



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor.

TELEPHONES—Editorial and Business Office, 174; Residence, 131.

EDITORIAL

Most Any Town

A town that never has anything to do in a public way, is on the way to the cemetery. Any citizen who will do nothing for his town is helping to dig the grave. A man who curses the town furnishes the coffin. The man who is so selfish as to have no time from his business to give to town affairs is making a shroud. The man who will not advertise is driving the hearse. The man who is always pulling back from any public enterprise throws bouquets on the grave. The man who is so stingy as to be howling hard times, preaches the sermon sings the dirge and thus the town lies buried from all sorrow and care.—Deseronto Post.

Thankfulness and Optimism

Considered as a municipality Acton can come to the close of 1934 with every cause for thanksgiving. Taken in a municipal way its records, accounts etc., show every reason for thankfulness. Not only has the municipality held during the depressed period but made definite advancement toward improved financial condition and a lowering of the debt. Nearly everyone of the industries located in Acton have maintained during the year almost complete staffs of employees and this has been the leading factor in making for the success of the municipality and its undertakings. It has kept the call for relief assistance to a minimum and in consequence the morale of the residents has not been lowered. Now with every indication that 1935 will continue the upward trend, slightly visible in 1934, the community as a whole can face the future with a good deal of optimism.

Printers Across Canada Up in Arms

The decision of the Federal Government to print a large proportion of the Dominion Voters' Lists at the King's Printer Department at Ottawa instead of sending the work out to local printers in the constituencies is the cause of plenty of criticism in the printing fraternity. What object the Government has in mind is difficult to say and if economy is in the background, the department will find that little will be saved. In the first place a considerable investment in machinery must be made before the King's Printer could undertake such a huge task, and apart from this side of the question much higher wages will be paid in the Ottawa plant than is paid in small community plants. It is doubtful if the Government follows out this policy whether they will save anything. We are confident that the centralization of the work is detrimental to its correctness, and also to the hundreds of near idle printers across Canada. The Returning Officers and others concerned are going to have a sweet time sending copy through to Ottawa, having proofs sent back, then corrections sent back to Ottawa again and finally returned for final proof reading. We just wonder whether the election will be next year or the year after. If it's next year the Government will have to think up a different plan with regard to printing voters' lists.—Bowmanville Statesman.

Canada's domestic exports during October, 1934, were valued at \$67,749,000, and show a gain of \$7,280,000 compared with exports valued at \$60,469,000 in October, 1933.

Closing the Year

We would indeed be remiss if we came to the close of 1934 and allowed the opportunity to pass without expressing our gratitude to our friends—business associates and everyone for the many kindnesses that have been scattered throughout its days and nights and made it such a pleasant year. Any unkindness we forgive as we hope to be forgiven. But at the close of the year it is much more pleasant to recall only those things which make the sunshine of life. As we recall these in mind's review it is truly with a spirit of thankfulness that we prepare to close the year 1934. To enumerate those who have been contributory to this happy culmination would only allow the possibility of an omission. So to one and all we here in THE FREE PRESS, editor and staff, say thank you all for your assistance in our co-operative effort to give Acton a newspaper and printing plant worthy of the community. We have enjoyed 1934 serving with you and can only hope that in 1935 and the year's following that we may serve in the same happy relationships.

Canadian Wheat Pools

At its recent annual meeting, held in Regina, the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool was able to present a statement showing substantial progress, notwithstanding poor crops in a considerable area of that Province. Total grain handled by the Pool during the year was slightly over 60,000,000 bushels and working capital increased from \$3,390,854 in the previous year to \$6,017,831. In 1929 the Wheat Pools of the Western Provinces paid their members some \$22,000,000 more than the grain brought when finally sold. Financing under the conditions arising from this over payment, which are due to the sudden drop in grain prices in the 1929 crop year, was made possible by support extended by the Provincial Governments, with the exception of approximately \$1,300,000 which was written off by the Government of Manitoba. The first payment of principal came due in the fall of 1933 and payment of principal and interest was made by the three Pool organizations. Principal and interest have again been paid in 1934, the amount so paid by the various Pools being: Manitoba, \$233,741; Saskatchewan, \$1,132,304; Alberta, \$453,425; total \$1,819,470.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A Happy and Prosperous 1935 to all!

