



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

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EDITORIAL

Man and Providence

Hot dry weather and the report of crop failure and higher wheat prices recalls the man-made attempts of a few years ago to raise the price of these commodities. Like many another man-made attempt the success of the effort is dwarfed by the success with which Providence regulates the supply of necessities. Too often it seems that price is more of a predominate factor than the needs of the people. Too often rejoicing, not alone in this field, is confined to higher prices than the supply which means life and food to all people. Possibly this price matter and its high consideration is the cause of the failure of man-made regulations. Where once stock and crops were in over-production and being destroyed, now frantic efforts are being made to secure a supply. It's a complete reversal of the situation of but a short time ago. It would appear that a lot of our frantic efforts are needless and our vision of the future and provision for it is very short.

A Simple Request

A campaign with a very simple request has been inaugurated by the Ontario Department of Highways. The key note is a plea for those who use the highways to "Try Courtesy." What a difference it would make if it were adopted by all! Instead of demanding the full right of way, and all the law allows; if courtesy were only tried—the kind of courtesy you would like to receive from the other fellow. Those bright headlights would be dimmed on your car if you were courteous. We all know what we think of the discourteous fellow and it can be taken for granted that he thinks the same of our acts of discourtesy. The provisions of the law are for the discourteous chap—the fellow who is inconsiderate of the safety of others. It's a simple request "Try Courtesy." It might be extended to other places as well as the highways. But what difference it will make if we all "Try Courtesy" in our driving on the roads. The trial is simple. Make it a habit. We like that new slogan.

A Changing Period

The attitude of relief recipients in York Township, if newspaper stories are to be taken as presented, is one that will require some strong hand to deal with. The North Bay situation seems to have been straightened out satisfactorily to all concerned, following the arrival of a representative from the Ontario Department. If, however, the matter is in each case going to require the services of men from the Provincial Department to settle these problems, it is indeed no compliment to the type of individuals who have been chosen to fill municipal offices in these municipalities. It would appear a rather weak type has been chosen. One often wonders if too much attention is not paid to the vote catching for the next election, to the detriment of public service in the best interests of all. It is sometimes the fact that popular government is not always in the best interests. It must also be remembered that the government and municipal relief plan was put into operation to meet a special circumstance and can by no means be likened to Mother's Allowance, Old Age Pensions and such enactments that are permanent. The doing away with a plan that has been in vogue for several years is always a difficult process. But undoubtedly relief cannot be continued indefinitely and the gradual elimination by authorities of the system needs the moral support of all citizens.

6,885 Deaths by Violence

Automobile and other accidents, suicides and homicides brought death to 6,885 persons in Canada last year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported recently. Almost all forms of violent death except suicides showed increases over 1934 and crept up towards record high levels registered around 1930 and 1931. Automobile mishaps took 1,224 lives, or 11.2 per 100,000 of population, compared with 1,115 in 1934. This was the largest toll since 1931, when 1,316 fatalities occurred. In all 6,885 persons, or 62.9 per 100,000 met death from external violence in 1935. This, too, was the highest total since 1931 and compared with 6,466 in 1934. Suicides accounted for 902 deaths, compared with 927 in 1934 and homicides for 153 compared with 142 in 1934. Drownings in 1935, exclusive of those occurring in land or air transportation, numbered 877, or 15 per cent. of the total of fatal accidents. Land transportation accounted for 1,647 deaths or 28 per cent. of the total. Of these, deaths in automobile accidents numbered 1,224 or 21 per cent. of all accidental deaths. Excluding those cases where an automobile was involved, there were 215 deaths in railway accidents and 37 in street car accidents. Accidents in mines and quarries accounted for 141 deaths, although one of the drownings is duplicated here. There were 12 persons killed during the year in accidents of air transportation.

