



The Acton Free Press

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EDITORIAL

A Word for October

Bliss Carman might have been speaking for the average Canadian when he wrote: There is something in the autumn That is native to my blood.

The classic poets have always been inclined to view summer's end with a melancholy eye. But Carman, a product of the New Brunswick hardwood country, knew better. He had the native's feeling for the time that begins with mellow apples and ends in spitting snow.

The fall of the year has a special flavor for most of us. Spring and summer are hard-working seasons of seeding, cultivation and harvest. Winter in a north-temperate climate still means for many country dwellers a good deal of inconvenience to balance against its long lamplight evenings around the stove or fireplace. Considerable drivel has been written about winter by people who never get beyond squatting distance of a steam-heated radiator.

October and November, on the other hand, are active, stimulating months, without being too rigorous. Freed a little from the necessities of his land, a man can take time to savor his day, it may be with a gun under his arm, and his path set along woodroads colorful with birch and maple. It is perhaps heresy to say so, but it really matters little to his own sense of well-being whether the quarry be a rabbit or a moose.

Probably most city people think of a hastily snatched two weeks in July or August as their period of freedom from the routine of life. But many a countryman saves his keenest anticipation for October, when the air is clear with a hint of sharpness in it.

We're Stumped

Sometimes we think a newspaper office is mistaken for an information bureau and to say the least it adds spice to the business even if it isn't profitable. We might add we find enjoyment in furnishing what local information we can, but until we get our stall replete again, don't call on Wednesday or Thursday for other than business calls, because we just can't supply the answers.

We thought we had met up with all the questions and had given all the information services requested, but we're stumped this week. We received a letter from a man who hesitated to give any further details but he wants a wife between 30 and 40 and he wants us to answer soon. We know a lot about this town and the district, but our file on wives well we just haven't one. And we don't intend to establish one. Several times we have thrown in the waste paper basket, advertisements from matrimonial agencies in the United States asking us to insert these go-between ads for the bureau, and declined to publish them.

This letter might have met the same fate only we know it is genuine and the facts of identification furnished by our correspondent we can verify. But we know that some day we would be asked to do the impossible. It's not stubbornness on our part, but there are answers and riddles that we give up and dear reader this is one of them. We have no prospective bride list in our office. There are some services that even newspapers and governments do not provide these days. We have always considered that the selection of a mate was a subject that required individual attention. Don't call. Don't write for that name. Maybe selective service can help is the only advice we can give.

Retain Your Local Historical Books

During our time in connection with the printing business we have had quite a good deal to do with the publishing of historical volumes. In the past year alone we have printed at least three church histories. All of them have been medium-sized booklets and

have contained a wealth of information which required much time and thought to collect by those compiling the sketch. We have found that the greatest appreciation of many sketches comes years after when very often a copy of the historical gem is not procurable.

Let us illustrate with a personal experience. Back in 1880 a history of early Nasagaweya was published by Joshua Norris. As a lad some years later we came to know the old gentleman who at that time was almost totally blind. We don't suppose over an hundred copies were printed and the little volume sold for fifty cents. We had a copy in the family for many years but it was not prized and was finally lost. For the past two or three years we have been endeavoring to secure a copy just for reference and to have in our possession. In answer to an advertisement last week we were offered two copies and bought one for five dollars and were glad to have the search ended.

We write this item not to boost the sale of any of these booklets but to advise that if you secure any historical sketch to retain it. The sale price may not increase as in the case illustrated but you'll get a good deal of satisfaction in having it for reference once in a while and once the booklets are lost the historical recollections they contain are gone forever. There is only one time to procure them—when they are first issued and in later years they'll grow in value as the years pass, perhaps even more than ten fold.

For Better Municipal Government

An event of importance and of much promise for the future is the appearance of "Publication No. 1" of the Institute of Local Government.

This organization, linked with Queen's University, is devoted to the betterment of local government through finding and publishing basic but hitherto unknown or little known facts about it.

Canadians almost constantly see examples of municipal councils fumbling, trying to wade in waters in which statutes expressly forbid municipal trespass. Every councillor and local official well knows the time-wasting tangles which councils usually get into in months following elections while new members are learning elementary principles of their job.

This first report of the recently formed Institute is entitled "The Municipal Council and Councillor in Ontario." In 53 pages it sets forth clearly and simply basic information which could be secured previously only by years of experience, and the delving into a multitude of legal tomes and political science texts.