The clean, new calendars can be put in place next Tuesday.

Police courts and the true Christmas spirit do not go together. There was no session this afternoon of the weekly court in Acton.

Monday next is nomination day in many centres. Municipal offices in Acton are all filled and officials ready to assume duty on January 7th.

And after the holiday season, hockey, skating, curling and a new Y. M. C. A. Who was it said that life in a small town must be monotonous?

Most everyone, except the chap who bought Christmas gifts on the instalment plan, is agreed that after all Christmas is a wonderful time of year.

Guelph has won two league hockey games without the assistance of the disputed players. Pretty soon the Royal City will vie with the Queen City for the title of hog town.

And all those beautiful Christmas wrappings are now in the wastepaper baskets or burned up. But the thoughtfulness and care that shaped the wrapping is a beautiful memory.

War and rumors of wars continue in spite of all the peace regulations and conferences. Can the demand be traced to the kindred interests who demand freer sale of beer.

On and after Tuesday next persons in possession of unregistered revolvers or pistols are liable to a \$50 fine or imprisonment, or both. The place to register possession of these is with the local police.

The forests of Canada cover 1,150,000 square miles, or about one-third of the total land area of the country. The stand of merchandise timber is estimated at 165,880,000,000 cubic feet, valued at \$1,689,000,000.

Silver producers in Canada reported an output of 1,333,597 ounces in September as compared with 1,725,673 ounces in August and 1,258,432 ounces in September of last year. Production during the first nine months of 1934 totaled 12,008,278 ounces, or 5.2 per cent above the output in the corresponding period of 1933.

An absurd situation developed in the recent election in Fort Erie, where two property owners could not qualify because their taxes were not paid in full, but several people who were receiving town relief could qualify since they owned no property and therefore could owe no taxes. It is an anomaly that such should be the case. The only persons who should be qualified to sit on the Council are property owners—and they should have their taxes paid.—Hanover Post.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30th

TESTS OF A CHRISTIAN

Golden Text.—Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is begotten of God: and whosoever loveth Him that begat loveth Him also that is begotten of Him.—1 John 5: 1.

Lesson Text.—1 John 5: 1-12. Study, also, John 15: 12-17.

Time.—About 65 A. D. Place.—Ephesus.

Exposition.—I. Belief in Jesus as the Christ, 1-3.

This is the third virtual repetition of this truth in John's epistle (cf. chap. 4: 2, 15). What is this "believing" cited in this passage? It is that which our Lord exhorted His disciples to exercise, and which they, in turn, enjoined upon all who professed to name the name of their common Lord and Master. It is that to which salvation is everywhere appended in the Word of God. It is, moreover, the duty of all men. Jesus Christ is worthy of the confidence of all believers, and it, therefore, is their bounden duty to confide in Him. At the same time, this faith, wherever it exists, is in every case, without exception, the gift of God and the work of the Holy Spirit. He has wrought all our works in us, and our faith, too. One might ask: must not a man repent as well as believe? The reply is: no man ever believed in Jesus but what he repented at the same time. Faith and repentance go together. If I trust Christ to save me from sin, I am at the same time repenting of sin and my mind is changed in relation to sin, and everything else that has to do with it. All fruits meet for repentance are contained in faith itself—faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Saviour of man. Love, what flows out of this? Love, we MUST love, if we are begotten of God, all those who also are born of God. First, a man loves God, and then he loves all those whom God has begotten, despite the errors and infirmities he may see in them, being himself encompassed about with infirmities. The common faith which is indicated by the common faith in the great Redeemer is to bind us, one to another.

