



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOF DILLS, Editor

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EDITORIAL

Not Only Irishmen

Tomorrow is St. Patrick's Day when every true son of old Ireland will pay tribute to this patron saint of the Emerald Isle. There are many legends in connection with the life of Saint Patrick and the years have added not a few. He lived about 396-469, and according to tradition he was born near the present town of Dunbarton, Scotland, which part of the story Irishmen do not countenance, preferring to believe him to be a native of Ireland.

His early life was, however, spent in Ireland and it was his bringing of Christianity to the island for which we particularly revere him. He gave his life, after being fitted for the priesthood, to the work of spreading Christianity in Ireland, and in his chosen task was successful. Tradition again tells us that in going to Ireland, he found no Christians, and left no heathen when he finished.

The popular saying that St. Patrick drove the snake out of Ireland is peculiar, a snake never existed in that island. Whatever his ancestry, his life was such that not only Irishmen but all may well pay tribute to him on each and every March 17th.

Nice But—

In these days when hockey excitement runs high and the natural ice surfaces are affected by the warmer weather, we hear a great deal about the advantages of artificial ice surface and of course wish it were possible to have the advantage of this plan that defies the warm weather and makes hockey schedules definite. Simcoe and Barrie are communities that are giving attention to installation of artificial ice, and Sarnia, too, did vote on the question but defeated the plan.

Owen Sound completed one and has had the first season. It is said that to date a \$15,000 profit has been made this year. Many will also recall the early profits of Acton Arena in the first years; too. It is, however, interesting to read some of the figures of the Owen Sound \$75,000 enterprise. The artificial ice plant cost \$18,700 installed, and sand and pine sleepers brought the total up to \$19,850. Power for operating the plant costs \$6.20 per day, and water 81 cents per day; heat, \$3.12; light, \$3.05; telephone, 58 cents and advertising \$3.50 per day.

Looking at some of the revenues. The Intermediate Hockey Club produced \$5,027, of which the arena's share was \$2,311.65. Hockey practices brought in \$300, and a skating club paid \$1,000 for 15 nights of skating. Owen Sound has a population of nearly 14,000.

Every centre would like to have artificial ice for its arena, but it looks very much as if its installation would be confined to the large centres. The exceptions will be where a Santa Claus decides upon that as his gift to his favorite centre.

Not Forgotten

We have always been an admirer of Hon. Charles Dunning, Canada's Efficiency Minister, even if his levies were not always popular with us. He went up a couple of more notches in our opinion just recently when in debate in the House, the Minister appealed for the millions of Canadians in the middle class group. That group that are endeavoring to provide for their own social security by life insurance and in saving accounts.

These are the people, Mr. Dunning stressed, who must bear added taxation for every cent that the gov-

ernment might spend in more Old Age Pensions or other welfare legislation. We have listened with a very attentive ear to the pleas for help in relief, Old Age Pensions and unemployment insurance, etc. Considerable attention has been given toward helping this class. But there comes a limit to where the funds may be secured. Yes, we appreciated the word from Mr. Dunning for a class that, if not forgotten, has been overlooked.

No Respector

It seemed just impossible for any community to escape the influenza epidemic that has played havoc around us. During the week it struck Acton. We don't think a third of the population is down with the miserable thing, but there seems to be a representation from all parts that has suffered. During the week five of the teachers at the schools have been ill and classes have been smaller in every department.

Most households have had members of the family suffering in various stages from the scourge and it seems that once in the home it is almost sure to strike every member. Monday things weren't very promising around THE FREE PRESS Office, and with hockey play-offs on that was just too bad. However, staff was partly back on Monday afternoon and it appears that the worst is over so that we are fortunate indeed. At any rate, Spring is just around the corner and most folks are hoping for an abatement when the sunshine comes.

We Must Have Food

Food stores as a group accounted for more than 22 per cent of the dollar volume of Canadian retail trade, according to estimates made by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for the year 1936 and published in the Canada Year Book, 1938.

