



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOV DILLS, Editor.

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EDITORIAL

Around the Corner

While spring may yet seem to be a long way off, the bright sunshine of these days and the gradual disappearance of the ice are reminders that winter is losing its grip and the brighter and warmer days are just around the corner. The spring birds are gradually re-appearing, and the robin is sighted and reported more frequently. True, winter will yet give some reminders that spring is not yet here, but the snow that comes in these blustery March days does not last long when the warm rays of the sun reach it. The brooks are gradually breaking their winter bonds. Hockey gossip will soon give place to baseball, garden parties and band concerts. In these days when the highways are kept open motoring is an all-year-round pleasure, but the back concessions will soon be navigable again. Evidence is not lacking. Spring is just around the corner.

Perhaps in 1935

During the spring months, and when water accumulates in many places where it is inconvenient to walk around or through, there is a general feeling that such nuisances should be repaired before another spring. But as the summer rolls around, and the repairing time doesn't point strenuously to the need of repairs, another spring rolls around and finds these places in exactly the same condition. There isn't any one particular to blame. Some will say that the Council should attend to these matters, but usually in June, when they should be remedied, the Council is facing the situation of the tax rate and endeavoring to satisfy the demands of ratepayers that the taxes be kept at the lowest level. We have in mind at the moment rectifying the drainage on Mill Street, so that the several places will be cleared of water more readily and the construction of a sidewalk from the Park entrance to the Arena entrance. It is to be hoped the funds will be available for these improvements during 1935.

Its Worth Demonstrated

Evidence that a covered skating arena and a hockey team capable of getting into play-off games are a good attraction to any community was to be had on Monday evening. In spite of the fact that the playing of the game was in doubt, owing to weather conditions, it is estimated that 1,800 people witnessed the playing of the game between Acton and Durham. These were by no means all residents of Acton. Streets within three blocks of the Arena were filled with automobiles and parking space was only available to late comers three blocks from the Arena. From conversation with different spectators that crowd was drawn from Owen Sound in the north and points east as far as Brampton, and south as far as Hamilton, and also west of Acton. A feature, too, of the Acton arena is that accommodation for spectators was considered as well as ice surface in the arena construction. Acton Arena is packed with crowds, not once, but on several occasions each year, and as a community centre and a community asset its worth is quite often demonstrated.

Leavers Headed for Trouble

The worst of depending on some one else is that unless you happen to be a Siamese twin, you can never be sure that the other fellow will be around when you need him. If young folks depend on classmates to help them out in all difficult problems, on an associate in the business office to give a life when in danger of making a serious blunder, and on their mother for keeping them loyal to the standards believed in, then they are bound for trouble. When they finish school, nobody is there to help them over the hard places, when their kindly associate is promoted, and nobody is there to warn that they are making mistakes, when they leave home, and their mother is no longer on hand to assume the responsibility of a conscience, unpleasant results are likely to happen and happen fast. If young folks get the habit of leaning on a shoulder that is not there, down they go. Just one person is safe for them to depend on, and that is themselves.

Canadian Shipping Gains

Ships from many lands were cleared at Canadian ports during the fiscal year 1933-34. Vessels of all kinds totalled 114,744 with a registered tonnage of 82,852,056 tons, and compared with 114,204 vessels and a registered tonnage of 79,733,836 tons entered in 1932-33 show an increase of 540 vessels and of 3,118,220 in registered tonnage. Sea-going vessels numbered 19,501 with a tonnage of 28,209,947, an increase of 1,723 vessels and of 3,165,558 in tonnage. Of the sea-going vessels entered 3,402, registered tonnage 11,434,099 tons, were British; 8,403, registered tonnage 4,729,813 tons, were Canadian; and 7,696 vessels, registered tonnage, 12,046,035, were from United States, 327 from Japan, 974 from Norway, 210 from Denmark, 143 from Germany, 101 from the Netherlands, and 142 from Sweden. British Columbia again held first place both in the number and total registered tonnage of sea-going vessels entered, with 8,101 vessels with registered tonnage of 15,008,619. Quebec showed the next heaviest tonnage in the sea-going class with 6,216,136 tons entered. Nova Scotia was third with 4,987,610 tons. Vessels entered coastwise numbered 66,915 with registered tonnage of 41,023,543 tons, and 28,328 vessels entered from inland waters with registered tonnage of 12,718,566 tons. Tonnage entered coastwise was heaviest in Ontario, totalling 14,060,264 tons; British Columbia was a close second with 13,335,730 tons. River and lake shipping was heaviest in Ontario where ports and outports showed a total registered tonnage entered of 12,095,692 tons. Tonnage entered at ports and outports of Quebec in this class totalled 615,784 tons.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A new bank opened in Canada on Monday and very shortly the new smaller bank bills will begin to make their appearance.