II. Overcoming the World, 4-11.

The Christian's life is a lengthened contest with the worldliness that surrounds him. None can avoid this contest, and the forms in which this warfare must be maintained are many and dangerous, and can be withstood only by determined resistance. Yet, "whosoever is born of God overcometh the world." And it is faith which secures for the Christian believer his victory. His mind becomes occupied with the lofty themes relating to the person, and work of Christ. In comparison with these, all other things fall into insignificance, in his esteem. By such contemplation he is encouraged by considering his Master's example, and those who have conformed to Him. They conquer, and so may he. Moreover, his faith carries into close and intimate intercourse with eternity, thereby bringing a mighty influence to bear on him which allegiates his attachments to the allurements and so-called pleasures of this present world. "This is the victory which overcometh the world, even our faith."

III. The Possession of the Lord Jesus, 12.

"He that hath the Son hath life." This is the keyword of this passage. It is the supreme as it is the indispensable test of a Christian. It is God's mark upon a living soul. Whatever else we cannot see in a man, if a simple trust in Jesus is discernible, he can be received as a brother beloved. The possession of the Lord Jesus becomes a clear evidence of life, because He is the source, the fountain, the nourishment of life. While the branch is vitally in the stem of a tree, if the tree be alive, it will have life. And every Christian believer knows that CHRIST is alive—once and for evermore. In another aspect of this great and glorious truth, haying the Son is not only a source of life, but the result of life. When a man receives Jesus into his soul, his faith is a sure indicator of a spiritual and mysterious force within him, in the power of which he is able to receive the Lord, which is the highest possession possible to man. But note that this means something very much more than to possess an intellectual knowledge of Him. It is something more than to admire His character, and to glory in His atoning work. It is to possess His disposition, to have His spirit. And this possession involves the highest life. Eternal life, in this connection, does not mean eternal existence, merely, but eternal goodness; and eternal goodness is the parade of the soul. To possess Christ is to attain a life of supremacy. It means to be, in the highest sense, a king. It means, moreover, to be possessed by self-chilivous devotion. "Not my will, but Thine be done." It should be observed, here, that no man is named specifically in this great passage: "He that hath the Son hath life." God Almighty, when He speaks from the throne of revelation, speaks to all mankind. He does not, by His Word, lay hold on the local, the conventional, the chronological, the transitory in man. Mark the decisive grandeur of this: for it intimates a connection between our nature now and our condition hereafter. Possession of Christ NOW is possession FOR EVER. Every stone which is now laid to the spiritual fabric is to form part of an ascending structure, which is to rise higher and higher towards per-

fection through the everlasting ages. The possession of Christ, moreover, connotes three marvellous conditions—the unfathomable mystery of heaven, the infinite mercy of earth and the miracle of all eternity. Beyond all sustainable argument the test of a Christian is the possession of Christ. He (the believer) has but one centre, one circumference—Jesus in the beginning, in the middle and without end. But the final word of this twelfth verse must not be overlooked—"He that hath not the Son hath NOT life." This eternally true, yet (as some say) old-fashioned theology with its stern phraseology has fallen, largely, into disuse by reason of the fact that those whose business it is to direct attention to it are sadly remiss in their duty. Nevertheless, the grim distinction must be retained, and there is great need for a renewed emphasis being laid upon it. "He that hath not the Son hath NOT life," and as John in his Gospel (3: 36) say, "He that believeth not the Son shall not SEE life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." As the year closes, may we solemnly recognize that, in this passage, the entire Gospel is contained.

GREETING

How swiftly the wheels of time speed us past life's milestones! Already we are nearing the boundary line of another year. It seems but yesterday that the summer zephyrs sighed through the trees and stirred their foliage laden branches, yet "threw the falling of the confetti of the skies—the snow—bespeaks the departure of the Old Year and the advent of a New.

As together, dear friends, we begin our journey along the unknown and untravelled pathway of 1935, let us take with us a full measure of that Expectancy and Happiness, and that equipping of Courage and Faith which is alone the Christian's.