In addition to setting forth the purely factual material, this useful document for public-spirited citizens, whether in or out of local government activity, includes sage comment like this:

The authors point out that councillors, especially new ones, will almost inevitably get into fights with permanent municipal officials.

Councillors, it is pointed out, are great for seeing (usually with the instigation of some voters) how some general policy or rule works, in an individual case, hardship or injustice; hence councillors are great for demanding exceptions.

Officials on the other hand are great for adhering to the rule book. Says the Institute pamphlet:

Either view carried to the extreme would be undesirable. In practice the conflict of the two views brings about a compromise that is beneficial to the community. An understanding of why this difference of opinion exists should do much to eliminate any animosity which it might otherwise tend to arouse.

And the Institute also has very sound advice for local government in dealing with the press.

The press is the only link between government and the people. Through the press government tells what it is doing, wants to do, won't do. Through the press the public has its only continuing means of keeping the activities of the elected representatives under scrutiny.

The Institute warns councillors and officials that the best way to deal with the press is to help it get all the facts. Financial Post.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Thanksgiving Day a week from Monday and what a year to be thankful for. Peace and the boys come home again.

This is the last week of Daylight Saving Time and now we'll catch up that hour we lost and be able to start work in the daylight, even if it may be dark when we finish.

Another sign of "business as usual" is the return of commercial travellers, representing firms we haven't heard of in four years. Funny how they were never missed.

One of the encouraging features of the Dominion government's proposals placed before the nine provinces is that of a pension of \$30 a month for every Canadian 70-years of age regardless of means and without any strings. If the recipient is already a person of means, the government will get the money back through income tax. It means that the man or woman with some savings is not penalized for thrift. Will have a beneficial effect on our economy.—Kamldopa (B.C.) Sentinel.

The White Man Bestows the Feathers

With the opening up of the western prairies in the last century while pioneers came in contact with Indians wearing elaborate head-dresses of dyed eagle feathers. The idea of an Indian riding over the trackless prairie with a spectacular cascade of feathers streaming behind his head appeared to the imagination of the period. Fiction writers mentioned head-dresses and artists used them; on calendars, in illustrations and the cigar store Indians of the last century they are shown as if they were characteristic of all Indians. Needless to say, this was an error; they belonged to the Plains Indians and to them alone. No one could wear such a head-dress in the dense forests either of the west coast or of Ontario. However, the tradition of the head-dress got into history books and Indian children in all parts of North America "learned" that their forefathers used feathers, the white man said so, therefore it must be so. It was an easy step from this to the manufacture of feather head-dresses, often of chicken feathers, to satisfy the wishes of the tourist photographer or the needs of the ignorant. So to day one meets in all parts of the continent feather head-dresses often clumsily made. They are sad degenerations of the beautifully manufactured and dyed headdress of the Plains Indians, wherein each feather stood for a definite achievement according to the rules of warfare that were as rigid as they were in the days of the tournaments of medieval Europe. In the Royal Ontario Museum there are examples of such headdresses including one worn by Sitting Bull, in the Ontario gallery, a later specimen from Northern Ontario shows how the concept had spread, and the workmanship, at the same time, become cruder.

HORSES THAT 'SWEAT BLOOD'

In the Chinese section of the Royal Ontario Museum there are many small figures of horses, brightly colored and full of animation. Behind these there is a story which takes us back over 20 centuries. In 138 B.C. the Emperor of China sent an emissary, Chang Chien to the northwest border of the country in search of a nomad tribe. He finally found it. Among other wonders, he reported to his Emperor that he had seen large and powerful horses that "sweat blood." When peaceful efforts failed to obtain samples of these "Heavenly Horses," as the Chinese called them, an army was dispatched to seize some. At great cost of soldiers' lives some hundreds of these horses were brought back to China and bred. For centuries they were the delight and pride of Chinese officials who owned them. When an official died small portrait models in clay of his favorite steeds were put in the tomb with him. The blood sweating was probably due to a disease common to horses in northern Persia even today. It is caused by a small parasitic round-worm which gets under the skin of a horse and causes small haemorrhages that color the foamy sweat of the animal when it is exercised. Apparently this disease does not materially weaken a horse.

NEW NORTHERN ROAD

EDMONTON, Oct. 27 (The W.A. Fellow says) The Dominion has indicated it will assume two-thirds of the cost within Alberta of construction of the Calgary-Edmonton-Slave Lake road. The \$2,000,000 highway will extend into the Northwest Territories.