Total retail sales for the year under review amounted to \$2,202,202,000. Of this total, \$485,000,000, or 22.05 per cent, was spent in food stores; \$362,659,000, or 16.46 per cent, was spent on automotive vehicles, supplies and equipment; \$360,829,000, or 16.36 per cent, went to stores selling general merchandise, including department, variety and dry goods establishments.

For the same year, the Department of Labor estimated the average family weekly budget, based on retail prices in 60 Canadian cities, at \$16.65. This budget takes account of foods, fuel, lighting and rent, and the cost of food is estimated at \$8.09, or 48.5 per cent of the total.

EDITORIAL NOTES

St. Patrick's Day in the morning!

Areas sown to field crops on Indian reserves in Canada during 1938 totalled 209,362 acres.

According to the calendar, spring is due next Tuesday. The sun is warm these days, anyway.

Canada's exports of aluminum in 1938 reached an all-time high value of \$24,732,887, an increase of 28 per cent over the previous year.

Hockey continues to be quite the topic of conversation locally and the Tanners have been giving the fans plenty of excitement and cause for enthusiastic conversation.

In spite of the fact that Acton Arena has been in use for nearly ten years, there is still over \$10,000 principal outstanding of the original \$15,000 cost. Interest charges were high in the first years, but are getting down now.

A Scottish teacher set his class writing an essay on Armistice, and one little girl produced this sentence: "The Armistice was signed on 11th November, 1918, and since then we have had two minutes' peace every year."—Edmonton Bulletin.

This is the time when slick operators try their rackets and looking over exchanges, merchants of several communities have been the victims. Better to pass up some of these golden opportunities than to lose both goods and money to the strangers.

Another bright idea comes from a Toronto Controller. He believes Ontario should contribute toward that city's \$15,000,000 sewage disposal plant. Almost as bright an idea as the one that Toronto would collect a toll from all cars entering the city.

"I am not one of those who have a feeling of restiveness, nor is my inferiority complex heightened by reason of the fact that I live under the Union Jack. For a long time it has stood for some of the best things the world has witnessed and it is likely to continue doing so."—Sir Edward Beatty.

The Sunday School Lesson

FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 19th

PETER EXHORTS TO CHRISTIAN LIVING

Golden Text.—Like as he who called you is holy, be ye yourselves also holy in all manner of living.—1 Peter 1: 15.

Lesson Text.—1 Peter 3: 8-18.

Time.—A.D. 58. Place.—Unknown, but probably Jerusalem.

Exposition.—I. Of One Mind, 8, 9.

In this great passage the Apostle Peter is not enjoying the Jewish Christians to whom he writes to be of one mind with the profane and idolatrous Gentiles, among whom they were living; his word here is that, being believers in Christ Jesus, they should all agree in matters of faith and religion, and embrace the Lord Jesus, the one and only foundation (1 Cor. 3: 11; Romans 12: 10). Moreover, he is anxious that none should seek for salvation through the law, but through Christ alone. They were also to agree in their attitude towards civil affairs—avoiding contention and strife (Rom. 13: 9).

Peter's injunction is equally pertinent to present-day Christian living. We who profess the name of the Lord Jesus should be all of one mind cemented into a holy unity by the bond of a common sympathy; ministering to the saints; pitiful to the weak; courteous to equals; calm and forgiving under abuse; seeking peace; living under the grace of God. This oneness of mind does not demand the imputation of similarity, but unity in variety. "Having compassion one of another, be pitiful, be courteous." The sympathy suggested by Peter's word is a comprehensive feeling. It must diffuse itself throughout the whole capacity of loving hearts. Let us seek this precious stream of harmony at the fountain head. Let the love of Christ constrain us to be of one heart and soul (1 John 2: 9-12).

