



The Acton Free Press

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G. AKLOP DILLS, Editor.

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EDITORIAL

Thirty Million in Small Change

Over thirty million dollars in Canadian coins have been turned out and placed in circulation by the Royal Canadian Mint. The commonest coin is the one-cent piece, of which over 270 million have been struck. There are over 90 million five-cent pieces, 86 million ten-cent pieces, 44 million quarters and five million half-dollars scattered throughout the world. In April, 1935, 428,120 Canadian silver dollars were minted, of which 417,760 were issued, but not many of those are in circulation, most of them being kept as souvenirs or keepsakes. Another uncommon Canadian coin is the silver twenty-cent piece. They are seldom seen nowadays, but there are 40,000 in circulation.

A Bit Early

With part of the representatives already elected and the final sessions of County Council and the Warden's dinner in the near future the annual contest for the Wardenship will be the next scramble. While of course it does not in any way cause near the interest of an election, there is no denying that those who aspire must needs do a little of the work which seems so necessary in elections. There will be many new faces at the County Council this year, it is said. With this in view, possibly the race will not have so many entrants. Reeve Harrison, of Acton, could admirably fill the post, but, of course, his experience at County Council of only one year would, for this year, bar him from aspiring for the honor for 1936. The whole slate of candidates will, of course, not be known until after the January elections, and perhaps at that time the list of men of wide experience in County Council work will be rather narrowed.

Fool Heads?

The other evening we had read to us one of those apt quotations that went something like this "A public spirited citizen is one who will work his fool head off if made chairman of anything." We don't know what kind of an individual wrote the item, and we're not absolutely certain why it was read within our hearing. But we've often wondered what would happen if all the public-spirited citizens decided to refuse to become chairmen or accept public office and work their fool heads off for those who sit back and find fault and refuse to accept appointments unless their is "something in it for them." There isn't any doubt that there is some truth in the above quotation. Perhaps too much truth for it to be repeated. And again, perhaps not even the whole truth, because many public-spirited citizens will put a lot of effort into community work in smaller offices than chairmanships. We've often wondered why and we've never yet been able to solve the problem. Always, however, we've thought how splendid it was that so many citizens were public-spirited enough to work their heads off for others. We don't agree that they are fool heads, but we do agree that they are usually unselfish minds who realize some responsibility to their fellow man. And we do notice that these citizens who work for others do seem to be getting some pleasure out of their effort as they pass along life's roadway.

Short Lived

The landscape that was altered to make way for the electric line through Acton a couple of decades ago, is again taking on its familiar appearance of the days before the coming of that railway. The house that served as a station now has been altered and remodelled and will be used as a dwelling. Another house, on Church Street, is being removed to one of the railway lots, on Willow Street. It was only this year that the line was dismantled but already it is being put into practical use again. And soon all the marks of a railway having once passed through the town will have been obliterated. It seems rather unusual the work that was done to construct this line and its short life of usefulness. Even the houses that were removed from the right-of-way are in good condition and still capable of making good dwellings. But for that matter so was the material and equipment of the railway still in good condition when it ceased to operate. Only the need has gone, and after all, when an article or service is unnecessary it really cannot be maintained.

Get Back to Provincial Lists

The recent Dominion election cost the people of Canada six million dollars. If that cost were necessary there would be no ground for complaint. Better popular election, under which the people select their own rulers by means of the ballot, than what we have seen in Europe, where, in three countries, changes of rulers have been effected by force of arms and at much greater cost in money, to say nothing of the bloodshed involved. But such cost as is imposed by the present Dominion Franchise Act is wholly unnecessary. Of the six million dollars spent by the Federal treasury in the late election, four millions was expended in preparing a wholly unnecessary Federal voters' list. In the first twenty years after Confederation there was no Dominion voters' list, the Provincial lists being used in both Provincial and Federal elections. That system should be restored, not only because it would mean a large saving in cost but by reason of the further fact that electoral lists prepared by various local authorities all over the Dominion take from a party in office at Ottawa the opportunity of fixing a Federal list to its own advantage.—Peel Gazette.

Automobile Production Jumps

Due to the introduction of new models at an earlier date than in former years, automobile production in Canada during October reached the highest total reported for any October since 1929. The output totalled 8,313 motor vehicles, showing an increase of 56 per cent. over the September output of 5,323 cars and 120 per cent. over the 3,780 made in October a year ago. Production during the first ten months of 1935 totalled 145,663 units compared with 112,461 in the corresponding period of 1934, 60,371 in 1933 and 56,473 in 1932. New motor vehicle sales in Canada during October totalled 3,911 units compared with 2,702 in October last year and 2,102 in October, 1933. For the first time in the records of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, which extend back to 1932, October sales of passenger cars exceeded those of September. There were 2,939 cars sold for \$3,245,729 in October and 2,560 for \$2,789,818 in September. Compared with October, 1934, there was an increase of 47.5 per cent. in number and 50.7 per cent. in the value of passenger cars sold. The cumulative total of cars, trucks and buses sold during the first ten months of 1935 was 89,340, a gain of 27.2 per cent. over the 69,465 sold in the same period in 1934 and 105.2 per cent. greater than the number sold during the first ten months of 1933.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The daily memo pads are getting pretty thin and the calendars are, in most cases, down to the last leaf.

