

**The Acton Free Press**Member Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association
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G. A. DILLS, Editor and Proprietor.

TELEPHONES—
Editorial and Business Office : 124
Residence : 125**EDITORIAL**

\$1,000,000 per Year Loss?

The investigation into alleged rum-smuggling between St. Pierre-Miquelon and Quebec is expected to open around the middle of April, with Mr. Justice Gibbons of the Supreme Court as Commissioner by virtue of an appointment by the Dominion Cabinet. The preliminary work has been done by Oscar Gagnon, Montreal lawyer, who was chosen to look into the situation with a view to finding out whether an official investigation was justified. From semi-official sources comes word that the probe, as far as it has gone, reveals excise losses to the Dominion Government on smuggled liquor totalling nearly \$1,000,000 per year for some years.

Just Another Step

Always aiming to render THE FREE PRESS renders a growing-and-better service and a more adequate coverage of the local news in which they are vitally interested, was the reason for another step forward in the field last week. We have made arrangements to have the meetings of Halton County Council reported by our own special correspondent each month, or as they may occur. We have felt for some time that our readers were much interested in the proceedings of the County body and have endeavored to furnish you with a summary of the minutes and business transacted. Now we have been able to arrange for a reporter to be present at each meeting and furnish more detailed account of the meetings. It is just another step in the service we are constantly endeavoring to make more adequate. If you enjoy these new features we will be glad to hear about it. Or your fair criticisms are just as much appreciated. We are simply here to use our best endeavors to provide the district with a journal representative of all walks of life. As opportunity offers we hope to continue to keep THE FREE PRESS representative of the district we attempt to serve.

In the Spring Clean-up Be Careful of Fire

In the spring time when the urge to clean up generally is upon most everyone and the housecleaning desire is uppermost in every woman's mind and plan of programme, there is always the danger in the cleaning up process of fires. Grass fires to clear the lots of dead and unsightly grass may be a splendid method of accomplishing a worthy purpose. But they should only be lighted by adults and never left unattended or allowed to assume the magnitude of getting beyond your control. They can do a lot of damage in a very short while if every precaution is not observed after lighting them. And you should always be sure that they are properly extinguished at night. Around all houses and premises there is an accumulation of papers and rubbish to be disposed of in the spring cleaning activities. Stove and furnace pipes are already full of the winter's accumulation of soot and rubbish. If you must dispose of them by this means be sure to put only a few in the stove or furnace at a time and watch your fire. There are many other causes of fires—that need careful supervision, especially at this time of year. The admonitions may not seem to be necessary in view of the fact that Acton has enjoyed a very fine immunity from these fires. But it is this care on the part of everyone and the consequent low fire losses that make possible our present insurance rates. Care on the part of every citizen results in a considerable saving to everyone. It is a benefit to all and made possible only when care is practised by all. Be careful with fire in the springtime and every other time.

Intoxicated Drivers

Former Judge Walker, in giving a recital of experiences in Chicago has this to say regarding auto drivers' licenses and the intoxicated drivers: "Whenever a man is under the influence of liquor so as not to be entirely himself he is intoxicated, although he can walk straight, attend to his business and may not give any outward and visible signs to the casual observer that he is drunk. Yet if he is under the influence of liquor so as not to be himself, so as to be excited from it, and not to possess that clearness of intellect and control of himself that he otherwise would have, he is intoxicated."—Elkin vs. Bilschner (Pa.) 16 A 102-104, and State vs. Baugham, 162 Iowa, 308.

The Forest Fire Loss

According to the annual report of the Department of Lands and Forests, which Hon. William Finlayson tabled in the Legislature last week, forest fires took a toll in Ontario of 711,800 acres during the season of 1930. Of this burned-over acreage, 56.1 per cent. was timber land, 0.8 per cent. cut-over land, 14.1 per cent. young growth, and 20 per cent. muskeg, grass land and barrens. To this devastation 1,402 fires contributed. Fifty-four per cent. of them occurred before the end of June and burned over 94 per cent. of the total area for the whole year. In the area burned contributory causes were: Settlers; 3.6 per cent.; campers, 77.0 per cent.; railways, 1.7 per cent.; lightning, 8.3 per cent.; logging operations, 0.8 per cent.; smokers, 0.8 per cent.; road construction, 0.1 per cent.; miscellaneous, 3.2 per cent. and unknown, 3.0 per cent.

How Noble Do the Honest Wets Feel?

