



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor.

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EDITORIAL

Yesterday

You cannot get away from yesterday. What you did, what you said, what you were is interwoven with every experience of to-day. Just because there is no escape from yesterday, you should give it very little deliberate attention. Sometimes the recollection of yesterday's mistakes fairly paralyzes your initiative. You brood upon them until you get the feeling that everybody else must be thinking of them too, and come to the conclusion that it is no use to try. Perhaps yesterday's little triumphs loom so large that you feel you deserve a day off. Trying to relive yesterday's good times may make to-day's task seem hopelessly dull and dreary. Brooding on yesterday's sorrow may keep you from seeing the little joys that to-day has waiting for you. Yesterday is not done with you but you are done with yesterday.

A Desired Extension

It is interesting to note that the Public Utilities Commission and the Council are giving some consideration to the extension of the water mains to Main Street West. For the past fifteen years, while other sections of Acton have been enjoying the privileges and comforts provided by the waterworks, this section has been denied that convenience. Their fire protection has also been inadequate. Yet in spite of this these properties have been paying the general levy necessary to meet the waterworks debentures. Councils and Commissions in the past have been approached on the matter but it has been shelved, owing to an abnormal frontage tax on one or two properties. This objection can surely be overcome when at the present time special consideration is given those who occupy corner lot properties. It is to be hoped that the present proposals will extend to the residents of the district of West Main Street the service to which they are entitled.

An Unaltered Position

About two years ago we took up the cudgels on behalf of the returned man and the securing of appointments in the civil service. While ours seemed a voice in the wilderness at that time and there was little or no joining in the chorus from where the chorus should seem to come loudest, it would seem that now, two years later, the Legion is taking up that matter and being champion of the rights of the soldier. This statement is amply justified by the open meeting of the local branch last week, and by the public notices this week of protest meetings. The cause is just and has our sympathy in its general purpose. In this instance however, the case would seem specific. By the change in Halton a considerable saving has been made. One returned man has been replaced by another returned man in the combined posts, so that no ground has been lost, although, likewise none has been gained. We said the case seemed specific. We have made some inquiry in the present instance and it would seem to us, after this presentation of facts, that the change was justified. We do not desire to say more, because to do so would be an attack on an individual. Just as two years ago we favored the preferment of returned soldiers in government appointment and retention in service, we do so to-day. The principle is right—so must the individual conduct be to regain and hold the dignity of the office.

Whose Fault

Graduation time in the colleges is at hand and after securing years of training, many young folks are now ready to set out in the world and endeavor to find a place to apply the learning. They are ready for jobs but there are no jobs for them. The graduates of last year and other years have not even been absorbed in the world of activity. The condition of affairs, however, shows some improvement over other years, along with the improvement noted in business activity generally. Possibly a change in the training of the colleges would help these students to fit in better to the world of activity. We have always felt that the training has not been practical enough to be of real service. The students are not to blame for this condition. The prescribed years have been devoted to acquiring a training sold to them as good. The sooner places are available for them and other young folks with the desire to take a place in the world of activity, the more opportunity there will be for this rising generation to fit itself into the tasks that will in a few years be their burden.

After Fifteen Years Service

The fire of last week demonstrated rather forcibly that Acton's arrangement of fire pressure is not in the best interests. There was no lack of equipment capable of providing water for the elevator fire, but the boosting of the water pressure on the mains and in the homes and business places caused damage that was bothersome and costly. Citizens protested several years ago when the expenditure was made and an additional pump installed at the reservoir. Many ways were suggested as preferable to this equipment. The Council of that time, however, saw the matter differently. It would appear that now the plan suggested at that time of a booster pumper for use at the fire will yet be necessary to really give the most satisfactory fire fighting equipment. The mains and plumbing fixtures in homes and business places have now had about fifteen years of service and are not as strong as when first installed. Unless consumers take the precaution to partially turn off the supply at the entrance to the building when the fire pressure is on, breakages will occur whenever the pressure is boosted on the mains. We are not advocating the purchase of a booster pump for the municipality at the present time. But it is just questionable, if fires occur after a saving would not be made in the long run by this installation, which really means the scrapping of much of the equipment now in use at the pump house. It is to be hoped that Acton's splendid record of small fire losses will continue and the need for the increased pressure at times of fire be called upon as seldom as has been the case in the past.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is estimated the new income tax provisions will boost the revenues by 14 million dollars.

Most Fall Fair Boards will hope that the Dominion elections won't be held during the month of September. Any date that month is likely to interfere with several annual exhibitions.

The Council has shown commendable initiative in an endeavor to find an occupant for the shoe factory that will soon be vacant. Whether they meet with success or not, their aggressiveness should meet with the approval of all.

