

# EDITORIAL

## A Threat From Within

A record that is no cause for jubilation is the one recently reported for Canadians of \$1,026,000,000 spent last year on alcoholic beverages and alcohol. About 60 per cent of this amount or \$604,300,000 was spent on booze alone and, of course, the records show no returns from the bootlegger who operates more today than in any prohibition time.

Canadians are drinking more than at any time in history and more and more of them in come is going for booze. Additional outlets have made a new crop of drinkers and made the heavy drinkers consume more. The statistics show that the increase in expenditures on booze and tobacco between 1948 and 1949 was \$67,000,000 and this was accompanied by a reduction of \$145,000,000 in personal savings of Canadians between the 1948 mark and the 1949 lead.

For every \$3 Canadians spend on foodstuffs, more than \$1 is spent on booze or tobacco. These are facts which Canada needs to study thoroughly. The booze business and its ramifications is a more serious threat to this country than that of communism and in saying that we do not belittle the threat of communism.

A nation with its manhood and womanhood saturated with intoxicating beverages and spending such a high proportion of its income on this worthless commodity is in good condition to accept any doctrine shouted loudly enough into a befuddled brain. Canadians would do well to look at the threat within their borders as well as the threats from outside.

## Worth a Trial

One hesitates to make any comment regarding the conditions being unearthed in Windsor these days because it is not becoming to point particularly to a person or place being humiliated, especially when no community can boast of ideal moral conditions. The example can, however, be used to good effect in every municipality in an endeavour for improvement and if all communities improve nationally and provincially, Canada will be a better place in which to live.

For several years it was our privilege to serve as a Justice of the Peace and have some close knowledge of the operation of our law, administration calculated to maintain law, order and decency. It was always our impression that the weakness in our system lay in the law part of the triangle. Most police officers are conscientious and anxious to keep order and decency, but are often more ineffective in the legal proceedings. Too much attention is paid to the letter of the law and too little to the maintaining of order. There appears too little consideration of right or wrong and over-emphasis of the interpretation of the law. Often, we think there are too many laws and too many interpretations while the offender is able to evade conviction even though he is a menace to society.

Our sympathies go with the police officers and we believe that in many cases much of the wrong doing could be righted if they were given more freedom and the courts gave more attention to the culprit and the spirit of the law rather than its phraseology. Perhaps the police in Windsor could clear up the troubles there more effectively that commission or enquiries. It would at least be worth a trial.

Death After Dark! From now almost to the end of the year, the number of hours of darkness will be increasing, this adds to the accident hazards. Motorists are urged to "slow down at sundown", since nearly one-half of all fatal traffic accidents happen after dark. Those who must travel at night need to pay special attention to their lights. Have them properly adjusted. Ontario regulations require that a properly adjusted lower beam be used whenever a motorist comes within 500 feet of an approaching vehicle.

Every newspaper has a few "contributors" who submit personal or news items with the qualifying comment: "please do not change in any way". It is very difficult to explain to such people that what goes into the news columns of a paper is solely the responsibility of the editor. Even an advertiser who buys newspaper space, while given greater freedom to express his own views in his own way, is also subject to editorial limitations. The simple fact is, of course, that an editor is personally and legally responsible for everything that appears in his paper and for ensuring that it appears in a way which will make it acceptable to his readership at large. To suggest that news shall be printed in this way or that is simply nobody's business except the editor's.

## Check and Re-Check

Announcement was made last week that a school in Toronto will experiment for a year without report cards for the pupils. The average citizen might well ask, what has been the result of the various experiments to date?

Many of you will recall the days when weekly and monthly examinations were the rule. An honor roll standing for a month was quite an achievement for a pupil, something to be attained. This has, of course, gone these many years. Then we all tried examinations to pass from one form to another. These tests went some time before the entrance examinations. Now the only departmental test that we know about comes when the boy or girl goes from high school to university.

Now the suggestion comes for elimination of report cards. Comes in these days when parents are being criticized for lack of attention and interest in their offspring. True, along with the elimination is a plan to keep parents informed, but what better or more concrete advice can a parent get than a written report?

The time has come, we think, when consideration should be given on the effect of previous changes rather than the introduction of new plans. To date, everything has been in favour of the pupils. Have our schools produced young men or young women better fitted to take places in the world as a result of these changes? Is the incentive plan for students to be entirely discarded?

In the world of today, as far as incentive is concerned, the tendency seems to be to let governments run our affairs and so little struggle is given by the individual, we wonder if our school plans will not further this state control of the individual in the next generation and the communism we abhor so much is gradually creeping into our lives unconsciously through the school children of today.

## Talk Is Turning

"There never was a good war of a bad peace." Those were the words of Franklin and they strike a very deep note in these times when talk is turning to a third World War even more horrible than any previous conflicts.

Even though it is a commonly acknowledged fact that war is not good nor peace bad we have heard several methods discussed that would at least change the style of war.

