



The Acton Free Press
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THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 27, 1920

EDITORIAL

More Preventions from a Costly Sacrifice

The jury enquiring into the accidental death of James McVicar, at Limehouse, in a level crossing, has recommended that the bridge be widened to seventy-five feet in order that a clearer view could be obtained of the crossing. It is necessary that a life be sacrificed at every crossing to secure this recommendation? There are innumerable such death-traps all over the country such as the one at Limehouse. Following this accident, would it not be the part of wisdom to see that the bridge is cut back from all the crossings for this distance? It is well that some prevention may be given this crossing, but the costly experience on this one crossing should be sufficient to apply preventative means to all others with similar surroundings. In this instance it is interesting to note that during April, which is prior to the beginning of the heavy auto traffic, there were eight deaths in Canada from trains and automobiles colliding. In that month there were 20 level crossing accidents and 31 were injured, besides those that were killed. In Ontario six automobiles ran into the sides of trains. Twenty of the accidents happened during daylight hours. Every crossing requires all the protection it is possible to afford for it, if the toll is to be lowered. And why can the protection not be given every spot without toll being exacted?

Confidence in Public Business

The question is being asked by citizens of Acton: "Where is the School Board business transacted?" Apparently not all of it at the meetings, regular and special, of that body. The report of the special meeting this week, following upon the remarks of one of the members at the previous regular meeting, is conclusive proof of this. The business that passed over the Board table was carried out at the instruction of the Board by the Secretary. The applicant for the position would have had no knowledge unless supplied from other sources—of who the Chairman of the Acton School Board was. He applied, in the first instance to the Secretary. The letter offering him engagement was sent and signed by the Secretary. Why was the telegram of refusal of engagement addressed to the Chairman? Why did one member of the Board have personal knowledge that Mr. Ward would not accept less than \$2,500 when his application to the Board stated clearly he would accept \$2,400? What ground have any of the Board members to assume that the Secretary should not receive the reply when he was instructed to write the acceptance for the Board? These are the questions that will be turned over in the ratepayers' minds to-day. Let us have the answer in a right about face method of conducting the public business. Everyone is tired of these methods that create suspicion in the public mind and accomplish no good. Such procedure is only aggravating and agitating public censure.

Developing the Country

That those towns and the countryside, which are situated not too far from the cities or larger centres, have an excellent and immediate future before them has always been the contention of this journal. Read what the editor of the St. Mary's Journal has to say along this line in an editorial in a recent issue of that splendid weekly paper: "We noticed in a New York State paper the other day a heading stating that a Supreme Court Justice had been the speaker at a local farmers' banquet and we were curious to see what practical subject the eminent judge chose to help the farmers. What he said in part was that in a few years the population of New York would be coming this way and land values would rise to a very great height." He also said that "the people of the cities were seeking the retreats of the country, for the hustle and bustle of the cities was breaking down their health in no small measure." While driving north out of Toronto one day last week the writer was impressed with the fact that what the learned judge said, regarding New York State, has some application too in regard to Ontario farms that lie close to the larger cities. Toronto now extends two miles as far up Yonge Street as it did a generation ago. In fact the highway is built up with residences, gas stations and stores, most of the way to Richmond Hill. On this highway and others in that same district many farms belonging to urbanites are in evidence. And no doubt a good deal of the surplus profits of our present industrial development will find its way into gentleman-farming. This trend will no doubt result in an increase in farm values in certain favored districts during the next few years."

Welcome All

Acton citizens will, over the week-end, be hosts to thousands of visitors. Many of them will be old boys and girls of former years. Many more will be strangers who may not have ever visited Acton previously. Most people who visit us go away with the impression of being hospitably entertained and made to feel welcome. They are usually ready to return again when the opportunity presents itself. We know we are speaking the mind of the citizens of Acton when we say WELCOME to all on the celebration activities over this week-end. Everyone will enjoy facing all the visitors. We hope they all carry away a good impression of our hospitality again. And the citizens will also bespeak the regard for property and orderliness that has characterized all other celebrations in Acton. A good time, with plenty of fun, is hoped all, and a welcome assured.

