



The Acton Free Press

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C. ARLOFF DILLIS, Editor.

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EDITORIAL

History-Making Weather

The weather is such an uncertain thing that we hesitate to even discuss it in print where a few days between the time of writing and the appearance of the article may make such a difference. But with February now well launched it does seem that it can be said that the winter of 1943-44 will go down in history as one of the finest we have experienced in an average lifetime.

When some of us become old-timers we will tell the younger generations that the winter of 1942-43 was a top-notch for severity and that this one of 1943-44 was one of the mildest in our experience. When December passed with no heavy snowfall we all anticipated to pay up for it in January. And now January has behaved nicely and with stronger sunshine in the days even if February and March do bring storms and blizzards the highway ditches are not piled full and the banks will settle rapidly in the sunshine.

We may get a late spring and a cold summer, as some will remind occasionally, but why worry about something over which we as mere humans have no control.—It's grand winter weather now for all of us who don't perform to advantage on skis or snowshoes.

Leap Year Valentine

The bleeding heart may well be the Canadian girl's emblem for St. Valentine Day this year. She's just as ready and willing to be somebody's Valentine as she has been since the pagan days of Lupercalia, but news that 16,000 Canadian soldiers have been married overseas since the war began is not exactly calculated to raise morale on the hearts and flowers front.

The picture, however, isn't so grim that love can't find a way. Leap Year may be just the time to curb our soldier boy's interest in distant fields and show him that home is really where his heart is. There's no reason why 1944 should not be known as the year that turned the tide back to this side of the water.

To the girls we say: Let the frilly love-token and ribboned note go in unashamed sentimentality. Abjure the comic card and avoid the disillusioning jest if romance is the goal. Direct the lace-paper, ribbons and verse where it will be most effective, to the lad who would woo you but can't because he's parked at some out-of-the-way post or stationed in some remote battle area. He'll be pleased and flattered. Similarly, send a tender greeting to the boy who may believe he is being adequately taken care of by our attractive British sisters. Masculine nature being what it is, he'll be pleased and flattered too. He may even stop, think—and remember.

A declaration of affection in the form of a Valentine is not unfeminine. It means merely turning Leap Year's license to best advantage, using February 14 as the opening gun. The days of coyness and keep-'em-guessing disappeared when girls donned overalls and took firm hold of a rivet gun to release a man for service.

A sentimental note may be exactly what he needs to remind him that, overalls and rivet gun notwithstanding, the lassies back home are still pretty nice to return to.

As Others' See It

Commenting on the fact that both Acton and Elora have juvenile hockey teams this year and are of necessity playing their home games on arenas in other communities, the Fergus New-Record makes the following comment:

"It is rather a sad state of affairs for hockey fans to contemplate. Elora and Acton used to be great hockey centres. If memory serves correctly, they used to have teams that not only won their district championships, but went on to higher and better

awards. And both towns have good, modern arenas of which the citizens are proud.

"The arenas have been leased for the duration of the war. It is said that they are being used for war purposes, but that may be stretching the point just a little bit. It might easily be argued that the managements might have been better to have kept them open to aid in keeping the young people busy with healthy exercise, for young people are precious these days. Apparently there is no substitute for a good arena. This has been a poor year for outdoor rinks.

"At the same time, hockey enthusiasts in Elora and Acton deserve credit for their enthusiasm and their efforts to keep the game alive among the boys, even when home games must be played somewhere else."

What a Difference Just a Few Miles Make

Last year we hunted the music stores in the cities for a song entitled "Ain't it funny what a difference just a Few Hours makes," to be used in a minstrel show production. We never located the song and "Oh you Beautiful Doll" took its place. These days as we drive between Acton and Milton that theme keeps coming to our attention with one change of the word "hours" for "miles." It's just twelve miles between the two towns, but it's funny what a difference those twelve miles make in the weather, and road conditions.

Sheriff Hampshire's farm on Highway 25 seems to be the dividing point between the far north and the near south. Quite often there is quite a snow flurry and the road is white until this section is reached. From that point until Milton the snow will gradually grow less and less and usually in Milton the roads will be found clear of snow. The other night when we left Milton it was raining with the odd flake of snow. In Acton it was unadulterated snow. Monday our main street had a covering of snow and in Milton the main street was clear.

It's the unusual that makes news it is said, and perhaps that's the reason the weather these days seems to creep into the news in so many places.

A National Asset

Weekly newspapers up and down the country are facing difficulties because of depleted staffs. It was recently announced that one well-known Manitoba weekly would shut up shop after 40 years continuous publication due to its inability to obtain a linotype operator and other weeklies have been forced to adopt various expedients to meet existing conditions.