There is no danger of forgetting that it is not quite three weeks until Christmas. Reminders are to be found at every turn.

The little jobs of sneak thieving that are reported repeatedly from so many centres would seem to indicate that each community has its group of light-fingered inhabitants.

A newspaper heading read, last week: "Live contest is on for seats at Town Council." Sounds like the old game of musical chairs, and just as in the game, someone has to be left out.

A new discovery is announced of a desensitizer that will eliminate pain from any tooth for 20 minutes to an hour. That is the report of the doctor making the discovery. The patients are yet to be heard from.

A story of pioneer life of interest, particularly to those in this district, has recently been published by Dr. A. E. Byerly. It is entitled "Janet Campbell." Just a small booklet but telling a story of pioneer life in Canada and of settlers of this County that does credit to the recorder. It is a little booklet we enjoyed reading and prize highly.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8th

NEHEMIAH REBUILDING THE WALL OF JERUSALEM

Golden Text.—The people had a mind to work.—Neh. 4: 6. Lesson Text.—Neh. 4: 6-21. Study, also, Neh. 2: 1-7; 4: 7; Ps. 95: 1-11; Acts 1: 1-8. Time.—444 B. C. Place.—Jerusalem.

Exposition.—I. Manifold Hindrances and Discouragements, 6-12.

Nothing so angers the enemies of God as the activity and progress of His people. So long as the remnant of the captivity were in great affliction and reproach, and the walls of Jerusalem broken down (ch. 1: 3), Sanballat and the whole host of Israel's ancient enemies were quite content; but as soon as they heard that a man was come to seek the welfare of the children of Israel, "it grieved that exceedingly" (ch. 2: 10). And how their success attended his efforts, they were "very wroth." It was always a good sign when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Sadducees, get mad: It proves that there is something doing. Sanballat and his colleagues showed their anger in a very practical way: "they conspired" all of them together to come and fight against Jerusalem, and to cause confusion therein. They were not so much at one among themselves; indeed, they had grave differences but they were one in their hate of God and His people, so they "conspired" to do them harm. "The same thing was seen in Christ's day when those bitter enemies, the Pharisees and Sadducees, conspired together against Him.—And so to-day, the most antagonistic classes make common cause against Christ and His Church (Ps. 3: 1-5; Is. 8: 9, 10). A wonderful "nevertheless," that in v. 9. It looked dark and stormy, but Nehemiah knew to whom to look in such an hour, so it all came out "right." There can never an emergency arise in Christian life and service where prayer is not the key to the situation (Ps. 50: 15; Acts 4: 23-30). Again and again has God delivered His people in answer to their prayers when deliverance has seemed absolutely impossible (2 Chron. 32: 20, 21; 20: 1-4, 17, 23-24). Often the people of God in their extremity cry, "What shall we do, what shall we do?" "Pray," is God's answer. If Nehemiah and the people had taken themselves to their own resources the work would have come to nothing, but they took themselves to God, and they escaped all the devices of their enemies. Do nothing, "they set a watch against do nothing" day and night. Watching, and praying should go hand in hand (Matt. 26: 41; Luke 21: 36). Casting all our care upon Him is not inconsistent with being vigilant ourselves (1 Peter 5: 7, 8). "And Judah said . . . we are not able to build the wall," this was more serious trouble than the former, for it was trouble from within. Opposition from without is never as serious a matter as discouragement within, and the people in Nehemiah's day really had no just cause for their discouragement. It is true there was "much rubbish," but it was quite within their power to clear it away. While Judah was thus talking within, the "adversaries" were also talking without. They said, "they shall not know, etc." but they did know. Their adversaries had forgotten that God was on their side. That is what the adversaries of God's people constantly forget. Nehemiah acted with great prudence (v. 13). He saw to it that the people were fully armed (cf. Eph. 6: 11-18), and especially guarded the weak places.

