



The Acton Free Press

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Answering a Question

Last week "Partner," of Ginger Farm Chronicles, expressed the wish that the editor would visit Queen's Park and give an opinion on the proceedings there. As a matter of fact we have been a visitor on several occasions in the Ontario Legislature. On a recent visit we made inquiry as to what was going on and got the assurance that Hon. George Henry was giving it to the Liberals good and hot. We listened for a half hour, but it didn't get so hot and then we squandered another quarter of an hour.

The man in the seat next seemed to have been there for some time, so we tried to get his opinion. He had been there all afternoon, he told us, and it had been about the same harangue. It seemed he was a frequent visitor and we confided we came from "the back fifty" and were used to town and County Council debates and frankly we were disappointed at the exhibition being put up. He nodded. We stayed another quarter of an hour and left.

The next morning we were anxious to know if the debate we had listened to was front page stuff. Believe it or not, it was, and had a pretty fair-sized caption on it. Perhaps you've heard some folks say that Foster Hewitt's broadcast of hockey games is oftentimes better than the game? Surely we have conveyed our meaning without elaborating too much. Most any difference of opinion of an elected body will provide good heading and under enthusiastic guidance can be well played up. But is such news in the best interests of good government and the public welfare? We leave the opinion with you, "Partner."

Canadians Are Movie Fans

Motion pictures, which provide a popular medium of entertainment to both the rich and the not rich, form the basis of a very substantial industry in Canada. Figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show that there were 856 motion picture houses in the Dominion in 1935 with a total of \$15,976,500 paid admissions and \$27,173,400 in receipts, exclusive of amusement taxes, compared with 799 theatres with 107,718,000 admissions and \$25,338,100 in receipts during 1934. The average admission price was 23.2 cents in 1935 compared with 23.5 cents in 1934.

Motion picture theatres in Canada have a combined seating capacity of more than half a million, and each seat is occupied between four and five times a week on the average. It is estimated that the average attendance at the "movies" for Canadians is about once a month for everybody old enough to go. The per capita expenditure on motion picture entertainment in 1935 was \$2.48 compared with \$2.34 in 1934 and \$3.77 in 1930. To the average theatre patron this amount seems small but the per capita expenditures on motion pictures are affected by many factors such as rates of admission, distribution of the population by ages, provincial regulations governing the admission of juveniles, etc. Attendance appears to be dependent to a large degree upon convenience, and naturally is higher in urban areas where the theatres are close at hand.

Apparently some truck drivers have little thought of boulevards at this time of year. The damage done by them should be charged against them and perhaps it would have the desired effect. Of course there's a by-law providing for such destruction.

Sucker Time

"Why not tell the good news to the suckers in Toronto and Hamilton?" asks a Florida correspondent of The Globe and Mail in forwarding an analysis of the odds against those who try their luck with the slot machine. A conservative estimate published in the Florida press showed that the "player" has about one chance in seven of getting his nickel back. In a test made over a period of thirty days by a Florida Judge it was found that, in one city, 150 machines took in \$6,000 and paid out \$727, leaving a profit of \$5,273. A year's operation on this scale should net enough money to satisfy the greediest operator of these machines. And the "suckers" pay. Despite huge profits indicated, no doubt Toronto owners of confiscated slot machines looked on in shocked dismay while their little money-getters were destroyed by authority of the police. In this city, at any rate, the "suckers" have had one temptation removed.—Globe.

The Smaller Towns Turn

Indications of the move by industries away from the larger cities are not wanting. Hanover has secured a branch plant of the Swift Canadian Company. St. Mary's anticipates a textile plant. Barrie hopes to acquire an aircraft factory. Delhi and Tillsonburg have secured large tobacco processing plants. It looks as if the cycle of concentration in the cities is being reversed. Labor difficulties, higher living costs, and many other factors have brought about the change. In the past the big cities have rather monopolized most of the new industries, but to-day lower taxation, the same advantage for workers are more than the city provides, and quick transportation facilities make the smaller centres a more attractive location for industries.

Another evidence is seen locally in the moving this year of the office of Beardmore Co. to the Acton plant. After all, doesn't the smaller town provide a lot of advantages and cheaper living costs? There are no car fares to pay. The costs of amusements are much less and just as enjoyable. And, in the case of Acton, if one must visit the city it is only an hour's trip.

