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THURSDAY EVENING, AUGUST 22, 1929

EDITORIAL

Summer is Almost Gone

Whether we want to believe it or not, it is a fact that the fall time is at hand. The Canadian National Exhibition opens to-morrow and the Western Fair and the annual event follow very closely upon their heels. The summer resorts are being deserted and the harvest is being garnered in. Truly, summer is just a little more than on the wane. And the next few months will see what to some of us is the finest time of year. This summer we come to the end of August with the grass still green and not burnt up—in this district at least—and while it is realized that the summer months are about gone and the autumn season is with us, we cannot help but be thankful for a summertime that was glorious.

May It Only Be Temporary

While many places are deploring the decline of baseball, Acton seems to be having a second awakening to the enjoyment of this sport. A year or so ago it looked as if we might well join in the chorus and deplore the decline of this game. The girls were holding the limelight with their softball. Now then both games seem to be doing fairly well locally. True, Acton did not get into the finals in the Halton County League, but the start they made this year, with everyone of the team a local boy, proves that practice and the keeping of the team together will make a different story next year for the Acton boys. The game is too good to let it decline. May the state that other towns are experiencing in a lack of interest in the game be only a temporary lull such as we experienced here a year or so ago.

More Attention for Spelling

Time and time again we have noticed in High School inspectors' reports, as published, that the majority of Collegiate Institute pupils frequently are rated "very bad" in spelling. The conclusion one comes to is that more attention should be given to this important subject where it is taught, that is, in the Public School. That the educational authorities are responsible for this condition is easily seen. In the final examinations for High School Entrance only fifty marks is given for spelling, whereas practically every other subject counts 100 marks. Spelling, as one of the most important subjects in the curriculum, should receive more recognition. If it were put in at 100, the same as other subjects, more attention would be given to it.—St. Mary's Argus-Journal.

Plenty of Play

On a recent visit for a couple of days to a summer resort we were informed that there were 1,500 buildings at this particular summer place. A vacation thought that came to our minds at that time and on the return trip was that Canadian people do have a pretty good time with considerable play along with the work. All over the land are many such beautiful summer resorts. True, some only can spare a short time at these places and others can afford a longer vacation. And the proof that many do avail themselves of a vacation period is seen in the fact that nearly all the places were occupied and in many places accommodation was not available. Then when these beaches become too bleak and uninviting we have the exhibitions and fall fairs and the baseball season merges into the hockey season and skating time and Christmas festivities and dancing, that seems to thrive at all times. And then with the spring the same round of pleasure to mix in at will with the work. Of course there are many who cannot go to these summer resorts for their vacation. It was our pleasure to visit on Monday the Bolton Fresh Air Camp. We arrived just as the flag was being lowered and were wandering about the grounds. While hundreds who can enjoy the vacation, with ample funds, these others are not forgotten by generous hearts, either. The place would seem a model. Its neatness, orderliness and facilities were providing delights and comforts for many. The children seemed of all ages, and only one glance was necessary to see that they were enjoying themselves. Another glance at the faces revealed the need for enjoyment being given these pinched little lives. The whole trip seemed to reveal that all may get some pleasure in this land. Those of high, moderate and low means all seemed to have the opportunity for some bright spots to enliven the hum-drum of everyday life. With Canadians it is not all work and no play and we surely have much to be thankful for.

The Old Age Pensions

Some of those who are expecting relief from their financial worries by the Old Age Pensions Act are likely to be disappointed. Any father of mother having a son or daughter of sufficient means to support him or her, is not eligible for a pension. If children who are able will not keep their parents, it will be the duty of the Board to compel them to do so.—Chesley-Enterprise.

A Notable Contrast

A leading writer in one of the most widely circulated papers of the United States, in an editorial this week said, with very considerable appropriateness: "During last year the amount of liquor smuggled from Canada into the United States was worth no less than forty million dollars. There are two standpoints from which to view this trade. Upon the one hand, it is an appalling sum to have been spent in support of criminal activities, which indicates that something is seriously wrong in the relation between the United States and the Dominion. Upon the other hand, it is a striking commentary upon the value of prohibition in decreasing the consumption of liquor, for if spread over the population of the United States, this amount would not have given one good drink to each American. It is much less than the amount of liquor consumed under Government Control in the Province of Ontario, Canada, alone."