The Band and the Community

We often wonder if citizens generally have a deep enough appreciation of the Band in the community and the place it fills in community life. And Acton Citizens' Band in its service is an example of what a band can be and do. Last Saturday night it entertained the town with its concert and the boys seem willing to continue if the arrangement is appreciated. On the days following concerts were given in adjoining communities. There isn't a parade or event that requires assistance that doesn't get the help of the Band. Fact is what would a parade be without the Band. Acton hasn't been without a Band since back in 1872, so of course it's never been missed. Radio and other forms of music have their place, but the place of a Band in the community can never be filled. Around it every activity seems to centre and without it many of them would fall flat. If you don't believe this, ask the town that is without a Band to-day. Once disbanded, they are difficult to revive, because it takes time and money to build up a creditable organization. Perhaps you wonder what prompted this editorial. It was this poem, clipped from the Jackson County Floridian, of Marianna, Florida, where apparently they are missing the services of a band:

It stands all haunted in the square. No music swell its tempo there— The band that once did fill the air Is gone—And there are those who care:

For music as it once was played; For hummin' long the tunes it made; For kittin', listenin' in the shade; For smiles at what the bass horn said.

For towns our size did have a band; And none so fine as in our stand. Made harmony 'neath sun or stars And gave us folks delightful bars.

Revive the band! So our home town Can hear the music "round and round"— Can feel itself a place apart In Music we all take joy in.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"The dusty road to Milton" is the way one visitor who had used it terms that section between Acton and the County Town that should be paved.

444 deaths made the 160th birthday of the United States the worst in five years. Surely such a "deadly" anniversary celebration is not necessary to show the zeal of patriotism.

Four village blocks are in ruins and fifteen families are homeless in Remsen, Iowa, because a little girl tossed a firecracker in the wrong place. Don't know whether the little girl or the older folks who allowed it, should be blamed.

The Provincial Government announced that it will institute proceedings again 1,500 corporations for arrears of taxes. Why not? If its right for the small taxpayer to meet his obligations, it is doubly right for the other chap to come across.

A huge still and equipment, valued at \$40,000, was seized in Euphemia Township this week. Two men were also arrested. Another failure of the Liquor Control Act. The illicit stills don't go until they are seized, just as under the Ontario Temperance Act.

Many stories are in circulation about the tricks practised by those on relief, of which the following is an example, vouched for by an American newspaper: A relief official took a load of supplies to a Colorado farmer and investigated a report that the farmer drove a car, but the farmer said he drove one only when it was loaned to him by his brother-in-law's sister, who sometimes let him drive it. After the official left, the man chuckled with glee that the investigator hadn't stumbled onto the fact that his brother-in-law's sister was his wife.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, JULY 25th

WITNESSING UNDER PERSECUTION

Golden Text.—We must obey God rather than men.—Acts 5: 29. Lesson Text.—Acts 4: 5-12: 1 Cor. 1: 21-25.

Time.—A. D. 30. Place.—Jerusalem and Ephesus.

Exposition.—I. Peter's Reply, 5-12. The Jewish Sanhedrin was the great Court of Jewish law, composed of seven-by-one leading men of the nation, Caiaphas, the nominal high priest by Roman appointment, and Annas, the real high priest, according to the Jewish way of looking at things were both there. It was a very august assembly, composed, for the most part, of Sadducees. Peter and John's being brought before, and their treatment by these rulers, was an exact, literal fulfillment of the prediction of Jesus (Matt. 10: 17). The attempt to hinder the preaching of the gospel really gave wings to its spread. Peter had seen boldy together once before, when Jesus was tried and condemned. On that occasion he was thoroughly frightened and cowed, and played the part of a coward (Luke 22: 54-57; Matt. 26: 69-75), but now he is calm and fearless. The resurrection of Jesus from the dead and His own baptism with the Spirit has wrought the great change. The Jewish, and other, wonder-workers were accustomed to perform their marvels by the power of some potent name of Solomon, or the unspeakable name of Jehovah, so the council very naturally asked Peter and John "in what name?"