A Year Just Closing

In this, the last issue of the fifty-fourth year of publication of THE FREE PRESS and ere we enter upon another year of our newspaper history in Acton, may we pause to express our appreciation of the loyalty, and appreciation, and the co-operation given of all in the work of publishing for Acton a newspaper benefiting a community of such importance as our home town is to all of us. Of the fifty-four years, the present editor has been in charge for only two, but it is twenty years since his first association began with THE FREE PRESS. Like the town, THE FREE PRESS has had continual and steady growth and we hope has kept pace with the growth of the community it strives to represent. The future will hold exactly that same aim of growth with its community as has characterized the past, and an earnest endeavor to work for Acton's best interests in all things. May we bespeak for the future a continuance of the attributes that have contributed so much to whatever success may have been achieved in the past.

The Wealth of Canada

The national wealth of Canada, exclusive of undeveloped natural resources, is placed at \$27,087,000,000 for the year 1927, in an estimate made public at the Dominion Bureau of Statistics last week. This amount represents an increase of 15.8 per cent over the 1926 estimate. The wealth was divided among the Provinces, as follows: Ontario, \$9,560,775,000 or 34.93 per cent; Quebec, \$6,852,270,000, or 24.75 per cent; Saskatchewan, \$2,008,055,000, or 10.83 per cent; British Columbia, \$2,318,051,000 or 8.38 per cent; Alberta, \$2,258,210,000, or 8.10 per cent; Manitoba, \$1,925,356,000, or 6.95 per cent; Nova Scotia, \$975,120,000, or 3.10 per cent; New Brunswick, \$751,818,000, or 2.71 per cent; Prince Edward Island, \$148,493,000 or 0.53 per cent; and Yukon, \$16,830,000, or 0.06 per cent. While Ontario and Quebec lead in absolute wealth, the Western Provinces came first in per capita wealth, as follows: British Columbia, \$4,032; Alberta, \$3,660; Saskatchewan, \$3,580; Ontario, \$3,000; Manitoba, \$2,976; Quebec, \$2,631; New Brunswick, \$1,829; Prince Edward Island, \$1,713; Nova Scotia, \$1,578; and Yukon, doubtful.

A Higher Peak

A cause for optimism and thankfulness is found in the business summary for the month of the Bank of Montreal. Any dark spots of the picture painted of Canada's standing are overshadowed by the conditions that have existed during the first half of the present year. The summary says: "In the half-year drawing to a close, Canadian commerce, in nearly every branch, has reached a higher peak. Foreign trade, railway traffic, manufactures, mining, building operations and agriculture in the large have been of greater volume and value than ever before. Employment has never been more brisk, nor balance sheets better. Diffused prosperity, the rising tide of which set in five years ago, continues. A relatively large programme of railway construction has been entered upon, development of water power and mineral resources is unabated, new manufacturing factories are being planted in the Prairie Provinces, Provinces, and a distinct improvement in business has been brought about in the Maritimes by preferential railway rates. Large expenditures of public money on highways have given employment to labor and impetus to business, bringing in their train a great influx of tourists whose disbursements are estimated to reach \$300,000,000 this year, and so aid in redressing Canada's adverse trade balance with the United States. The dark spots of the picture number stock market recession, decline in the price of wheat and coarse grains, congestion of grain at terminal points with consequent loss to lake shipping, and business mortality occasioned by competition of departmental and chain stores."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The festive appearance is being taken on by the home town. With the co-operation of all the greeting is extended and shown in every direction.

And now the Detroit rum-runners have been devoting their attention to the photographers and employees of newspapers, who would expose their activities. Surely Canada will not allow of the methods practised across the border. The time to stop it is at its first appearance, not after a foothold is gained.

Hon. W. S. Fielding, a statesman, who was honored by all, has passed on to his great reward. As a statesman, orator, great Canadian and patriot, his abilities will live on through the generations. His service to his country have made all of Canada mourn at the loss of one of her greatest sons.

