

# EDITORIAL

## A Democratic Vote

In view of the wide effects of strikes on all citizens, it's about time that strike votes would have some stricter and more democratic supervision. The election laws of the country provide means for having a secret ballot and the right for all citizens to exercise the voting privilege without coercion.

Very often a strike vote is merely a show of hands in a meeting. In the case of the railway unions, a member must sign his name to the ballot and show his occupation and place of work. How he votes is known to the union officers and organizers.

Such a vote is exposed to all the evils of pressure and intimidation. Perhaps if the majority of railway-workers had had an opportunity to vote secretly a settlement of the present railway strike could have been made. At least they should have had the privilege of a secret ballot. Let's have all democracy in all our relationships. As the unions in railways and other business are at present constituted, there is too much left in the hands of organizers for important decisions.

Business is being badly disrupted by the present railway strike. Many innocent citizens are being seriously affected by the walk-out. What the public would like to see is full recognition of the needs of workers both in pay and hours of work and the bringing into effect of these conditions in an orderly and democratic way and not the glorification of union or employing dictators.

## Hiking Death

Paralyzed from the waist down, one man will never walk again because he picked up a hitch hiker. Driving along alone in a car he gave a lift to a highway thumper from Cleveland to north Pennsylvania and provided him with meals and cigarettes all the way. With a twist of the mind, the hitch hiker pulled a gun, forced the man to drive through the city to a sand pit and shot him through the spine paralyzing him from the waist down.

Hitch hikers are not all so dangerous as this but who is to note the difference. The driver who consistently picks up the thumbers unknown to him cannot help but get into trouble sooner or later no matter how good he is to them or how much money he has. The paralyzed man had five dollars which was the only revenue for the gunman. The gunman's next six years will be spent in prison and the paralyzed man will spend a life in a wheel chair.

Looking at the situation from the point of view of the hitch hiker the whole thing is indeed unfortunate. It is too bad that the method of transportation should be spoiled by the few for the many. It is only fair though that strangers hitch-hiking should be left on the road rather than allowed to possibly steal or kill the innocent helper.

Picking up the strange hitch-hiker is indeed an unwise practice and the thumbers should realize that before they begin any long, free trips.

## School Days

Next Tuesday the school bells will call pupils back to study again after the long summer vacation. The little tots will start their school days and the older boys and girls will resume advanced studies in higher grades.

We often wonder if these boys and girls fully appreciate the educational facilities provided and the amounts in time and money and training that have gone into our educational system in order that school days may be bright and happy and that the children of this generation have opportunities in studies these days that gives them a splendid start in life and an easier way to preparation for the job of living and playing an important task in world advancement.

School rooms are bright and cheerful and comfortable in summer and winter. Every child has an equal opportunity for education right up to university entrance. A wider course of studies is available and now rural and town pupils can get to school every day with transportation available to all rural High School pupils in the district.

School days are great days of opportunity. Parents might well tell the children occasionally of the better facilities now than in their days and also have the children know approximately in dollars and cents what it costs in direct taxation in the annual municipal levy. Days of opportunity for all school children open next Tuesday.

There has really been no need of the railway crossing signal on Mill Street the past week. Another few years won't matter for installation if railway traffic remains as at present.

Monday is Labor Day and all are hoping that before then the present turmoil and strife between labor and management may find a common ground and common sense settlement rather than the means of force and economic war.

## Truly Great Show

"It's the biggest and best thing we have ever seen or will ever see again", some American visitors reported on their recent visit to the Canadian National Exhibition.

Canadians have a right to be proud in the creation and maintenance of this great annual exhibition. Our American visitors attended the fair on Warrior's Day and the massed bands and lengthy parade of 10,000 filled them with awe and respect for the fine display.

The colorful array of Scotch plaids in the massed pipe band display lighted by the scarce shafts of sunlight captured their attention and amazement. That such a beautiful and spectacular thing could be arranged and carried out boosted their esteem for Canadians in general.