They had healed the lame man. The real object of the question was to trap them into an answer that would be the basis for an accusation and condemnation. It actually gave Peter the opportunity he coveted of bearing testimony for Jesus. Just at that moment the Holy Spirit came upon Peter, took possession of him and filled him. Jesus' promise of such an emergency as this was fulfilled. (Matt. 10: 19, 20; Luke 12: 11, 12; Acts 13: 8, 9). The same promise is for us in any emergency of Christian service or testimony. Peter had already been filled with the Spirit at Pentecost (ch. 2: 4) and will be again a little later on (v. 31). It is clear that the filling with the Spirit is not something that occurs once for all, but needs to be repeated with each new emergency of service. We are constantly dependent upon Jesus, our risen Head, for new supplies of the Spirit's presence and power. Herein lies the need for continual prayer for that which we already possess. Peter's glorious and instructive testimony was wonderfully skillful. It has been used to the salvation of many. Its wisdom, however, was not due to Peter's natural endowments, but to the Spirit. Left to himself, Peter was a famous blunderer. Peter was extremely courteous and deferential. He acknowledges the authority and high position of his interrogators. The Holy Spirit does not make men whom he controls rude and overbearing, but gentle and courteous (Gal. 5: 22, 23; cf. Jude 8, 9). Yet Peter was fearless, frank and outspoken. There was no compromising of the truth, no glossing over of their guilt. The Council had spoken evasively of the thing done "simply 'this.' It is a keen and discomfiting thrust of Peter in his reply to say, "if you refer to a good deed done to a strengthless (impotent) man" (cf. John 10: 33).

The Council doubtless winced. "Then, with- out hesitation, Peter tells them that the man whom they had crucified, the one whom God, on the other hand, had raised from the dead, that the man had been healed, points to the man standing right there as living testimony to the power of Jesus' name, and adds: "this man stands before you whole." The scene has changed. Peter, the accused, has become the accuser; the Council, the culprit at the bar, indicted and condemned. Peter follows up his advantage, and drives home his charge with a swinging blow of God's hammer (the Scriptures (cf. Ps. 118: 22; Jer. 23: 29). He closes with an appeal for them to accept Jesus (v. 32). There is salvation for any one in that name, salvation for no one outside of it. The whole account is the record of the deft and masterly utterance of a Spirit-filled man.

II. God's Foolishness, 1 Cor. 1: 21-25. To the mind blinded by sin the preaching of the cross is foolishness. "How men ridicule the doctrine of the atonement! How many men who call themselves theologians reject as unphilosophical the doctrine of substitution which belongs to them that perish." But unto us who are saved, what is the preaching of the cross? "The power of God." It has proved itself the power of God in our lives; the most blessed, the most glorious, the most saving truth. What men think of the preaching of the cross is a test of their condition, whether they are saved or perishing. God had long before prophesied that "He would destroy the wisdom of the wise and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent" (Isa. 29: 14; Jer. 9: 23). The wisdom of the philosopher falls, the wisdom of the scientist prove false and worthless, but to the simple-minded God reveals the way of truth. (Matt. 11: 25). God is constantly manifesting the wisdom of the world, foolishness of God is wiser than men!

KING EDWARD VIII IS ROYAL PATRON

Accepts Invitation of National Sanitarium Association

A letter received yesterday from Buckingham Palace, London, addressed to Mr. E. L. Ruddy, President of the National Sanitarium Association, states that His Majesty King Edward VIII. has accepted the invitation to be royal patron of the Association.

"I am commanded by the King," reads the letter, which is an official black-bordered Buckingham Palace stationery, "to inform you that His Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant his Patronage to the National Sanitarium Association, Toronto. (Signed) Wigram, Keeper of the Privy Purse." This letter came to Mr. Ruddy by way of a kindly message from the Governor-General.

In 1907 the then King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra became the first Royal Patrons of the Muskoka Hospital. Ever since, members of the Royal Family have taken a deep interest in the work. Muskoka Hospital for Consumptives, the Toronto Hospital for Consumptives and the Queen Mary Hospital for Consumptive Children at Weston, formerly had as Royal Patron the late King George V.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, great-uncle of the present sovereign laid the corner-stone of the Queen Mary Hospital for Consumptive Children. It was the first hospital in the world devoted to the treatment of children's sufferings from pulmonary tuberculosis. On May 12th, 1913, Queen Mary, in Buckingham Palace, pressed a button by which the doors of the hospital were electrically opened.

