home from Florida.
Mr. and Mrs. R. Langlois arrived home from Florida last week, looking hale and hearty after their sojourn in the sunny south.
At one o'clock on Sunday morning last, fire destroyed a garage owned by W. T. Biggs, Freeman, together with a Ford touring car and a truck.
The sum of \$1,000 was realized at the rummage and home-made baking sale of the Clara E. Moore Mission Circle held on Saturday afternoon last. It was a decided success in every way.
At a special meeting held on Thursday evening last, after giving the street signs by-law two readings at the request of Mr. J. M. Gault, the diamond jubilee of the lodge was celebrated in a most fitting manner. Over 200 Masons were present, which included visitors from twenty-one sister lodges from Halton county, Hamilton and across the lake.
Wesley Chinn, a former pastor of the local Baptist Church, who for the past year has been supplying the First Baptist Church, has been called to the pastorate of the Heppeler Baptist Church. He closes his work at the Mission next Sunday evening, and after the service he will return to his home in England, but will be in Burlington on the first Sunday in May.—Ozette.

GREEK TO HER
An exchange quotes the following conversation between husband and wife. She suddenly addresses him: "What are you reading so absorbently?"
"It's a new Scotch novel."
"Oh! The wife, with enthusiasm, "I'm so fond of those dear dialect things! Do read me a little!"
"Can I understand it?" she repeats, loftily. "Well, I should hope anything you are reading need not be Greek to me!"
"No, but it might be Scotch."
"Well, go on, read just where you are."
Here, says Eppie, said Duncan, docusly, I might hae mair the matter wi' me than ye wad be aplein'. Altho' the man 'em is a bit dazell', an' I'm hearin' the poetrie, thudder in me ears, an' ma toungue is clavin' whar it sud be gain'; an' div ye no hear the dirtil' of ma hair; an' feel the shakin' of ma hand this day gin I gat a glimpse of ye, sair hirpin' like an' auld man? Div ye no see what a' the aiter, hinney, w'out me gain' it mair worra?"
"Stop! Stop!" For goodness' sake! What's the world is the creature trying to say?"
"It's making a declaration of love!" she declared, in a low voice, though he was telling a lot of symptoms to his doctor!"

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