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THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 10, 1930

EDITORIAL

Conserving Canada's Forests

Some conception of the work of the Canadian Forestry Association is conveyed in a recently issued folder, showing in picture form the work this Association is carrying on in defence of the woods, waters and wild life of the Dominion. How the Association is supported and its aims and its work are vividly set forth in figures and picture-form. Its educational work among the boys and girls, the tourists and in the logging camps will bear the fruit of conserving these great national resources for the generations to come; instead of having them consumed in waste by forest fires that have brought on so many calamities in the past. The funds for this work are secured as follows: 0.70% from governments; 54.80% from special subscriptions; 23.21% from fees and 12.1% from advertising. The movement and Association is worthy of the support and help of every Canadian who believes in Canada's future.

Not for Moral Uplift

The bill to bring divorce courts to Ontario is simply getting in the thin edge of the wedge to make the securing of divorces easier for residents of this Province. Plenty of divorces are granted each year with the method now employed of going to Ottawa, and with the easier route in Ontario the records will undoubtedly show a larger increase. There are separations now in force in the Province which with the cagier securing of divorces will be made into divorces, and the privilege of re-marriage. In such cases may second divorces not be expected? Ontario's moral standing will not be improved by adopting any method savoring of that similar to the ones in vogue in the United States. Where divorce is easy, due consideration is not given to marriage and no community or country is improved by any measure which brings about laxity in viewing the holy matrimony.

When Acton's Taxes were 22 Mills

It may seem to some to be a long time since Acton had a tax rate of 22 mills, but in reality such was the case in 1912—just eighteen years ago. In searching for other information in The Free Press files this information was noticed, and we searched further and found the 22 mills were made up as follows: 7.33 mills for debenture debt and interest; 0.50 mills for Public School; 2.75 mills for county rate; .50 mills for Free Library; .52 mills for fire protection and 1.33 mills for general expenditures. Last year Acton's rate was 47 mills and some may wonder why the increase in such a short time. A comparison would be interesting. The 1920 millage was made up as follows: County rate, 10 mills; school 13.05 mills; library, .50 mills; salaries and allowances, 3.25 mills; waterworks debentures, 8.00 mills; general debentures, 7.00 mills; street lighting, 4.75 mills; general, 3.45 mills.

But would you like to go back to the 22 mill rate? There were no waterworks then and you waded through drifts of snow several times a day to secure the family supply of drinking water from a frozen pump. There were no paved streets and the electric lights were shut off at midnight, and no electric power was available. The educational advantages cost less then, but there were a lot fewer advantages than what can be secured in Acton now.

And we might go on and enumerate many of the advantages now thought commonplace, which a few years ago were not to be had. The standard of living has risen for the municipality as well as for the individual. It used to be that any roadway was good enough for a few delivery rigs to pass over. Now every back street has to be maintained so that the families resident there can get the family car off at any time of year.

But it is not all even financial disadvantages of the present day standard, as would appear from the tax rate. Every ratepayer has received a financial gain in a lower insurance rate, occasioned by the installation of a waterworks system and better fire protection. The electric power rates have made it possible for every household to have these advantages through their lower costs. Certainly the taxes are a lot higher than a few years ago, but who would want the few advantages that 22 mills afford? So when your tax bill comes around, later remember to balance up the advantages you have secured against the cost and you will find that they have been provided at a minimum of cost and only on the demand of the ratepayers for conveniences in keeping with the present day standard of living. No prospect can be seen, either, of them being any lower, in order to keep the municipality abreast of the times.

Canadian Business Conditions are Basically Sound

In a recent letter to the shareholders of the Goodyear Tire Co. the President, after pointing out the problems confronting Canadians at the present time, strikes an optimistic note and one in which all Canadians will concur, when he says: "Canadian business conditions are basically sound. The Canadian people are unsurpassed in health, intelligence and constructive ability. The wealth per capita is high. Therefore, there can be no cause for discouragement, and the future has much in store."

A Duty We Owe

Announcement was made recently by Hon. Dr. Forbes Godfrey that investigations would be continued this year into the state of many of Ontario's neglected cemeteries. Many burial grounds are in a disgraceful condition and it would be a splendid effort if these were put into shape so that they might always be kept in a presentable condition. Communities and governments would be undertaking an endeavor of real merit to make it a duty to see that these sacred places are kept in good condition. It is a duty we owe to the pioneers of this Province, and one which we should not shirk. Any move that the Department inauguates will undoubtedly receive the hearty co-operation of the municipalities in its fulfillment.