II. Seeing "Good Days," 10-14. He who would see good days must follow Peter's practical suggestions. He will have to rule his speech (Ps. 34: 12-16). Let us remind ourselves of how many of the misunderstandings, separations and troubles of our lives arise out of unwise, unkind speeches. Then he will have to order his conduct. As soon as we resolve to get our lives into good shape, we instantly find there is much to be cut out. The attaining of good goes hand in hand with the clearing out of evil (1 Thess. 5: 9). Here we set up the moral conflict of life: Temptation gains its most effective victories over idlers; activity in goodness is our safeguard (Heb. 6: 10-12). A Christian believer must watch his daily relation with his fellows. If we would have peace of heart, of mind, of soul—we must seek to understand peaceableness. We must acquire the spirit of the peacemaker, learn to be gentle, considerate, forgiving, even as was our Master (Matt. 5: 9-12).

III. God Sanctified in the Heart, 15. "Sanctifying the Lord God" does not mean making Him holy, for He is already most holy, but regarding Him as holy, and thinking of Him in a fashion different from that in which we think of any other being. It means treating Him as holy in our secret nature where those about us cannot see or know what passes in us. The apostle gives us a rule to follow; it is as though he had said, "Ever have the thought of Him before our minds, and take care that it be a holy, reverent and most sacred thought (Phil. 2: 5-11; 4: 8). Finally, we are not only to believe that the great God is, by reason of His omnipotence, present always and everywhere, but also to believe that He is in a blessedly real and definite way present and indwelling in the hearts of all who have been made members of Christ, children of God and inheritors of the kingdom of heaven.

IV. Having a Good Conscience, 16, 17. The word "conscience" does not occur many times in the Scriptures.—Yet conscience is everywhere in the Bible, and nowhere else is its voice heard more impressively. Peter stipulates for the Christian believer that he have "a good conscience," and well he might, for it is the foundation of character. Does a man listen to the voice within him? If a man be accustomed, day by day, to bring his conduct under the survey of his conscience, in the sight of God, that man is safe (Romans 14: 17-22). The human conscience requires to be made observant and sensitive by acquaintance with the law of God, as revealed in His Word, especially as expounded by Christ Himself (Romans 7: 7). Only when conscience is informed by faith and enlightened by the Holy Spirit can the Christian believer be described in the words of Peter as "having a good conscience" (Heb. 12: 14).

V. "The Just for the Unjust," 18. One of our greatest troubles is the question of suffering; it does not always seem to fall upon the right people. When Christ approaches this fact of suffering, we should expect a word from Him on this most distressing feature of it. "The just for the unjust," Christ suffered. It was His very sinlessness which enabled Him to die for sinful men. "There was no other good enough to pay the price of sin" (2 Cor. 5: 21). It is the privilege of strength to suffer for weakness. Only the Mighty can help, and as He thus helps we look to His might, as the reason for it, and through the atoning work done for us, we find our Savior (Heb. 9: 28). We come to Him through gratitude, and as we reach Him we find One that is mighty to save (Ps. 40: 7, 8; Heb. 7: 25). This illustrates

HOW RETAILERS LOSE BUSINESS

The retailers in towns (similar to Acton) have no idea as to what percentage of goods is brought from outside firms by the people in their town. Invariably the percentage is much larger than they think it is. They would be staggered if they knew how much trade they are losing.

Two towns in the United States set out, a few months ago, to find out the answer to this question: "How much are we losing?" These towns are Richard Centre and Beaver Dam, in the State of Wisconsin. One has a population of 3,600 and the other 9,800. Each town has an active Chamber of Commerce, and the two Chambers sent out 1,700 questionnaires, asking the people of the two towns where they bought their goods. They received about 700 replies. The members of both Chambers were amazed at the answers, which should be of interest to the retailers in Acton and every other town and village in Canada. They had not known that so much money was being sent out of the towns.

