

SEVENTEENTH

An old Scotch pine tree grows my
 Scotch hill,
 Redwood and gnarled and twisted it
 has grown,
 Whipped, yet unbroken by the north
 wind's will,
 Rooted in rock, it stands secure,
 alone,
 It bears the
 snows of furious winter's
 wrath,
 That, with the frost, killed many a
 weaker tree,
 And on the trunk, along most the sum-
 mer's
 And spring's first flowers shelter in
 its lee.

I know of one whose wrinkled face
 is kind,
 To whom young children take their
 trifling fears,
 His tall hand and crippled hands re-
 mind
 That he, as well, has braved the
 passing years,
 Through loss and pain, and even as
 my tree
 Amid it all, attained serenity.
 —Howard S. Ernst.

Twenty Years Ago

From the Home of The Free Press of
 Thursday, February 19th, 1923

A real good thaw would not be ap-
 preciated.

The heaviest fall of snow of the
 season came on Monday night. Be-
 tween six and eight inches fell on
 the level.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Johnston, of
 the first line, entertained the mem-
 bers of the Methodist Sunday School
 orchestra on Tuesday evening.

Saturday was show factory day at
 the rink here. In the afternoon the
 Haystack Shoe Co. of Brampton
 opened the local factory and in the
 evening the Carson Shoe Co. of Tor-
 onto, brought a team up.

Abse sermons were preached by
 Rev. George A. Little of Toronto, at
 Knox Anniversary last Sunday.

Going to overcrowding of the prim-
 ary rooms at the school the Council
 granted the use of the Council Cham-
 ber from April 1 to June 30 for the
 purpose of relieving the congestion in
 the Public School.

Mr. J. C. Mill has disposed of his
 coal business to Mr. Ambrose McCann
 and leased him the weigh scales and
 shed at the corner of Mill and Wil-
 bar Streets. Mr. Mill has been in
 the coal business for twenty-five
 years.

DEED

McEACHERN, At St. Michael's Hospi-
 tal, Toronto, on Friday, February
 6, 1923, bequeathed to the Board of
 the John McEACHERN of Acton,
 aged 35 years.

McGARVIN—At the home of Mr. and
 Mrs. C. A. Peaker, 8th, 1923,
 Thursday, February 8, 1923,
 James Edgar McGarvin of Mexico
 City, formerly of Acton, aged 65
 years.

**Universal Tongue
 In "Pidgin" Talk**

**English Munion Worker Thinks
 He Has Language World
 Can Use**

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND, (C.
 P.)—"You to get his for'm bet"
 No, that's not a quotation from a
 language long dead or a conglomerate
 of letters and syllables from a
 premium contest puzzle.

It's a sentence from a new lan-
 guage Kenneth Littlewood, 25-year-
 old Yorkshireman who works at a
 munition factory here, hopes soon to
 give the world. And it means: "Those
 four great blue flowers are beautiful."
 Simple—the inventor thinks so.

Littlewood, in short, has devised a
 system of "universal pidgin" a sort of
 extension of English which he says
 a foreigner can learn in two months
 and an Englishman in a week.

His Pidgin vocabulary is partly bor-
 rowed from "Basic English," a sys-
 tem which reduces the English vo-
 cabulary to about 850 simple funda-
 mental words and is partly his own
 invention. In planning it, he has
 studied Chinese, Russian, Latin,
 Greek, French, Welsh and Italian
 and uses no words of more than two
 syllables and most are monosyllables,
 cut to the last possible vowel or con-
 sonant.

From the simplest forms, he claims,
 it will be possible under his system to
 build up the most intricate ideas. For
 instance, "guerilla warfare" becomes
 "Revoltawo" — a telescoping of the
 fundamental forms of the words rev-
 olving, attack and war. And just to
 make sure that he has not been wast-
 ing time he sent a rough draft of his
 theory to George Bernard Shaw.

"By hook or crook," wrote the play-
 wright, "get it published without
 waiting to make it better. Then ad-
 vienne que pourra (come what may)."

