



The Action Free Press
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THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 3, 1925

EDITORIAL

Keeping Customers at Home

There is little wonder that the city merchants can attract customers from both city and outlying districts and other countries. They realize the virtue of advertising and they set aside certain sums to promote new business and to hold what they have. Take, for instance, the city newspapers, they are filled with attractive advertising and the people read them, and go to the places that advertise their merchandise. The small town merchant must, in self-defense, advertise his merchandise or allow his customers to gradually drift to the cities to make their purchases. In proportion to population the city papers have no larger circulation than the weekly papers that would reach the buying public in the districts that they circulate in. If the small town merchants expect to hold his own, with good roads, bus lines and automobiles, he must change his methods and advertise and reach the public with what he has to offer.—Collingwood Bulletin.

The Greatest Menace to Motorists

The Brockville Recorder points out that the lightless vehicles on the public highways at night is the greatest menace to motorists as well as of the greatest danger to the owner. The lightless vehicle has taken an awful toll of life, limb and property in Ontario. In many of the leading States of the Union as well as in Great Britain and leading European countries the lighting of all vehicles at night is legally obligatory. Owners of vehicles other than motor vehicles in their personal and property interests should welcome a law that protects their interests no less than those of the other users of the roads. Recently Judge Lavell, of Kingston, dismissed an action brought against a motorist for damages done to a horse drawn vehicle on the highway after night. The reason given by the judge for dismissing the case was that in as much as the damaged vehicle was lightless, its owner had not exercised reasonable care.

Favor Higher Speed Upon Open Highway

A speed limit of thirty-five miles per hour on the Provincial Highways of Ontario in place of the present limit of twenty-five miles per hour is to be strongly urged upon the Government of this Province by the Ontario Motor League. The Board of Directors of the League have unanimously gone on record for the increase to the 35 mile per hour limit, but with the present rate of 20 miles per hour in cities, towns and villages remaining as it is. While there was a strong opinion in favor of abolishing the speed limit entirely in the open country, it was felt by the meeting that this might be a little too drastic a step to take from the present comparatively low rate of 25 miles per hour, and the alternative proposal of increasing the limit was decided upon. It was pointed out, however, that a very strong case could be made out for the abolition of the speed limit entirely, and in its stead making it compulsory upon all motorists to at all times exercise care and prudence in driving.

Canada's Unparalleled Increase in Exports

The general business of Canada for the past 12 months show remarkably favorable conditions. It is very evident that this country is on the eve of prosperous business conditions. With the unparalleled increase in exports of \$121,914,186, the net improvement in Canada's favorable balance of trade for the twelve months ended October 31 last, as compared with the preceding twelve months, was \$77,383,766, the increase in imports being only \$46,530,420. The net improvement is also nearly \$20,000,000 better than the net improvement for the year ending September 30 last, the actual figure for that twelve months being \$58,389,930. Canada's exports for the year ending October last were \$1,108,546,389, as compared with \$1,076,632,203 in the previous year, while the imports were \$655,239,383, as against \$618,709,963. While there was a much larger volume of trade between Canada and the United States than with the United Kingdom and the British Empire as a whole, the Dominion's favorable balance against the United Kingdom was improved to a greater degree than the adverse balance held by the United States against Canada was lessened. Exports from Canada to the United Kingdom increased \$95,243,589 and imports increased \$10,214,074, leaving a net improvement in the position over the previous 12 months of \$55,029,515.

There is no country under the sun that is more blessed than Canada is to-day. The note of rejoicing ought to be so jubilant that it will completely overwhelm the wall of pessimism.—Brantford Express.

Effects of Compulsory Voting

Australia has experienced her first election under the compulsory voting system. The increase of the vote was commendable, and still it was only eighty per cent of the eligible vote. In Melbourne the Labor vote increased from 110,000 to 210,000, non-Labor from 67,000 to 171,000 and other cities improved their vote proportionately. The compulsory move may be considered as successful, an eighty per cent vote being about as good as could be expected under any circumstances in any country. Australia, however, has to depend on a coalition Government. The Nationalists have the largest group, Labor comes second, the Country group third and one lone Independent, completing the list. The leaders, having no majority, have to form a coalition with the third group, the situation being practically the same as exists in Canada as a result of our general election.