Signs of a Dominion election are not lacking these days, with candidates for both parties receiving nominations and getting to work in the field.

Everyone, regardless of political following, regret the illness of Premier Bennett. These are strenuous days for those in high position and the wish of all is that he may be speedily restored to good health.

With the closing locally of the O. H. A. hockey season a good deal of attention can now be given other matters. Local fans are well pleased with the place the Acton team won this year in the O. H. A. race.

Twenty years ago sites for new Post Offices in Georgetown, Oakville and Burlington were considered. The same procedure is being carried on to-day and hope of new buildings given in these centres is again revived.

The County Council session this month dealt at some length on the problem of assisting the farmer. Next month it may be expected to give undivided attention to helping the town dweller in some of his real or imaginary difficulties.

Figures on liquor revenues and sales are very conclusive evidence that temperance in the consumption of intoxicating beverages is not improving, but the liquor interests are gaining ground—but far from satisfied with the business yet secured.

The bootlegger, who was supposed to make an exit with the advent of easier access to intoxicating beverages, it would seem, is still very much with us. His services are still in demand by those who want more for their money, according to press reports from Atherley.

The beverage rooms are not making large gatherings any more enjoyable. The individuals who first visit these places and imbibe too freely, and then attend public functions, should be thrown out unceremoniously. They are a disgrace to themselves and the gatherings.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 17th

PETER DELIVERED FROM PRISON

Golden Text—Prayer was made earnestly of the church unto God for him.—Acts 12: 5.

Lesson Text.—Acts 12: 1-9. (Verses printed, 5-17.) Study, also, Ps. 34: 1-8. Time.—A. D.—44. Place.—Jerusalem.

Exposition.—I. Peter in Prison and the Church Praying Unto God for Him, 5.

Peter seemed to be in a very perilous position—securely locked in a Roman prison, bound with two chains, between two soldiers, guarded by sixteen soldiers, keepers before the door guarding the prison. Peter's enemies seemed to have taken every precaution, but they made one fatal mistake, they left God out of their calculations. There is "nothing too hard for the Lord," nor for the church that links itself on to God by prayer. God often withholds His deliverance and answers prayer at the last moment. What should the church do? There is but one thing to do—pray. They appealed the case from "Herod the king" to God, the King of kings. Peter seemed to have faith that he would be delivered, for he was calmly and very soundly sleeping. Just as soon as he was thoroughly awake he said: "Now I know of a truth that the Lord did send forth His angel (just as I have been asking Him to) and delivered me." Verse 5 teaches us just how to pray.

(1) "Unto God." Much so-called prayer is not UNTO GOD. There is no real coming into the presence of God and actually presenting our petition to Him. There are volumes in these two short words, "unto God." (2) "Without ceasing." The R. V. gives the thought, but not the full thought. The Greek word means, literally, "stretched-out-ed-ly." It is a vivid pictorial word that represents the soul on a stretch with intensity of desire (cf. Jer. 29: 13). It is the word used of Christ's prayer in the garden, when in the intensity of His prayer His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground (Luke 22: 44; cf. Romans 15: 30; Col. 4: 12, 13, R. V.). (3) "Of the church." There is power in the prayer of the individual, but there is added power, yet multiplied power, in united prayer (Mat. 18: 19, 20; Acts 1: 14; 4: 24, 31). (4) "For him." They did not wander all over the world in their prayers that night; they concentrated their prayer on Peter and on getting him out of prison. II. Prayer Answered and Peter Free, 6-11.

