

The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

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EDITORIAL

But it Must be Garnered

Crop reports from Western Canada are indeed more encouraging this year and all hope that expectations are realized. A trip in any part of this section also gives promise of a splendid yield. Hay was good and was gathered in most cases under ideal conditions. Grain crops are looking splendid, and are, in some cases, ready to be harvested.

We do complain a good deal about the weather, and things beyond our control, but a trip through the country these days should bring a smile to any face and we do note the one on the faces of neighboring farmers is contagious. With bountiful crops conditions are bound to improve. But the crops need to be harvested. Surely there are places for workers on the farms, who have failed to find employment elsewhere. Those who would eat must work, and the time to work is now.

Let's Have More Improvements

Like all the rest of folks hereabouts, we've been pleased with the park improvements. In conversation with Councillor Chapman, the other evening, we learn that the plan is to continue to make improvements.

We learned of some of the difficulties experienced also. For instance, a man with an extra coat of grime on, was observed one evening, making a public bathroom of the place. Cleanliness is splendid, but in respect to others, the top coat should have been removed at home. Like all facilities for public use, there are those who by their actions, make such a nuisance that there is a tendency to curtail the privileges. The thought with all should be conduct similar to that which you would expect from others.

We all hope the incentive will be for further improvements. It's a bathing beach not a communal bath house.

Do We Choose Wrongly?

A sub heading in the account last week of the Conservative convention was a bit arresting. "One speech did it." It seems that one of the candidates for leadership, by his flow of oratory, changed the whole complexion of the gathering. It knocked out of the running three candidates who had been contenders for the leadership. This type of choice is not confined to any one party.

But are we getting the best men when we choose them by their flow of oratory? It is an old saying that great talkers are not great doers, or something to that effect, and we wonder if the electors have not been marking their ballots on the wrong basis. We recall a few years ago a very able business man was a candidate for the House of Commons. He had been successful in his own business and served well in various municipal offices. His judgment was admired by all, and his conduct toward all was such that drew admiration of everyone. He was the type of man who gave leadership in the community and always good leadership.

His one handicap was his inability to speak in public. Of course all his other fine points were forgotten by the electors. He wasn't the type to tell about them himself, and the electors weren't interested enough to find out for themselves. He was judged, like a lot more are to-day, on his platform ability.

Is it any wonder that sessions of Parliament are so lengthy and unproductive of things when we send nothing but the best talkers to do the business of the country?

Is This a Solution?

We hear a great deal these days about the necessity of lifting the tax burden, but not so often a workable solution. The following, advanced by the Midland Free Press, has a great deal to commend it.

"For ourselves, we believe that the Government would make much better progress towards putting the dormant building industry to work if it would lift a portion of the real estate tax burden. If the Dominion would assume responsibility for relief, and the Provinces would pay the complete cost of High School education, social and health services from ten to fifteen mills could be removed from the tax rate of most municipalities, and it would again be profitable to build and own houses. Then private enterprise would put its own money into construction and we should see a boom such as we have not experienced for many years. The abolition of the sales tax on building materials will be a great help to industry. Would that it was possible to drop it all along the line."

Leaders?

Last week saw quite a furore in Ottawa when a new head was chosen for the Conservative Party. We say furore in Ottawa, because we wonder just how far out of Ottawa the affair did create a furore, or for that matter anything else that may transpire in Ottawa.

It would appear to many that in the choice of a leader, be it either Conservative or Liberal, or any of the other newer brands, that chief interest lies in the ability to lead the party to victory. It matters not so much whether leadership is given in affairs of importance to the Dominion—not half so much as getting or retaining the party in power. Perhaps this task is so heavy that it encroaches or overrides the duties of state. At any rate, the needs of the country are often sacrificed for the welfare of the party.

And the electorate is as much to blame for this condition as those who are elected. A man with a good business will very often refuse to give any part of his time or talent to the matters of concern of the country. Very often the same principles that have been successful in his business, would be applicable to the business of the country. But again, how would his candidature be received by the public?

EDITORIAL NOTES

Be it a picnic or a re-union, there are indeed few who have not more than one on the list of summer engagements.

Planting trees is regarded as a recognized way of attracting rainfall. Another good plan is to wash the car.—Kitchener Record.

Burlington is to have a new brewers' warehouse. Is the lake water so bad that both Burlington and Oakville need these extra storage places?

The Georgetown Herald tells of a family re-union being held in Eastwood Park, Acton. The nearest we have to that in this locality is Edgewood Park at Eden Mills.

Have you heard of the absent-minded professor who suddenly realized that for three months he had been changing his shirt every 1,000 miles and the oil in his car twice a week?

We often wonder just how many police court officials would be required if all the laws and sections were rigidly enforced. And then again, how many would be innocent of offence?

Every section of the highway is getting more than a share of the fatalities. The fifteen mile stretch between Acton and Guelph has had three fatalities marked against it the first six months of the year.

