



The Acton Free Press

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Amateurs The amateur nights recently staged proved that when gathered together there is a varied and pleasing lot of performers in Acton and the district who can contribute toward making a program very entertaining and interesting. Most of the performers had appeared at other smaller or larger entertainments previously, and all of them do this sort of thing as a hobby or at the request of friends. Their experience in most cases has been secured in the various groups that operate in every community, each doing its own work in its own way. And by no means did all the amateur performers in Acton and district take part in this event. The organizations that give opportunity for the expression or development of these talents are doing a good service. Amateurs have a lot of enjoyment themselves and please their friends by their performances.

The Trend The trend of the times seems to be again toward Local Option. Richmond Hill is the latest place to take its place in the dry belt and Toronto officials are scrutinizing a petition to see that it is in order and vote on the question. Closer home we have Erin Village, where a vote will be taken on the question of remaining wet or going dry. It is rather significant that all this occurs within a year after the trial of the beverage rooms. Judging from the vote most municipalities seem to consider conditions better without the beverage room in their midst. If such is the trend with one year of trial, what will be the effect after, say a couple of years more. Of course there were objectors to the temperance measure, but one wonders if they were not from a rather noisy minority than from the majority of the citizens of Ontario. It is rather significant that it seems necessary to have a vote of the people to close the bar-rooms but they return without the need or privilege of an expression by the voters. Truly the temperance forces wage an uneven battle.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1st

EXTRA'S MISSION TO JERUSALEM Golden Text.—I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go unto the house of the Lord.—Ps. 122: 1. Lesson Text.—Exra 7: 6-10; 8: 21-32. Study, also, Exra 9: 6-9; 10: 1-5; Neh. 8: 1-6, 13-16; Ps. 63: 1-11. Time.—457 B. C. Place.—The River Ahava.

Expatriation.—I. Seeking Help from God, by Fasting and Prayer. Rather than from Men, 7: 6-10; 8: 21-30. The ancient way in which godly men and women sought the favor, guidance and help of God was by fasting and prayer. (cf. 2 Chron. 20: 3; Deut. 9: 3; Esther 4: 15; Luke 3: 3). It was a good way. It succeeded in this instance (vs. 23, 31, 32). It would be well if this way were followed to-day. Some think fasting is out of place in the present dispensation. They surely have read their Bible carefully (Acts 13: 23; 14: 23). Every great emergency in individual and church life should be met by fasting and prayer. There is, of course, no virtue or merit in the mere abstinance from food or other desirable things. But there is power in that downright realization of our dependence upon God and determination to obtain His help that leads us to forego things that are good and desirable in their right time and place. We would have more of God's guidance and help if we with the simplicity and faith of Exra cast ourselves upon Him in fasting and prayer. The object of this fasting in this case was "that we might humble ourselves before our God" (R. V.). The one who desires God's help must get down low before Him (1 Peter 5: 6, 7). If we come seeking Him, but if we come confessing ourselves sinners and casting ourselves upon His grace, we shall. That which they desired of God was "a straight way." This He has promised to give to those who meet the conditions (vs. 23). He will lead the blind in the Lord and was consequently ashamed to ask help of men. Well he might be. But the Church is not so sensitive nowadays. They proclaim their faith in a God who has promised to supply all our needs (Phil. 4: 19), and then resort to sorts of discarded schemes to extort money out of the godless for their noble ones. His testimony had been a very notable one: "The hand of our God is upon all of them that seek Him for good; but His power and His wrath is against all of them that forsake Him." The Bible is full of the truth that forms the first part of this testimony (2 Chron. 16: 9; Ps. 33: 18, 19; 34: 15, 22; Lam. 3: 25; Romans 8: 28). Happy is the man who believes it and walks in the power of this truth. He will never fear man (Romans 8: 31). But the heart is just as true (Deut. 10: 16; 2 Chron. 15: 2; 1 Peter 3: 12), and men should be warned more frequently and faithfully along this line. And the "all" should be emphasized. Every man fancies his case will prove an exception, but there are no exceptions. "He was entreated of us." How often every true believer can say, "He was entreated of me." The God of the Bible and the God of Christian experience is a God who hears and answers prayer. It was in exact accordance with a very old promise that God listened to them at just this time (Deut. 4: 29; see context). Manasseh had tried and proven the same wonderful promise (2 Chron. 33: 12, 13). How unfortunate that more who are "in captivity through sin do not put the promise to the test. Though Exra was a man of prayer and great and simple faith, he was in no wise a fanatic, but a man of level-headed business sense, providing carefully even in the secular details of God's work for things honest in the sight of men as well as in the sight of the Lord (3 Cor. 8: 20, 21). While he could and did trust God, he did not require an accurate account of God's treasures. That is the Bible way of carrying on God's work. These men who were "separated" unto this work were regarded as "holy unto the Lord" (v. 28). Those who bear the vessels of the Lord should be holy (Is. 62: 11). They were to exercise great care in the charge of the things committed to their trust, "to watch and keep them" (v. 30). "This they did" (v. 33). Every servant of God must watch (cf. Mark 13: 33-37) and keep diligently the things which are entrusted to him. Their vigilance was not to cease until their work was done and everything turned over to the proper one; at Jerusalem, who should be thereafter responsible.