In a current movie that has its setting in the trenches of the 1914-18 holocaust, several soldiers proposed that since they did not know what they were fighting for it would be better to let the general and the leaders from the two sides of the conflict meet in an arena and fight it out, thus saving innumerable lives and ensuring a quick decision. True, there was a touch of satire in the speech but the cinema audience cheered the idea quite loudly.

George Bernard Shaw expressed his opinion of how wars should be fought: "In 1914, it was a dreadful thing to see regiments of lads singing 'Tipperary' on their way to the slaughterhouse. But the spectacle of regiments of octogenarians hobbling to the front waving their walking sticks and piping up to the tune of 'We'll never come back no more, we'll never come back no more' wouldn't you cheer that enthusiastically? I would."

Of course that is only George Bernard Shaw's opinion but the day when anyone or any group of people should be cheered to the battle field is not a happy one.

As each war advances to the limelight and as we view them from the platform of history they have been "a war to end wars". How idle that seems after at least two great conflicts for that purpose.

As long as man believes in a way of life and as long as there is no common denominator for the variations in the pattern of life there will be battles to suppress and uphold opinions.

Still, however, men and nations must strive for peace of the most lasting type.

## Editorial Notes

The potato crop seems to be plentiful this year and prices indicate that for the Irish there will be a distinct drop in the price of living.

It would seem only reasonable that Junior might this Christmas express a desire for toys of the mechanical shovel or bulldozer type—unless he's already seen too much of the real thing.

If plans go right, the editor and his wife will have attended the Newspaper Convention in Quebec City this week and returned again in time to see this issue come off the press. We write our editorial a day or so earlier than usual and the news matter is handled by the staff.

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

### BACK IN 1900

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, Oct. 25, 1900

An esteemed young couple in town, Mr. W. A. Landborough and Miss Octavia Levens went to Toronto last Wednesday and were quietly married by Rev. Alexander McMillan, Presbyterian minister. Their many young friends are extending congratulations. The young couple will reside on Yonge St.

The services in the various churches on Thanksgiving morning were fairly well attended. Rev. J. K. Golden, M.A. addressed St. Albin's congregation at 10:30 and the Rev. H. A. MacPherson and J. M. Harper, M.A. the Presbyterian and Methodist at 11 o'clock.

Capt. Noble of Norway forwarded today a letter from Corporal Ballentine dated Belfast, Transvaal, Rep. Aug. 29. He reports that he and gunners Moore and Gould are all right.

The question was asked the Free Press the other day, why was the weekly market agitation dropped? The principal reason was that the building on Eglinton St. proposed to be used as a temporary market was leased to Messrs. W. H. Storey and Son for their growing business.

The death on Thanksgiving evening of Mrs. M. Kee, wife of Mr. J. D. McKee, druggist, came as a shock upon this community.

Mr. McKee of Toronto made his funeral, Rev. Father Feeny a brief visit on Thanksgiving Day.

**MARRIED**  
LANDSBOROUGH LEVENS. At Toronto, on Wednesday 17th of October by Rev. Alexander McMillan, William A. Landborough to Octavia Levens, daughter of the late George Levens, both of Acton.

**DIED**  
MCKEE. In Acton, on Thursday 18th October, Kate McKee, wife of John D. McKee, druggist, in her twenty fifth year.

### GEORGETOWN

## Top Plowman Wins British Isles Trip

For the second year in a row a Georgetown district farmer won top honours in the trans-Atlantic tractor competition at the International Plowing Match at Alliston. He receives an all-expense trip to the British Isles which is the goal of every plowman in the province.

Hugh is a fourth generation farmer on the Leslie homestead on the 5th line, Chinguacousy. The son of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Leslie he is married to the former Elsie Hyatt of the Norval district. Last year he placed third in the open tractor class at the Halton Plowing Match.

Hugh is a distant cousin of last year's winner, Jim Eccles. His coaching helped Jim to win the trip in 1949 and this year Jim reciprocated and coached the new champion to victory.

On Saturday, October 14th in Ashgrove United Church the marriage was solemnized of Viola Florence Bridgen daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Bruce Bridgen and Thomas William Alderson, son of Mrs. W. S. Alderson and the late Mr. Alderson.

Following a stroke which she suffered two weeks ago, Mrs. William W. Fisher died in Peel Memorial Hospital, Brampton on Monday, October 9th.

Mrs. James F. Evans gave a most interesting talk on Nassau, in the Bahamas last Monday evening at the October meeting of the Council of Strathmore Chapter, IOOE, held at the home of Mrs. Art Scott.

Mrs. Leonard G. Marchment, resident of Glen Williams for forty years, died at her home there on Sunday, Herald.

The United States built the first submarine ever to be employed in war in 1776.

### BACK IN 1930

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, October 23, 1930

The children had a good time with the first fall of snow. Another section of the Park has been levelled and made ready for a baseball diamond in front of the grandstand.

The girls ball team met the Brampton girls in an exhibition game in Acton Arena and won by a score of 12-7. St. Alban's team defeated the Howatson team of Brampton 12-9 in their game.