Just Bluff, Apparently

All the bluff put up in the Senate on the passing of the bill aimed to ban liquor exports to the United States has apparently been nothing but so much empty talk. Just as the Opposition in the Commons was so much stage play for the constituents back home, so apparently was the Conservative opposition in the Senate. The principle of the measure was endorsed without a recorded vote, and the bill was put through Committee of the Whole and reported without amendment for third reading. Advocates of temperance reform can take heart that there is still much along the lines of advancing legislation against the liquor evil, and can hope that further enlightenment and temperance efforts will be fruitful of greater accomplishments.

A Deficit on Highways

It is interesting to note that the Highways of Ontario are not kept up entirely by the motorists and those who contribute directly in fees to the Department. \$80,000 more was expended on roads last year than was received in revenue. It is shown in these figures on the totals for all roads, as follows: Debt, \$120,207,000; maintenance and administration, \$67,300,000; interest at 5 per cent., \$6,405,000; retirement amount, \$3,610,000—total requirements \$17,105,000; revenue received, \$17,010,000; excess of expenditure over revenue, \$80,000. Some motorists are inclined to think that with the large amounts collected in license and gasoline taxes, etc., that these amounts more than meet the expenditures on roads and they are helping by these to finance other departments of the Government. Such is not the case, apparently, and mere pedestrians also contribute indirectly in paying the deficit on provincial highways.

Not to be Caught Again

Premier King's speech in the House of Commons last week on the question of unemployment made a wonderful heading for certain papers, but an analysis of the statement does not seem to be so terrible. Premier King said: "So far as giving money from this Federal treasury to Provincial Governments is concerned, in relation to the question of unemployment, I would be prepared to go to a certain length, possibly, in meeting one or two of the Western Provinces that have Progressive Premiers at the head of their Governments." And later, on after interruptions, it is reported to have repeated his statement in these terms: "With respect to giving money out of the Federal treasury to any Tory Government in this country for unemployment purposes, with these Governments situated as they are to-day with policies diametrically opposed to those of this Government, I would not give them a five-cent piece." Undoubtedly Premier King had in mind the result of a recent gift to the provinces in the Dominion's payment of Old Age Pensions, and remembered how Ontario has saddled the payment onto the municipalities and took much of the honor-and-glory for inaugurating thus help to the aged. It would be well for these provinces who are howling for assistance to say what portion of their revenues will be used to assist unemployment before asking for Federal aid.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The election date guessting contest continues to prove very popular and the field is widened with available dates possible even into 1931.

Canada is the largest exporter of wheat among the countries of the world, and the second largest exporter of flour, being exceeded only by the United States.

The Oakville Star last week said: "The Acton Hockey Club has given a donation of \$350 to the town-treasurer as a contribution to the debenture indebtedness incurred in building a suitable rink. Good Those Acton sports must have the interest-of-their town at heart."

Hydro interests in acquiring control of private power companies in the Province are advancing. The Földy Company in Bruce County have sold their interests to them. And these communities will, in every instance, be the gainers in joining in this company owned by the Province of Ontario.

With commendable enterprise the Acton Women's Institute have set about to raise funds for supplying a long-felt want—a suitable entrance to Fairview Cemetery. Truly Acton organizations do splendid work in improving their community and the Women's Institute will undoubtedly receive loyal support in their undertaking.

The death of Chas. C. Blackader, veteran publisher of the Acadia Recorder, brings to light the fact that one daily paper was published on the continent without the aid of type-setting machines. In these days when nearly every weekly uses type-setting machines and realize the labor saved, it is difficult to conceive of getting out a daily paper employing the old hand-set method of getting the type ready, or securing sufficient employees qualified to set the type fast enough for publishing a daily journal.

Neighborhood News

KRIN

Dr. and Mrs. Hutchinson and two children, of Brampton, spent Sunday, with Mr. and Mrs. W. Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell and family, of Acton, were Sunday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. George Rossell.

Mrs. Wm. Pearson and Herbert McCallum have returned home after spending a fortnight with friends at Ottawa.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank McAllister and family have moved into their new house, recently purchased from Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Irwin, of Waterloo College, Toronto, officiated at All Saints Church, on Sunday last, in the absence of Rev. Mr. Gunn.

Rev. Gunn conducted the services in Burns Presbyterian Church and at Guelph Presbyterian Church on Sunday last.

Mrs. Tom. McLean, of North Guelph, has rented her farm and will take up residence with her brother, Angus McLean, who has purchased a home at Windham—United—Guelph, recently.

Friends here received the pleasing news that Master Donald Sutton and Miss Betty Button, children of the late Wm. Sutton, who were born in China, were honored in the final in an annual contest at Windham—United—Guelph, recently.

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Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cuttriss have returned home from California.

