



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

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Contributions of Smaller Places

One wonders what the villages and small towns of Ontario would be like to-day if all the men whom they gave to build up the larger centres of commerce and industry had remained in their place of birth. But opportunity knocks and ambition answers. Those who live in the smaller places can take pride in contributions they have made to the public life of Canada while regretting that the tendency towards centralization of ability and wealth has robbed the rural districts of a power which might have given the countryside a fairer share of the country's wealth and have prevented many of our present-day economic ills.—Simcoe Reformer.

A Delegation to be Proud of

It is quite evident that the Hephburn Government is very considerate of the great mass of people that make up this Province of Ontario. Many who are critical of the actions of the Liberal Government at Queens Park are commending the announcement that forty young people of the High Schools, Vocational Schools and Collegiate Institutes throughout the Province will be sent to England to attend the Coronation ceremonies. Commenting on this the Renfrew Mercury says:

"Contrast this acceptable action with that of the Dominion Parliament to spend \$300,000 on a picked group of friends who will no doubt enjoy the all-expenses-paid trip but will have little fervor in paying tribute or promoting Canada compared with the bright-eyed, bright-minded young people who are chosen by the Ontario Government's plan.

"Mr. Hephburn does some annoying things to the 'privileged classes' and yet so many times he does the right thing for those not so specially privileged.

"The selection of 40 young people from Ontario High Schools to go to the Coronation is a delegation that Ontario will hear from and be proud of."

Earlier Play-offs

It seems as if natural ice arenas will always have an unsolved problem. The big gate receipts in hockey come in the play-off games. These games usually come when ice in the local arenas is rather un dependable. Last week Paris had to transfer their game to Brantford. With the continued mild weather the Acton-Simcoe round had to have arrangements made for playing on artificial ice. It is very doubtful if any of the future games can be arranged for the local arenas.

No doubt the teams and the managements would much rather use the home ice, but they are placed in a rather awkward position. It has always seemed to us that too much time was wasted in arranging play-offs after the group winners are decided, and the O. H. A. Executive might speed up matters to the general benefit of the towns which comprise the groups. For example, Acton finished the group on February 23rd. Paris finished the following night, and yet the teams did not meet until March 1st. Almost the same delay came between the Simcoe and Acton games and a study of other play-offs will reveal plenty of room for speeding up the finals. In the groups at least two games a week are played. Surely the same could be arranged in the play-offs. Most arenas are having sufficient financial difficulties. They need the big gate receipts when they are available and if hockey is to continue play-offs will need to come earlier to keep rink receipts for the home town arena and allow the most of the home town folks to see their team in the final games.

Guided by Experience

The speed limits on the highways is at present quite a point of controversy, with some advocating its abolition and others the retaining of the present limits. There is no doubt that the newer vehicles of to-day allow of great speed with a marked degree of safety. However, there are still many vehicles on the road that have not improvements of the past few years and are dangerous at even the present limits. The present law is therefore not obsolete while these obsolete vehicles are on the highways.

There are traffic conditions and road conditions quite often prevalent where even the present limits are not safe. We admit that most drivers of modern cars do not adhere rigidly to the present speed limits and in most cases are not summoned for their disregard of the law. We incline, however, to the present system of leaving a good deal to the discretion of the Highway Traffic Officers. They are, in most cases making a pretty satisfactory job in keeping the highways safe. Take away the speed limits and their task becomes an extremely difficult one. The toll of accidents under the present plan is quite sufficient. Lowering the restrictions would not improve the situation. Consumption of intoxicating liquors has not been lowered by the abolition of prohibition. Perhaps it would be well to be guided by experience before any change is made.

EDITORIAL NOTES

High-grade Canadian wheat totalling 67,964,049 bushels was ground in Canadian flour mills in 1936 to produce 14,957,875 barrels of wheat flour.

Preston has established a new high license fee for slot machines at \$1,000 each. The former fee was \$50. Another town that doesn't want the machines operating.