A Novel Suggestion for Abolition of the Senate

The Bracebridge Gazette, one of the few Canadian papers which still considers a thinking machine a necessary part of office equipment, offers a novel suggestion for reform of the Senate. The Gazette believes with the Farmers' Sun that abolition is the only effective means of reform, but it sees that consent of the party to be abolished is necessary to this end. It suggests, therefore, that present Senators be offered a life pension of \$2,500 a year, retention of title, continued free transportation by rail and other perquisites in return for surrender of their offices. The Gazette thinks Senators might prefer \$2,500 a year for doing nothing to \$4,000 with the loss of time and expense involved in spending several months at Ottawa every year. The suggestion is at least worth considering.—The Farmers' Sun.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Hon. John S. Martin, Minister of Agriculture in the Ontario Government, places the agricultural products of the farmers of Ontario for the year 1925 at \$400,000,000. Increased value of farm production is not only bringing prosperity to farmers, but provides the foundation for a solid and profitable increase in all lines of trade.

The value of the published reports of municipal council proceedings is very often overlooked. Not so in the State of Michigan, where a new law requires every village council to publish all proceedings of the council in the nearest newspaper, within ten days after the meeting. The newspapers have to be paid for this service which in this locality we give without charge.—Elora Express.

The Financial Statement of the Municipality of Acton, distributed at the nomination meeting on Monday, shows that the receipts from Fairview Cemetery for the year, up to November 15th, amounted to \$369.97, and the payments to \$193.45. Some interested ratepayers wonder if the balance of \$176.52 has been transferred to the Cemetery account for Perpetual Care.

The town of Forest has citizens who have real concern for the health, safety and pleasure of the children of the place. The heirs of a recently deceased citizen, says the Free Press of that town, have offered a gift of \$2,000 to the corporation for the purchase of a play ground for the children, provided the Council will agree to provide a by-law for the maintenance of the playground.

The gross earnings of the Canadian National Railways for the week ending October 31st, were \$9,118,336. This represented an increase of nearly one-fifth over the corresponding period in 1924. The marked improvement in showing is at once a tribute to the efficiency of management of the Canadian National and one more proof that business generally really is on the up-turn.

A survey has been made by the Manufacturers' Record of Baltimore, respecting the value of prohibition to manufacturing industries. Letters were sent to the most prominent men in the United States and 96.2 per cent of them reported in favor of prohibition and declared that the law had justified itself. Less than four per cent were opposed to the prohibition law.

No member should sit at Ottawa a second term who has not traversed this country once from coast to coast. With an indemnity of \$4,000 in his pocket, the average member should not find this little jaunt financially embarrassing.—Walkerton Telescope. And after he has visited the nine provinces of the Dominion, he should certainly pay a visit to the British Isles and get a first-hand knowledge of relations and conditions there, as they affect Canada.

In a statement issued to his constituents last week, Hon. Manning Doherty, member for East Kent in the Ontario Legislature, announces his resignation. Mr. Doherty states that he has taken the step because his sympathies are with Conservatism, in Federal politics, and in view of this, he feels that it would be inconsistent for him to retain his seat as a Progressive member in the Ontario House.

Federal prejudice cuts very deep into the character of a thorough-going partisan. He not only thinks his opponents unpatriotic and capable of every sort of political meanness, but ascribes to them as a whole, moral perversity. And this applies to the leading parties. If it were not for this a strong coalition government would be quite readily formed to relieve the existing deadlock. The business of the country, will in any event be conducted without radical change, irrespective of the announced policy of either party.

It seems to be quite fitting, as further evidence of the ability and qualifications of the late R. J. Fleming, of Toronto, to refer to the fact that had death not intervened, he might have been Ontario's next Lieutenant-Governor. It has been learned that his selection to succeed the present incumbent of Government House had been decided upon, contingent only upon the return to power of the King Government. The five-year term of Lieutenant-Governor Cockshutt expires in September, 1926, and had plans that had already been tentatively agreed upon materializing, the former four times mayor of Toronto would have become his majesty's representative in this province.

CONJURER AND HUMORIST

The travelling conjurer, who seeks favorable opportunities to play tricks upon people in public places in order to increase his business, may be made to wait that he had let his victim alone, as an incident goes to show. When the late "Bill" Nye, the humorist, was on one of his lecturing trips, travelling through Ohio, he happened to be placed at the dinner-table at a hotel next to a well-known "magician." The magician doubtless knew who Nye was, but he supposed himself to be unknown to the humorist, so he said to him: "Nye had gone on with his dinner as far as the preparation of a salad, and was picking his lettuce to place upon the table when he was stopped by me, sir, but I thought I noticed something queer there in your lettuce." The humorist carefully looked over his lettuce and found nothing. He began once more to prepare his salad, when he was stopped by a sharp cry from the magician. "I beg a thousand pardons, and I am the man, but surely I could not have been mistaken that time! There, just look at these three hundred dollars!"