Police School Inspector Denyer paid an official visit to the Central School on Monday. He found everything quite satisfactory, as usual.

The regular meeting of the Water Commission was held last night, when several matters of importance were discussed, but no definite action was taken, pending another meeting.

Mrs. William Haas, of Toronto, University, accompanied her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall McFarlane recently.

The meeting of the Wellington Game Association, called at Yarmouth last, was not very largely attended. A general discussion was held and a social decided not to order any more cuts.

A despatch from Ottawa says that traffic will be rerouted on the Beach about May 18. The work is being pushed forward rapidly and the contractors expect to have everything in order to permit vehicles to cross the canal.—Guelph.

OAKVILLE

Lady Hallie, who has just returned from her southern cruise, will be chairman of the May Day for the benefit of the blind in the town.

For the protection of the beach in front of the power house the Water and Light Commission are considering the erection of a concrete wall.

W. E. Davis and sons, Douglas and James, arrived home last week from their sojourn in Bermuda.

The first brick addition is being erected at the rear of the Wm. Whiffen's Garage on Dundas Street, which will be used as a workshop.

Wm. Hill is having an addition erected at the rear of his residence, with Harry Whiffen as the contractor.

During last Thursday night a thief entered L. A. Wilkinson's store at the rear and took away three cartons of cigarettes. The value of which would be about \$20.

Mrs. Harry Whiffen was brought home from the hospital yesterday afternoon, having suffered a fracture of the right leg, as the result of a bicycling accident several weeks ago.

Mrs. Ethelred Achett, District Deputy Master, Guelph, paid her annual visit to Golden Rule Chapter here last evening. There was a large attendance.

Mrs. Jim W. Alton, of Sidney, Manitoba, arrived in Oakville yesterday on her way to her mother, Mrs. W. H. Durrell, and other relatives and friends in town and district. Mrs. Alton is a guest of her sister, Mrs. W. J. Carter—Star.

MILTON

Wm. Weatherstone, of Trafalgar Township, who plans to have a stock barn erected on his property, has started.

Mrs. J. H. Hinckley, of Whinipeg, is visiting her brother and sister, Mark Russell and Mrs. W. J. Chisholm, at Guelph.

Helen Blain gave a birthday party on Thursday evening last, which was greatly enjoyed by a large number of invited guests.

Public School Inspector O. M. Macmillan, of Bullock, formerly Principal of Milton High School, visited W. J. McGinnis' home on Hamilton Street on Saturday.

A. E. Miller, accountant in the million branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce for the past nine years, has been transferred to the Stratford branch, and will remain there until next fall.

About 9 o'clock Thursday morning the fire brigade extinguished a blaze in Andy Fleming's house, corner of Elizabeth and Main Streets, which started from overheated stove pipes. The damage, mostly done by water, was small and is covered by insurance.

Mr. V. Chisholm, who has been quite absent from town on the mend, we are pleased to say.

Donald P. (Pat) Robertson, who is taking a course at the Royal Military College, West Point, spent the week-end at his home here.

Mr. Hugh Campbell, who has been confined to his room with an attack of pleurisy, has made good progress towards recovery, his friends are glad to know.

Mrs. J. P. Kirkland, organist, and church member of St. Paul's United Church, Milton, has been appointed to fill the same position in Oshawa Presbyterian Church.—Reformer.

GRETONTOWN

Mrs. W. G. Marshall returned home last week after spending two weeks with her sister, Mrs. Leach, of Kitchener, who has been ill.

Mrs. M. E. Dunn, Guelph Street, who underwent a serious operation in St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, is reported to be recovering well.

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Lester returned home last week after spending a pleasant winter in Florida. They visited both Miami and Fort Lauderdale.

Mr. James House, who is at St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph, this week for treatment, Mrs. Monette's many friends, hope he may soon return with his health restored.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Miller, Georgetown, announced the engagement of their only daughter, Martha Isabel, to Mr. W. H. Miller, of Guelph, and Mrs. H. H. Miller, Georgetown. Marriage will take place next week in April.

On Friday evening, March 22, the Georgetown Junior Hockey Club and friends were entertained to dinner by Mr. and Mrs. A. Duncan at their home on Guelph Street.

W. H. Miller, of Georgetown Lumber Company, a mill a week ago had his arm broken when he struck a piece of wood when he was working back with a nail. The nail went through his shoulder and arm was badly broken below the shoulder and he was physically severely bruised.

Mr. H. E. Purcell addressed Council at their meeting on Tuesday evening, of the last session, of the Georgetown Lumber Company, and the new building were presented to Council. Upon motion the grant required by the Board was given.—Mural.

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