With all parties agreeing a bill to pension the blind at the age of 40 years and upwards, its passage was easy. And most everyone else outside of Parliament will applaud this enactment.

A number of municipalities are making preparation for a fitting observance of Coronation Day. How about Acton's celebration of the day? Local organizations should band together now in the arrangements.

Wages of 120 employees of the steel industry were raised by ten cents an hour and the company announced increased prices of its products of from \$3 to \$8 per ton. The music goes round and round and comes out where?

The Eramosa Road, from Erin to Guelph, is being taken over by the Provincial Highway Department and will have some work done on it this year. No official announcement has yet been made of the connecting strip from Milton to Acton to join No. 25 and No. 7 Highways.

Oakville is to have a new Post Office. All other municipalities in Halton who have been furnished with splendid government buildings will be pleased that Oakville is to now enjoy the same privileges. Hughes Cleaver, M. P., is apparently looking well to the needs of his constituency.

Hugh Templin, of the Fergus News-Record, tells of an interesting time on a recent Saturday night in the gondola at the Maple Leaf Gardens. His description of the trip to the gondola and the hockey broadcast was well told in last week's News-Record. Sounds as if the trip up wouldn't be half as bad as the return journey.

Eight cents on the dollar does not seem a great deal of money, yet the sales tax of this amount produces \$115,500,000 for the Federal Treasury. Income tax is not far behind, with a total of \$102,000,000. At one time customs duties were the big revenue producer; now these are much below income and sales taxes, yielding \$81,500,000.—Barrie Examiner.

Premier Hephburn seems just as insistent on keeping his own party clean as in pointing out the faults in the other parties. One of his former followers has been read out of his party the past week. Perhaps if the former government had used similar action the emphatic denunciation of the electors would not have been necessary. But one sees little change in its make-up yet, even after the past years in opposition.

Are you a booster for your own home town? Here are a few thoughts taken from an exchange, that several Acton citizens would do well to read and have impressed indelibly upon their minds: "It isn't the number of square miles in a town that makes it what it is, but the number of square shooters in it. It is citizens that make a town. Its prominence and a good name are controlled by the measure of co-operation and public spirit of its business men and leaders. The only way a town can be kept on the map is by the action of those who dwell in it. If they do not boost their town no one else will."

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 14th, 1937

JESUS PRAYING FOR HIS DISCIPLES

Golden Text.—That they may be one even as we are one.—John 17: 22.

Lesson Text.—John 16: 5-7; 17: 14-26.

Time.—Late Tuesday night, or very early Wednesday morning, April 4th, A.D. 30. Place.—Near the Kidron. Exposition.—I. The Promised Comforter, 5-7.

The sorrow of the disciples over the departure of Jesus was altogether needless. It was profitable for them that Jesus go, for another Divine Friend was coming to take His place, a friend, who could be much closer than Jesus could be during the days of His flesh. How clearly the personality of the Holy Spirit comes out in all this! Can we conceive of Jesus saying that it was profitable for Him to go, if the One who was to come and take His place was not a person, but only an impersonal influence or power? The word translated "Comforter" is the same word that is translated "advocate" in 1 John 2: 1. Neither word gives quite the full force of the original. It means one called to stand beside another, as constant helper, counsellor, guide, friend. Jesus, up to this time, had been a friend constantly at hand. Now He was going. The Divine Friend who was coming would not only be with them, but dwell in them (ch. 14: 16, 17). "The Comforter has come." No Christian need ever be lonely, for in Him dwells the best of all companions, the Holy Spirit.