HANDS ACROSS BORDER

STOCKHOLM (CP)—On January
 6, a Swedish holiday, 40,000 Swedish
 workers remained at their jobs and
 contributed all earnings, 578,000
 crowns (\$133,040) for the day to re-
 lief of people in Nazi-held Norway.

SEEKING-EYE DOG

COVENTRY, England, (CP)—Sgt.
 John Douglas Calder, first British sol-
 dier to be blinded in the Second Great
 War, now has a seeing-eye dog, a
 white Alsatian called "Phantom" to
 guide him about the town.

**The Sunday School
 Lesson**

FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

**JESUS HEALS A MAN BORN
 BLIND**

Golden Text.— One thing I know,
 that whereas I was blind, now I see.
 John 9:25.

Lesson Text.— John 9:13-38.

Time.—October, A. D. 29.

Place.—Jerusalem.

Exposition.— Receiving Sight, 1-7.

The proper way to interpret this
 lesson is to begin with the healing of
 the blind man. "Jesus passed by,"
 great things may be expected to oc-
 cur when Jesus passes by. The case
 of this man was absolutely hopeless.
 No human skill could touch him. But
 Jesus passed by. That changed every-
 thing. When man cannot do, Jesus
 can. Jesus is ever passing our way
 in these days, so we may constantly
 expect wonderful things to happen
 (John 14:12). This blind man is a
 suggestive illustration of the unsaved
 sinner; blind (1 Cor. 2:14), he never
 had seen; he was beyond human
 help (v. 32); his case was hopeless,
 humanly speaking (doubtless he him-
 self had given up all hope of ever
 seeing); he was without human sym-
 pathy, suspected and despised (vs. 2,
 34); he was poor, a beggar. But all
 his need was only an opportunity for
 God's abounding grace in Christ.
 Jesus not only passed by; "he saw."
 He ever sees us in our need and dis-
 tress (Ex. 3:7; 6:5). Contrast the
 feeling of Jesus' disciples as they
 looked at the man with that of Jesus
 Himself. Their feeling was one of
 curiosity and contempt. His of deep-
 est compassion (2, 4, 6).

Are we like to the Master or the
 disciples? What is your feeling as
 you gaze upon the poor, the outcast,
 and the unfortunate? Jesus saw in
 this man's misfortune a call to help;
 they saw in it only the just conse-
 quence of sin. The disciples thought
 all sickness must be the direct con-
 sequence of sin. Jesus plainly de-
 clares this is not so, that there is an-
 other purpose of physical infirmity,
 viz., "that the works of God should be
 made manifest." They were made
 manifest in this man's case by his
 healing. Sometimes they are made
 manifest by God's sustaining grace in
 weakness (2 Cor. 12:9-10). Doubt-
 less sickness is often the direct re-
 sult of sin (John 5:14; Mk. 2:5; Ac.
 12:23). In other cases it is the in-
 direct result (Job 33:14-30). But sick-
 ness does not always arise from this
 cause (Phil. 2:27, 30; 2 Kl. 13:14).

Jesus did not teach by verse 3
 neither this man nor his parents had
 ever sinned, but that they "did" not
 sin as the cause of this blindness. It
 is plain from comparing vs. 2 and 4
 that Jesus considered delivering men
 from evil far more important than
 speculating about the origin of evil.

The world's night is when Jesus has
 gone (v. 5) and the darkest night for
 the individual soul is when Jesus
 leaves. Jesus helps the man before
 he asks. His need was a prayer. If
 we are to follow Jesus, we ought not
 to wait until misery comes to us, we
 should go to it. "Go, wash, etc." was
 a test of faith (2 Kl. 5:10-14; Mk. 3:
 5; Luke 17:14). "Siloam" means
 "sent," and was a type of Jesus Him-
 self (v. 4; John 10:36; Rom. 8:3; Gal.
 4:4). If we wish sight for our blind
 eyes, we should go to Him and bathe
 (John 8:12). The man gave the best
 evidence of faith, prompt obedience.
 The result, "he came seeing."