How fitting that Sweet Christmas should come to console the Old Year in his dying moments! At this happy, gift season of the year may we meditate long in the most sacred chambers of the heart over that Wonderful Gift—Christ. May gratitude overwhelm us.

CROSSING THE RUBICON

The Rubicon was the old name of a stream which separates Cisalpine Gaul and Italy proper. Caesar, by crossing it, in 49 B. C. virtually declared war against the republic. For this reason the expression carries the idea of taking an irrevocable step.

BEE HIVE GOLDEN CORN SYRUP A GREAT ENERGY FOOD

WHEN DINING OUT

Most of us in the course of the simple menus provided by home cooking, and few awkward problems of "eating etiquette" to bother us, writes a Lettician. But in everyone's life comes an occasional party; and sure enough, a dish appears, that presents a problem. How should it be tackled? In spite of your curiosity about the strange dish, you find yourself refusing it for fear of committing some grievous social error? Let us take some typical problems. Asparagus for instance is often served with small tongs for lifting. When no tongs are provided, it is taken, one stick at a time, between finger and thumb; the green head is dipped into whatever sauce is served, and the soft part only is eaten. Asparagus is very tender when cooked, and you can easily pull off the head daintily with lips and teeth.

Raw celery is not cut with a knife. The right way to eat it is the obvious way; simply pick it up and bite!

For melon take a spoon and fork, using the fork for holding and eating from the spoon. The brown powder sometimes served with melon is ground ginger. You need not take it unless you wish.

Caviare is generally served with fingers of dry toast. Holding a piece of toast with the fingers, use a fish knife to put a little of caviare (which, by the way, is simply sturgeon's roe) on the end of the toast, and bite off just as much toast as you have covered.

Oysters on the half-shell are eaten with a fork only, the shell being held lightly with the finger-tips of the other hand. Oysters are served with slices of lemon, which should be held in the fingers and squeezed over them. Even with more familiar foods, there are often two ways of eating them, either of which would be permissible in the

intimacy of the family circle, but only one of which can be counted "correct" at a formal party.

Soup should be taken from the side of the spoon a little towards the point. Don't have your spoon brimming full, and when you are finishing do not tilt the plate.

Don't try to cut crisp rolls with a knife; it can be positively dangerous! Break your roll into small pieces and use the knife only for buttering.

At a formal party, large fruit like oranges, apples or pears should not be peeled or handled with the fingers. Use your silver: fruit knife and fork both for peeling and eating.

Never remove fish bones from the mouth with your fingers; should one find its way into your mouth remove it as inconspicuously as possible with the aid of your fork. Take out as many as possible while the fish is still on your plate.

Sauces and condiments are added to food with the point of the knife, not by dipping the food into them (except in the case of asparagus and celery). Condiments, by the way, should be placed close together on the right-hand side of the plate.

Lay down your knife and fork when they are not actually in use; don't keep them poised in the air. Lay them at a narrow angle until you have actually finished, then put them close together. And finally when drinking water, or any other beverage, keep your elbow close to your side as you lift your glass.

KNEW WHAT HE WANTED

Grandpa: "Why d'ee ye want to be a policeman when ye grow up, Donald?" Donald: "So's I can see fit'n' matches for naething, an' stand in front o' the crowd!"

Advertisement for Carroll's Foods featuring various products like GINGER ALE, TABLE FIGS, MIXED NUTS, Kraft Cheese, Custard, Mincemeat, Wax Beans, Corn, Dressing, Real Good Tea, Aylmer Pumpkin, CHOICE CANDY, PLUM PUDDING, and SHORTCAKE BISCUITS. Includes the Carroll's logo and 'QUALITY FIRST ECONOMY ALWAYS' slogan.

Advertisement for fresh firm fruit including Lemons (25c Dozen) and Seedless Grapefruit (3 for 17c). Offers free delivery and provides the phone number 158 and address Mill Street, Acton, Ontario.