II. The Master of Prayer.

(1) Jesus gave special time to prayer whenever life pressed hard. He would withdraw at such times from the multitudes that thronged about Him, go into the wilderness, and pray (cf. Luke 5: 16, R. V.). Apparently the busier His life was, the more he prayed. Sometimes He had not time to eat (Mark 3: 20), sometimes He had no time for needed rest and sleep (Mark 6: 31, 33, 46), but He always took time to pray. Many a mighty man of God has learned this secret from Christ, and when work has been more than usually pressing, has set apart an unusual amount of time for prayer. (2) Jesus prayed before the great crises of His life. As He drew nearer and nearer to the cross, and realized that upon it was to come the great final test of His life, He went out into the garden to pray. He came "unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here while I go and pray yonder" (Matt. 26: 36). The victory of Calvary was won that night in the Garden of Gethsemane. The calm majesty of His bearing in meeting the fearful onslaughts of Pilate's judgment hall and of Calvary, was the outcome of the struggle, agony and victory of Gethsemane.

III. Kept and Sanctified, 14-19.

Jesus did not desire that His own should be taken out of the world, evil though it was. He would have them remain in the world, that they might testify to it and save others OUT OF IT. But He did pray that they might be kept from the power of the prince of the world, "the evil one" (R. V.). Only by the power of God can we be kept from the power of the evil one (cf. Eph. 6: 10-18). But though in the world, true disciples of Jesus are not OF IT. They are strangers and pilgrims here, their citizenship in another country (Phil. 3: 20, R. V.). Our position here is the same as was that of Jesus. Jesus prayed the Father to sanctify His disciples, i. e., to set them apart from Himself. The instrument of this sanctification was to be the truth, God's word.—God's word is "the only truth" (cf. Ps. 119: 8, 11, 404; 1 Thes. 2: 13). And just as our position in the world is the same as was that of Jesus, so our sending forth is the same as His (cf. 18: cf. 2 Cor. 5: 20). Jesus set Himself apart for this work, that we might be set apart by God for Himself, in His service.

IV. Jesus' Prayer for His Own, 20-26.

Jesus' prayer was for all who should in any age believe in Him as their Saviour. Believers in the days to come should become His followers through the word of the apostles. True faith comes by hearing the apostolic testimony (cf. Romans 10: 17). If we would bring men to faith in Jesus, we should give them the word of the apostles, Jesus' prayer for all believers was that they might all be one. He longed and prayed for the unity of His disciples in all ages. This prayer has been largely unanswered. Beneath all seeming differences in externals and incidents, all true followers of Jesus, internally and in essentials, are one. And there is to be a more complete and glorious answer to this prayer of the Master in days to come. For it we should all labor and pray. There can be external formal unity (like that of the Roman Catholic Church) without real, living "unity of the Spirit." But no real unity is possible except by our being in the Father and the Son ("in us"). Through the unity of Christians the world was to be brought to believe that God had sent Jesus. A Church, really one, is an unimpeachable argument for the Christian faith. In v. 22 Jesus makes an amazing statement, namely, that He had given to His disciples the glory that He had from the Father. Wonderful it is that we should have Christ's peace (ch. 14: 27) and Christ's joy (ch. 15: 11, R. V.); but that we should have Christ's glory, passes belief! But it is true. Jesus says

in v. 21: "This great gift is bestowed upon us that we may be one. One Christ will have as at any cost. The indwelling Christ is the secret of the real union of believers. Christ in us and God in Christ! Then follows another amazing statement—that God loves us who are in Christ, even as He loves Christ Himself. With all our sins and imperfections, God loves us just as He loves the all-perfect Son of whom He said, 'This is my beloved . . . in whom I am well pleased.' The closing words of our Lord's great intercessory prayer reveal His final purpose for His disciples—that we shall be with Him forever, 'in the glory that is to be revealed' (2 Cor. 12: 2-4; Phil. 3: 20, 21 R. V.; Matt. 13: 43; Col. 3: 4). How marvelous His love!