II. Witnessing, 8-25.

Christ's work always arouses discus-
 sion and causes division. The discus-
 sion gave an opportunity for testi-
 mony. The man showed his manil-
 ness by saying, "I am he" ("he that
 sat and begged"). His frank testi-
 mony for Jesus cost him excommuni-
 cation (v. 34), but it brought him a
 deeper fuller knowledge of the Lord
 (vs. 35-38). He spoke of his deliverer
 as "the man called Jesus." Later in
 the day he said, "He is a prophet"
 (v. 17). Later still, he recognized
 Him as "the Son of God" (35-38).
 Those who heard wanted to see Jesus
 (v. 12). Such is the power of testi-
 mony. He was then brought to the
 Pharisees, the recognized enemies of
 Jesus (v. 22; ch. 11:46, 47, 57; 12:
 42). But the man did not dodge the
 issue even then. His testimony creat-
 ed division even among the Pharisees
 (cf. vs. 14, 31, 41). "How can this man
 that is a sinner do such signs?" That
 is an unanswerable question for all
 deniers of the Deity of Christ, for if
 He is not divine He is the chief of
 blasphemers. The man was not at all
 daunted by the opposition his testi-
 mony had aroused and boldly pro-
 claimed of Jesus, "He is a prophet."
 III. Worshiping, 26-38.

When the rulers cast this man out,
 they cast him right into the arms of
 Jesus. It is well to be cast out of
 separation from human fellowship
 brings the fellowship of Jesus, and it
 often does. Jesus leads the man on to
 deeper faith. He had believed in
 Jesus far enough to obey His bidding
 and go to Siloam and thus be healed.
 He had believed in Jesus as a good
 man and a prophet and from God (vs.
 17, 30-33), but now he is to be brought
 into the great, saving, transforming
 faith that He is the Son of God. Jesus
 puts to him the great question, "Dost
 thou believe on the Son of God?"
 Ah! there is a whole world of mean-
 ing, life and blessing and power in
 that question, and its right answer.
 Put it to yourself, do I really believe

The LETTER BOX

R. R. No. 1, Thornloe, Ont.

Dear Fax Press:
 Winter has indeed been playing
 some pranks on you southern folk.
 Rain and ice, then snow, snow and
 drifts. I can quite imagine just what
 it is like down there. Even though
 away from it for over seven years, I
 won't soon forget the numbers of
 times I helped shovel roads and push
 past one push handle to shove cars
 or trucks through snow, when it
 seemed pure wasted effort.

Here when the snow comes top
 deep for cars, everyone just forgets
 them for the rest of the winter. Get
 out the sleighs, cutters and covered-
 in cabs and drive over the top. On
 account of such open country, drift-
 ing into such terrible banks is not
 usual here, except where a cut or
 building happens close to the road.
 There are no trees, hedges or obstruc-
 tions along the roads here to encour-
 age snow banks and as a consequence
 the snow remains fairly level. We
 have had quite a bit of additional
 snow since writing last and the bitter
 cold weather still continues—30 be-
 low zero this morning at 8:30 a.m.

Wife has given a great deal of at-
 tention to a number of nice potted
 plants, geraniums of two or three
 colors, cyclamens, ivy, fuchsias, baby
 tear and others, and having to move
 them out of the windows at night is
 no small job and to make sure they
 don't freeze I've been getting up and
 filling the stoves through the night.
 The plants are all in beautiful bloom
 and so nice and fresh. We also have
 a big pot of parsley for both beauty
 and garnish. Wife brought home a
 sweet potato, trimmed it, and has it
 in a jar of water. I don't know what
 it will turn into but will make some
 variety.

For the past few evenings we have
 had a different job on hand. Winter
 evenings are long and to be occupied
 one needs variety. All reading, or
 writing or radio plays out. So wife
 decided this a good time to make a
 new comforter.