Just seeing some 270,000 people gathered in one exhibition was something new and interesting to the Americans and this may seem a little strange to readers since the United States cities are always portrayed as filled with teeming masses of people.

Being located close to Toronto it is quite easy to take full advantage of the fine displays and attractions provided at the C.N.E. The traditional events that are produced each year and the fine competitions attract millions both from the U.S.A. and Canada.

The Canadian National Exhibition is doing one of the finest advertising jobs for Canada that could be arranged.

## Abandon Education ?

With a general hue and cry for more and better education it is interesting to note the many programmes and plans that are set forth. In the Fergus News-Record a little while ago a Township Reeve voiced objection to the scheme for a High School District which would, it is supposed, provide an improvement in the education of rural and town pupils.

The following is the text of his remarks: "He was against school areas anyway. Nobody encourages boys to stay on the farms. If they get too much education they go away from the farm. Educating farm girls was just a waste of money, they just get married anyway. He would have got along on the farm better if he was a dummy. All he needs is to read the amount of the cheques for his hogs. It doesn't do any good to kick if it isn't as much as you expect. Nobody gets up at political meetings to tell the boys to stay on the farm. He can teach his boys all they need to know on his own farm. What good is it to a girl to be educated when she gets married? It just makes them dissatisfied with the farm."

And so people with unprogressive ideas like that can become Reeves and town and township officials. Perhaps education is unnecessary and the cave men were a fine set-up.

## Commonsense Modernism

After a considerable amount of study a new newspaper format greeted you when the home town paper came out on July 6th. All the features that were added or withdrawn were done so only after careful study and thought.

Since that issue went from the presses we have anxiously awaited comments on the new style. Several were received and some changes were necessary but it was with a great deal of interest this week that we read an article in one of the outstanding trade journals on our adoption of the new format.

From the Printer and Publisher we quote: "The paper has resorted to what might be called commonsense 'modernism' in appearing before the reading public in its new format. The front page of the paper has been drastically redesigned; but all changes are intended to serve a considered purpose, and they have not been adopted just in order to look unfamiliar and novel. The recently-added type faces do much to account for the pleasing appearance of the renovated paper. Relocation of editorial features has also played a valuable part. The paper's next task is to find just what response has been provoked by its style changes. A favourable answer to this enquiry seems almost certain."

Yes, our roads are gradually getting better and visitors to town will soon have little cause for complaint, following the sewer upheaval.

A present day query is, "Have you been to the Ex?" Looking to the future, are you getting ready for Acton Fair just a few weeks away.

Rather interesting to note that Burlington is securing a \$45,000 addition to the Post Office there, but other towns in the County can't secure even a few extra mail boxes for posting letters in various parts of town.

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

### BACK IN 1900

Taken from the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, August 30, 1930

A number of the employees of the Southampton tanneries recently destroyed by fire, have come to Acton to work in the tanneries here.

The quail pitchers who engaged in a game in front of the grand stand at the park on Sunday evening during the church hour, did not win for themselves an enviable reputation. If the park is to be put to such uses the gates had better be locked on the Sabbath.

Mr. John H. Kennedy has opened his grocery and provision store and has already had the pleasure of welcoming many friends and citizens. Mr. Kennedy is one of our own young men. He is a property owner, has a high reputation for uprightness of character and enjoys the confidence of all who know him.

Very few could form any adequate idea of the amount of water required to sprinkle the streets. During the month of May 137 tank loads of water were used in June 175 in July 111, and up to the 27th of August 124. Each tank weighs 4,800 pounds, and the aggregate weight of water sprinkled on the streets this summer has been 2,721,600 pounds or 1,360 tons which is equivalent to 272,160 gallons. This is surely an item of interest.

Mr. Charles E. McCann, who has occupied a position in the Toronto World the past year and a half has secured a good situation on the staff of the Ottawa Journal. Three graduates of the Free Press now occupy very satisfactory situations at the capital. Messrs. Mitchell, Cobban and Will Kennedy on the Citizen and Charles McCann on the Journal.