What is Being Gained?

The endurance flights and altitude flights and other stunt flying seem like a hopeless waste of good energy. Records are invariably made only to be held for a short time and then broken again. The holding out of temptation in the way of big pay to men to risk their lives, strain their health and very often destroy machinery, simply to make a new record, seems a foolish way of squandering money. There are a multitude of endeavors into which the money might be placed with better results. What has been gained when a new record has been established over a flying field? Not much more, as a rule, than a few pictures and headlines for the newspapers and an opportunity for a couple of fliers to give up a useful business and go in for a stage career. The sooner the stunt flying is prohibited, and the efforts of these men devoted to promoting the usefulness of the airplane the sooner will mankind benefit from the many advantages that it can give.

Not a Visitation

In an editorial on the earthquake last week, a Toronto daily, which is a staunch supporter of the Liquor Control Act, gave a very interesting synopsis of other quakes that have occurred in the Dominion. It says, in part: "The earthquake of February 28, 1925, again, was not so severe as one that occurred on February 4, 1663. On that occasion Quebec suffered and the populace was panic-stricken. The writer who recorded that event reported that certain of the inhabitants of Quebec had visions warning them of what was to happen. An Algonquin squaw saw a strange being, who told her that remarkable things were about to occur and that among them would be the shaking of the earth. What this being prophesied speedily came true; for, according to the record, darkness settled upon the land, the earth shook, buildings fell, rivers were turned to floods, hills disappeared and great fissures opened in the ground. The St. Lawrence was so charged with mud and clay that for weeks the water could not be used for drinking. It was alleged and believed in many quarters that the quake was a visitation and a punishment of the people for their failure to put an end to the brandy trade with the Indians, which the church had very properly condemned. The tremors of the earth that were noticeable here yesterday may not be regarded generally as having supernatural significance, but may make people who felt them thankful that this country is not within the region where such shocks are frequent and severe enough to cause loss of life and destruction of property." It is indeed reassuring to know that the last earthquake was not a visitation to Ontario for its failure to bring in advanced temperance legislation by way of the Liquor Control Act.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Mail and Empire representative covering crop conditions in the West estimates the yield at 210,000,000 bushels. Sufficient, too, it would seem, to feed many people.

Poison liquor is thought to have claimed its second victim in Guelph within a month. And this is under the Liquor Control Act in a city with a Government store located in it.

The ins infer that there will not be a provincial election in the near future and the odds say there will be one soon. The next few months will tell whether one is a good bluffer and the other a good guesser.

There is no doubt left in the citizens' minds now that the skating and curling rink will be ready for this season. The activity in the Park this week has allayed any doubt of this anxiety now. The question is to have the structure ready for fall fair purposes.

The Department of the Interior at Ottawa has issued a neat and comprehensive little booklet entitled "Yukon, Land of the Klondike." It is splendidly illustrated and describes in an interesting way this land of the north and gives many enlightening facts.

There were 37,000,000 more cigarettes entered for consumption in Canada in June of this year over that of the same month last year. Surely this big increase can not all be blamed on the fact that women are now indulging more in the habit. Cigar consumption is remaining about stationary.

The action of the Toronto police in stamping out Communism in Toronto seems to have come in for both favorable and unfavorable criticism. Considerable fuss seems to have been created by those who would make themselves appear to be martyrs to a cause. The question as we see it is not one of free speech but rather one of whether a minority will incite the mob into believing that conditions applicable in another country would be beneficial in Canada.

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By EDSON R. WAITE, Shawnee Oklahoma

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Harvester, Solicitor, Notary Public, Conveyancer, Etc.

DENTAL
DR. J. M. BELL, D. D. S., L. D. S.
Dental Surgeon
OFFICE—Mill and Frederick Streets
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