They found that the people of their towns went elsewhere to buy: 52 per cent. of women's clothing, 33 per cent. of children's clothing, 30 per cent. of men's clothing, 24 per cent. of piece goods, 15 per cent. of motor car supplies, 14 per cent. of chemists' goods, 11 per cent. of ironmongery.

In the case of both of these towns there is no large city near by. The nearest large city is sixty miles distant. A small town with a large city twenty miles away would probably lose much more trade than these two towns do. Apparently, it is correct to say that at least 25 per cent. of the income of families in towns is spent outside.

The people who answered the 700 questionnaires gave their opinions frankly about the retailers in their towns. About half of them complained of the incomplete stocks of the retailers, 30 per cent. of them said the prices were too high, and 20 per cent. said the shop assistants gave poor service.

Several other of the most common complaints were as follows: Not enough high-grade merchandise. Too many dresses of one style. Refusal to allow return of goods. Lack of liberal terms. Not enough parking space for farmers. Also, quite a few citizens said that the local retailers and their wives bought too much from the stores—in large cities. They did not set a good example of buying at home.

It proves that, in the main, the retailers in towns and villages have themselves to blame when their fellow citizens spend 25 per cent. of their money outside of the town.

OFFERS ADVICE TO YOUTH

Offers F. Funk, maker of dictionaries, offers several suggestions to the youth of to-day. Clip them out and heed them. Be patient. Learn how to write. Learn how to speak in public. Plan your day's work and pleasure. Learn how to get along with people. Cultivate companions with fine minds. Don't take life too seriously. Relax and play.

If you make money learn to protect it personally. Give your health the consideration you would a fine car. Be modest, but develop an underlying base of self-confidence.

YES, HE KNEW?

"Alexander," said Mrs. Snooks, sweetly, "do you remember what day this is?" "Of course, my dear," replied Mr. Snooks, pretending to have remembered all the time, "it's our wedding anniversary."

"It's no such thing," answered Mrs. Snooks, jeily, "it's the day you promised to nail the leg on the old kitchen table."

THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ACT

In view of the announcement in the Speech from the Throne of the intention of the Ontario Government, The Ontario Temperance Federation has issued the following statement.

About the year 1914 the areas above mentioned having extended the application of municipal local option as far as was practicable under the three-fifths handicap, sought to protect themselves by adopting with substantial majorities county local option, as provided under the Canada Temperance Act.

It has been the practise of all Ontario governments from 1887 down to 1934 to enforce the Canada Temperance Act, where it obtained for offences of selling and the provincial Liquor Act for other liquor offences committed within the area concerned. Under this procedure, the Canada Temperance Act was found to be a workable and reasonably satisfactory and effective county local option. The present Ontario government has departed from the practice of its predecessors. It has ignored and violated the law. It has sought to destroy its operation by action before the Supreme Court of Ontario, the Supreme Court of Canada and the Privy Council, and in each case it has failed.

It has now been announced in the Speech from the Throne in the current session of the Legislature that a bill will be introduced to petition the Dominion Parliament to repeal the Canada Temperance Act, insofar as it applies to Ontario. If the aim of the government were simply to bring about unity of authority it could easily make provision in the Liquor Control Act for county local option on the same basis as that afforded by the Canada Temperance Act.

In a letter under date of February 21st, 1935, calling hotel-keepers to a conference, Mr. Geo. H. O'Neil, Honorary President of their Association, refers to the action of the Federation in seeking to bring certain questions regarding the Canada Temperance Act before the Supreme Court of Canada. He states:

"Votes can be taken throughout the province in counties, which includes towns and villages, and in cities under the Canada Temperance Act, whereby a majority would make such county or city dry. The brewers and this Association are endeavoring to have this submission postponed if possible. If the temperance people are successful this is going to make it a very serious situation for the hotels throughout the province."

