



The Acton Free Press

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G. A. DILLIS, Editor and Proprietor.

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Residence 131

EDITORIAL

The Way They Pass

There will be no fall fair in Orillia this year and it is interesting to know how these institutions that have for so many years been a part of the community life go out of existence. Here are the reasons that Orillia will not have a fair, as given by the Orillia Packet and Times: "All chance of a fall show in Orillia this year has faded out. The trouble seems to be that interest has died out. Even the directors do not turn out to the meetings. The President has called several, but there has never been a large enough attendance, even to decide there would be no show. It has just died a natural death for this year anyway. One discouraging factor has been the financial situation, which is none too rosy, and wasn't improved by a deficit on the horse races in the spring, which ran into rainy weather, and had to be postponed. Meantime, Oro world's fair yesterday was a great success, and Coldwater fair will be held next Tuesday and Wednesday."

Try It—Maybe You'll Feel Better Too

These are tax days. The first instalment was due on Tuesday and a subsequent and final payment is due in November. And if there is one item of expenditure above another which we all pick upon to complain about it seems to be taxes. It appears to be the goat, as it were. We have tried to analyze this aversion to this payment when other necessary items of expenditure are more cheerfully met and with not half as much "kick." It seems that after payment you have nothing more to show than a receipt and a clean citizenship bill, and the ordinary feeling of "Well, my taxes are paid for another year." Just kind of a comfortable feeling like that you won't be sold out for back taxes. We always had that feeling, too, until we made this analysis we speak of and now we don't feel the same way about taxes.

We looked at the back of the tax bill and we found 12 mills went to the County. That pill stuck. We haven't got the bad taste out of our mouth yet. It seems to be one of those rough pills, without any sugar coating. The school rate was responsible for a little over another 12 mills and when we viewed the the grounds and buildings and surveyed the privileges to the youngsters, we didn't object to that item in the least. The Free Library, with its half mill, and the salaries and allowances, with their three mills, were more items that seemed to be economically administered. The next items were the waterworks and general debentures. We had been in favor of all these, so when paying time came of course it wouldn't be very good grace to have any conscientious objections. 1.75 mills was the amount for street lighting and a trip around our well-lit streets dispelled the gloom on that item. Miscellaneous was 2.40 mills. If we hadn't been quite so familiar with Council work and heard the number of appeals that have to be met with that 2.40 mills we might have been critical, but criticism gave place to wonder that it wasn't more when a mind's review was made.

It was one of those times when we suppose Seth Parker, of Sunday night radio renown, would have sung "Count Your Many Blessings." We quit enumerating before we got half through the list of the conveniences that are considered every-day, and have to be paid for once a year. We attached our signature to the bit of check paper, that we hoped the bank would acknowledge and felt a lot different from other years. After this analysis when we had given expression to the grant of satisfaction, "Well the taxes are paid for another year." Even the County rate of 12 mills was gulpingly swallowed with a prayer that it wouldn't be any more until we saw what we were getting for our money.

Why Farmers Do Not Make Money

Some interesting experiments concerning the cost of producing farm crops have been made by the Canadian Government Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. For example, it cost \$30.62 to produce an acre of oats having a value of \$33.08; the cost of producing hay in 1929 was found to be \$10.60 an acre for hay valued at \$34.06; ensilage corn cost \$4.38 an acre more to produce than it was worth at current values—the cost per acre was \$54.62 with an acreage crop value of \$50.24. In the case of mangels, it cost \$72.45 an acre to produce the crop and the yield of 17.81 tons per acre, valued at \$1.91 a ton, was worth only \$34.02; or, mangels showed a loss per acre of \$28.43. Potatoes, on the other hand, proved a particularly profitable crop, showing a surplus of \$97.94 per acre over cost of production; potatoes cost \$80.99 per acre to produce and yielding 192.4 bushels, valued at 63 cents, showed an acreage value of \$178.03.

