The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOF DILLS, Editor.

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EDITORIAL

Plenty of Choice

If the election date is not soon announced the parties and platforms facing the electors will soon be so numerous and confusing that the electorate will scarcely know how to vote in the best interests of the country as a whole. The announcement this week that Hon. H. H. Stevens will lead a new party follows on last week's rumors of a national party, and in the meantime we still have both old parties, with their followers. And, of course, there is still the C. C. F. in the field somewhere. Troublesome times surely bring a wide selection of individual corrective remedies. Some of them may be good—not all of them can be. It is a time for serious thought and not for grasping at cure-alls that promise immediate relief. The causes of present conditions are brought on by no immediate illness. It will take time to effect a cure with any degree of permanency. The electorate will be offered a wide variety when the election date is announced, and no doubt after a period of analysis will choose well. Facilities of the day allow for plenty of opportunity of enlightenment at least.

Sharing?

There has been quite a flood of protest regarding the increase in the tax on amusements, to be used for relief purposes. Most of the protest has come from amusement institutions, organizations, etc., who are undoubtedly being affected some in the attendance. We do not like it now, nor never were we enthusiastic over it. Neither do we like the excise stamp, or any other of the bothersome taxes we are called upon to pay these days. The call for contributions to carry on even local relief became so burdensome to many that the past year the only recourse was to pay the amount from the municipal treasury. Amusements are not a life neccesity and it would seem more sensible to levy the tax here than on sugar and other commodities. If we can afford our amusements we can surely afford to make a contribution toward the cost of helping the chap who is down and out and in need of relief. The biggest protest seems to have come because of the tax on church entertainments, although special concession has been made in their behalf. The Bowmanville Statesman puts the situation pretty plainly, and gives some real food for thought when it says: "It would seem only fair that if the church wants to enter the amusement business, it should abide by the rules that govern that industry. We have decried the fact on numerous occasions that the church has entered the amusement field, and by amusement we include concerts, shows, garden parties, suppers and the like. That type of thing belongs legitimately to the man who is making his living from that business. The church's business primarily is to preach the gospel and set an example. If in the course of this work it does not impress upon its members and adherents the necessity of supporting the church by free-will offerings with no strings attatched, then there must be something wrong with the work."

Parliament seemed loath to prorogue. The Governor-General was kept waiting four hours in vice-regal costume while the Senate and House of Commons debated a clause in one of the many bills.

Nothing Happens Here

While the heavy rains have been causing considerable damage in many quarters and nearby crops have suffered from the deluge, the district immediately about Acton has been happily missed. In conversation the other evening with a friend, and talking of the New York State flood and loss of life and damage, the remark was made that apparently Acton was happily situated so as to miss many of these floods and storms that are the misfortune of many centres. Acton and this district does seem to be favored in this regard in nothing of this nature happening here. There are no rivers of any extent to break their bounds, and while storm do come here the same as other places, they do not leave the same damage apparently, or are not as severe. The district seems fortunate in missing the headlines.

The Blow-out

The checking up by police on motor car equipment is bound to prove a factor in making Ontario's highways more safe. Brakes, lights and other equipment are important and the next move will be the old worn tire. Blow-outs with cars travelling at the speeds of to-day, can soon make havoc on the highways. One car out of control from such a cause for a moment can do a lot of damage. The worn tire that has no traction on slippery pavements or is liable at any time for a blow-out, is a menace equal to defective brakes. Police have been given authority to clean up on poor car equipment, and the next step should be toward a check-up on tire equipment. It is better by far to remove the chance of an accident than to check up after the accident has ocurred and repair the damage. Tire companies have gone a long way toward improvement of their product and giving value, but the motorist must do his part if the safety program is to be effective.