Huron County Council suggests that the Provincial Governments be done away with as an economy measure. And we suppose every County Council will concur and forward a similar resolution to the Provincial Government.

The Ontario financial upset seems to be causing quite a diversity of opinions. The average man seems to favor the Premier's move, while it appears the financial circles are on the opposing side. It all seems quite the natural course of events.

If one can believe part of what is told of the proceedings at Ottawa these days it would appear that Mr. Bennett is in rather a troubled state of mind—even with members of his own party. The breaks are a bit too regular to suggest the closest of harmony.

The Attorney-General's Department is to be congratulated on its conduct of executions within the Province. Too long the stories of the gruesome hangings have been written up in the sensational press. Not even the curious tree climber will get a chance to see the hanging in St. Thomas on June 27th.

Editor J. A. MacLaren has completed forty years in the editorial chair of the Barrie Examiner. Those years have seen the Examiner keep pace with the growth of Barrie and Mr. MacLaren may look back with pride to the work of the past four decades. The Examiner is one of the finest weekly newspapers in the Province and has earned the place it and its editor hold.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 23rd.

CHRISTIAN MISSIONS

Golden Text.—Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation.—Mark 16: 15.

Lesson Text.—Acts 1: 6-8; 13: 1-12. Study, also, Gen. 12: 1-3; Is. 45: 22; 49: 6; Jonah 3: 1-10; Matt. 28: 19, 20. Time.—A. D. 30, 45. Places.—Jerusalem, Antioch, Salamis, Paphos. Exposition.—I. The Purpose of the Gift.

The mention of "the promise of the Father" for which the disciples were to wait (v. 4), seems to have suggested to the disciples the restoration of Israel, so they ask Jesus if He is about to restore the kingdom to Israel. His answer implies that the kingdom is some time to be restored to Israel (cf. Lk. 1: 20-21; 9: 7; Jer. 23: 6; Hos. 3: 4, 5; Joel 3: 16-21; Am. 9: 11-12). But in the most emphatic way He tells them that God has reserved the knowledge of times and seasons to Himself (cf. Matt. 24: 36; Mark 13: 32). When they should receive the kingdom He does not disclose; when they should receive power He does disclose (v. 8). This power would be theirs when the Holy Ghost had come upon them (cf. v. 5). They would not have power until then. How foolish, then, for us to try to work for Christ until we have sought and obtained the baptism with the Holy Ghost. The power of the Holy Ghost was not merely for the purpose of making them happy, but for the purpose of making them "witnesses" (cf. 2: 4; 4: 13, 14; 13: 32; 17: 20). "They were to begin their witnessing right where they were when the Holy Ghost was received, in Jerusalem. They were then to go on and on, "unto the uttermost part of the earth." A true reception of the Holy Spirit by the Church means world-wide missions. This was Christ's parting message to us. How we ought to ponder it!

II. Barnabas and Saul Sent Forth.

The church at Antioch had five "prophets and teachers" worthy of mention by name. This early Gentile church became a fountain of light and life to many other places. The Holy Ghost spoke to them "as they ministered to the Lord and fasted." It is not said how the Spirit spoke, whether in an audible voice, or silently, in the inner recesses of the heart; but He spoke in an unmistakable way. It was no vague, uncertain impulse such as men sometimes call "the voice of the Spirit." He is ready to speak to-day, if we will supply the proper conditions and listen. It was the Holy Spirit's work to call; it was man's work to recognize the call, and set the call apart for the work. But it was "for the work whereunto" the Spirit called that they were to be set apart. Too often we set men apart for a work whereunto the Spirit never called them. Spirit-called men are a great need of our day. We have far too many men whom men have called; or, worse yet, who have called themselves. Every step in that early Church was taken in prayer. And it was no mere formal prayer. It was prayer to which men gave themselves so heartily that they withdrew themselves even from their necessary food, to pursue it (v. 3). The promptness with which this Church obeyed the Spirit's command is worthy of note. He had demanded the best they had for the foreign mission field, and they gave them up without a murmur. They would have liked to have kept Barnabas and Saul, but the Spirit-called men elsewhere, and "they sent them away."—But while they sent them away, it all they were really "sent forth by the Holy Ghost." No directions seem to have been given as to where they were to go; so they made straight for the nearest port, and thence for the old home of Barnabas (ch. 4: 36).