Another Credit

The thirteenth power bill of any municipality in the Hydro-Electric System is always one that is eagerly anticipated. It foretells really the procedure for the year ahead. A deficit is a signal that the rates are not sufficiently high and a credit usually signifies that rates are adequate and an accumulation of credits eventually means a reduction in rates. Power users and domestic consumers in Acton enjoyed a cut in rates last year. The year previous, a rebate had been made. Power costs have been reduced to the municipality during the past year. Just what effect these changes would have was rather anxiously awaited. It was therefore gratifying to learn this year that the rate decreases were correctly gauged and a credit of nearly \$1,300.00 was made on the year's operations. Of course it is not nearly as large as last year and the policy is to come as close as possible to giving power at cost. It is doubtful if the credit is sufficient to allow any further reduction in costs this year, but it is reasonable to anticipate a continuance of the present rates enjoyed at least. The figures given in the report at the meeting of the Public Utilities Commission are indeed very acceptable to Actonians.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Notification of expiration of radio licenses was very prompt. They greeted license holders on the last date of March and these are generally regarded as a nuisance levy.

At this time of year evidence of the need of the Second Line having another road surface is to be found in hundreds of holes in its entire length. Work on it cannot start too soon.

The School Tax Act, whether repealed or on the statutes, means practically the same thing in Halton County. Wonder what the heathens would think if they could read all about the fuss it stirred up?

Forty-five hotels and twelve clubs lost their licenses in Ontario. They had plenty of warning and continued similar actions by the Liquor Control Board would be appreciated by most citizens of the Province.

Can you imagine Chief McPherson and Reeve McCutcheon creating such a public fuss over Sunday selling as has been done in Toronto recently between the Mayor and Chief of Police? And Acton is a small town.

At Waukegan, Illinois, a new dollar bill was placed in circulation. Each merchant who received it was expected to attach a circular explaining the buyer's use or purchase. In 14 days, the bill had been used 5 times in paying salaries; 5 times for tobacco; 5 times for "fags"; 3 times for candy; twice for men's furnishings; twice for shaves; once for auto accessories; once for bacon; one for washing powder; once for garters; and once for toothpicks. Although spent 27 times in two weeks, not once did it get into the hands of a church treasurer, says The Expositor.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 11th

THE SIN OF ADAM AND EVE

Golden Text.—The soul that sinneth, it shall die.—Ezekiel 18: 4.

Lesson Text.—Genesis 3: 1-15.

Time.—Unknown. Place.—Eden.

Exposition.—I. The Temptation, 1-5.

The serpent was the prime mover in the entrance of sin into human history.

This old serpent was the devil (Rev. 12: 9; 20: 2; Romans 16: 20). The devil paved the way for the fall by suggesting a doubt of God's love (v. 1), and afterwards a doubt of God's veracity (v. 4). The criticism of God's word is the doorway to disobedience to God's will. Satan began with a truth but turned it into a lie. God had forbidden to eat of one tree in the garden (2: 17); the serpent turned this into "ye shall not eat of ANY tree" (R. V.). He delights to exaggerate God's prohibitions. Eve saw through the misrepresentation, but made a fatal mistake in parleying with one who whispered insinuations against God's goodness. Whoever begins by parleying with the tempter will end by yielding to him. The devil approached Eve when she was alone. The moments when we are alone often afford him his best opportunity. Having met him with God's word, the woman should have closed the interview and listened no longer. She did not quote God's commandment exactly; she added to it (cf. ch. 2: 17). However, when God has commanded us not to eat, it is well to keep from TOUCHING (2 Cor. 6: 17). The result of disobedience was to be death. This was primarily physical death (v. 19), but death in every sense of the word is the result of sin (Rom. 6: 23; Eph. 2: 1; Col. 2: 13; Rev. 21: 8). In consequence of this first sin, death came upon the whole human race (Rom. 5: 12, R. V.). No one ever injures himself alone when he sins. But Christ, the second Adam, brought back life to all who lost it in the first Adam (1 Cor. 15: 22). Whether or not this resurrection life that the second Adam has brought to all proves a blessing, depends upon ourselves (John 5: 28, 29; Rom. 9: 23). When the devil had been foiled in his attempt to misquote God's word, his next move was to deny it. This illustrates how he is the father of lies (John 8: 44)—especially infidel lies. The devil was the first infidel and the first Universalist. The doctrine of judgment for sin is one that he especially delights to deny (Jer. 14: 13, 14; Ezek. 13: 22). The serpent imputed to God a selfish unwillingness that men should become like himself; the truth is that God's highest desire for us is that we become like Himself (ch. 1: 26, 27; Col. 3: 10; Rom. 8: 29). The devil himself fell through the desire to take God's place (Ezek. 28: 2, 9; 2 Thess. 2: 4; cf. Dan. 4: 30, 31; Acts 12: 22, 23). He tempted where he himself went down. There was an element of truth in the devil's lie (v. 7, 22). When their eyes were opened the first thing they discovered was that they were naked (v. 7), and the effect of the knowledge was to fill them with fear (v. 10). When a man gets a knowledge of good and evil, a conscience, his first discovery is that he is a sinner (Rom. 7: 9-14; 20). "Thou God seest me" is an appalling realization when reconciliation has not been effected. Sinful man must needs hide from an offended God.