By this time, of course, everybody in the room was gazing. Nye picked up the lettuce and the magician's expression of surprise. Then he drew out: "This thing has gone far enough. It seems to be shedding diamonds wherever I go. Day before yesterday I lost a solitaire in a sugar-bowl at Pittsburgh, and at a chamber-of-commerce dinner last night I lost three or four in my room. It's too much work to keep these things hidden about me. He summoned the waitress and said to her: "May you serve us very well here. Please accept this as a reward. Yes, keep it, its yours."

The girl took the ring, and the magician, who of the opportunity slipped into the lettuce for a joke on the humorist, had a great deal of trouble in recovering it.

GLAD TO BE ALIVE

Nobody deserves the gift of life who is in appreciative of it. The story is told that a Christian who has a grudge against another is likely to commit suicide at his enemy's door, to put him in mourning. In America, there are many people who value their lives just as little. The other day a woman took poison because she was not content with her husband's pay envelope. The loss of a week's wages is an intolerable hardship, and she counts her life worth no more than that, does not deserve it.

A CRICKET-PLAYING BISHOP

Clergymen who enter into general athletic sports always run the risk of encouraging familiar and important relations on the part of those with whom they play. As an instance of the way in which this may take place, a story told of the late Bishop of Rochester, by an English paper, may be quoted. "Please see the bishop!" This good bishop was so fond of cricket that he used to play the game with extra vigor. One day he was when he was batting in a match the bowler pitched very wide, and the bishop exclaimed very sharply: "Please see the bishop!"

PAYING YOUR DEBTS

One of the sad facts in life is that we are seldom able to pay the debts to the people we owe. Often when we are fitted to help those who have wronged us, we are hindered by the need. Many a rich man feels his wealth almost a mockery because he cannot use it to make life beautiful for the father and mother who sacrifice so much to give him a start. These debts can be paid, however, to the world in general, by the charity which warmed your heart, encouraged you, can be given to the first distressed person you meet. The conscience of the friend who taught you to believe in yourself is something you can pass on to some girl or boy who is discouraged.

DOCTOR HOLMES REMEMBERED

Concerning the genial humor and extraordinary memory of Dr. Wendell Holmes, an exchange tells a story which it received from Mr. Bosman Kerr, of Maryland, one of Mr. Holmes' classmates. "Mr. Kerr was an aristocratic in his notions as Holmes himself, and was unusually clever about the spelling of his name that it became a laughing matter with the students. Twenty years after the class had graduated Mr. John Kerr had occasion to visit Boston, and while there called upon his old classmates, then greeted him as 'fast as he could spell it.'"

THE HAPPY NEED SYMPATHY

Most of us fail to realize that happy people need sympathy as truly as the sorrowful. A joy locked up in the heart without opportunity to tell it, hurts almost as much as grief which has no chance to express itself in words. Selfishness finds it harder to sympathize with joy than with grief. Some people are embittered by the fact that others are more fortunate than they. If an acquaintance meets with success, others are often resentful, wondering why they could not have been so lucky. Give your sympathy freely, both to the unhappy and the happy. To weep with those who weep is only half of our duty as Christians. The other half is to rejoice with those who rejoice.

—Mail your Christmas gifts early and avoid disappointment to sender and receiver.

Young Wife Afraid to Eat Anything

"I was afraid to eat anything because I always had stomach trouble afterwards. Since taking Adlerik I can eat and sleep like a normal person. A. Howard, once spoonful Adlerik removes GAS and often brings surprising relief to the stomach. It is that full, bloated feeling. Removes old waste matter from intestines and makes you feel happy and hungry. Excellent for obtaining constipation. A. T. Brown, Druggist."

Neighborhood News—Town and Country

STEWARTTOWN

Mr. R. P. Bonathan, of Winston, Ontario, in visiting his brother, Mr. Fred Bonathan, our enterprising business man, who had not seen him for thirty-three years. Mr. Alfred Bonathan, of Newmarket, another brother, spent a few days last week in Stewarttown, and was a real happy reunion.