I wonder if all the men and women who deliberately break the Prohibition law feel as strongly as George Washington did that they are fighting in a just cause? Would they say that the liquor traffic, whether in light wines or beers or hard drinks, whether by government control or local option, was a great uplifting and emancipating benefaction to mankind? Would they admit that liquor builds up character and manhood and promotes industry, prosperity, and universal happiness? In other words, could they conscientiously say that the cause, for which they have chosen the way of revolution, is just and right and good and beneficial to all mankind? Apply that acid test to your revolt against any law and see if your loyalty to your cause stands the test. If it does, then yours is the right and privilege to choose the way of revolution.—Daniel Bliss, in Chicago North-Western.

The New Representative

On Saturday Canada welcomed a new Governor-General, the Earl of Bessborough. With all the pomp and ceremony attendant upon such an auspicious occasion Canada officially welcomed this new representative of our King in the Dominion. The personnel of the Canadian Government travelled to Halifax to extend a welcome and everywhere throughout the Dominion the voice of this representative was listened to by loyal subjects by the radio. This was made possible by a specially arranged broadcast conducted by the publicly owned Canadian National Railways. The response made by the new Governor-General's reply to the welcome by Premier Bennett showed that the new representative of the Motherland is anxious to become acquainted. He said: "I am looking forward to making the closest possible acquaintance with this great Canada and with its citizens, and if I fall short of anything expected of me it will not be through lack of endeavor to meet the situation." Canada welcomes the Earl of Bessborough and Canadians will do their utmost to make his term of office a pleasant one in this young and growing Dominion.

EDITORIAL NOTES

An effort is being made to revive the Guelph Board of Trade, and a meeting called for this purpose. It seems to be a generally tendency for revival of these institutions at this time.

Alliston has just reorganized its Board of Trade and at the meeting the organization got away to an enthusiastic start. The springtime or any other time seems to point out many activities in which these bodies can be very useful in a community. But then the spring time is always a time of renewed life in nature and everything generally.

Brampton Business Men's Association recommended to the Town Council there that the change from standard to daylight saving time be made to coincide with the change in Toronto. It was felt the period was too long but agreed that the interim period which Brampton was on standard and Toronto on advanced time was one of inconvenience to a large number of citizens.

The Town of Orillia has inaugurated a municipal garbage collection system, but only after years of agitation... So there may yet be some hope, for Simcoe. Incidentally Orillia will have a bi-weekly service during the summer months and the total cost to the average householder will be about \$1.50 in increased taxation a year, which is considerably less than most Simcoe people are paying to-day—Simcoe Reformer.

THE ACTON FREE PRESS**Chronicles of Ginger Farm**Written Specially for
The Free Press by
GWENDOLINE P. CLARKE

Yesterday a mosquito was buzzing around the outside of the kitchen window; last night we heard frogs singing for the first time; there are three broody hens in the hen-house; Partner is getting quite feverish in his anxiety to get on the land; all of which goes to show that Spring cannot now be far behind. But still "old timer" tell us the frogs must be "about up" twice before they come out for good, so we may still have a breathing space before the "heat" rush of work begins. Sometimes one is given to wonder what God-given instinct dumb creatures possess that they know so much better than we what weather tricks Mother Nature has in store for us. Robins, for instance. There are days when we hardly hear them sing at all, at other times, even in the house with the doors shut, their shrill sweet voices penetrate and we have ears to hear and souls to appreciate. Listen in awe to the spontaneous joy of our red-breasted little friends. And then we surely an night follow day, after the song of the robins, comes rain.

Animals, too, sense the approach of a storm. Out in the West, where horses and cattle are turned loose in the winter to rustle their living, it is no unusual thing to wake up in the night and hear a large number of horses racing across the prairie to get shelter when they can from nearby buildings and stables. Then it is we look for rough weather and the horses stay around on the lee side of the shelter until such time as the storm is over.

In the East our cattle and horses are sheltered in stables during winter and cannot act as weather prophets, but watch them in summer and there will be days when you find the cows, for no apparent reason, trailing home one after another and standing around in or near the barnyard. Perhaps, if you look, you may find threatening clouds, which hitherto escaped your notice, and before long there may come one of those sudden thunderstorms which sometimes come upon us out of an almost cloudless sky. So it would seem, that by a similar instinct to that which the robins have, cattle also sense the approach of rough weather.

What a help it would be if the average person had some weather warning instinct, but alas we have nothing. Wait—nothing did I say? Why I must have taken leave of my senses! Everyone with even a tendency towards corns or rheumatism knows only too well how a change in the weather affects them. Thus and again, some weather-wise ones will tell us, "Aye, it's goin' to rain, I ken feel it in me jints."