When fire destroyed the original section of the Toronto Hospital for Consumptives, the King Edward Memorial Fund was inaugurated by which over six hundred thousand dollars were raised. This work the Duke of Connaught took an active part. Upon learning recently from the Earl of Bessborough that the King's patients at the Queen Mary Hospital for Consumptives had taken from a London illustrated paper and framed a picture of Queen Mary and the Princess Elizabeth, Her Majesty voluntarily sent the children a signed portrait of herself and the little Princess.

Every Governor-General of Canada, from Earl Grey on, has been Honorary President of the National Sanitarium Association. The three hospitals maintained by the Association have a total of over 1,000 patients. Canada again planned a great medical achievement when the new surgical building, one of the first structures erected on this continent for the surgical treatment of tuberculosis, was opened about three years ago at Weston. It has already justified itself, said Mr. Ruddy.

CANDLES AND SOAP FROM SARDINES

Modern industrial chemistry is transforming many of the staple articles into uses which people of an earlier day never dreamed. As a case in point fish have been caught for eating and for their oil. Modern chemists have now extended the use of fish oil into the manufacture of soap, candles and other domestic articles, the oil undergoing a hardening process. In the production of this fish oil the sardine occupies a prominent place, according to the Industrial Department of the Canadian National Railways. Canada has the largest sardine fisheries in the world, in New Brunswick, and is an important source of supply for fish oil. The sardine accounts for 75 per cent. of the production of fish oil in Japan, with herring, shark, whale and cod also contributing. The greater portion of Japan's fish oil goes to Germany, followed by Great Britain, Norway, Kwantung Province, Holland, Australia. The hardened oil is more widely exported, Italy taking the greatest quantity, followed by China, Egypt, India, Hong Kong, the United States, Holland, Kwantung Province, Mexico, Straits Settlements, Siam and other countries in smaller quantities.

TOO LAZY

He: "What would you say if I blew you a kiss?" She: "I'd say you were a lazy fellow."

"Never to display ill-humor is the first rule of sportsmanship."—Emily Post.

Philosophy discovers "the absolute," "the unknowable," "cosmic force," and tries to explain life on that pattern, but such doctrines cannot satisfy the cry of the heart. God, through the foolishness of the thing preached, i. e., that which seems foolish to the blind philosopher and scientist, namely, the Cross, pleased to save them that believe in it. What has proved itself in experience to be the power of God in the life of man. "Jews ask for signs, miracles" and Greeks seek after wisdom (philosophical reason) but we preach "Christ crucified." Such preaching is to-day a stumbling block to many. How many stumble at the doctrine of the atonement! To the Greeks (those who pride themselves on their philosophical bent of mind) it is foolishness. How worthless is all man's wisdom alongside God's omnipotence! If anyone shall say to you that the Gospel of salvation through Christ crucified is foolishness, tell him: "Yes, it is foolishness, the foolishness of God—and the wisdom of God is wiser than men!"

GIBBY LILY

Mother: "Oh, Lily, why do you eat your buns so fast? There are plenty more of them." Lily: "I know, but I'm afraid my appetite will be gone before I get to the end of them."

"The violence of empires has never saved empires from revolution."—Glenn Frank.