The straits in which many weekly newspapers, particularly the smaller ones, find themselves has focused attention on a matter that requires urgent attention and it is hoped that manpower regulations will permit alleviation of the situation.

The weekly newspaper has established itself as an asset to the constituency it serves and forms an integral part of the educational and cultural life of the Dominion. It is the medium through which community public opinion finds expression and as such demands support without stint.

Throughout the war, weekly newspapers, in common with their contemporaries in the daily field, have given unwavering support to the government in Victory Loan, Red Cross, salvage and other campaigns. The weeklies have been assigned the major role in putting across the needs of the Empire in regard to farm, dairy and timber products.

Curtailment of these forms of service to the nation would be little short of a calamity.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A cross word spoken at rush times in business is like putting a bit of grit in the machine bearing that needs oil.

Glad to hear that many of our readers missed our editorials the past two weeks. Sometimes when we have late hours getting them ready we often wondered if they would be missed.

In 1942 Canada consumed a million more gallons of spirits than in 1939, going up from 3.4 to 4.3 million gallons. Even at the restricted rate, we get 51,000 gallons more than in 1939. We are not only eating more, but we are drinking more, remarks the Chesley Enterprise.

With so much talk these days, and some considerable evidence too, of juvenile delinquency, Boy Scout Week that comes later this month should have some real significance. Yes and some careful study and encouragement by parents and friends of our Canadian youth. We'll discuss it at more length later. Boy Scout week is February 20th-25th.

An active Board of Trade is the best indication that business men of a community are "on their toes" not only for the good of their own business but for the good of the community as a whole. For it always follows that where there is an active progressive body of businessmen you will find an active progressive town.—Grand Forks Gazette.

People in Canada who encourage black markets should take a look at other places where the menace of inflation has gone unchecked. In Bermuda 3 carrots cost 16 cents, potatoes are 12 cents per pound, eggs \$2.00 per dozen, milk 42 cents per quart and buns 50 cents a dozen. Canadians should be thankful for a government policy of controlled prices.—Lindsay Watchman-Warder.

The Sunday School Lesson
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19th

JESUS ON THE MOUNTAIN AND IN THE VALLEY
Golden Text.—I believe; help thou mine unbelief. Mk. 9: 24.
Lesson Text.—Mk. 9: 2-8, 17, 18, 25-27. Read Mk. 9: 2-29.
Time.—Summer, A. D. 29. Place.—Mount Hermon.

Exposition.—I. Jesus on the Mountain, 2-8.
The account of the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus given in Mark's Gospel should be carefully compared with the accounts given by Matthew and Luke. The incident is one of the most important and meaningful in the whole earthly life of our Lord. The stories bear unmistakable marks of truthfulness and Mark's account is from an eyewitness, Peter. Taken merely as an historical incident, it proves the existence of a personal God, that the God and Father of Jesus Christ is the true God, that Jesus is the Son of God in an entirely unique sense and that all His claims are true. Faith in Jesus Christ as the only Son of God is built not upon theological or philosophical speculation, but upon indisputably attested historical facts. The recorded facts about Moses prove that when Christians die they do not cease to be and that they are not unconscious.

Note carefully the exact force of the word "transfigured." The latter part of the Greek word in this passage translated "transfigured" is the same root as the word translated "form" in Phil. 2: 6, 7. There also we see a transfiguration, Jesus, putting off the "form" or "figure" of God and taking on the "form" or "figure" of a servant. Here we have the reverse of what took place in the incarnation—the "figure" of a servant being changed into the glorious appearance of the Son of God. If things had been allowed to take their course Jesus would have been glorified right then and there with the glory which He had with the Father before the world was (Jno. 17: 5). But things were not allowed to take their course. The work of redemption was not yet accomplished (Heb. 9: 22; Eph. 1: 7);

so He who had already turned His back on the divine glory and been made in the likeness of man (Phil. 2: 6, 7), again turns His back upon that divine glory, and with wondrous love descends from that mountain to die (v. 12). Not until upon the cross He can utter the triumphant cry, "It is finished" (Jno. 19: 30), will He consent to reassume the glory that He laid aside to redeem us (2 Cor. 5: 9). And having finished that atoning work, He will not be transfigured alone, but we in due time shall be transfigured with Him (Phil. 3: 21; Col. 3: 4).