Farnworth Memorials

Monuments at Moderate Prices. CEMETERY LETTERING. Flora Rd. at Cemetery GUELPH, ONT.

SEAMAN CAMPAIGN

SAINT JOHN, N. B. (C.P.) Campaigning for continuation of their war risk bonus of \$11 monthly, merchant seamen carried signs in front of Bank Steamship Company, Ltd. Members of the Canadian Seaman's Union (C.A.F.U.), they carried signs such as "Merchant seamen heroes go hungry to-morrow."

Carroll's Campbell's Soup advertisement. Includes images of soup cans and bowls, and a list of products and prices: Campbell's NEW PACK TOMATO SOUP 2 Tins 17c. MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE 40c, NABOB 45c. SPECIAL JUICE 2 17c. ROLLED OATS 3 14c, SHREDDED WHEAT 2 15c, QUAKER OATS 19c. BUTTER 37c, FLOUR 20c, 84c. CARROLL'S TEAS: GOLDEN TIP TEA 44c, CARROLL'S OWN TEA 38c, OUR DANDELION TEA 32c. JUICY VALENCIA ORANGES 33c, DOMESTIC GRADE COOKING APPLES 8c, CRISP FRESH CELERY STALKS 17c, NO. 1 COOKING ONIONS 39c. Fruit and vegetable prices subject to market fluctuations.

Business-Directory

MEDICAL DR. W. G. C. KENNEY Physician and Surgeon. (Successor to Dr. J. A. McNiven) Office in Symon Block, Mill Street, Acton. Office Phone 18—Residence Church St., Phone 150.

DR. H. G. JOYCE Bachelor of Medicine. Office at R. H. Elliott's Residence Formerly Dr. McNiven's Office Elgin Street, Acton. PHONE 222.

DENTAL DR. HUGH S. AUSTIN Dental Surgeon. 1011 Street, Corner Frederick, Acton. Office Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Evenings by Appointment. Telephone 19.

DR. A. J. HUGHANAN Dental Surgeon. Office: Johnston Block, Mill Street. Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. X-RAY. GAS. TELEPHONE 119.

C. F. LEATHERLAND, B.A. Registrar and Solicitor, Notary Public, Issuer of Marriage Licenses, Registrar of Births, Marriages, Deaths. ACTON. Office 77. Phone 8. Residence 183.

LANGDON & AYLSWORTH Barristers, Solicitors, Etc. Offices: Acton, Cooper Building; E. MacIntyre, Aylsworth, B.A. ACTON. Office 215W. Phone 8. Residence 218J Georgetown. Gregory Theatre Bldg. Phone 89W.

VETERINARY B. D. YOUNG, V.S., B.V.Sc. Veterinary Surgeon. Office: Brookville, Ontario. Phone: Milton 11674. F. G. OAKES, V.S., B.V.Sc. Veterinary Surgeon. Office and Residence: Louis Avenue Acton. Phone 130.

REAL ESTATE WILLOUGHBY FARM AGENCY Largest and Oldest Agency in Canada. Head Office, Kent Bldg., Toronto. Georgetown Representative: Tom Hewson—Phone (georgetown) 333. Real Estate Broker General Insurance W.M. R. BRACKEN. PHONE 26. ACTON, ONT.

TIME TABLES

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS. Going West: Daily, except Sunday 9:01 a.m.; Saturday only 2:38 p.m.; Daily, except Sunday 7:48 p.m.; Monday, only 12:08 a.m.; Daily, except Sunday 1:24 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 8:19 p.m.; Flyer, daily, Georgetown 9:25 p.m.; Flyer, daily, at Guelph 8:59 p.m.

GRAY COACH LINES. COACHES LEAVE ACTON. Eastbound: 8:45 a.m., 12:16 a.m., 9:16 a.m., 11:51 a.m., 2:56 p.m., 5:16 p.m., 6:26 p.m., 9:01 p.m., 11:11 p.m. Westbound: 12:08 a.m., 11:13 a.m., 2:35 p.m., 4:52 p.m., 7:11 p.m., 9:28 p.m., 11:28 p.m. a—To London. b—Sunday and Holidays only. x—Daily, except Sundays and Holidays. y—To Kitchener. z—To Stratford.

MacDONALD'S Used Furniture Antiques. Upholstering, Refinishing, Repairs. Guaranteed Highest Quality Work at Reasonable Prices. 80 MacDonell St. Guelph.