She got a fleece or two of wool a
 few years ago and it has been packed
 away some place since, but she
 resurrected it and has had all those
 who are willing, picking it by hand,
 into bats for the filling. And believe
 me it is some job. There are carding
 brushes to be had that is said to be
 much easier and quicker, but we are
 not fortunate in having a set, so we
 use the finger method. I'm sure if some
 one had a set not in use we would
 appreciate having them for a few
 weeks, as two comforters are under
 construction.

The war news the past few weeks is
 a great source of hope. News from
 the many fronts in Russia, from
 Tunisia, from the Solomons, Burma
 and China and the latest surprise at-
 tack by paratroops trained as saboteurs
 in Norway. President Roosevelt
 told in his speech that as time
 goes on more and harder attacks will
 be made until finally the whole Nazi
 war machine will be utterly broken.

Aid to Russia is such an important
 effort just now. Prominent speakers
 such as Wendell Wilkie, Mrs. Roose-
 velt and others are touring the coun-
 try offering their services to speak
 and workers and contributors every-
 where are working hard to make it a
 great success. Here in this country
 the movement has gained great promi-
 nence. The big clothing stores are
 donating piles and piles of sweaters,
 coats, underwear of wool that is
 out of style, etc., but otherwise good
 and usable. And money for medi-
 cines, surgical supplies and food is
 pouring in.

At one meeting alone held in Kirk-
 land Lake one evening last week
 where the audience was almost en-
 tirely Polish, Ukrainian and Russian
 Canadians, cash donations amounted
 to nearly \$800. A big dance was
 held in Kirkland's most modern hotel
 "The Park Lane." Bingo, euchre and
 other sources of entertainment are
 all being sponsored to raise more
 while the drive lasts and are all well
 patronized.

I often think when I go into places
 like Kirkland Lake, Timmins, Rouyn,
 etc., where so many different lan-
 guages are spoken, what a terrible
 blunder our ancient forefathers made
 when they attempted to build a tower
 up to heaven and as a consequence
 God, babbled their sense of speech as
 a rebuke and sentence and man has
 misunderstood each other ever since.
 But this war seems to be blinding the
 nations together once again to sub-
 due a common enemy, even though
 we can't talk with each other com-
 pletely with one common language.

Before coming to the north I didn't
 realize we had so many strangers
 among us. Any place I had ever lived
 or worked the "English" language
 was the only one used. I often saw
 the Chinese laundryman or restaur-
 ant keeper, the Italian or Sicilian
 fruit vendor or store keeper, the
 Jewish peddler or the Greek soda foun-
 tain artist. But this country, a bab-
 bled on the Son of God? You say, "I do";
 but do you? If you do, happy are
 you (John 20:31; 1 John 5:1-4). This
 man did not as yet, but he will shortly.
 How honest and eager he is—
 "who is he, Lord, that I may believe
 on him?" Then Jesus just made Him-
 self known and the man cries, "Lord,
 I believe." And he proved that he
 really did believe.

PHILOSOPHER



Kerry Wood, of Red Deer, Alberta,
 finds excitement in the outdoors and
 he has a way of turning his adventu-
 res into stories which delight CBC
 listeners, too. He will be heard again
 on Sunday, February 7th, at 10:30
 a.m. EDT, 11:30 a.m. ADT in the
 concluding talk of his current series
 listed under the title, "The Outdoor
 Philosopher."

or foreign language is more common
 than English. But fortunately Eng-
 lish is demanded as a standard and
 most new Canadians can speak some
 of it even though broken a bit and
 we can make ourselves understood.

Commenting on one of the out-
 standing features of last week's Fax
 Press, Warden McDonald's picture
 with that lovely Lake Trout, sure
 impressed me. I'd like to be on one
 end of a copper line with a fish like
 that on the other end.

I get lots of thrills in the summer
 time back at my camp site, but have
 never been fortunate enough yet, to
 land anything like that. But I still
 have hopes, so for this time, I am,
 Cordially yours,
 R. W. JOHNSON.