Further Gain in Employment

Employment in Canada showed considerable expansion at the beginning of June, in which most industrial groups shared. According to a bulletin released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the payrolls of 9,270 employers were enlarged from 893,088 on May 1st, to 915,792 at the beginning of June, or by 22,703 persons. Although the advance provided work for many persons, it was smaller than the average increase indicated between May and June in the years since 1920, so that the index, after adjustment for seasonal variation, declined from 97.4 on May 1st to 95.1 at the latest date. Pronounced advances were reported in manufacturing, the additions to staffs considerably exceeding the average seasonal gain noted on June 1st in the last fourteen years. The favorable movement extended to practically all classes of factory employment. In the non-manufacturing industries there were important increases in logging, mining, communications, local and railway transportation, building and railway construction and maintenance, services and trade. On the other hand, shipping and stevedoring were slacker, and there were temporary losses in highway construction owing to the closing of certain unemployment relief camps. Improvement was indicated in all of the five economic areas except Ontario, where there was a minor contraction. Firms in Quebec and the Prairie Provinces employed the greatest number of extra workers.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Bicycles manufactured in Canada during 1934 numbered 32,674, worth $651,620 at factory prices. There were 40,000 sold during the year, which included about 7,400 importations.

Judging by the number of escapes from jails throughout the Province, it would seem these local institutions are far from escape-proof. Would the proposed merger of county jails make them any better in this respect?

Exports of newsprint paper from Canada in May totalled 4,707,619 cwt., valued at $8,224,031, compared with 4,141,416 swt., at $7,618,467 a year ago. Twenty-eight countries took Canadian newsprint paper during the month.

Firemen in smaller centres may find some consolation in the fact that the city fire brigades, with all their extensive equipment, were unable to stop a fire in the freight sheds in the city until the buildings were reduced to ruins.

Acton School has again passed every one of the Entrance pupils, maintaining its rather unique record of the past twenty years without a single failure. Teachers and pupils have reason for pride in this record and the community congratulates them.

Readers of THE FREE PRESS will be glad to note that Mrs. Clarke, who contributes "Chronicles of Ginger Farm" each week, is home again. No doubt readers will also appreciate as well as the editor that Mrs. Clarke has not missed during her illness in having her column appear each week. Although, no doubt, it was quite a task.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, JULY 14th

NAOMI (A WOMAN OF FAITH AND COURAGE)

Golden Text.—A woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.—Prov. 31: 30.

Lesson Text.—Ruth 1: 14-22; 4: 14-17. (Verses printed, 1: 14-22.) Study also, Ex. 2: 1-10; 2 Kings 4: 25-27; Matt. 15: 21-28; 1 Tim. 5: 1-8.

Time.—Uncertain. Place. — Bethlehem.

Exposition.—I. Ruth and Naomi, 14-22.

