

The Acton Free Press
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G. ARILOP DILLA, Editor

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EDITORIAL

We Welcome Other Opinions

Every week we give expression to our opinions in these editorial columns. It is part of our job. But hundreds of our readers must also have ideas of their own regarding community matters and editors do not for a moment think that their is the only right opinions on any subject.

The Letter-Box Column of THE FREE PRESS is open to any reader for the free expression of opinion on timely subjects and for constructive suggestion which might prove of value to the community. The combined constructive thought and effort of all citizens is needed to make Acton a better community. THE FREE PRESS welcomes contributions from its readers in the form of letters to the editor. If you have an idea that you think should be helpful, put it on paper and pass it along. We welcome such contributions. If you can't sign your name to it, read it over again before sending it in for publication. Don't ask the editor to assume responsibility for your contribution as well as his own.

Bumper Orchard Fruit Crop

Canadian fruit growers are expected to harvest a bumper crop of apples, peaches and prunes and a moderate yield of pears this year. The apple crop is estimated at 5,146,100 barrels, a gain of 1,030,900 barrels compared with a year ago. Nova Scotia will account for 2,400,000 barrels of this year's apple crop; British Columbia, 1,801,000 barrels; Ontario, 731,500 barrels; Quebec, 173,000 barrels; and New Brunswick will supply 40,600 barrels.

The peach crop is estimated at 628,330 bushels, an increase of 108,160 bushels over 1936. Of the total peach crop, Ontario will account for 503,000 bushels, an increase of more than 100,000 bushels, and British Columbia will supply 125,330 bushels, an advance of 97,460 bushels compared with last year. According to present estimates, plums and prunes will yield 195,730 bushels, an increase of 52,070 bushels. Ontario will produce 58,900 bushels and British Columbia, 136,830 bushels. The production of pears is placed at 393,200 bushels, or 27,900 bushels less than last year. Ontario will return 147,600 bushels and British Columbia 245,600 bushels of this year's crop.

All in a Moment

Just out of Acton on Sunday, a motor car went out of control for a moment. We viewed the wreck on Monday morning, and listened to the story of what happened just after the smash. Four of the occupants hadn't been so seriously hurt, but one man was unconscious. When he was picked up his body was limp. The doctor, who happened along, couldn't tell whether his back was broken or just a lot of other bones. Nearly all the glass in the car was broken; the doors wouldn't go shut. There was blood on the front seat and on the running board. A man's hat was in the wrecked car when we saw it. Just a few moments before the accident it had no doubt been a happy carload. It wasn't a new car, but it was well cared for. A fraction of a minute wrecked it. The curve where the accident occurred is not particularly dangerous. The visibility is good. It can readily be taken at forty miles an hour. We haven't any idea what speed the car was travelling when it hit the gravel off the main roadway. Accidents happen in a hurry. They make a bad mess of occupants and machines. They are not nice to look at. The one here was nothing compared with others over the week-end in the Province. What are we going to do about them?

The Editor Must Decide For or Against Publication

From time to time, with increasing infrequency, says the Verdon (B.C.) News, we are asked to prepare reports and to submit them for censorship before publication. Frequently the request is made with the (b) of intent.

Invariably the reply is the same. That it cannot be done. Reporters always strive for accuracy and, where there is opportunity, are always anxious to check up on statements of fact.

To submit a report is another matter. If the purpose of the submission is to expurge or to alter statements, or to soft pedal any portion of an accurate report. That is the function and the right of the editor. It is for him to decide if statements made at a public meeting should appear in print.

To submit a report for censorship, is to abdicate the duties of editorship and to place them in the hands of an interested party. An editor cannot do that and retain his editorship. If he permits publication of biased reports the public will soon make him feel the weight of displeasure.

Every newspaper is up against similar propositions and has to adopt the same policy as the Verdon News.

Novellies Do Not Appeal

The vote secured by Mr. Cross, the Independent candidate in Halton County, must have assured him that there is a goodly percentage of voters who do not vote as they profess. His nomination papers required the signatures of 100 voters in Halton, and we presume he met with all the requirements. But when the vote was counted, it lacked 17 of the number who had placed him in nomination. Did they change their mind or did they ever intend to vote for him as a candidate? Or does it just prove again that some folks will sign most anything?

The vote given for both candidates, other than the Liberal and Conservative, would seem to indicate that Halton, like other parts of Ontario, has little use for the extra parties. We have made the statement previously, and we repeat, that the clean-up desired by reformers can be made as well within the parties as by forming new parties with new, high-sounding names. After all, the Liberal or Conservative parties are just groups of individuals. In Halton at least the electors adhere closely to the C.J. parties and are certainly not stampeded by new names or individual panacea. Even a voice from the skies directing the way to vote failed to accomplish anything.