**MARRIED**  
ADAMSON-LAING At the home of the bride's mother in Nassagaweya, on Tuesday, 14th of August, F. W. Adamson, to Isabella, youngest daughter of Mrs. Emily Laing, all of Nassagaweya.

### ERIN

## Council Considers Village Position

At a meeting of the Village Council last Thursday evening, three tenders for the position of Clerk-Treasurer for the village were received. A decision as to the appointment to be given future consideration.

The band intco sponsored by the Hillsburgh Band in the Hillsburgh Floodlit park on the evening of August 17th was a huge success in spite of the threatening weather.

The Hillsburgh Mill, established in 1867 by How Brothers and recently operated by Charles Bellamy has been sold to Bert Kribs, of Niagara Falls, Ontario.

The Erin Township League semi-finals came to an end on Wednesday night, as a double-header under the lights in Hillsburgh Park produced two finalists. The high-flying Erin entry pulled the expected two-game sweep off Shiloh, but Hillsburgh bit a terrific slump to hand Mimosa a gift of a berth in the finals.

Several gardens in the local community were destroyed by frost on Monday and Tuesday evenings.—Advocate.

### ENGINE COOLS MILK

New truck body manufactured in U.S. uses truck motor to refrigerate milk at constant 40 deg. F., reports The Financial Post. Refrigerating unit is located under hood.

### BACK IN 1930

From the Issue of the Free Press of Thursday, August 28, 1930

Mrs. R. Bearhope, who has conducted a millinery and fancy goods store in the Starkman Block for the past seven years has disposed of the stock and Mr. and Mrs. Bearhope have removed to Saginaw, Mich.

Word was received last Friday of the tragic death of Joseph Synd in a crossing accident in Buffalo. The funeral was held on Sunday afternoon and interment was made in Fairview Cemetery.

Henry Sackett, RR No. 3 Rockwood whose car was struck by a passenger train at the fourth line, Erasmus died on his way to Guelph Hospital. He was returning home from Rockwood and apparently thought the train had already passed.

Mr. and Mrs. George H. Brooks of Brooklyn, N. Y. visited with Mrs. S. G. Smith and family, sixth line Esqueping.

The small boy's delight and some of the older ones too, in town. It is census day in Acton.

**ROBN**  
KENNEDY At the Helen Menck Hospital, Detroit, on August 14, 1930, to Mr. and Mrs. Jack E. Kennedy, the gift of a son.

**DIED**  
JOHNSTONE At Lakeview Farm Acton, on Tuesday, August 26, 1930, William Johnstone, beloved husband of Annie Fulton Johnstone in his 68th year.

### GEORGETOWN

## Local Men Enlist Can. Special Force

Seven district men have enlisted with the Canadian Special Force for action with the United Nations in Korea. The force is being raised as Canada's contribution in the United Nations police action against the North Korean army which invaded South Korea and will take special training in Canada and probably later in Japan.

Georgetown Girls Pipe Band will play at the Canadian National Exhibition on Labour Day, Monday, September 4th, one of several bands booked for the parade which will proceed from University Armouries to the exhibition grounds.

Members and adherents of the Georgetown Baptist Church gathered at the church Monday evening to honour Rev. and Mrs. Charles R. Gower, who, after three years of service here are leaving town next week.

Bill Hart, who succeeded Art Bucksman as manager of the Romy Theatre a few weeks ago has left the company's employ and intends to take a course in photography in the city.—Herald.

### NEST EGGS SCARCE

Fifty years ago or even 25, there were plenty of old couples who retired on \$20,000 tucked away in bonds or mortgages. At 6 per cent, that gave them \$100 a month which was sufficient to keep them in modest comfort. To get that income today requires an investment of \$40,000 and the annual yield of \$1,200 will buy only about half the amount of clothing, shelter and food it would before the war.

And that is only part of the story. In the first part of the century, it was not difficult nor unusual for the ordinary man to save \$20,000 in his working lifetime.

Today with taxation rates that would make our grandfather's shudder and living costs double and treble what they were accustomed to, individual saving is far more difficult.

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