There is an anticipatory transfiguration possible for us in the life that now is (Rom. 12: 2). The Greek for "transformed" in this passage is the same as that translated "transfigured" in our lesson. The details of the transfiguration are well worth noting. In Matthew, "his face did shine like the sun," "his garments became glistering, exceeding white, so as no fuller on earth can white them." In Luke "the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment became white and dazzling." This will give us some idea of how He and we shall appear in the resurrection glory. Luke tells us that it was "as he was praying" (Luke 9: 29) that He was transfigured. Nothing else, even in the life that now is, transfigures like prayer (Ex. 34: 29-35). The glory of Moses' face was reflected; that of Jesus' face came from the glory within. As they gazed upon our glorified Lord, they saw two others talking with Him, Moses and Elijah, the two great representatives, master-prophets and law-givers of the old dispensation. Moses had died (Deut. 34: 5, 6), and the theory of the non-existence of the holy dead until the resurrection at the second coming of Christ goes to pieces on this rock.

It was no "vision" the three saw (2 Pet. 1: 16-18). The word translated "vision" in v. 9 means "thing seen." The three disciples were not dreaming but "fully awake" (Luke 9: 32). They saw Moses and Elijah and heard God's voice saying of Jesus, "This is my beloved Son; hear ye him." Moses and Elijah "appeared in glory" with our transfigured Lord. Moses' longing to enter the promised land was satisfied at last. He is there. The disciples recognized Moses and Elijah, whom they had never seen in the flesh, and that ought to settle

the question whether we will recognize in glory those we have known upon earth. The subject of conversation was "the decease which Jesus was about to accomplish at Jerusalem" (Luke 9: 31); the atoning death is a subject of great interest to the heavenly world (1 Pet. 1: 10-12). It is only here on earth that it is thought a theme of little moment. There was one man who acted just like himself on this occasion, Peter. He wanted to stay right there. While it was a good place to be, it was not a good place to stay; for there was work to be done at the foot of the mountain (vs. 14, 15).

"The voice of God speaks. Who can measure the intensity and depth of the joy of God in that the Son who turns His back on the glory and chooses the cross? To all who would put any prophet or seer in comparison with Jesus, God says, 'This is my beloved Son, hear ye him' (vs. 3: 22, 23; Heb. 12: 25). Fear fell upon the three (Matt. 17: 6) but Jesus came in gentleness and humility and touched them (Matt. 17: 7). Moses and Elijah had vanished; 'they saw no man, save Jesus only'."

RUSSIA EXPANDS ARCTIC FARMING

MOSCOW (CP). The world's only agricultural station beyond the Arctic Circle has marked its 26th anniversary. It was stated in a *Tass* news agency broadcast.

The experiments conducted by this station on the Kola peninsula have made it possible to push the boundary of cultivation for agricultural crops far to the north of the 62nd parallel, once the crop-raising limit.

Sturdy, frost-resistant seed gathered from the experiment station's fields have been distributed to the Arctic's collective and state farms. In the 26 years of experiment, grain acreage in the extreme north has increased seven times, potatoes 20 times and other vegetables 13 times, *Tass* says.

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Saturday only 2:29 p.m.
Daily, except Sunday 7:48 p.m.
Monday, only 12:08 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday 1:14 a.m.
Flyer, at Georgetown, daily except Sat. and Sun. 6:35 p.m.
Flyer, at Guelph, daily except Sat. and Sun. 7:12 p.m.

Going East

Daily, except Sunday 6:49 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday 9:56 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday 6:50 p.m.
Sunday, only 8:10 p.m.
Flyer, daily, Georgetown 9:25 p.m.
Flyer, daily, at Guelph 8:59 p.m.

GRAY COACH LINES

COACHES LEAVE ACTON

Eastbound
6:46 a.m.; 9:16 a.m.; 2:06 p.m.; 6:26 p.m.; 9:16 p.m.; 9:51 p.m.

Westbound
10:53 a.m.; 2:38 p.m.; 4:08 p.m.; 7:33 p.m.; 8:38 p.m.; 11:28 p.m.

a—To London.
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CUT COTTON GOODS SALES

BATHURST, Gambia (CP)—It has been considered necessary to cut the monthly quotas of cotton piece goods in Gambia by half. Each person may now buy only 1 pound (\$4.44) worth of apparel or textiles at one time.



**More FOOD NEEDED
As Victory Draws Nearer**

As the United Nations invade the Axis-dominated countries, famished populations as well as our fighting forces must be fed. The need for food increases as victory draws nearer.



Canadian farmers are confronted with a heavy task, which may be made easier through the use of bank credit. The Bank of Montreal stands ready to make every reasonable loan which will promote an increase in food production in the world emergency.

If you need to borrow to improve your production of food, do not hesitate to talk with our nearest branch manager.

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