The Township Council is more than ever satisfied with the new quarters which was secured a few months ago. The purchase of this property was certainly a good investment.

GEORGETOWN

Mr. Mayor Hiltz and Mrs. Hiltz, of Toronto, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Vanatter during their stay in town last week. The guests of the Taylor Construction Co. against the Town of Georgetown, came up for hearing at Hamilton on Tuesday and adjourned to January 1st.

MILTON

The 3-act comedy, entitled, "Tilly of Blenheim" produced by the Georgetown players at the Princess Theatre Tuesday evening, December 2nd, under the auspices of Grace Church, was a very successful performance. The work of installing the Kameer plate-glass and copper front on the main entrance of the store has been completed. The front is very handsome.

BURLINGTON

The Ladies' Aid of St. Luke's church will hold their annual bazaar on Tuesday, December 10th. The annual bazaar under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid of the Trinity United Church will be held in the school room on Friday afternoon and evening.

KEEPING ON

Having a fixed purpose and keeping right on, neither faltering nor averting, is the way that one ought to succeed sooner than another. When Oliver Goldsmith wrote "The Deserted Village," how many lines do you think he wrote each day? Only four. His friends regarded him as a very slow worker, but Goldsmith was not that. He worked hard and worked steadily. He considered four lines a day very hard work, and it is interesting to note that seven years were needed to be published the pure gold of "The Deserted Village."

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ERIN

Mr. W. H. Pritchett has leased his blacksmith business to Mr. J. Robertson, who came from Hamilton. Mrs. John Davis has gone to spend the winter with her daughter, Mrs. George Rodgers, Ridgeway. The annual Christmas Concert of St. Andrew's Church, Hillsburg, will be held on December 22nd. The funeral of the late Matilda Jenkins, wife of Mr. James Faulkner, of the village took place last Tuesday, November 17, to Huxley's Cemetery.

Miss Anne Talbot is confined with an attack of typhoid fever. Mr. and Mrs. Robert McEneaney Sunday evening when they were motor-coupe and they went over the embankment. Both Mr. and Mrs. McEneaney sustained a severe shaking up and the coupe was more or less damaged.—Advocate.

AN UNSAFE CRITERION

A story is going the rounds which illustrates the vanity of estimating numbers by noise. It sets forth that a Yankee once went to hotel where he tried and liked a dish of frog legs—for which, however, he had to pay a large price. "What makes you charge so much for 'em?" he asked the landlord. "Why, I'll agree to get you a million of 'em," "Agreed," said the landlord; "if you bring me a million I'll find a million more than you can bring." "All right—I'll have 'em by to-night, sure."

LAUGHTER COMES INTO ITS OWN

Lord Chesterfield did not approve of laughter. He considered the sound objectionable, and the accompanying contortions of the face, shocking. He remarked with much complacency that since he had the full use of his reason, no one had heard him laugh. No sensible man living would make such a boast, or while everybody admits that some forms of laughter are objectionable, that people make misstatements of themselves by howling and shrieking, under the pretence of laughter, real laughter is commendable. Man is the only animal that can laugh, and the more sane, wholesome laughter there is in the world, the better for everybody.

AUTOMOBILING PROHIBITED

Did you know that automobilizing was once prohibited? England once had a law prohibiting any power-propelled vehicle from travelling over the highway at a greater speed than four miles an hour, and requiring that such a vehicle be preceded by a man walking along waving a red flag. The law was in force until 1896. Passage of the law is said to have been occasioned by an accident which occurred in 1862, when Richard Trevithick collided with a fence while spearing the rate of ten miles an hour in a steam carriage.

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The pastor, who was calling upon a member of his congregation, asked the names of the sprightly little daughter whose winning ways had attracted his attention. "We call her Ella," said the little girl's mother. "That is a good name, Mrs. Donley," remarked the minister. "It has been made classic by Charles Lamb." "Well, to tell the truth," explained Mrs. Donley, "her name is Cornelia, but it's easier to call her Ella." "I see," he rejoined. "And so probably likes it better. It is a painful extraction of a corn."

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START ON MONDAY!
Special preparation for the first ten registering before December 1st.
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A person rises in the morning feeling fit and ready for anything. He starts to work with enthusiasm but in two or three hours begins to lose his energy. This is particularly true of those that use their eyes for close work. If your eyes are a handicap to you, first we could convince you of the fact, then relieve you.
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