Says the Kingston Whig-Standard: "The Toronto Globe has struck a popular note in its suggestion that another time than the hot summer weather should be chosen for examinations. Fancy young children having to sweeter in hot, stuffy rooms at this season of the year, and later, when it should be just as easy as not to have the examinations in early fall or spring."

Sponge Cake

3 cup yolks
1 cup sugar
1 tablespoon lemon juice
2 egg whites
1 cup flour
1/2 cup milk

Beat egg yolks until thick and lemon juice constantly. Add lemon, rind and sugar to keep in air. Cut in flour in thin layers and beat in. Put in small deep cake pan and bake 40 minutes in a moderate oven. 350 degrees F.

Speaking of the celebration of Father's Day, the Rhinebeck, N. Y., Gazette, says: "There is a new Mammy song about every week, but a little praise in a while for the dear old governor would be more than a million miles wrong and might cheer up the heart of one who has for years patiently carried a load that would have put Atlas out of the running with fallen arches."

THE LIMEHOUSE FATALITY

Accidental death was the verdict pronounced at the inquest on the death of James McVicar, at Limehouse, on the 25th inst.

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GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Perryman celebrated their golden wedding anniversary last week. They were married in Acton five years ago.

"I was no fool 50 years ago," chuckled Mr. Thomas Perryman as he cast an affectionate glance at his bride of half a century. On Tuesday of last week he and Mrs. Perryman, of 100 Charles Street West, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. The couple were in their 30th year when they were married. They have since had three children and one grandchild. Mr. Perryman is now 70 years old and Mrs. Perryman is 65 years old. They are both in good health and enjoying their golden years.

THAT SUMMER VACATION

Now that summer is here, a favorite leisure hour topic with a large number of people is the annual vacation. Memories of glorious days, spent on the roads and trails through forest or mountain and by lake or stream, lure our thoughts to plans for the future. The delights of anticipation are ours as we pore over our pamphlets and think of the days to come.

THE THOUGHTLESS BEUTS

It was her birthday and her husband had gone off to the office without so much as wishing her many happy returns of the day.

When he returned that evening, however, she was overjoyed to notice that he carried a small parcel under his arm. As he put the little package down on the hall table and kissed her more tenderly than usual she realized that she had done him an injustice.

"I thought you'd forgotten all about it," she said.

"My husband was busy unwrapping the small parcel," she said.

"Pipe cleaners!" gasped the woman.

"Yes, pipe," was the virtuous answer.

"I know you'd be pleased. You never did like me using your hairpins, did you?"

WHEN THE CAPTAIN RETREATED

Captain Hunt had dropped in at Miss Carleton's schoolroom to hear the history lesson. Wearing a brand Army uniform and with a fund of memories to draw from, he was always a welcome visitor.

Miss Carleton asked him to speak to the pupils, and he consented good-naturedly.

"I have told a good many of my experiences to you, girls and boys," he began, "and perhaps I've given the impression that I always stood my ground, but once, as you might say, I beat an inglorious retreat. I believe I'll tell you about that. It isn't an army story, though. It happened when I was a boy and going to school. When the Fourth of July came some of us older boys thought we would have a little celebration, and we raised about five dollars among ourselves. They gave me the money to take care of."