Predicts Revival

That oft-quoted and famed statistician, Roger W. Babson, speaking recently before the National Business Conference, predicted a revival of business and gave four timely suggestions to accomplish this end that is so desirable to all. They are: Reduce overhead; give better measure; increase research work; and advertise more. Other quotations from this address are interesting: "With the haughty spirit prevailing a year ago," Babson said, "a decline was inevitable, but with the humble spirit existing to-day, a turn for the better is sure to come. Under the existing circumstances, it is very possible that there may soon be a stampede of orders and congestion of freight in certain lines and sections." Babson said he would make no forecasts as to 1931, but added he was "certainly optimistic" regarding this fall. "It is just as evident to-day that business is now bound to improve, as it was evident a year ago that the high pace of early 1929 could not be kept up," he explained. Talk about over-production, Babson declared, was "largely hysterical." The real solution of the problem, he said, lay in speeding up the circulation of money.

Newspaper Holidays

The weekly newspaper convention at Halifax this year, and the desire of numerous editors to attend these important sessions were given as the reasons for a number of our contemporaries declaring a newspaper holiday and missing an issue of the paper. With a number of weekly papers it is a usual procedure to each year miss one or two issues in order that the staff and editor may take a vacation. We are told by the former editor that in over fifty years of publication of THE FREE PRESS that this journal has never missed an issue. Possibly we are fortunate in being able to have members of the staff take holidays at various times and still continue publication. We were not able to attend the convention at Halifax this year; but presume the paper would have been published if other circumstances had made it convenient to be present. The holiday plan has its inconveniences, but each time it looms up that unbroken record of not an issue missed in the half century looms bigger, and a little extra effort, and a staff imbued with the same idea has always enabled us to arrange holidays at times that did not necessitate the missing of an issue.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Premier Bennett is a business man and it is quite apparent from his brevity at this first session that no unnecessary words will be used to get on with the business before the session.

Acton Fair has come and gone again for another year. Any editorial comment regarding this big event in the community must be held until next week, as these columns must be finished by Tuesday morning.

A Royal Canadian Mounted Policeman last week shot his bride of three months and then committed suicide while he was intoxicated. When liquor goes into a man its mighty hand to control him or its action on him.

A Progressive member suggests that the Government get the \$20,000,000 it requires for unemployment by a phone call to the Royal mint. That would be a busy line if it were possible to raise funds with as little effort as that for Government requirements.

It will be generally regretted that Hon. Lincoln Goldie, Provincial Secretary, has been forced by ill-health to resign from his cabinet position in the Ontario Legislature. Political opponents as well as his admirers in party principles will join in wishing him a speedy recovery to good health.

The successful activities of a couple of cheque artists in town the past week are rather a severe lesson to business people who would be obliging to friends. We were almost the victim ourselves, and only a strict ruling that we leave cheques for the bank to cash and expect the bankers not to accept orders for printing saved us from losing sight of \$20. Obliging friends by means of cashing cheques is a privilege that is abused these days and the convenience is going to be hard to secure by those who are rightly privileged to it by the abuse of some of these cheque chaps.

SLATS DIARY
BY ROSS FARQUHAR

Friday—well I just got done winking out of phase. I made up a new radio set which I made up and I now look I was looking over the program to be broadcasted from London tonight but it don't look so very good, maybe they is sum thing goin on worth while at Ottawa.

Saturday—well this is the end of the good ole Vacation bein Munday, we gotta go back to school next. I was lookin for Mr. Hilar today which's drug store sells ice cream and sand witches and he sent me to deliver sum ice cream to a old lady over the creek. I stopped to play I game of miniature golf on Millway corse and when I delivered the cream the lady sent me sum ants and cockroaches and a fighting on it and she sent it back. I wonder what she expected for 50 cts. maybe a bull fight! anyway I lost my position.

Sunday—1st day of school and when teacher give us the jockey legson I and Jake made up a song about Mappy Days Are here again. I am trying to by Pates dog. He wants \$5 for it bein he says it has already bit more a dozen people.

Tuesday—Well I guess I am lucky. After supper I got ready to do my home work and that I had bring home my rhinetic suit then I found out I had forgot it.

Wednesday—The teacher give me a compliment today in the grammar class. she sed I of the girls had sed I didden have as much sense as a Oyster. But she sed she stuck up for me. She sed I did have. About.

Thursday—Went to a party tonight and I time I sat play for a dance and she sed Delited. she sed she had hernt that dum people makes the best dancers. I like back at her. I sed Yes I have new that for a long time. I am getting on to these girls at last.