An Important Appointment

Citizens generally have been keenly interested in the Council and the appointment of a Clerk and Treasurer to succeed Mr. H. N. Farmer. And most all appreciate the care with which the appointment is being considered. The advisability of continuing the combined office of Clerk and Treasurer as one position is not in question. The appointment is not made as often as Reeve or Council are chosen. The Clerk and Treasurer provides a continuity between Councils that is often of equal or of more importance than the elected body. Clerk Farmer filled the position for eighteen years and Clerk McKinnon for about an equal period.

Acton's yearly business turnover is between \$40,000 and \$50,000. Approximately \$20,000 is involved each year in debenture payments. Taxes and collections require constant and careful supervision. But all these things are to be found in the Auditors' Report each year. A perusal of it impresses everyone with the importance of the position and brings a realization of Council's responsibility in making the appointment and the need of a complete Council. It's a business appointment and no doubt will be considered only as such by all. Acton's business requires careful handling, and the appointment should be made with the fact of its importance to the fore front.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Complaint was made that the 1937 car license plates faded and now the colors don't appeal to all on the 1938 plates. We like the reduction in fee and will take any color for a like reduction next year.

It would appear that folks who failed to attend the fall fair made sure of an outing at the Plowing Match in Fergus. Greater attendance was reported, while the fall fairs nearly all reported decreased attendance.

Smith's Falls will have a lady candidate for municipal honors this year. Few realized when women were given the vote that mere man would soon be pushed aside. The question is: Will Councils go the same as the barber shops?

Ontario polled a record vote on October 6th. Returns thus far received showed a total of 950 more votes polled than in 1934, with 100 polls unreported. Totals thus far reported are 1,562,736 for 1937; 1,561,826 for 1934, and 1,011,880 for 1929.

Evidence of better conditions is reflected in the demand for more Hydro power. The total combined load for all systems in September showed an increase of 10.5 per cent. The combined load for the Niagara system jumped 13 per cent., while Georgian Bay showed a 22.7 per cent. increase.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21st, 1937

CHRISTIAN RENEWAL

Golden Text.—For the grace of God hath appeared, bringing salvation to all men.—Titus 2: 11.

Lesson Text.—Titus 2: 1-11.

Time.—65 A.D. Place.—Nicopolis.

Exposition.—I. A Hard Parish.

The Cretons were a turbulent, lawless folk, deeply resentful of Roman rule, notorious for their sensual vices, and so addicted to lying that their very name had become a by-word and synonym of falsity (cf. ch. 1: 12, 18a). Even after they became Christians they continued to show these characteristic faults. Many Jews, whose seditious propensities were ever to the fore, were living in the island, and the Judaisers were causing much dissension in the church (ch. 1: 10, 11, 14) which (founded, apparently, by Creton, who had been in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost) had grown up sporadically, and was loosely organized. Uneducated and untaught, the Creton Christians needed to be set right on many points.

If The Christian in Civil and Social Life, 1-3.

One of the first matters needing attention was the burning issue of a right attitude towards civil authority. Paul's instructions are unequivocal: it is the Christian's absolute and imperative duty to obey rightfully delegated administrators of the government (principals and powers), in all matters not involving conscience. All power is derived from God (John 3: 27; 19: 21). Rulers are his ministers, and as such, are to be respected and obeyed. The Christian religion represents God's principle of law and order; the purpose of the law is to uphold this principle—to stimpert the right and suppress the wrong. Without obedience to it, there can be no order, peace or safety; hence to rebel against those who administer the law is tantamount to rebellion against God Himself (Romans 13: 1-6). Scarcely less pressing was the problem of how to adjust in a social framework of neighbors, most of whom were non-Christians. They were to "speak evil of no man," to restrain their hot tempers and keep out of quarrels, to be gentle and peaceable towards all. Conversion to Christ had made a vast difference in their own lives: to abuse others for the very faults from which they had been saved was both inconsistent and un-Christian. Personal abuse is the wrong weapon, any way, to use against an evil-doer: it only stiffens him in his opposition. No one was ever reformed by abuse. The best missionary work is done by a low-lived life. How sorely this injunction to "speak evil of no man" is needed to-day, both in public and private life (cf. Lev. 19: 16; Prov. 26: 20, 22; Ps. 34: 13, 14; 1-3; 1 Peter 2: 1, 3; 10; Jude 3: 6, 10). It is a command that seems to have been forgotten or ignored by many otherwise exemplary Christians!