While Ruth usually is regarded as the heroine of this story, there is in it much that reflects to the credit of the elder woman, Naomi. Of course, the underlying purpose of this story in the history of Israel is to show how God, even under the old dispensation, was "no respecter of persons" (cf. Acts 10: 34, 35). In some respects Ruth was very like Mary, the mother of Jesus (Luke 1: 26-30). This story belongs to the time of the judges (v. 1). From it we get a more pleasant view of the time of the judges than that which we get from the Book of Judges. The Book of Judges presents to us the warrior side of the times, Ruth the pastoral side. The warrior side of any age is the worst side. Noami is returning to her people, and they have reached the dividing line between Moab and Judah. Three times did Naomi urge her daughters-in-law to return to their homes (vs. 8, 11, 12). It was not that she did not desire their company, but she sought their gain. There seemed to be nothing for them to gain by going on with her (v. 12). The one daughter-in-law reluctantly forsook her, the other clave to her (v. 14). It illustrates that place in our experience when we have to decide whether to leave home and friends and everything and go on with Christ, or to turn our backs on Christ and go back to the world and loved ones. Ruth's attitude of love that left all to go with Naomi illustrates what our attitude toward Jesus should be. From the worldly standpoint Orpah seemed to make the wiser choice. But Ruth gained the most. When we become Christians we may suffer the loss of all things, but we gain more than we lose (Phil. 3: 8; Romans 8: 18). Orpah went back reluctantly, but she went back. By doing so she not only forsook Naomi and Ruth, she forsook Jehovah also (v. 15). Probably she pitied Ruth as she went back to the delights and ambitious of Moab, but Ruth needed no pity. Ruth had one more chance to go back. Naomi based her final appeal to Ruth to go back upon Ruth's love for Orpah. One of the strongest movtes for loving natures in forsaking the Lord is love for those who are in the world. But while Ruth loved Orpah, she loved Naomi more (cf. Matt. 10: 37). No love of any human being will draw away from Jesus the one who really loves Him (2 Cor. 5: 14). Orpah was "not far from the kingdom" (cf. Mark 12: 34), but she did not enter it. Naomi would not have them go with her without first counting the cost (Luke 14: 25-33). Ruth's reply to Naomi was one of the most beautiful that ever fell from human lips (vs. 16, 17). It shows what pure love existed in those rude days. It illustrates wonderfully what our attitude should be toward Him whom we love supremely. Ruth meant every word of it, and lived up to it. Do we, when we say it to Jesus? It was probably in the first place love for Naomi that made Ruth love Naomi's God. If we live as we ought and manifest the life of our God we will drew men to the love of Him. The proverbial relation between mother-in-law and daughter-in-law is anything but that pictured here, but it was loyalty to Jehovah that made the relation so tender and beautiful in this case. In many a case today the professed Christianity of mother-in-law and dagubter-in-law doesn't make the relation any happier because the professed Christianity is not real. Ruth was really making a choice of Jehovah (ch. 2: 12). Quite likely the life of Mahlon her husband had had much to do with it. More real heroism of faith was shown in the action of Ruth than in the daring exploits recorded in Judges. The truest heroism to-day is displayed by the self-sacrificing acts of tender women in home life, and not by the warriors. Ruth did not stop to ask where Naomi was going, whithersoever it might be, she would go, also. So we should go with Jesus (John 12: 26). It paid Ruth, and it will pay us. The humblest hut in Bethlehem would be sweeter to Ruth than the finest palace in Moab because Naomi was there (cf. Phil. 1: 23). Christ's people should be our people, Christ's God our God. Where Christ dies, we should die (Gal. 2: 20). We should be buried, too, with Him we love (v. 17; cf. Romans 6: 4). But we can go beyond Ruth in her words to Naomi; for we not only die and are buried with Him, but also rise with Him (Eph. 2: 6; Col. 3: 1). Ruth would think of nothing as separating them but death; even death will not separate us from Christ (Romans 8: 38, 39; 2 Cor. 5: 8, R. V.; Phil. 1: 23). Naomi saw the whole-heartedness of Ruth's love and accepted it and said no more about her going back. Then they came to Bethlehem, the house of bread, a good place for hungry wanderers to come. We will find our Father's house a house of bread when we come out of Moab, the far country (Luke 15: 17-24). Naomi was welcome home, the one who has been in Moab always is, and there will be a great stir when she comes back. Naomi had gone out full and came back empty. The one who goes into Moab is quite likely to come back empty. The people could hardly believe it was Naomi, and it is hard to recognize in the spiritually empty and starving backslider the Naomi we once knew. Naomi was quite right in attributing her present emptiness to Jehovah (vs. 20, 21; cf. 1 Sam. 2: 7, 8). Yet Naomi was to blame, for she never should have gone into Moab. Blessed was that misfortune, bitter though it was, that brought her back out of Moab into Canaan (cf. Heb. 12: 11).

II. Naomi Comforted, 4: 14-17.

But Naomi was not as empty as she might be, for she had Ruth (ch. 4: 15), and in the evening of her days, she was vouchsafed the great privilege of nursing Ruth's child, destined to become the father of David the King. In studying the conclusion of this Lesson, the fact should not be overlooked that of the house and lineage of David, hundreds of years later, was to be born "a Saviour which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2: 11). God's purposes are not always apparent, and we are but the creatures of a day. Jehovah is everlasting, and a thousand years in His sight are as one day. These two rather lonely women in the little town of Bethlehem had no vision of the coming glory. But we who are able to take the backward glance are able to see how His purposes were fulfilled. To-day, the word "Bethlehem" is one of the sweetest that fall upon our ears. But it is not of Naomi, or Ruth, that we mostly think when we hear it, but of the birth of Christ the Lord.

AT LAST

Bookkeeper: "What's the boss' college son so swelled up about?"

Stenographer: "A life insurance doctor just examined him and found him O. K."

Bookkeeper: "What of it?"

Stenographer: "It's the only examination he ever passed."

Simple and Sure.—Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil is so simple in application that a child can understand the instructions. Used as a liniment the only direction is to rub, and when used as a dressing to apply. The directions are so plain and unmistakable that they are readily understood by young or old.

