



**The Acton Free Press**  
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Member Selected Town Weeklies of Ontario

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THURSDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 3, 1925

### EDITORIAL

#### The Function of an Editor

We often wonder what per cent. of the readers of any newspaper and particularly of a live, wide-awake popular family newspaper really form any conception of the actual service to humanity performed by the industrious, intelligent editor. He gives practically in one way or another all his waking hours to his newspaper readers. We are told that the ideal of service—real service—is not a kind of stock-in-trade that can be merchandized in the open market. It accompanies a commodity, yet is not a part of the purchase. It bears no price tag but is given without expectation of the reward. Indimensionable, intangible, it is almost indefinable. It consists in part, of contributed intelligence, experience and judgment, of counsel unselfish, sincere, of profitable ideas and suggestions, of extra painstaking for correctness in detail that might not be noticed. It includes the hours of effort and attention for which you do not pay. It implies the understanding, anticipation and prompt fulfillment of your needs. In all, it is the altruistic enthusiastic spirit of helpfulness in action—constant unremitting and valuable. Such is the service rendered by the average newspaper editor.—Oshawa Telegram.

#### White Crosses by the Road

Near the city of Columbus, and in fact all through the State of Ohio, white crosses by the roadside are being placed as a silent warning to motorists to drive with safety. Each white cross marks the spot where a life has been lost through the negligence of some motorist, and as the driver passes by he cannot fail to be impressed by these constant reminders that constant vigilance is the price of safety. At one section of the highway, where the road crosses a main line railway track, no less than six crosses, three on each side of the road, bear witness to the hazards of the level crossing. There is not a railway crossing in the country nowadays that is not marked so that it may be seen a long time before the motor reaches it; yet the toll of crossing accidents indicates how little value some drivers place on these signs. But he must be a pretty hard-hearted driver who will not slow down at the spot where those six crosses stand. Road signs, road warnings, abound in Ontario, and to the careful driver the hazards of the road have been minimized by recent additions to these markers. Yet accidents happen and lives are lost by reason of the folly of those who do not "believe in signs." Perhaps Ontario might now follow Ohio and mark the roads with these reminders of those who fell victims to the mad folly of reckless drivers. Ohio puts up the white cross where a life has been lost; Ontario might put up markers also where serious accidents have occurred.—The Farmers' Sun.

#### Co-Operation in Business

As long as human beings are brought into contact with each other, as long as they live and work together in communities, co-operation will be the key to their success. Without co-operation no progress would be possible. More than that, life at all would be extremely difficult. It is co-operation which has given man supremacy over the lower animals, co-operation which has raised him, stage by stage, above his primitive environment both in the material and intellectual world. It is co-operation which has been responsible for the construction of the vast structure of modern civilization, with its many phases and the intricate and smooth-working functions by which it exists. Should co-operation cease suddenly, the great social system would in an incredibly short time be reduced to a colossal chaos, in which individual would strive against individual, in a welter of anihilation. In short, man may be said to live by co-operation. It is perhaps a far cry from great world questions to Dollar Day in Oakville. But even here, as in every small activity of the human race the world over the fundamental principle of co-operation is involved. A number of progressive minded business men formulated a scheme by which they co-operated with the public, to their mutual benefit. The merchants needed the patronage of the people of Oakville and district, if their businesses were to prosper. The people of Oakville needed the best values for their money, and it is just such values as were offered by the storekeepers of the town. By taking advantage of them the people not only effected a great economy, but greatly assisted the merchants from whom they buy. Both derived benefits from the transaction. The money is kept in Oakville to the advantage of the town as a whole. Citizens who profess any community spirit will always do their buying in Oakville on our Dollar Days. By doing so they will truly be co-operating.—Record.

#### Canada Will Lead in Wheat Exports

The Economist this month has an interesting survey of the European wheat situation. The British Isles, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark are importers of wheat, the Latin countries—France, Italy—Spain and Portugal—are on the border line. The greater part of their needs will go from the Canadian Prairies. Last year the United States took the lead, but the Canadian exportable surplus this year will be greater than that of any other country in the world.

#### The Fallacy of Industrial Strikes

It is about time that labor organizations discovered strikes are a losing game. The Nova Scotia industrial upheaval means a dead loss of about twenty million dollars. Property loss is placed at \$630,000, the men have lost in wages something like four million dollars, the province has lost in royalties \$315,000, and the expense of the troops called out is placed at \$300,000. The men have gone back at the old wages with the promise of an investigation—which no doubt could have been obtained without a "strike" but for bullying stupidity on the part of labor agitators.—Newmarket Era.