TOO MAD

Customer: (upon entering store): "My! What is it that smells?"
Merchant: "Do you smell it, too?"
Customer: "Yes, what is it?"
Merchant: "The business—it's rotten."

THE HORRORS OF ANTICIPATION

Two men, says the Tatler, met in the street one day. "Hallo, Bill," said one, "I haven't seen you for weeks! but what's wrong? You're lookin' mighty seedy. Been ill?"

"The other passed his horny hand across his brow. "No, I ain't been ill," he replied; "it's work wot's doin' for me—work from eight in the mornin' till six at night—and only one hour on." "Think of it!"

"Aww!" agreed the first. "And 'ow long 'ave you been there?"
"I ain't been there yet," explained Bill gloomily; "begin to-morrow."

BEEF GRADING CONTEST PROVES INTERESTING

Visitors to the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto this year displayed particular interest in the slaughter competition judging contest in the Cattle Pavilion. This contest offered a cash prize of \$50 to all visitors to the exhibition desiring to enter, and the breeders entering cattle in the slaughter competition received \$300 in proportionate prizes. The Federal and Provincial Governments co-operated in staging the contest which was held in conjunction with the graded beef display by the Beef Grading Service of the Dominion Livestock Branch.

The new type of young, highly finished cattle, around fourteen months old, and weighing between 800 and 1,000 pounds were featured in the contest. It is this type of beef which is rapidly growing in popular demand and from which much of the "prime" which qualifies for grading is supplied.

Popular interest is also keen in the fine display of graded beef, and the safeguard of quality afforded consumers by the Government brand mark.

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CROSS-BRED HOGS

Where would we be to-day if everybody adopted the policy of cross-breeding? Would we not be retrogressing instead of progressing? As far as the constructive breeding of swine goes, we could not expect to compete with the world's markets with such a product because it would be very different to standardize and when a product cannot be standardized, on an equality basis, we cannot expect to receive the same net returns for it.

During the past year at the Dominion Experimental Station, Bathurst, Saskatchewan, some experiments have been carried on with pure bred Yorkshire hogs, Yorkshire-Tamworth and Yorkshire-Berkshire cross-bred hogs to ascertain the relative gains made by the pure breeds and the cross-breeds up to the age of six months (174 days). All the sows in this experiment were bred to the Yorkshire boar King W. J. F. 242. They were all good representatives of the breeds, Yorkshire, Tamworth, and Berkshire, were in about the same condition at breeding time, and were bred at approximately the same date. After the sows were bred, they were kept under identically the same conditions and received the same meal mixture. They received the same meal mixture after farrowing until the pigs were weaned. The pigs were all weaned at eight weeks (56 days). After weaning the pigs were kept under identically the same conditions and the same meal mixtures were fed until they were six months old.

When the five litters of purebred Yorkshire hogs reached six months of age their average weight was 185.7 pounds, while five litters of cross-breeds (four Yorkshire-Tamworth and one Yorkshire-Berkshire) averaged in weight 173.77 pounds at six months. The purebred Yorkshire hogs made an average gain of 11.93 pounds over the cross-breeds. The average number of purebred Yorkshire pigs in the litters at six months was eight and of the cross-breeds seven pigs.

The pure bred Yorkshire litters showed more uniformity in weight and type, over ninety per cent being select bacon hogs, whereas the cross-bred litters showed a great variation in weight as, for example, in one litter the heaviest pig at six months weighed 215 pounds while the lightest one weighed 130 pounds and the remainder of the litter weighed between 160 and 170 pounds each. The Yorkshire-Berkshire pigs were fairly uniform in weight at six months, averaging 171 pounds each, but when it came to grading on foot these was not a select bacon hog in the litter while approximately ten per cent of the Yorkshire-Tamworth hogs were select bacon.

The pure bred Yorkshire hogs showed less variation in weight within the litters with a higher average weight at six months. One pure bred litter averaged 199.5 pounds per pig and another averaged 193.0 pounds, which goes to show that there are strains within a breed which could be selected and from these "strains" constructive breeding could be carried on and greater results attained than by cross-breeding.