For forty-seven years William McDonald has been guiding the destinies of the Chesley Enterprise. Ill health for the past few years has not dimmed the constructive thought he puts each week into his paper and all hope for him many more years with his hand on the helm.

Hon. Eric W. Cross, Ontario Minister of Public Welfare, says there are 60,000 persons in the province receiving old age pensions, 3,000 women who receive mothers' allowances, 10,000 children who are wards of the Children's Aid Society, and the number on relief ranges from 160,000 to 300,000, and we are further informed that out of every dollar collected by Ontario, 24c goes toward servicing of public debt, leaving 76c for public service.

Speaking to a group of weekly publishers at Dundalk, Miss Agnes Macphail, M.P., said: "I think the weekly papers are THE important papers. They are folksey, unhurried and not sentimental." She stated that she reads all the local papers and enjoys them as they seem so close to the people. Continuing, Miss Macphail stated: "The weekly newspapers do give leadership in projects, movements, and the things that need doing." And that's another speech from a politician with which we are forced to agree.

The Sunday School Lesson

FOR SUNDAY, JULY 17th

DEBORAH: EMERGENCY LEADER—SHIP

Golden Text.—Who knoweth whether thou art not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?—Ezther 4: 14.

Lesson Text.—Judges 4: 1-9, 12-14.

Time.—12:35 B.C. Place.—From Mt. Tabor to Harosheth.

Exposition.—I. Deborah Summons Barak to Fight Against Sisera, 1-9.

As the people of Israel forsook God, He forsook them, and thus they became an easy prey to the enemy. Israel was subjected to a particularly grievous oppression (v. 3). But when Israel repented of their sins and cried aloud to Jehovah, their God, He was as ready, as in other days, to listen to their urgent cry and effect their deliverance (cf. Romans 10: 13). God spoke through a woman, Deborah (cf. Ex. 15: 20; 2 Kings 22: 14; 2: 28, 29). And we see this promise fulfilled in New Testament times (Acts 21: 9; 1 Cor. 11: 5). The meaning of the word Deborah is "bee," and the one who bore it here answered to her name by her industry, her sagacity, and her great usefulness to the public life of her time. In God's method of dealing with mankind, judgment of sin must always precede His manifestation of grace and deliverance (Deut. 17: 8-12; 1 Cor. 11: 31, 32). Deborah was a judge and a prophetess in Israel by divine appointment and not by man's appointment (2 Peter 1: 21). She lived in great simplicity, either dwelling in a tent under a tree, or sitting in judgment in open places. Her appointment by God was generally recognized by the people.

Deborah dispatches a summons to Barak, the son of Abimeon of Kedesh-Naphthali, and reminds him that the Lord had commanded him to draw near to Mount Tabor with ten thousand of the men of Naphthali and Zebulun. Barak's name means "lightning," and he certainly came upon the oppressors of Israel like the lightning of God in swift and utter destruction. So will the Lord our God come upon His enemies and those of His people, when He returns again, in judgment (Matt. 24: 27). Though Barak's commission came through Deborah, it emanated from God, and Deborah's word had point and force, because she could say: "Hath not the Lord God of Israel commanded?" (v. 6; cf. Josh. 1: 9). The word of a Christian—of a follower of the Lord Jesus—has authority ONLY when it has God's Word back of it. Deborah gave Barak specific directions as to the number of men to take (v. 6).

Naphthali and Zebulun were the tribes selected of Jehovah which were to win the victory over Israel's enemies, because Habor, the city of their oppressor, was in their territory (i.e., in Naphthali). God's business required haste, and there was not time sufficient to effect general mobilization and draw a great army from the other tribes. Deborah, it is noted, spoke for God and not for herself (v. 7). It was God who was to draw Sisera to Barak at the River Kishon, to meet his destruction: it was God who was to deliver Sisera into Barak's hand (cf. Ex. 14: 4; Josh. 11: 20; Ex. 38: 16). Jehovah's promise to Barak—"I will deliver him into thine hand"—is the promise that He makes to all who fight for Him, and under His direction proceed against His enemies (cf. Josh. 8: 7; 10: 8; 11: 6).

At first, Barak appears to have had more confidence in Deborah than he had in Jehovah (v. 8). He should have proceeded at once, under Jehovah's command, whether Deborah proceeded with the expedition or not. Deborah yielded to Barak's plea that she accompany him and assured him with the word: "I will sure go with thee." The word was that Barak asked; but we have a far superior promise, namely, that the Lord Jesus, Himself, will most surely go with us on Kingdom concerns and errands, if only we go the way He desires us to go (Matt. 28: 19, 20).