#### A Community Proposition

Mr. E. Roy Sales, former manager of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association, and therefore thoroughly acquainted with the weekly newspaper situation in Canada, says editorially in the columns of his newly-acquired paper, the Renfrew Mercury: "Everywhere there is a growing understanding among business men that the newspaper, while an individual business problem of some publisher, is, at the same time, a community proposition—a community asset. The newspaper serves the community more than it serves the man who publishes it. The time is coming—when everywhere business men will feel a personal interest in the newspaper's welfare. The fact is, a community cannot make progress without it. It can exist, but it cannot grow. With this realization there has also come an understanding that one newspaper serves better than two or three. It has become a simple problem of business mathematics to centre the strength of the community behind the newspaper that has made itself, through work and service, the strongest journalistic factor in community development. So far as Canadian newspapers are concerned, there have gone out of business since 1914 fifty daily papers, while 224 weekly newspapers have suspended publication or have been absorbed by some other paper in the town. In some counties of Ontario from four to eight weeklies have suspended. The announcement of newspaper consolidations will continue. The result will be better and more outstanding papers, with improved service to advertisers, subscribers and the community generally.

#### The Wife a Wage Earner or Not?

Should a newly married wife be a wage earner, or should she not only be exempt from paid labor, but forbidden to pursue it? Some School Boards order their women teachers to resign on marriage. A college professor assures his classes that both husband and wife should work for hire in the early years of marriage, and thus secure a family income of thirty-five dollars a week, instead of twenty dollars. There is no invariable law for so variable a quantity as "the young married woman." She should put her labor where it will have the greatest economic value in the long run. Is she an inexperienced cook or housekeeper, and a good seamstress or saleswoman, she must utilize her best powers. But even fifteen dollars a week of wages added to the income may mean only the difference between a fourth-rate and a third-rate boarding-house for the young couple. On the other hand, the ability to cook and serve tempting meals may result in well-nourished bodies, contented minds and happy hearts,—living in a home, although it consists of two rooms,—and as far removed from the discomfort of a boarding-house as a trellis is from a cave. If she transforms two dollars' worth of supplies into ten dollars' worth of board, she has not ceased to be of economic value, although she may not have a pay envelope on Saturday night. If she adds to her good housekeeping the ability to earn a penny by a bit of sewing or millinery or jelly-making or pickling, or any other honest work in this busy world, so much the better. But so long as the labor of body and mind depends on the food we eat, the young wife need not be ashamed of her share in the domestic partnership, if she contrives means by which that food shall not be spoiled in the cooking.

#### Citizenship Obligations

It is imperative that the ethics of giving testimony in citizenship matters be given serious consideration in every community. Every one despises a tale-bearer. Even the children call such a person a "tattle-tale," and justifiably look down upon him. The informer is a spy, a breaker of good faith, a violator of the sacred laws of hospitality. Loyalty to family and to friends is the cement which holds society together. Trouble comes when men act upon a mistaken view of what constitutes loyalty to society at large, that society which is but an aggregation of families and friends.—The existence of orderly government depends on the observance of certain laws, unpunished disobedience to which produces anarchy. When crime is committed, when the laws of the land are violated, every person with knowledge of it is under moral obligation, when asked, to tell what he knows. In some cases the obligation extends so far as to require him to volunteer information against his friends. The maintenance of order and safe government is of so much greater importance than the protection of law-breaking friends, that the state justly holds that man partner in the crime or who assists the guilty to escape. This rule is the result of long experience, and its justice is nowhere disputed. Yet, in practice, it is difficult to enforce it, because of the prevalence of false standards growing out of abhorrence of the informer. There is no high-school principal or college president who has not come in contact with these false standards in his attempt to maintain discipline. There is scarcely a large city in the country in which members of the police force have not at some time or another been actuated by belief in the mistaken notion. In the army and navy a similarly false idea of the obligations of company officers, as if the men regarded it as of great importance that half a dozen friends should be saved from the consequences of the misdeeds than that the body of national defenders should be preserved from those who would undermine the foundations of all orderly institutions.

### Neighborhood News-- Town and Country

#### ERIN

Rev. W. G. and Mrs. Charlton, of Inglewood, were recent visitors to Mr. Peter and Miss Beattie Thomson, of Erin. Mr. and Mrs. McGraw, and two daughters, Phyllis and Jean, and Mrs. Connelly have returned to Toronto after spending a week with Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Austin.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor and two daughters, Toronto, are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. H. J. White.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Frank have returned home after spending a couple of months with friends in New Brunswick.

