



The Acton Free Press

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EDITORIAL

Only One Motive

In spite of the fact that the United States has gone wet again, and intoxicating liquors will be sold legally it is said the speakies will continue to operate. The other day only 5,100 applications for liquor licenses have been filed in New York City. The explanation of this small number is that the conditions under which licenses will be issued are so strict that comparatively few of the 30,000 or more speakies in the city bothered to make applications. But spokesmen for the illicit liquor traffic assert that the "speaks" have no intention of going out of business. They will continue in the future as in the past, and will sell liquor until they are closed down. They will have the advantage of being already established with their own customers. They will escape some of the high taxes which will be imposed on the legal hotels and restaurants, and perhaps they will provide a background to which people have become accustomed in the prohibition era, which the licensed premises are not permitted to supply. The Liquor Control Act, which it was claimed would do away with the illegal trade has also failed if the reports of stills found and the number of home-brew licenses are any indication. The cost of the beverage is so much higher than the home brew is seemingly made in just as large a volume as under the prohibition measure. The liquor interests always did and always will be there for only one purpose—enormous profits.

Leadership Wanted

The news last week that some move was being made for the construction of the second line as a Provincial Highway was welcome to us who have watched the expansion programme of highways at the southern end of the County. A few years ago the Department was willing to co-operate in this construction and since the matter has been opened up again we are of the opinion that possibly a similar willingness is still available if any aggressive action were forthcoming on the part of Acton's municipal representatives. There has been no move made on the part of either Acton's Reeve or Councillors to secure this decided advantage. At the meeting on Monday evening the point was touched upon but sidetracked for other items of seemingly greater importance. Our information concerning the work has been obtained from outside sources and our inquiry from local sources is far from enlightening. Acton is looking to its representatives for leadership. There are a number in the community in need of employment, but who have the self-respect to try and exist without applying for relief. Work on this road or on any other construction would be most welcome. Because the generosity of citizens carried the community through the past two years of difficulties it is unfair to presume upon this generosity indefinitely. The unemployed in the southern end of the County are being employed on highway work. The citizens of Acton are looking for leadership from their acclaimed leaders and at least the information that an effort has been made to have this construction undertaken.

With the rules all established, the groups arranged, nothing more remains in O. H. A. hockey but to get the schedule drawn up and then the more prominent endeavor to secure ice surfaces on which to play the games.

Canada Loses a Great Man
The death of Sir Arthur Currie has cast a gloom over the Dominion the past week. His game struggle for the past few weeks against the inroads of illness has been followed just as intently as the battle he waged in the Great War. Sir Arthur Currie was by training neither a university man nor a military man. Yet he gained rare distinction in both spheres. When the war broke out he was a business man in Vancouver. He had had some experience with the local militia and responded at once to the call of duty. In France he rose from one position to another until he became Commander-in-Chief of the Canadian Army. His eminence was due to his strong common sense, his understanding of his fellow-men, his sympathy with their sufferings as well as with their aspirations. These same qualities led to his appointment as Principal of McGill University after the war. Universities nowadays have become so large and so diversified that their administration is thought by many to call for executive ability rather than for the talents generally associated with the retiring scholar. At any rate, Sir Arthur proved to be a great success as head of McGill. In his public addresses he displayed the clarity of thought which distinguished him throughout his life. His death will be a great loss to that University. By the public he will be remembered as a fine, unassuming gentleman.

It Might Apply Elsewhere

The Bowmanville Statesman last week published an editorial that might be applicable in many another community. It hits out real pointedly at an organization in Bowmanville. But here it is and we thought it worth republishing: "With a big flourish and with every prospect of success ahead an organization of business men was formed in this town about two years ago. Its first year was an outstanding success: Its two Community Picnics were the envy of many towns throughout the Province and many other of its activities have distinctly benefited the community. This current year has seen the association sponsor a baseball team and the laying out of the finest baseball diamond in the Lake Shore League. For these works, the organization, known as the Business Men's Association, has received the credit. But is the Business Men's Association deserving of this credit? We would answer without any hesitation that the Association as a whole is not deserving of the credit as an organized group. Rather is the credit due to about a dozen broad-minded and public spirited-business men who have put their heart and soul into the organization's activities, while others have set back, at times back-biting and criticizing and at opportune times have actually taken credit as it came along unblushingly. At a meeting of the Association last week less than ten members turned out to the meeting. As is usual it was the same group of men who have worked to make the Association's activities a success. The others stayed home or were too busy to come. The time has come however when those merchants who call themselves live business men, who are truly interested in their town beyond their own business must join with the others in saving the Business Men's Association from a death of senile decay and lack of interest. To say that the Association has been of value to the town is the truth, but to suggest that all merchants have done their fair share, is far from the truth. If merchants wish to stand alone and do nothing to make conditions better or to attract people to the town, then the Business Men's Association as a working organization might just as well put up the shutters and hang out the crepe. But Bowmanville is too good a town to do that. Let every business man get behind the Association in its programme of activity. In this way only can it be a successful organization and a benefit to the community."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Seemed rather quiet on Monday, without the usual election stir. But perhaps the Christmas Tree for the kiddies will supply the stir that was lacking and do more good.