A LITTLE PREVIOUS

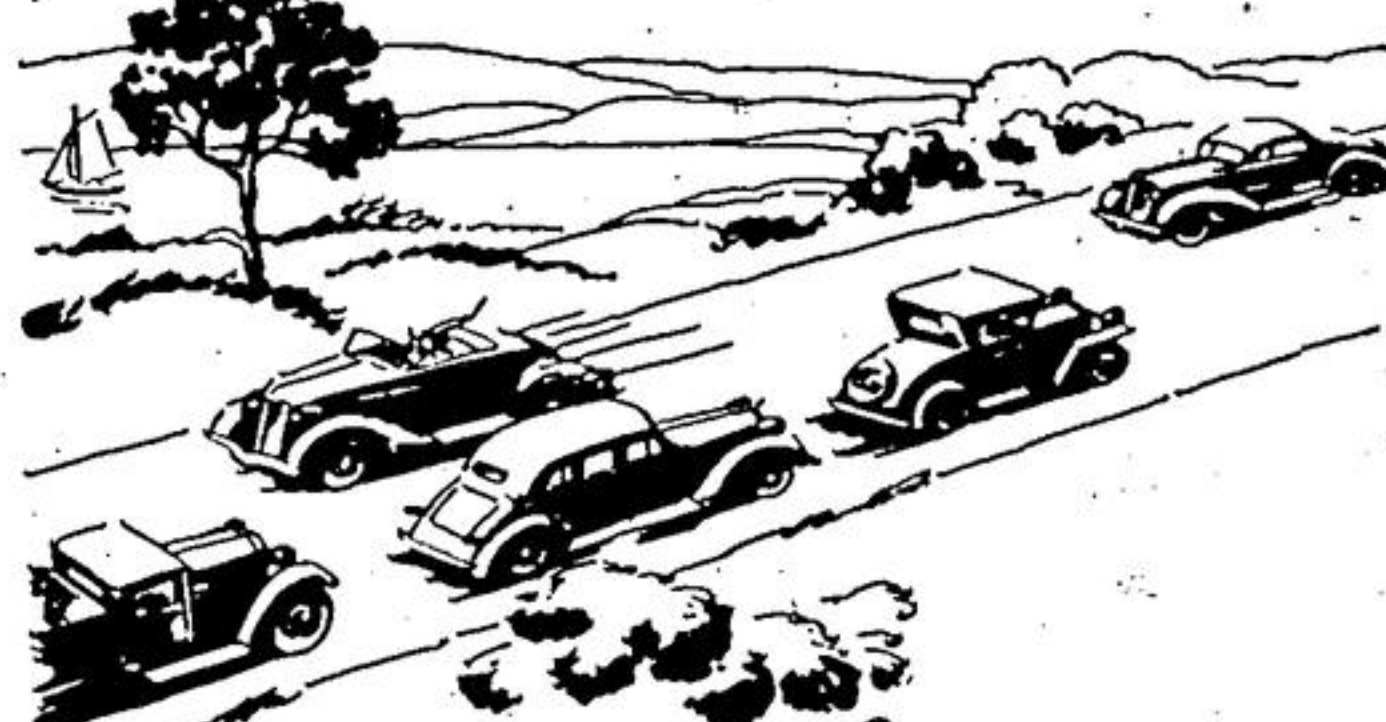
Lady—"So your husband is getting better after all, Mary?" Mary—"Yes, ma'am, and it puts me in a pretty fix. I'd sold all his clothes to pay for a cemetery lot."

"If you are a friend to Nature you are a rich man, even in old age."—Adolf Lorenz.

They Just Went Parade



Christian Science Monitor.



FAST DRIVERS and SLOW DRIVERS...

This message is addressed to BOTH of YOU

ALL OF US who drive motor cars have our individual preferences as to the speed at which we travel. Some of us like to drive slowly; others like to travel faster. (I am not referring to the "speed fiends" who drive recklessly and dangerously, but to the rank and file of sane, sensible drivers.) There is a wide variation in our preferred speeds.

When the road is clear and open, we have every reasonable right to give these preferences free rein, and travel at any speed which suits us—up to the legal limit. But I believe you will agree that when traffic is heavy, it is neither courteous nor fair to travel faster or slower than the general speed at which the traffic is moving.

At such times, the deliberately slow driver blocks the road for all who are behind him. It becomes irksome and wearying to those who have long trips still ahead of them—and finally induces them to "cut in" or take chances which they would never take under other circumstances.

On the other hand, it is equally discourteous for fast drivers to cut in and out of the traffic lane when traffic is moving at a reasonable speed. It upsets and unnerves the more cautious drivers; increases the accident hazard tremendously; and invariably saves only a very FEW minutes of time in the end.

I appeal to BOTH kinds of drivers to let themselves be governed by the true SPIRIT of Courtesy—to consider the convenience and the safety of fellow-motorists, as well as their rights. Let us show the same courtesy to others on the highway, that we show to visitors in our homes. It will go a long way toward making our highways SAFER, and in making motoring still more pleasant.

Sincerely yours,

B. J. Weston

MINISTER OF HIGHWAYS PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

TRY COURTESY IT WORKS BOTH WAYS