Miss Winnie Steel has returned to her home here from a two-weeks' visit with Mr. and Mrs. S. Loughheed, London.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Overland and family, of Clarendon, spent their vacation with Mr. and Mrs. L. Overland.

Rev. J. Melvin and Mrs. Smith, of Ebbwington, visited with friends here last week.

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#### BURLINGTON

The Matonic picnic was held at Dundas last Wednesday afternoon. Dr. and Mrs. T. W. Peart and their family, and other guests, were at Ponn Lake, near Huntville, with Dr. and Mrs. F. W. Mowbray.

A meeting was held last Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. J. T. Austin, of Inglewood, for the purpose of organizing a band.

The first annual flower and vegetable show under the auspices of the Nolan Township Horticultural Society was held at Fisher's school last Wednesday afternoon.

Rev. G. W. Tebbis will act as judge at the flower show at Barrie next week.

A meeting was held last Tuesday evening at Mr. Sam. Oakes', for the purpose of organizing a band.

The western "boomer" has his own way of doing things. It is effective, and he knows it, and he sees no particular reason for borrowing hints from the real easterner who comes along.

A bland and patronizing New Yorker was passing through a railway and saw a hamlet in the West which its proud founders had dubbed B. City, and were sure would soon become a thriving town.

Modern advertising can cope even with the etiquette of courts. M. A. P. tells that a young American woman wished to be presented at the court of the King of Saxony.

The high officials, having inquired into her antecedents, called from the village church. One of the sisters expressed grief at his going.

A curious rhyme epitaph is that on the tomb of Isaac Rice, a conveyancer of London, who edited an edition of Shakespeare in fifteen volumes, published in 1721.

He left a large and curious library, which was sold, after his death, for twenty thousand dollars. The epitaph runs as follows:

Reader, of these few lines take heed, And mind your ways for his sake; For you must die like Isaac Rice, Though you read till your eyes ache.

A useful convert. Peace-lovers though we may be, to us all there is virtue in slight fist-fighting in a just cause. Therefore the thrill is at least pardonable which one feels on reading this episode which Doctor Hainford relates in his book, "A Preacher's Story of His Work."

#### HORSE SENSE

A man in the Midlands owns a number of horses and has a great reputation for skill in the treatment of them. One day a farmer approached him with a horse's little boy and said:

"Look here, my little man, when one of your father's horses is ill, what does he do?"

"Do you mean strictly or jokingly, because if a horse is only slightly ill I give it medicine, but if it is very ill he sells it."

"Who is that important-looking gentleman in the red flannel shirt?" "That's Sam Peters," was the reply. "He's just opened the new post-office."

"And the tall person with no collar?" "He's Long Mike. Just opened a new grocery store in the village."

"And the plump individual with the bald head?" "Fanny Jim. He owns the new hotel."

"Indeed?" said the New Yorker. "This city seems to be pretty well started. I suppose there was nothing left for a stranger like myself to open."

"Oh, I dunno!" drawled the lanky one. "You'll do all right all right, you yet. You might start that."

The minister, who has since attained prominence, says a writer in the Sun, "Who is that important-looking gentleman in the red flannel shirt?" "That's Sam Peters," was the reply. "He's just opened the new post-office."

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Make you look your best

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There is a size and type of Happy Thought Furnace for every kind of home.

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ACTON, ONT.

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**Patrons of this Establishment Please Notice**

During July and August Examinations for Glasses on Thursday, Friday and Saturday (only) of each week.

Lens Grinding and Quick Repair Department operating as usual.

Write or Phone 1691V for appointment.

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Optometrist and Mfg. Optician  
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We are manufacturers and direct importers of all kinds of Monumental and Headstone work. We sell direct to our customers at wholesale prices thus saving our customer 40 per cent. We have the best appliances and the only mechanics in the Dominion who can operate pneumatic tools properly. We can give references from hundreds of our customers in Toronto and other places, where others have to have the suits in order to collect. We have the largest and best stock of Granite in the Dominion, or more than any three dealers in the West. We are industrious dealers and employ no agents, and do not employ or post customers by sending out ignorant agents soliciting orders—we employ only mechanics and duly competent.

**HAMILTON & SONS**  
GUELPH, ONT.

### Business Directory

**MEDICAL**

**DR. J. A. McNIVEN**  
Physiologist and Surgeon  
Office and Residence—Corner Dover Avenue and Elgin Street.  
PHONE 81

**DR. E. J. NELSON**  
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