A great difficulty that the swine breeder who raises cross-bred hogs has to contend with is the necessity of continually buying new foundation stock for breeding purposes unless he resorts to breeding his cross-bred sows which is an unstable policy to follow and will finally lead to a class of undesirable hogs for which there is little demand and so discourage the breeder that he will consider it unprofitable to breed swine.—Experimental Farm Note.

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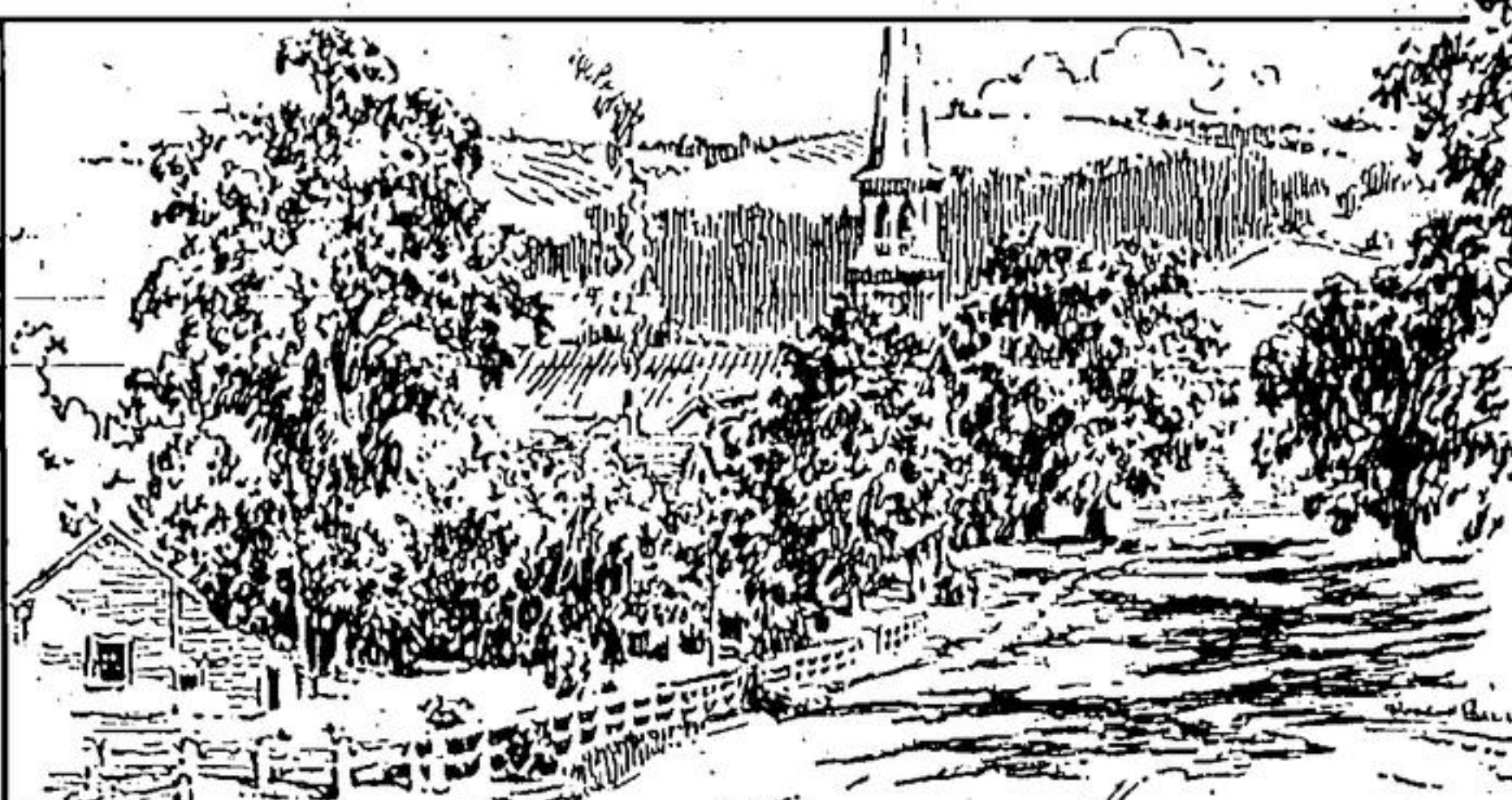
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