II. Trust in Jehovah and Watchfulness Triumphant, 13-21. Why should God's children ever be afraid of God's enemies (Romans 8: 31)? How constantly that refrain occurs in the Bible, "fear not," "be not afraid." Note Nehemiah's cure for fright before our enemies, "Remember the Lord" (cf. John 14: 1). We might well be frightened if we thought of ourselves; but don't think of yourself, think of Him. And when they had remembered the Lord what were they to do? "And fight." Our remembrance of the mighty God should not lead us to sit down, but should give us courage to "fight." It is to a warrior life that God calls us (2 Tim. 2: 3), and we are to get strength and courage for the fight, not by thinking upon ourselves, but upon Him. Nehemiah's words had their intended effect, and their enemies rightly divined that it was not Nehemiah but God who "had brought their counsel to naught." (cf. Ps. 33: 10, 11). They had found out for themselves that "there is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the Lord" (Prov. 21: 30). When the enemy was told "everyone" returned "unto his work," not to some one's else work, but to his own work. Half fought and half wrought. We need today fighting Christians and working Christians, warriors and builders. The rulers backed up the workers. Too often the rulers are on the backs of the people. They worked with one hand and held a weapon in the other. That is what the Christian often has to do. Nehemiah watched and controlled all, and the man to sound the trumpet was right by his side. He was ready at every moment for the battle. So ought the Christian to be. He had no fear of the base, for he could say, "Our God shall fight for us." The believer can always say the same, and so victory is always sure.

Devotion, when it does not lie under the check of reason is apt to degenerate into enthusiasm.—Addison.

AUSTRALIAN RICE HAD UNIQUE ORIGIN

An idea born in the mind of an agricultural agent, while visiting California about 10 years ago, is responsible for the present rice industry in Australia, stated a master of one of the Canadian National Steamships—freighters in the Canadian-Australia-New Zealand service, recently arrived in Canada, with cargo from the Antipodes. The agent was on the staff of the Department of Agriculture of New South Wales and when he got back to Australia, he turned his attention to the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area which was originally grazing country. Within six years from the time the rice was first put on the market, Australia was able to produce enough rice for domestic requirements and is now exporting it to other markets. Machinery is used wherever possible in the cultivation of the rice. The land is sown dry during September and October; it is then flooded until the seed germinates when the water is drawn off and the plant is enabled to root well, the growth being assisted by the sun. The fields are again flooded, with the depth of water being gradually increased to about 10 inches as the plant grows. The water is finally drawn off between March and April and the crop is harvested by machinery during April and May. A three year rotation with wheat and fallow is generally followed.

3300-YEAR-OLD PALACE FOUND

Complete with a double-walled harem and granite colonnades, the 3,300-year-old palace of King Akenaten has been traced by the Egypt Exploration Society during excavations at Tel-el Amarna. The magnificence of the royal palace in its heyday is indicated by a vast hall, the roof of which was supported by nearly 600 square pillars of mud brick, and decorated with green tiles into which white daisies were inlaid. The harem was the only part of the royal residence to have a double wall. In this quarter were found a fish in gold plate, and many pieces of sculpture. King Akenaten, a monarchist heretic, founded the city in 1380 B. C., as the capital of Egypt.

Buy the Best Tea "SALADA" TEA

A GOOD ONE WANTED

Angry guide—Why didn't you shoot that tiger? Timid hunter — He didn't have the right kind of expression on his face for a rug.

SMALL BITS

Farmer—See that dust cloud? There goes one acre after another of top soil. Travelling Man—And I suppose you are broke? Farmer—Broke! I'm pulverized.

THE REASON

Highbrow (half-heartedly congratulating her friend who has become engaged): "All the same, I don't know what you can see in him. He doesn't like Tokay, or Isben, or Pinardello. What does he like?" Fiancee: "He likes me."

QUITTING TIME

Pat: "Say, what caused the explosion at the plant the other day?" Mike: "Oh, Casey was carrying a load of dynamite and the noon whistle blew."

God bless the man who sows the wheat. Who finds us milk and fruit, and meat. May his purse be heavy his heart be light. His cattle, his corn, his all go right; God bless the seed his hands let fall. For the farmer, he must feed us all.

SILENCE IS GOLDEN

Politician: "Congratulate me, dear; I was elected." Wife: "Honey!" Politician: "Why bring that up?"

CORRECT

Teacher was giving a lesson on the weather. Misadventures of March. "What it is," she asked, "that comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb?" And little Julia, in the back row, replied: "Father."

SOAP SUDS

He—"May I hold your Palmolive?" She—"Not on your lifebuoy." He—"Then I'm out of Luck." She—"Yes, Ivory formed."

EYE TO EYE

Welshman No. 1: "I never tasted such better beer in all my life any more." Welshman No. 2: "So did I neither." Welshman No. 3: "Neither did I too."

PROGRESSIVE

Small Girl Friend (to eight-year-old son of auto salesman): "Oh, I think you're lots better looking than your daddy." Son: "I ought to be. I'm a later model."

Advertisement for Libby's products including Tomato Juice, Salad Dressing, Cake Flour, Sandwich Biscuits, Peas and Carrots, Tea, and Soap. Includes a picture of Santa Claus and various product images.

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