Bacon Exports up a Million Dollars

Canada's exports of bacon during the first nine months of 1935 show a gain of about one million dollars over the same period of 1934. Exports of Canadian bacon to the end of September totalled nearly 100,000,000 pounds, with a value of \$15,756,471 compared with 94,286,700 pounds, valued at \$14,872,331 in the first nine months of 1934. This increase, amounting to 5,153,500 pounds in volume, was mostly all in the British market, which took 98,843,000 pounds, or 99.4 per cent. of the Dominion's total export. Canadian bacon entering the British market is sold in competition with the world's best, and in the comparatively short period of four years, Canada's position as an exporter of bacon to Great Britain has advanced from ninth place in 1931 to second place in 1934. In addition to supplying the British market with such a large quantity, Canada this year exported bacon to fifteen other countries, including the United States, Newfoundland, Bermuda, the different portions of the British West Indies, the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, Japan, China, Fiji, Colombia, Peru and Alaska.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Election Week in Acton is not on the calendar this year. Like some of the holidays, elections can come too often.

From 1931 to 1935 a total of 12,446,000 bushels of wheat have been exported from Western Canada by way of Churchill.

Georgetown will require a second nomination to fill the municipal offices again this year. But the mayoralty will be keenly contested.

Premier Taschereau goes back into power in Quebec, but the majority is rather small. The opposition is, however, a divided group.

Gold production in Canada during September totalled 280,362 ounces compared with 294,361 ounces in August and 244,777 ounces in September, 1934.

The production of creamery butter in Canada in October, 1935, amounted to 20,745,037 pounds, compared with 27,508,244 pounds in September and 20,404,364 pounds in October, 1934.

Intimation that radio licenses are likely to be abolished will come as welcome news. It was just another of the nuisance levies that proved very unpopular and rather difficult to collect.

A most commendable change in Ontario's penal system is announced by Hon. Harry Nixon, whereby boys and young men who are "first offenders" will not be incarcerated with hardened criminals from whom they secure advanced lessons in crime. Hereafter youths convicted on first offences will all be sent to the Guelph Reformatory, older first-timers will go to Mimico and the "repeaters" will be incarcerated at Burwash. By this arrangement the chances of reforming youthful offenders will be greatly increased.—Barrie Examiner.

II. God Brings Exra and His Company Safely Through to Their Destination, 31, 32. It was a long and perilous journey. It took them four months to traverse the desert. They were not equipped for fighting and carried treasure. The way was infested with thievish bedouin, but God had justified Exra's testimony to the king. God had proven Himself better than an army. He is just as able and ready to deliver us from the hand of the enemy. Our enemy is far more subtle and powerful and dangerous than Exra's (Eph. 6: 12), but he is no match for our deliverer. He, too, is "a tier in wait by the way." God's protection was not for a day, but until they reached their journey's end. "We came to Jerusalem," says Exra. So it will be to us. He will deliver us and protect us until we reach our Jerusalem. "The perfect woman, who obviously doesn't exist, is gentle, unaffected, liberal-minded, and non-pretentious."—Leslie Howard.