**British Restive
 Under Blackout**

**Government Surveys Situation
 While Newspapers Urge
 Better Lighting**

BY FOSTER BARCLAY
 Canadian Press Staff Writer

LONDON, (CP)—Blackout blues
 have arrived in Britain again this
 winter night on schedule.

The nights are longer than the days
 at this time of year and like last win-
 ter, also a bombless season, there is
 a general outcry for "more light."
 The Ministry of Home Security, just
 to appease all quarters, is surveying
 the situation and an energetic argu-
 ment is proceeding among the public.

There are about half-a-dozen
 schools of thought, including those
 who believe in no light, those who
 want next-to-no-light and an ever-
 growing body which wants more light
 all around.

It is probably safe to predict that
 the blackout will stay as it is. By
 the time officials have completed in-
 vestigations and everybody has had
 their say the days will be long and
 bright again and the blackout blues
 forgotten—at least until this time
 next year.

Herbert Morrison, minister of home
 security, has started the blackout
 survey in London where it's impos-
 sible to see a foot ahead on moonless
 and foggy nights. To make things
 worse there is a general shortage of
 flashlight batteries.

It has been reported that the min-
 ister is considering a number of in-
 ventions which may make street
 lighting brighter in the future, but
 hasn't revealed their nature. At su-
 burban Hammersmith, however, the
 local council has started to coat lamp
 posts with luminous paint which of-
 ficials said would throw a glow about
 60 feet.

Some Newspaper Campaigns

Some boroughs have adopted "star
 lighting" on main streets, thereby
 arousing the ire of anti-lighters. In
 St. Pancras, for instance, persons dis-
 trustful of too much light clamour up
 posts during the night and cover the
 lamps with paper bags and sacking.

"Better street lighting and more
 batteries are essential if we are all to
 keep fit to do a full day's work," de-
 clared the Star in an editorial sup-
 porting the more light campaign. "We
 believe it is possible to devise street
 lighting which... would not violate
 A.R.P. standards."

"It may be said that to do this
 would require diversion of labor and
 materials from essential war work.
 The answer is the aggregate of man
 hours already lost through blackout
 accidents, travel delays and frayed
 work among workers."

The Daily Mail carried the cam-
 paign a step further by demanding
 better lighting in railway trains. It
 lamented by dim shaded bulbs, and
 return of nameplates at stations.

GOLDEN SACKS

LONDON, (CP)—The British Sup-
 ply Ministry said in a statement that
 sacks are "urgently needed" for the
 carriage of food and fertilizers and
 issued an order that it is incumbent
 on all possessing sacks to treat them
 with care—their value is golden.

FIRESIDE CHATS

Every week hundreds of readers of The Acton Free Press sit down by their own firesides to discuss together each other's want.

One wants to sell some pigs; two or three others want to buy them.

One wants to let a house; several persons want to rent it.

One wants to sell a baby-carriage; someone is anxious to buy it.

Somebody has lost a ring; someone has found it.

Somebody has laying hens for sale; several people would like to buy them.

Someone offers a Chesterfield suite; several families are interested, and one family, after inspection, is exactly suited with regard to style and price.

Another offer's a girl's skates and boots, in good condition but too small for the owner; half a dozen people would like them.

A lady has a good winter coat for sale; someone wants it.

Isn't this opportunity to discuss together mutual wants a wonderful service and convenience? Think of all the time, gasoline and rubber the classifieds save!

Sometimes, mind you, nobody wants to buy a particular article at the particular time or particular price at which it is offered for sale—but, even so, what a saving of energy and time it is to be able to find that out for 25 or 35 cents.

Usually, however, with one, two or three insertions, the classifieds bring together buyer and seller, landlord and tenant, finder and loser.

The rate for one insertion, up to 25 words, is 35 cents or only 25 cents if payment is made with insertion order.

Phone Your Classifieds to
The Acton Free Press
 PHONE ACTON 174 MILL STREET