Alex Black, youthful Arkel plowman, captured the boys' sweepstakes and the Hon. J. S. Martin trophy at the Ontario Plowing Match at Stratford.

Rev. W. A. Millroy, B.D. of Toronto occupied the United Church on Sunday when Anniversary services were held.

**DIED**  
SMITH. In Nassaraguya Township on Wednesday, October 15, 1930 David D. Scott in his 75th year.

**SMITH** At his home 49 Alberta Avenue, Toronto, on Monday, October 20, 1930, Rev. Alfred Y. Smith, B.D. in his 70th year.

The nebula in the constellation Andromeda is the most distant object in the sky which can be seen without a telescope.

### MILTON

## Council Introduces Rate Boost By-Law

Two special meetings of Milton Council were held last week. Members of Council worked both Monday and Tuesday evenings on the problem of figuring out a more equitable water rate for the town of Milton. During the past, the revenue from the water rates has been just put into the general account of the Corporation and used to lower the tax rate. As a number of the services and many a need extending and enlarging, more revenue is needed for this work. Council gave first reading to a by-law to raise the rates by 50 percent.

At a special meeting held in Milton Town Hall on Wednesday, October 18th further consideration was given to the question of forming a fire district of Milton and the adjoining townships, Mr. A. R. Sumner, representing the A. M. Kerr Equipment Ltd. showed moving pictures to the group which showed the power and value of the fire trucks he handles. An actual fire was photographed with the truck travelling through snow, mud and a creek to put it out.

Final decision in the trial of Allan Morley and Jim Shepherd, who were charged with the theft of scrap from the P. L. Robertson Manufacturing Co. last week, was made on Wednesday afternoon, October 18. No conviction was made on the charge against Mr. Shepherd while Mr. Morley was fined \$20 and 3 months.

David Bailey, 16, who collided with the school bus on October 11 also came up for trial last week. His license was suspended for a month and he was fined \$21 by Magistrate Langdon. He had been driving with four students on the running boards and hit the bus as he turned the corner into the school grounds—Canadian Champion.

### BETTER AN APPLE A DAY

"Good morning, Doctor. I'm so terribly upset to hear of the death of Mrs. Spinks. It was so sad, and to think you were treating her for asthma and then for her to go and die of heart disease!"

Doctor (with determination): "Mrs. Jones, when I treat a patient for asthma, that patient dies of asthma."

## The Acton Free Press

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**CANDY for HALLOWE'EN**  
JELLY BEANS OR KISSES

POUND 35c

AYLMER CHOICE BEEVE 4 1/2 30 OZ. TIN 15c

- ROMAR PEANUT BUTTER 1 1/2 LB. JAR 35c
- MARGENE MARGARINE 1 1/2 LB. PKG. 37c
- AWMERS COND. TOMATO JUICE 2 20 OZ. TINS 19c
- AWMERS COND. STRAWBERRY JAM 24 OZ. JAR 44c
- CUT CITRON PEEL 4 OZ. PKG. 14c
- PINEAPPLE RINGS 4 OZ. PKG. 19c
- DOMESTIC SHORTENING 1 1/2 LB. PKG. 33c

FRESH CHOCOLATE MARSHMALLOW  
**BISCUITS**  
POUND 43c

- ROMAR COFFEE 1-LB. BAG 93c
- DANDEE TEA 1-LB. PKG. 38c, 1-LB. PKG. 75c
- Kellogg's ALL-BRAN 1-LB. PKG. 23c
- QUICK QUAKER OATS 3-LB. BOX 35c
- Green Giant PEAS 10-OZ. TIN 13c
- G.&B. PLUM PUDDING 1-LB. TIN 55c
- JIFFY POPPING CORN 10-OZ. TIN 25c

**BLENDED**  
ORANGE AND GRAPEFRUIT OR  
**ORANGE JUICE**  
2 20-OZ. TINS 35c, 48-OZ. TIN 39c

- LIBBY'S FANCY Tomato Juice 2 20 OZ. TINS 23c
- HEINZ SPAGHETTI WITH SAUCE 15-OZ. TIN 14c
- SWIFT'NING SHORTENING 1-LB. PKG. 38c
- CHAMPION CAT FOOD 2 1-LB. TINS 25c
- R. M. DOG KIBBLO 1-LB. PKG. 16c
- Bruce's BIRD SEED 10-OZ. PKG. 21c

- GREENINGS, FANCY
  - APPLES - - - 4 lb. 25c
  - CALIFORNIA 2 1/2" - - - Doz. 36c
  - GOLDEN YELLOW BANANAS - - - lb. 18c
  - NO. 1 SMALL 10 LB. BAG ONIONS - - - ea. 29c
  - SNOWS, FANCY APPLES - - - 6 qts. 49c
- FRESH DAILY—Celery, Tomatoes, Salad and Spinach in pkg. Cauliflower, Grapes