God's angels are most likely to appear in times of greatest need. A heavenly light shined in the gloomy cell. A prison cell is a dark and dismal place, but no place is more luminous than a prison cell when an angel of the Lord stands there. God's angels are very unceremonious. "He smote Peter on the side and awoke him." Sharp blows are often more loving than gentle lullays. It is frequently necessary to rudely awaken a man before he can be delivered from his peril. God's orders demand prompt obedience (v. 7). Peter could not take his chains off from himself, but he could gird himself and bind on his sandals when the chains were off (v. 8). What Peter could do for himself, he must himself do. Peter had gotten so much into the habit of obeying God that he did it even in his sleep, or at least when he was only half awake. If Peter had been like many of us he would have stopped long before they got to the iron gate and debated with the angel how they were to get through it. When he got to the gate it "opened of its own accord," but not until they got to it. If we just obey God difficulties will disappear when we get to them. When they got to the place where Peter could take care of himself, "straightway the angel departed from him." At last Peter knew of a truth that it was all real and he was not dreaming. The Lord had taken a hand in the matter. When are Lord does take a hand, men's devices come to nothing (Prov. 21: 30). The "hand of Herod" is weak indeed when the Lord takes a hand. "The expectation of the people of the Jews" was from the mighty King, but Peter's expectation was from the Lord (Psalm 62: 5).

III. Believing Rhoda and the Unbelieving Church, 12-17.

The company had come together to pray for Peter's deliverance. God, as might be expected, heard their prayer and sent the answer around to the meeting (cf. Ec. 6: 24). But they were completely bewildered by the answer when it came. They were sure that it could not be Peter. Rhoda must be crazy. If Rhoda is not crazy, then it must be his ghost and not Peter himself (v. 15). Perhaps they thought he had been executed in the night. But Rhoda had faith, she seems to have been expecting Peter. As soon as there was a rap at the door she was on her feet and at the door listening. The moment she heard Peter's voice she knew it was he, it was that what she expected. Even though they told her she was crazy, she stuck to it still. She was only a "maid" (v. 13), but she is the only one in that praying company whose name the Holy Spirit has thought worthy to put on record. She had faith, and she alone counted. That "Rhoda" (Rhoda) had sweet fragrance with God. Peter kept right on knocking. That is the best way to treat unbelief—just keep hammering away. They must have looked foolish when Peter himself walked in, but how happy Rhoda must have been. They were now ready to imitate Peter, but he

SLATS' DIARY BY ROSS PARQUHAR

Friday—pa says he isn't never a going to loan a preacher no more munny because he did 1 time he Reminds the preacher how long the Bill has ran the preacher cums back with the theory that A thousand yrs. is as a day. Pa says that is to Long to wait for your munny. In these kinda times.

Saturday—Ant Emmy says it seems like as though the oney reason the Moevy actresses gets married is so they can get a Divorce.

Sunday—Alma Tetter is very very proud today on acct. of the new dress which she worn to church this morning she told ma it was very grate succe because all the men was a looking at it and all the women in the church was talking about it.

Monday—Ant Emmy was nervis today and she sed the noise of the washing Maheen added her so ma started to sing while she was wash but Ant Emmy finely disided it wood be better to just let her hear the maheen rumping.

Tuesday—pa was kinda imbarressed today bec he printed a wedding story and sed that the Happy couple changed Cows in front of a Altar of Pirus in the presence of intimate Friends.

Wednesday—Y goes out tacent very what you wood call Progressive becous when my teacher sat her if he wood like for me to take Sycalogy ma sed No she wood stick to the old Fashioned Shingle and Apple witch.

Thursday—Ed Henry told pa he brung his mother & Law home from the city last nite in thirty 2 minits. Pa sed he cudent under stand why he was in suchy Hurry coming this way.

Distemper responds quickly to Douglas' Egyptian Liniment. Keep a bottle handy in the stable.

CHANGED

Wife: "Before we were married, Jack, you said I was a queen."

Husband: "Yes—but I have lost my taste for a monarchical form of government."

beckoned them to hold their peace and turn attention from himself to Jesus. This is the rightful duty of all who have been liberated from the bondage of sin and the prisonhouse of evil habit. There should be no boast on the part of the delivered, but unceasing praise given to the great Deliverer.

News! Salada Tea now has a blend for every purse Yellow Label 28c - 1/2 lb BROWN LABEL • 33c 1/2 lb. ORANGE PEKOE • 40c 1/2 lb. All leaders in their class

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