With the letters to Santa Claus coming into the office these days following the announcement of last week, we are just beginning to realize how popular a chap he really is at this time of year.

Nominations for those municipalities that adhere to the old dates at the end of the year are earlier than ever this year and are held on Friday, December 22.

It's time the Toronto elections were brought on when headline news is so scarce that the dailies have to go out to the county to hunt for "wildcat" scare lines. Likely the animals would be as hard to find as the village where they were supposed to be terrorizing.

There are a number of chaps about town who would be very glad to receive employment on the Milton to Acton highway construction when it is started, and they hope the start won't be delayed too long.

The announcement that Mayor J. B. Mackenzie had suffered defeat in his candidature for the chief office in Georgetown is but a repetition of municipal history everywhere. Almost any man who gives several years of public service can have sufficient criticism levelled at him to make the aspirations of a new man conclusive. It is a coincidence that ex-Mayor Mackenzie and Mayor-elect Jos. Gibbons were both former residents of Acton.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

PAUL IN CAESAREA
Golden Text.—Herein do I exercise myself to have a conscience void of offense toward God and men, always.—Acts 24: 16.
Lesson Text.—Acts 24: 10-23. Study also Luke 12: 4-12.
Time.—A. D. 58 or 59. Place.—Caesarea.

Exposition.—I. "Neither can they prove the things whereof they now accuse me," 10-13.
Here we have an illustration of the courtesy and tact of the Apostle Paul. Paul was in the best sense a gentleman and a diplomat. He could, by all proper means, win the favor of those whom he would gain for Christ. In point of fact, Felix was a very bad man in his personal conduct and an unjust man in his official position, yet Paul found something to praise, even in him. Paul never shrank from declaring the whole counsel of God (ch. 20: 27), he told Felix himself, before he got through with him, the whole truth with the most fearless and unflinching plainness (v. 25), but one can be frank and faithful without being brusque and boorish. But the combination of utter fidelity and delicate courtesy which we find in Paul is exceedingly rare.—The same thing is seen again in Paul's address before Agrippa (ch. 26: 27) and over and over again in his epistles. He begins his letters with considerate compliments, but there are very plain and unsparring words before he closes. This Spirit-given tact and wisdomness of address is as much needed by the one who would acceptably serve Christ as is the Spirit-given boldness of utterance. Paul says, "make my defense," but before he finishes it is really his Lord he is defending or declaring and dwelling upon his favorite theme, the great truth of the resurrection (vs. 14, 15). Paul takes up the terms of the indictment brought against him (v. 5), and meets them with a flat and unanswerable denial. Paul exposes the utter hollowness of the charges against him by saying: "Neither can they prove to thee the things whereof they now accuse me." It is one thing to make accusations; it is another thing to prove them. This, many men forget. They fancy assertion is proof, if the assertion is very positive. Yet not seldom the exact opposite is the truth. Many a man has relied on bombastic assertion to make up for his lack of veracity and worth. The type is common enough, in this our own day.

II. How Paul Worshiped, What He Believed, and What He Preached, 14-23.
The way men call "heresy" is often the way that is according to "what is written" in the Word of God. Paul was a model preacher, he believed "all things which are written in the law and in the prophets." Paul would be awfully out of date if he were living now. Just think of a preacher "believing all things which are according to the law, and which are written in the prophets." Paul ought to have taken a course in some of our modern theological seminaries to have found out which part of the Pentateuch and which part of the prophets to believe, and which part not to believe: Yet poor Paul was a pretty successful preacher, after all, and possibly his name may endure after some of these modern scholars who, "professing themselves to be wise, have become fools" (Romans 1: 22), are forgotten. Happy is the man who can say what Paul says here. Can you say it? Jesus could (Luke 24: 27, 44; John 10: 35; Matt. 5: 18; Mark 7: 13). As the athlete keeps himself in rigid physical training, so Paul kept himself in rigid spiritual training (v. 16; cf. 1 Cor. 9: 24-27). The object of "this spiritual discipline was "to have a conscience void of offense"—i. e., a conscience that did not stumble nor cause others to stumble. He sought diligently and disciplined himself carefully to have such conscience, not only toward God, but also "toward man." Furthermore, he sought to have it not only most of the time, but all the time: It was "to bring alms" that Paul had come to Jerusalem. It was obeying the law, not denouncing it, they found him in the temple. It was for the truth of "a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust," that he stood and for which he was "called in question."