It is evident that the liquor trade fear and hope to destroy the Canada Temperance Act. The government of Ontario in seeking to destroy county local option is implementing the wishes of the liquor interests. It is also endeavoring to deprive the people of Ontario of their democratic rights and to coerce the citizens of Huron, Perth, Peel and Manitowish into accepting in their midst the widespread sale of liquor against which they have sought protection, and further prevent the extension of the Canada Temperance Act to other areas in Ontario. Citizens who are interested in preserving a county local option law in Ontario would do well to communicate with their local member, urging opposition to the petition.

O. J. IRWIN, General Secretary.

SEVEN MILLION RAILROAD TIES

Seven million railroad ties will be required on the Canadian National Railways during 1939, says E. A. Bromley, Assistant to the Vice-President in Charge of Purchases and Stores. These ties, Mr. Bromley says, if placed end to end, would make a continuous line 10,600 miles long, or almost three times the distance between Halifax, N.S., and Vancouver, B.C.

FROZEN VEGETABLES

The pack of frozen vegetables in Canada in 1938 increased to 590,000 pounds from 126,000 pounds in 1937, the principal increase being in peas and corn on cob. New factories were opened in British Columbia and in Ontario, and efforts will be made during 1939 to establish freezing units in retail stores. At the present time, the bulk of this produce is sold to the hotel and restaurant trade.

SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK

By R. J. SCOTT



Business Directory

MEDICAL

DR. J. A. McNIVEN Physician and Surgeon Office and Residence—Corner Bower Avenue and Elgin Street.

DR. E. J. NELSON Electro-Therapy. Phone 88 Physician and Surgeon

DR. WM. G. CULLEN, L. M. C. C. Physician and Surgeon Office Hours—1-4 and 7-9 P.M. Sundays by Appointment Wilbur Street—Just North of Mill Street Telephone 128

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KENNETH M. LANGDON Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public Offices: Acton—Georgetown Over T. Seynuck's Cafe Main Street 8. For Appointments Phone Acton 65—Or Georgetown 88

Office Hours—Acton, Tuesday and Thursday, 1.15 p. m. to 4.30 p. m. Evenings on request.

DENTAL

A. J. BUCHANAN, D. D. S. Dental Surgeon Office: In Leishman Block Hours: 9 a. m. until 6 p. m. Evenings by Appointment Gas for Extractions X-Ray Closed Wednesday Afternoon Phone 148

P. W. PEAREN, D.D.S., L.D.S. Dental Surgeon Office in the Symon Block Phone 29. Mill Street, Acton Rockwood Office open Every Thursday Afternoon and Evening

VETERINARY

B. D. YOUNG, V.S., B.V.Sc. Veterinary Surgeon Office: Brookville, Ontario Phone—Million 1464

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TIME TABLES

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

AT ACTON Going East Daily, except Sunday 6:57 a.m. Daily, except Sunday 9:54 a.m. Daily, except Sunday 6:28 p.m. Sunday only 8:19 p.m. Floor for east, flag stop in Georgetown at 9:41 p.m.

Going West Daily, except Sunday 8:48 a.m. Daily, except Sunday 3:49 p.m. Daily, except Sunday 7:07 p.m. Saturday only (flag) 12:38 a.m. Sunday only (flag) 11:32 p.m.

GRAY COACH LINES

COACHES LEAVE ACTON Standard Time EASTBOUND (To Toronto) a 6:51 a.m. 4:21 p.m. 9:11 a.m. 6:31 p.m. 11:31 a.m. 8:46 p.m. c 2:06 p.m.

WESTBOUND (To London) 9:53 a.m. ay 5:03 p.m. 11:38 a.m. 7:18 p.m. 2:23 p.m. b 9:18 p.m. c 3:13 p.m. d 11:23 p.m. e 12:08 a.m.

X—Through to London a—except Sun. and Hol.; b—Sun. and Hol.; c—Sat. only; d—except Sat., Sun. and Hol.; e—Sat., Sun. and Hol. The Kitchener, 7, To Stratford