POULTRY ON CANADIAN FARMS INCREASING

Poultry in Canada showed an increase of five per cent. on June 1st, 1936, when the census was taken, over the recording at the same date in 1935. Despite this increase the prices of eggs during 1936 averaged higher than during the previous year. This more satisfactory result, from the farmer's standpoint, was brought about by greater apparent consumption of eggs in Canada, aided by a firm demand from Great Britain. The increase in the number of young stock reared in 1936 should result in a gain in poultry population and greater egg production during the first half of 1937 compared to the same period of 1936.

The poultry enterprise on Canadian farms has been going through a definite change in recent years. The introduction of large scale chick hatcheries has resulted in an increasing production of the farm flocks being renewed each year by the purchase of day-old chicks rather than the old method of hatching eggs on farms. This change has led to an improvement in farm flocks and to the production of a greater number of eggs during the winter months. More dressed poultry was packed for export during the marketing season of 1936 than for many years. This pack went chiefly to Great Britain, and a correspondingly large export trade to market in 1937 appears to be in prospect. Over one-quarter of a million pounds of dressed poultry were shipped to the British West Indies. Exports of live poultry to the United States increased considerably, totalling 311,934 birds in the first ten months of 1936 compared with 23,328 in the corresponding period of 1935. There was also an increase in exports of dressed poultry to the United States, but this trade remains relatively small compared to exports to the United Kingdom.

CHEERFULNESS

Harmless mirth is recommended to us as that which contributes to the health of the body, making men lively and fit for business and to the acceptableness of the conversation, making the face to shine and rendering us pleasant to one another. A cheerful spirit, under the government of wisdom and grace is a great ornament to religion, puts a further lustre upon the beauty of holiness and makes men the more capable of doing good.—Matthew Henry.

SEED OATS

FARMERS BEWARE what seed grain you buy to sow this coming Spring. There is a great deal of grain being offered for sale in Ontario for feed. A grain shortage has resulted in a demand for Western Feed Oats. These oats are being sold for feed but some farmers may re-clean them and use part of them for seed.

Germination Tests of samples of such oats have shown as low percentages as from 20% to 70%.

The Sowing of Such Seed may have disastrous results on the crops.

A survey of the grain held in Ontario would indicate there is sufficient good seed to be obtained at home, and all farmers who must purchase seed grain this year should make careful selection upon Germination Tests. A farmer can make a simple and accurate test at home by sprouting a number of kernels either between two sheets of dampened blotting paper or in a box of earth. The sample sprouted must be a fair average of the lot.

WRITE

J. D. SMITH, Seed Branch, Department of Agriculture, Toronto, or
DR. G. P. MCROSTIE, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, for information.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

HON. DUNCAN MARSHALL
Minister

J. H. FAIRBAIN
Deputy Minister

SCOTT'S SCRAPBOOK

By R. J. SCOTT



For Bigger Business-Advertise

Aberhart Offers Resignation as Social Credit Leader



Panfully admitting that, in the 18 months of its existence, his Social Credit Government had not been able to put into effect its planned policy of a new economic order, Premier William Aberhart of Alberta, from the pulpit of the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute, where by prearrangement, told Social Credit supporters in the Province that they should decide whether he is to remain in office or to resign. Mr. Aberhart requested that constituency associations vote on the question after they have had time to study the current economic legislation and when the roads are clear after the spring thaw. He blamed bad conditions in the Provincial treasury upon taking office and blinding tactics of opponents for the Government's inability to redeem its election promises before

the 18-month period had expired. Resignations of Cabinet members were also mentioned as a hindrance. John C. Ross (top center) and Hon. Charles Corbett (top right) have both resigned in the last few months. In a typical speaking pose, the Bible class teacher, who became Canada's first Social Credit Premier, is shown at left addressing a dinner audience. The Premier is again pictured (lower right) when, with Attorney-General J. W. Hault, shown beside him, he travelled to Ottawa in a vain effort to secure financial assistance from the Federal Government. His present offer to resign while still firmly in power because election promises have gone unfulfilled, is believed to set a precedent in Canadian politics.