RATIONS FOR BACON HOGS

Experimental work conducted at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Nappan, Nova Scotia, during the last few years, has demonstrated that feeds commonly grown or manufactured in Eastern Canada will supply practically all the food nutrients necessary to properly develop and fatten the bacon hog.

Cost of production studies in the growing of the common cereal crops show that these crops (oats, barley and wheat), quality considered, can be produced more cheaply than they can be purchased.

With these points in mind, there can be no hesitation in recommending the following rations for general use:

First Period—From weaning at 6 to 8 weeks, to 100 pounds live weight.—Ground oats, 300 pounds; ground barley, 500 pounds; ground wheat 200 pounds; skim-milk, 1 1/2 to 2 pounds per pound of grain mixture or, high grade fish meal, 10 pounds per 100 pounds of meal mixture.

Second Period—From 100 pounds weight to finish at 210 pounds.—Ground oats, 100 pounds; ground barley, 600 pounds; ground wheat 300 pounds; skim-milk, 1 pound per pound grain mixture, or, fish meal, 5 pounds per 100 pounds grain mixture.

The age to start on this ration is given as 6 to 8 weeks, the most suitable for weaning. Pigs younger than this are not able to stand a heavy ration. If found necessary to wean at a younger age, a ration that has proven satisfactory here is equal parts ground oats, with the hulls sifted out, or ground hullless oats, and white middlings. The pigs at this farm are started on this before weaning, in a pen or creep separate from the mother sow and they suffer no setback when this practice is followed. Add a little milk or fish meal to the mixture and make all food changes gradually.

When feeding skim-milk in the above ration, a mineral mixture is necessary. A suitable one may be made up of equal parts of ground limestone, common salt and bone char or bone meal, and fed at the rate of 4 pounds per 100 pounds of grain ration.

Skim-milk, however, is not essential for the proper development of the bacon hog. High grade fish meal has proved

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EDITORIAL

Enriched by His Life M. A. James, one of the oldest and most revered publishers of weekly newspapers in Canada, has passed on after publishing the Bowmanville Statesman for 57 years. As editor, and citizen; his was a life that meant much in Bowmanville and a wider area where his influence was felt. And the power he exerted for good citizenship continues to be shown in the continuance of the principles he inculcated in this journal as his son, George W. James, continues the active publication of Bowmanville's paper. His home town and his country were made better by the work of this veteran editor who has passed on.

Unique This Year

The nominations in Acton this year were rather unique in many respects. That the ratepayers were well satisfied with the present administration was evident in the candidates nominated and the lack of criticism voiced at the ratepayers' meeting and about the street. The nomination meeting was one of the smallest held here in some time. It is rather unusual that just the required number were nominated for Reeve, Council and School Board. All of them were the same individuals who have filled the positions quite successfully. No new names were brought forward. Another unusual feature was the fact that the Reeve and all Councillors were nominated and seconded by the same two men, and found approval, apparently by all. In the case of the Public Utilities Commission a vacancy had occurred by the removal of Mr. King and it was essential that new nominees be placed in the field. The three agreed, however, before the time for qualifying, and an election was not necessary. The 1935 nominations have been unique, it is seen, in a number of ways.

The Same Question in Another Place

In Midland the question of salaries for municipal offices is one of quite importance. The Board of Education has declined to accept pay for their services. Members of the Town Council there are paid on the basis of \$5.00 a meeting and Public Utilities Commissioners are now asking for the passing of a by-law enabling them to receive a honorarium of \$100 per member and \$200 for the chairman. The financial position of Midland is not enviable. The town had to default on its bonds. It cannot, therefore, be claimed that the paying of salaries, or whatever they may be termed, has brought about an administration that has placed the town in a good position. The more that is seen of the plan in other towns and in the light of experience in our own town, it would appear that the municipality is best served by those men of like spirit of the member of the Board of Education of Midland, who, when the matter was up for consideration, said: "These are days when men should serve out of public spiritedness and not for the money they get out of it. It is strange that when times were good, men were willing to serve for nothing, and now that the town is hard up, they want to be paid." It would seem that Acton Council used wisdom when last year they went back to the public spirited method of doing citizenship duty.

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