III. Changed Lives, 4-7.

What a frightful picture we have in verse 3, of man in bondage to sin and evil passions, hating, hated, and hateful! But note the marvelous portrayal that follows of the power of God to change, regenerate and renew the life that is born again of His Spirit in Christ. In place of rioting righteousness; instead of malice, merry. Violence gives place to gentleness, hatred to love. These changes in the outward life are manifestations of the new nature which we have received by "the washing (laver, R.V.) of regeneration and the renewal of the Holy Ghost," the outflowing into beauty of life of the grace of God in the soul. This regeneration is effected through the Word (cf. Ps. 119: 9; Eph. 5: 26; Jas. 1: 18; 1 Peter 1: 23). The old, corrupt element in our nature is washed away, the regenerated soul brought into new purity of life. The special function of each Person of the Trinity in our renewal is here plainly brought out: God the Father is the Source, Christ the Son (the Word) the channel, the Holy Spirit the Water of Life, shed (poured out in unmeasured bounty) upon our heart in daily renewal and quickening of the inward life (2 Cor. 4: 26; Col. 3: 10; Rom. 12: 2). There is absolutely nothing we can do of ourselves to earn this salvation: nothing in us merits it (Eph. 2: 8). We can only accept and appropriate with thankfulness the provision for our justification which God has made (1 Peter 1: 7, 8, 9).

IV. Witnessing, 8-9.

He who has been brought out of the darkness of sin into the light of God's marvelous love into the family of sonship made "the love of the hope of eternal life (v. 7), will 'love to tell the story.' It will be the song in his heart, the theme on his lips, and his life manifesting the incontrovertible testimony of "good works" (v. 8), the "fruit of the Spirit," will bear witness to the fact of his regeneration and renewal in Christ (John 13: 35). Idle speculations over controversial issues and quibblings over the fine points of ceremonial law and ritual and the minutiae of Old Testament genealogies are to be avoided. The former are foolish, lead nowhere, and profit nobody; the latter have ceased to have significance for one living under the new covenant of God's grace. But the great saving truths of the Gospel—God's love, His provision for our redemption in the atoning death of His Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, and the birth of the soul into newness of life through the word of the Holy Spirit—these truths cannot be too often reiterated and affirmed, for they are the power of God unto salvation unto all who believe

(Romans 1: 16; cf. Heb. 6: 5; 7: 25; 1 Peter 1: 8-9).

V. How to Deal with an Heretic, 10, 11.

The real issue in the word "heresy" is that of ethics. "The heretic chooses for himself what he will believe, setting his own judgment over against the teaching of Christ and His apostles. Something very much more than mere differences in doctrinal detail is here involved. Monstrous and perilous teachings were threatening the very existence of Christianity; the peril both to faith and to morals was enormous. It was necessary to deal drastically with the evil. God has made full and perfect provision for our salvation, but He saves no man against his own will. The heretic is to be reconciled with and an earnest effort made to reclaim him from the error of his ways. But if, after several attempts, he persists in wilfully setting his face against the light, no more time is to be wasted with him. The best thing is to have as little as possible to do with him (cf. 2 Thess. 3: 14; 2 John 11-13). By his own self-will he has condemned himself (John 3: 19; 8: 40).

A NAVEGARHARD

A child should be put on his guard against any and all strangers, writes Olive Holbert. "Once, when indulging, we posed a little fellow, struggling up a hill with a heavy basket, in the hot sun. He was so little and looked so done up, we stopped and I said, 'We can't take you home if you are not afraid to go with us. I'm sure your mother wouldn't mind.'

He was very polite, but said very gently, 'No, thank you. I'm not allowed in anyone's car.'

"Benny," I said, "you stick to that. You're a very good boy indeed."

I matter myself that I look trustworthy, and so does my husband. But no one who did not look trustworthy would be fool enough to try to enter a child. As I repeat, tell each child never to go in a stranger's car. And never to leave school with a stranger, no matter what he says, or she says.

MANEATERS

terrified assembly gazed in wonder as each of the vicious fish started up—only to turn away disappointed. "The fish wouldn't touch me," said the lady, modestly. "They were maneaters, you know."

"Overboard!" shrieked the watch. A thousand men and women rushed to the rail to see a woman gasping and flailing in the cold, green, slithering water. "Sharks!" screamed the multitude, as white flippers darted towards the lady below. Before the rope was lowered the

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