III. Triumph of Saul over Elymas.

They were true to their commission, "they preached the Word of God." Many a man has been sent forth by the Holy Ghost who has afterward forgotten what he was sent to preach; and so a mission that was divine in its origin has come to nothing in its execution. If there was ever a day in which their example needed imitation, it is to-day, when men are preaching anything and everything but "the Word of God" (comp. 1 Thes. 2: 13; 2 Tim. 4: 2). The proconsul, Sergius Paulus, gave good proof that he was indeed "a man of understanding;" "he called unto him Barnabas and Saul, and sought to hear the Word of God." Whatever claims to prudence and wisdom and common sense a man may make, he is not "a man of understanding," if he is not desirous "to hear the Word of God." Elymas did not give up without a fight. The devil never does (2 Tim. 3: 6). His chief business is turning men aside from the faith (v. 8; cf. 2 Cor. 4: 3, 4; Luke 8: 12). But the opposition of Elymas for all his marvellous powers was vain, for he had run up against a Spirit-filled man. Paul had been filled with the Holy Spirit soon after his conversion (ch. 9: 17). But now a new emergency arose, and there is a new filling for the new need. We ought not to be content because we have once, or fifty times, known what it was to have the Spirit of God come rushing upon us and taking possession of our minds, and giving us words of wisdom, boldness and power to utter. As each new emergency arises, we should cast ourselves upon Him anew. Paul's words are very severe and very searching. They expose

THE BEE'S STING

Bees can sting and yet live. The contrary belief has now been shattered by Dr. J. O. Myers, of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad. "My scepticism regarding the frequent statement that worker bees cannot withdraw their barbed stings," Dr. Myers states, "was first aroused by observing a raid by wasps on a hive in Essex. In one case a wasp made a bold entrance by the doorway, was met by a bee, and vigorously repulsed. It entered again and emerged at once, struggling with a bee, which eventually succeeded in throwing it to the ground. The bee seemed somewhat exhausted, but quickly recovered. The wasp fell helpless and died a few minutes later. His curiosity aroused by the survival of the bee, Dr. Myers proceeded to experiment for himself. He found that on one out of every three occasions when a bee was induced to sting a handkerchief would the bee give its sting into a position from which it could not extricate it. "There seemed little grounds," he sums up in "Nature," "for the belief that worker bees sacrifice themselves, or that they are more handicapped than wasps in defending their nests."

An Oil that is Famous.—Though Canada was not the birthplace of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil, it is the home of that famous compound. From here its good name was spread to Central and South America, the West Indies, Australia and New Zealand. That is far enough to attest its excellence, for in all those countries it is on sale and in demand.

the depths of the infancy of Elymas. Plainness and boldness of speech is a characteristic of a Spirit-filled man (Acts 4: 31; Eph. 6: 10). God endorsed Paul's words. There had already fallen a mist and a darkness upon his soul, and now the judgment also touches the body. We have here a glimpse of how God will deal with men who choose darkness rather than light, and oppose His truth (2 Thes. 3: 11, 12). Opposition to God is dangerous business; God's judgments are not always as swift as this; but, however slow, they are always true.

SLATS DIARY

BY ROSS BARBER.

Friday—Mrs. Hetty Bloom met Harry T. the other night when Harry went to call on Susie Blooms Dawter and Mrs. Bloom sed to Harry. I under stand you want to be my son & law and Harry replied and sed. No I don't want to be your son & law. I just want to marry your daughter. Sam seems to think it didden please her. So very much.

Saturday—I am saving the peace in the noose paper where it prints a peace about my singing. It was at the last day of school and it says the intire audience a rose and sung the National Anthem. I was in the audience.

Sunday—Ant Emmy dusent get much pleasure out of reading the noose paper becaz they are so menny wirts she dustent under stand. This morning she was reading and she shot a Butress was a woman who made Butter. I wonder what it telly is.

Monday—I was sitting on this evening what was a Monolog and he sed it cud be eather a conversashun by 1 person or among 2 people like a husband and his wife.

Tuesday—Ex Berger says the depreshun has wirted a grate hardshp on him. he not only ant making enny munny but Red ink costs morn Black ink does he says.

Wednesday—Adda Brunk told pa to-day that she thot the most intrusting 10 yrs. of a womans life was between twenty 8 and therty ys, of Age.

Thursday—well I red in the paper agen to-day that a man over in Jackson county had died wilo taking a bath and yet after all that I bet his makes me take a bath when Saturday like curs around agen. I found out to-day what Allamony was. Pa told me it was what the judge made 1 man pay for a Mistake with 2 people made.

CASE DISMISSED

Roscoe Penn, colored, of Atlanta, Ga., tells the court how it came that the policeman thought Roscoe was stealing an automobile.

"Ah gets tired walking down the street and Ah sets down in an automobile to rest and mah foot hits the starter and Ah's too tired to take it off."

A WOMAN, EH!

"Have a cigar, Tom?" "No; I've given up smoking." "Well tell me about her."



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