II. Barak's Obedience and Israel's Deliverance 10-14.

The outcome of the effectiveness of Deborah's leadership lies outside the prescribed limits of the lesson, but should be studied if the proper values of the incident are to be appreciated. Barak did exactly what God commanded him to do, and Deborah did exactly as she promised (v. 10, cf. v. 6, 9). Though the tribes of Naphthali and Zebulun were the tribes that were summoned and depended on, it appears from Deborah's song of triumph that some from Manasseh and Issachar, also, came with her (ch. 5: 15, 17). Some were expected from Reuben and Dan and Asher who did NOT come (ch. 5: 15, 17). But Zebulun and Naphthali jeopardized their lives unto the death (v. 18).

Sisera gathered a great and magnificently appointed army, and went out against Barak and his handful of tribesmen, confident of achieving an overwhelming victory (vs. 12, 13). But Sisera left one important factor out of his calculations—the Lord God Jehovah. Deborah, because she had the Word of the living God to depend upon, was absolutely without fear of Sisera and his splendid, well-equipped and disciplined army. Numbers counted for absolutely nothing in her survey of the outcome. She knew victory for Israel was certain because God had said so (v. 7). There is something, not only stirring but sublime, in her word to Barak: "Up; for this is the day in which the Lord hath delivered Sisera in thy hand."

How many does 1 and 1 make? Eleven (11).

MAKING CANADA

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Specially Written for Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association

Dear Editor: With regard to the question of a platform for the Canadian Weeklies, my suggestions I have to offer would be based on the conviction that our troubles, and the world's troubles, have primarily a moral rather than an economic basis; or perhaps it would be more accurate to say, a moral basis underlying the economic. For this reason, I would have our papers inculcate high standards of political, business and personal morality, and denounce lapse from them. As practical measures in this direction I would suggest:

1. That moral and ethical instruction, with the object of developing character should be given greater prominence in our educational system, which at present emphasizes the intelligence, with a view to material advantage.

2. That more attention should be paid, and more encouragement given, to the scholars endowed with more than ordinary ability, so as to develop their brains to the highest degree possible, with a view to producing leaders of first rate capacity—our great need. At present our educational system is based on the average pupil, with special attention paid to "the under-privileged," while the super-privileged are given little opportunity to develop their talents, which may be of the highest use to the state.

3. The development of our library system, with a view to encouraging adults to continue their education after leaving school. School should be the beginning of education, not the end. Training to read will have to begin in the schools, and should be part of the curriculum. Thus we shall go far to solve the problem of adult education. The new curriculum recently introduced by the Department of Education is a move in this direction.

4. The organization of a highly trained, non-partisan civil service in both the Federal and Provincial fields of administration, and the elimination from the civil service of the patronage system.

This would do much to improve public administration and discourage corrupt politics.

5. An effort to raise the standard of sport, which has a distinct effect on the character of the people. This applies both to the players, and to the "fans." Commercialization has made winning the chief objective.

6. A movement to restore home life. In particular, by removing the burdensome taxation, which makes ownership of property unpopular, and often a liability, and is driving people into apartments instead of homes.

7. To preach the doctrine of contentment and self denial to a generation bent on pleasure and covetous of all that their neighbors have.

8. To inculcate respect for law, because it is law.

That will do for my share. If you care to incorporate any of these ideas in your program, I claim no copyright.

Yours faithfully, C. H. HALE, Editor, Orilla Packet and Times.

DON'T TAKE A NAP WEARING GLASSES

As the holiday season is upon us, it may be timely to emphasize an important "don't" for those who feel the urge to sunbathe. Never take a nap in the sun with glasses on. One young man failed to observe this safety rule and woke up blinded. Before the pain eventually aroused him, his eyes were so badly burned that he later lost the sight of both eyes.

SCOT WINS AGAIN

A Scottish peer was told that Dr. Johnson, in his dictionary, had defined "oats" as "food for horses in England and food for men in Scotland."

"Aye," said the peer, "and where else can you find such horses and such men?"

SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK By R. J. SCOTT

Advertisement for Scott's Scrap Book featuring illustrations of a clock, a globe, and a map, with text describing the book's contents and availability.

Still Pursuing the Spy Ring



United States Attorney Lamar Hardy, and his daughter, Michelle, are pictured on the S.S. No. manila as they sailed from New York for Europe. The young lady is going to Europe for a vacation, but the attorney is going to run down several "definite leads" in his inquiry into the widespread ramifications of the Nazi spy ring. Sensational news disclosures were promised. He will not visit Germany, where 12 persons who are under spy indictments, are said to be living.

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TIME TABLES

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

AT ACTON

Table showing train schedules for Canadian National Railways at Acton, including times for Going East and Going West.

STANDARD TIME

GRAY COACH LINES

COACHES LEAVE ACTON

Standard Time EASTBOUND (To Toronto)

Table showing coach departure times for Eastbound routes from Acton to Toronto.

WESTBOUND (To Kitchener)

Table showing coach departure times for Westbound routes from Acton to Kitchener.

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