III. Felix Terrified, 24-26.
There were few who more sorely needed preaching to than this same man Felix and this same woman Drusilla. Felix had a more speculative curiosity in the matter (v. 24), but Paul gave a very practical and personal turn to his exposition of "the faith in Christ." He showed Felix it was not some far-away thing in the region of metaphysics and speculation, but something close home to his own misconduct. Paul always adapted his preaching to his audience, but not in the way some modern preachers adapt their preaching to their audience, studying to say nothing to offend. He went right after the conscience of the people before him. Righteousness and self-control were just where Felix and Drusilla were offenders. Paul had an influential audience of high social standing, but he preached the preaching that some would have us believe is only adapted for the slums. "Felix was terrified." Well he might be. He was conducting himself in just the way that makes the judgment of God a terror. Terrifying preaching is greatly needed to-day. Indeed, just as much in our fashionable churches where there

is many a modern Felix, as in our mission halls. What a fool Felix was. He had seen the blackness of his sin; he had seen the certainty and the awfulness of the judgment to which he was hurrying; he had been terrified and there was but one wise thing to do, "turn from sin and accept Christ, but only one time to do it—at once. But he waited for a convenient season which never came. He never does for those who wait for it. With many it is now or never; repent to-day or be lost eternally. In a few days all that Felix was thinking about was how he could make money out of the man who had opened to him the gates of heaven. The word, to-day, as in the far-off days of Felix and Caesar, is "To-day, if you will hear His voice, harden not your hearts."

A GOOD LAUGH

A good laugh is a good thing. It is good for the body and for the mind. It has a tonic value. It is an aid to success. One of the hardest things in the world is to crush one who laughs often. Of course it must be real laughter in order to have this result. A titter is generally silly. A snicker may be mean and malicious. Wholesome, hearty laughter, however, has little in common with those unoppressing relations. It rings out with a heartiness that gives the lungs something to do, and breaks the surface of the face up into smiles. Yes, and it brings a smile to the lips of the listeners. A good laugh is a good thing. Laugh often! Laugh hard! Make a habit of laughing, so that when you are tempted to be gloomy and depressed, instead of allowing the corners of your mouth to droop, you will look the world in the face and laugh.

CHECKING UP AND OUT

A guest hurried up to the hotel clerk's counter. He had just minutes to pay his bill, reach the station and board the train. "Hang it," he exclaimed, "I've forgotten something. Here, boy, run up to my room—No. 427—and see if I left my pyjamas and shaving kit. Hurry! I've only five minutes now." The boy hurried. In four minutes he returned, empty handed and out of breath. "Yes, sir," he panted. "You left them."

SHIPS AT CANADIAN PORTS

Ships of all kinds entered at Canadian ports and outports in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1933, numbered 114,204, with a total registered tonnage of 79,733,836 net tons, an increase of 10,110 ships and 7,398,559 tons compared with the fiscal year 1931-32.

Sea-going vessels entered in the year 1932-33 numbered 17,778 of 25,044,389 registered net tons. Of this total 3,198 vessels of 10,886,693 net tons, were British; 6,701 of 4,282,278 net tons were Canadian, and 7,879, of 9,868,418 net tons were of foreign nationalities. United States ships headed the list among the foreign vessels, followed by Norway, Japan, Sweden, Denmark and Germany.

British and foreign vessels entered coastwise at Canadian ports numbered 64,875 of 41,977,393 registered tons.

Ports in British Columbia took first place both in the number and total registered tonnage of sea-going vessels entered, with 8,242 vessels, of 12,488,201 tons. Quebec ports, including Montreal, showed the next heaviest registered tonnage entered with 8,021,612 tons. Nova Scotia was third with 4,698,358 tons, and New Brunswick fourth with 1,718,471 tons. Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland were fifth and sixth, with 70302 tons and 47,445 tons respectively. Tonnage entered coastwise was heaviest in Ontario, totalling 14,579,205 tons; British Columbia was a close second with 14,300,411 tons. Coastwise tonnage entered through Quebec ports and outports totalled 8,154,741 tons; Nova Scotia 3,468,054 tons; New Brunswick 1,110,038 tons; Prince Edward Island 307,846 tons; Yukon 54,907 tons; Manitoba 161 tons. River and lake shipping was heaviest in Ontario whose ports and outports showed a total registered tonnage entered of 12,058,100 tons. Tonnage entered at ports and outports of Quebec, the

only other province with considerable lake and river shipping, totalled 646,861 tons.

Ports showing the largest numbers of sea-going vessels entered during the fiscal year under review, together with the heaviest registered tonnage, were: Vancouver 2,146 vessels, 5,529,808 tons; Victoria, 2,052 vessels, 4,049,284 tons; Montreal 981 vessels, 3,647,117 tons; Halifax 1,161 vessels, 3,420,481 tons; Quebec 1,449 vessels, 2,073,732 tons; Saint John 616 vessels, 1,411,259 tons; New Westminster 453 vessels, 1,130,470 tons.

NO NEED TO FEAR HARD TIMES

A company which has doubled its business this past year says, in its partial explanation of its "colossal feat": "We plan always to give the customer more for his money than he expects."

Now that is not a bad principle for young people to adopt as they start life: give more than is expected. For one thing you will not find many competitors. Of course the workers who give less than is expected do not last long. If they prove inefficient, out they go.

The average worker does all that is expected of him. He does his work fairly well. He is reasonably reliable. Except in times of crisis, he is pretty sure of keeping his job; but he is not indispensable. He is not slated for immediate advancement. He is not the sort of person who goes on being successful whether times are good or bad. That happens to the workers who give more than is expected; who are less concerned over getting off at five o'clock than they are to finish their task; who give efficiency and add loyalty for full measure. If you can and do exceed the expectations of your employer in the sort of service you give, you have no need to fear hard times.

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