FARMING ON THE PRAIRIES

Farming in the Prairie Provinces comprises four more or less distinct types, first, wheat growing; second, mixed farming; third, dairying (usually associated with mixed farming), and fourth, ranching, according to information given in a recently issued Dominion Government publication, "The Prairie Provinces in their Relation to the National Economy of Canada." Wheat growing predominates in southwestern and central Alberta; throughout the whole of Saskatchewan (except the northern and eastern fringe and the dry belt); and in southern Manitoba. In the latter area, however, the proportion of other cereals and forage crops is growing rapidly. Mixed farming is found in northern and western Alberta, and in the northern and eastern parts of both Saskatchewan and Manitoba—in other words, over practically the whole of the park belt. Mixed farming is also the dominant type in the irrigated districts. The greatest development in dairying has occurred in eastern Manitoba, north-eastern Saskatchewan, and northwestern Alberta. Ranching is practically confined to the dry area in southwestern Saskatchewan and south-eastern Alberta, and to a strip of land extending from the international boundary northward along the foothills to beyond Calgary. Wheat was first grown in the Prairie Provinces 120 years ago by the Selkirk settlers in Manitoba.

ALREADY A VETERAN

"And so your daughter is about to marry. Do you really feel that she is ready for the battle of life?"

"She should be, she's been in four engagements already."

IF YOU TRIED TO FORGET

Mrs. Malaprop, that famous character remembered for her ludicrous misuse of English, uttered a wise saying, nevertheless, when she said that nothing is so easy as to forget if you chose to set about it. The reason your memory holds so tenaciously to every unkindness you have received, the reason your grudges are the last thing you forget, is that you wish to remember them. If you should replace resentment by love, bitterness by sympathy the memories that now help to spoil your peace of mind would melt away like blocks of ice in a summer sun leaving no trace.

PRAIRIE MANUFACTURES

While Canada's Prairie Provinces — Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta— are famous the world over for their agricultural accomplishments, manufacturing is also an important industry, and prairie manufactures provide a large field for employment and investment of capital.

Prairie Province manufacturing establishments in 1933 numbered 2,866 with a capital investment of $343,015,920, according to a report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. These plants furnished employment to 37,307 workers who received $37,466,761 in salaries and wages and produced goods with a selling value at the factory of $182,250,755. The amount they paid out for materials totalled $39,367,340 and the value added by manufacture amounted to $88,883,415. From the standpoint of value of production, slaughtering and meat packing led all industries with an output valued at $25,468,444. Flour and feed mills were next in importance with an output valued at $24,445,073. Together these two industries accounted for over 26 per cent. of the total production of the prairie manufacturing establishments. Other leading industries were: butter and cheese, with an output valued at $17,297,988; central electric stations, $14,910,873; petroleum products, $11,399,134; railway rolling stock, $9,864,420; printing and publishing, $7,823,104; bread and other bakery products, $6,368,277; breweries, $5,470,156; printing and bookkeeping, $3,928,755.

ON THE FORCE

Nurse: "I lost sight of the child, ma'am."

Madam: "Good gracious! Why didn't you speak to a policeman?"

Nurse: "I was speaking to one at the time, ma'am."

It Will Relieve a Cold.—Colds are the commonest ailments of mankind and if neglected may lead to serious conditions. Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil will relieve the bronchial passages of inflammation speedily and thoroughly and will strengthen them against subsequent attack. And as it eases the inflammation it will usually stop the cough because it allays the irritation in the throat. Try it and prove it.

THE Star VALUES Event OF THE SEASON!

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AYLMER CHOICE TOMATOES 3 No. 2½ tins 25c

LIBBY'S PREPARED MUSTARD 9-oz. jar 9c

McLAREN'S STUFFED OLIVES 4-oz. jar 10c

CHOCOLATE BISCUITS 2 lbs. 25c

TOMATO JUICE Silver Ribbon No. 2½ Tin 9c

PEERLESS SWEET MIXED PICKLES 27-oz. jar 23c

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BRUNSWICK SARDINES tin 4c

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CORN FLAKES Kellogg's or Quaker 3 pkgs. 20c

SLICED PINEAPPLE Singapore No. 2 tin 9c

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CABBAGE Home Grown 5c Head

Hot House TOMATOES 21c lb.

GOLDEN RIPE BANANAS 23c Doz.

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