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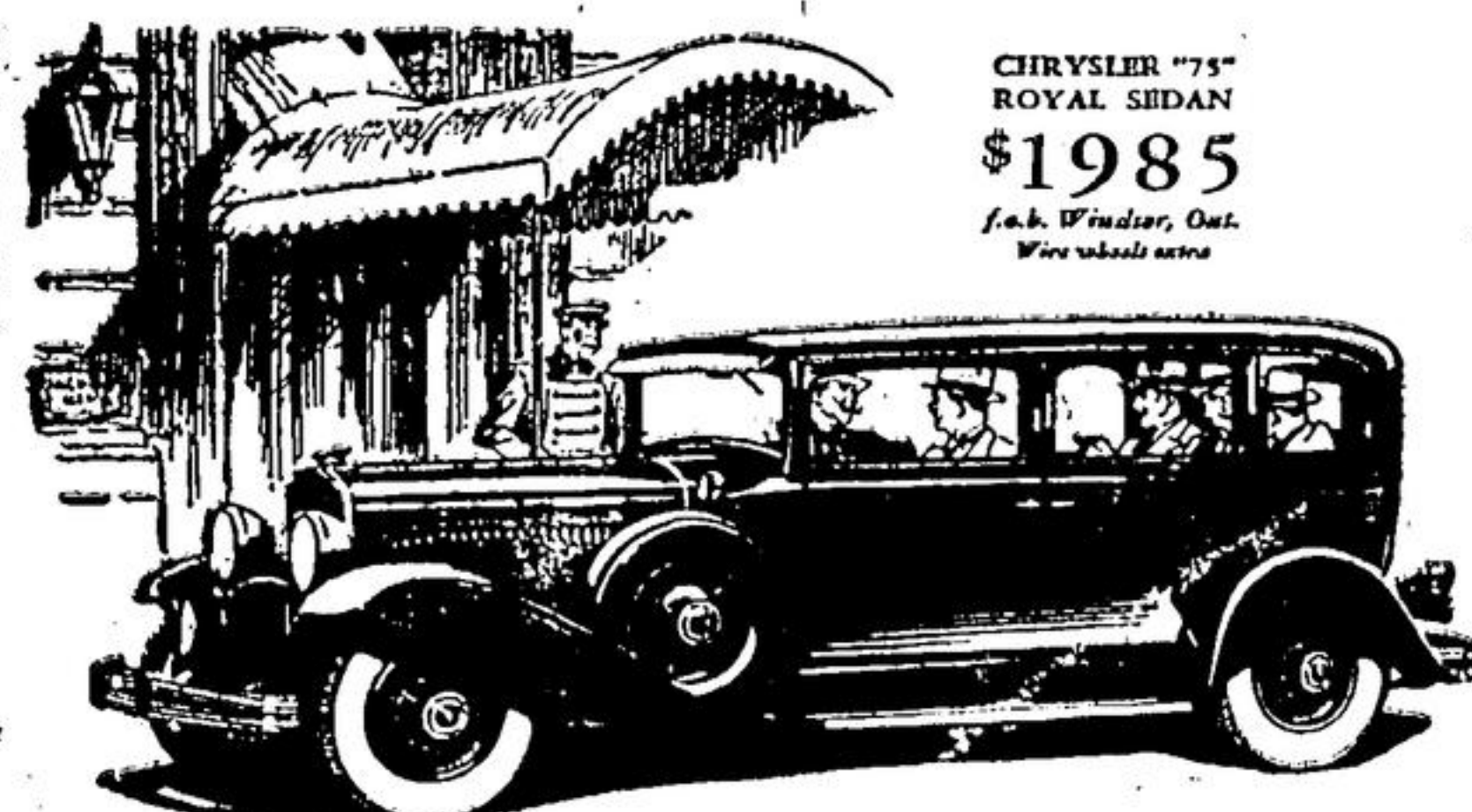
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Fashions for the Smart Woman



SAILOR TONGS

Juvenile fashions follow closely in the footsteps of the adult mode, with flares, cuffs, haws and tailored embellishments. A smart little model that can be made with either long or short sleeves is illustrated above. The skirt theme appears as a "polly tail" also with a modified nubby with deep hand, brushed with two buttons and worn over a circular skirt. A round collar opening in the front finishes with a huge bow tie. For a decorative and marine touch, a well designed anchor is embroidered in the front on the lower part of the blouse. Blue and white linen with a red tie and embroidered motif would be smart.

OPTOMETRY

It's Value to the Public

BY
A. D. SAVAGE
Guelph, Ontario

CHILDREN FIGHT EYE STRAIN

They PIGHT IT. They don't know what is wrong. Cannot be expected to know. Sometimes afflicted children neglect their studies. Never really apply themselves. They dislike books. And this is just because their eyes do not function as they should. Interested parents should interview us.

Continued Next Week.