Or perhaps some house-tired mother will hobble around on the hard wood floors and announced to all whom it may concern, "There is going to be a storm, I know it by my corns!" But away with thoughts of rain and storm, bright sunshine has come to bless us once again. Enticed by his bright warm smile of welcome, the dormant shrubs and perennials are pecking through to see if they dare venture forth in all their pristine glory. Don't be too darling, little plants, the sun is your very good friend, but the cold east wind is your mortal enemy and until he has been brought to subjection by good King Sol, discretion should be the better part of valour.

Sometimes the sun makes us discontented. He has a way of looking through the windows, showing up the shabby spots in the carpet, faded streaks in the curtains or that part of the floor where many footprints have almost removed every trace of varnish from the wood. We see with pitiul clearness walls that need papering, cushions recovering and perhaps we think with envy of all the new decorating Mrs. Smith is going to do this Spring, and we possibly feel that we shall feel ashamed for anyone to visit us while our home is so shabby.

Need we feel that way? Here is a piece of poetry. Learn across just lately. When you have read it perhaps you will change your mind about what is worrying you in your own home.

WHAT'S WHAT.
"Some folks are ashamed and apologize
For the things they do not own,
For the lack of these conveniences.
Their visitors have known,
But it's not the kind of heat you've
Got your electric comb."
It's that people who live in that house of yours.

That make the place a home.
It's you we come to visit with,
Not your rugs and chairs,
Household stuff's bought and sold
Almost anywhere,

But the fellowship of kindred souls
Is gold and silver and diamonds and gold,
And though the heat of passing years
Cherished and refined.

What do we care if your electric lights
Are run on kerosene,
Or the rig you use for goin' to town
Doesn't fuel on gasoline;

It's not your rooms we come to see,
Nor yet your out-of-doors,
We come to visit with the folks
That we call you and yours.

Don't rock the things around your home,
Don't rate your home so low,

Because your things can't quite compare
With millionaires you know.

We're not concerned with what you have,
The honey in the comb,

In you—we come to visit the folks
That make your home a home."

—Hartan Rees Poggin.

ALL ROUND ROUND

Alco—Why do they have knots on the ocean instead of miles?

Skiper—Well, you see, they couldn't have the ocean tide if there were no knots.

STARTING THE BROODER CHICKS

The most important single factor in brooding chicks is the vitality of the chicks themselves. All crippled and weak chicks should be killed upon removal from the incubator. In transferring from the incubator to the brooder care should be taken to see that they are well covered so that no chilling will take place.

A reasonable amount of variation in the temperature of the brooder house will do no harm providing that the temperature under the hover does not go below 100 degrees F. Higher temperatures under the hover are desirable, however, since it causes the chicks to spread out well over the floor at night and prevents crowding around the stove. As the chicks begin to feather out the temperatures are lowered gradually. The chicks themselves are the best guide to temperature and the degree of their comfort is plainly indicated by their actions. For the first few days it will be necessary to confine the chicks fairly closely about the hover until such time as they know enough to return to the stove when cold.

Immediately upon being placed in the brooder slightly warmed water should be given and a small feed of chick size grit placed in the pan. Hoppers of mush may be put down immediately since experiments over a period of years at the Poultry Division, Central Experimental Farm, have clearly indicated that more rapid growth and lower mortality may be expected when this is done. Chicks receiving their first feed immediately after entering the brooder (approximately 24 hours after hatching) almost invariably give superior results. Once the hoppers of mush are put down they are not again removed since experiments have shown that greater gains are made under these conditions. Chick size grit and shell should be available to the chicks at all times.

Chick scratch is usually given after the first week and fresh cut green daily. If fresh greens are not available oats sprouted in trays with a green shoot of three to four inches in height will supply succulent green tops for the birds. Green feed, when outside grown, should come from areas on which fowl have not previously run, if possible. Unless the chicks can get outside by the end of the first week or ten days, No. 1 crude cod liver oil at the rate of 1 per cent. should be a constituent of the mush. As soon as weather conditions permit, windows should be opened to permit unfiltered sunlight to the floor of the pens.

A publication, giving more detailed information as to suitable rations, etc., for broodling chicks may be obtained gratis by writing to the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. — H. B. Gutteridge, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Ontario.

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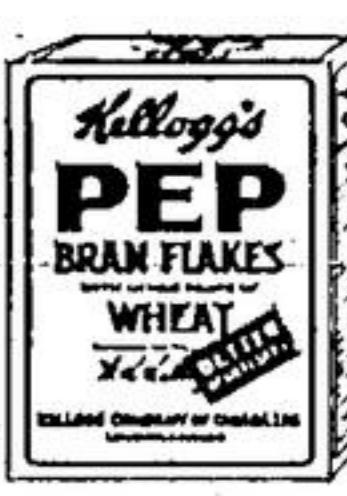
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