II. The Fall, 6, 12.

How rapidly sin grows! Eve listened to Satan's insinuations regarding God's hardness. Then, she followed this wrong step by another: she looked at the forbidden fruit and then she took it. Then she ate, then she gave to her husband to eat also. When one sins himself he next desires to lead someone else into sin. Sin-loves company. On the other hand, when one is saved himself, he at once goes to work to save others. The forbidden fruit appealed to three lusts, "the lust of the flesh" ("food for food"), "the lust of the eyes" ("a delight to the eyes"), and "the vain glory of life" ("to be desired to make one wise"), cf. 1 John 2: 16. Temptation came first through eyes (cf. ch. 6: 2; Josh. 7: 21; 2 Sam. 11: 2; Matt. 5: 20). If you would keep from sin, don't even look at evil. Looking at sin in the movies has been the door through which sin has entered millions of lives. Adam was not to blame for his wife's offering him the fruit; he was to blame for listening to her (v. 17). They strove to cover their newly discovered nakedness. "Man is ever trying to cover his own shame, but he never succeeds" (Isa. 64: 6). "God Himself must clothe us" (Isa. 61: 10; Phil. 3: 9).

III. The Punishment, 13-15.

In the evening of the same day they heard the voice of Jehovah, walking in the garden. As soon as man sins, Jehovah always comes upon the sinner. Always before this, Jehovah's voice had filled Adam with joy; now it awakened fear. For all sinners, they tried to hide from God, and also like all other sinners they failed. God is putting to every sinner to-day the same question that He put to Adam, "Where art thou?" He censured his sin-born fear of God, stating as a ground of his fear, his nakedness (cf. ch. 2: 25). God showed Adam by an other startling question that his own words had exposed his sin. Adam sought to throw the blame of his first sin on the woman, and then upon God Himself, for he said, "The woman whom Thou gavest." All the sinner's excuses in the final analysis condemn God. By taking of the one forbidden tree, the man and the woman lost the

SMILES

"I once had a fall that made me unconscious for eight hours."
"Where did you fall?"
"I fell asleep."

She (at corner): "What's the book the conductor keeps looking at?"
He: "That's the score of the overture."
She: "Oh, really, who's winning?"

"It was Granddad's ambition to have a 'big and a gal.'"
"Yes, and Dad wanted to have a silver and a tapper."
"And the son will probably want a piano and a June."

"My husband was so irritable the doctor told him he had better take a vacation, and when he said he couldn't Doc said, then I had better take one. Ain't doctors funny?"

Teacher: "Now, can any boy give me a sentence using the word 'diademy'?"
Pupil: "People who drive carelessly across railway tracks threaten right quicker than they who stop, look and listen."

Robinson: "Who was the man you just ratched your hat to?"
Green: "That? Oh, that was my barber. He sold me a bottle of hair-restorer a month ago and whenever I meet him I let him see what a fraud he is."

The landlady brought in a plateful of extremely thin slices of bread and butter, which rather damaged her hungry boarders. "Did you eat these, Mrs. Brown?"
"Yes—I cut them!" came the stern reply.

"Oh," went on the boarder. "All right—I'll shuffle and deal."

PASTE THIS IN YOUR CAR

People who drive cars should read the newspapers. They should watch for the results of some of the many court cases in which motor accidents furnish the central theme. They might learn a great deal.

Mr. Justice Jeffrey gave two decisions in damage claims in London. In one case a retired farmer and his wife had been struck when crossing a street in London and the amount awarded there was \$12,000.

The other was related to an automobile smash near Wingham in June of 1934, and the amount involved there was \$20,500.

The average man does not possess \$12,000, nor could he raise it. The number who have \$20,500 or any hope of ever accumulating that amount is smaller, and yet these are the figures which are being dealt with in auto smash cases in the courts to-day.

It might do no harm to stick those two figures some place in the car where you can look at them when you are inclined to step on the gas and take even a small chance.—Dunville Chronicle.

whole garden. The first curse was pronounced upon the serpent, but the others did not escape. Enmity should exist between the serpent's seed and the seed of the woman (Gal. 4: 4, 5; Luke 1: 31-35). Jesus was not the seed of the man, but of the woman only. The final outcome of the conflict would be victory for the seed of the woman. Satan has bruised Christ's heel, but Christ shall crush his head. This prediction (v. 15) is the first Gospel proclamation; it contains the whole gospel truth in general. Yet men question the inspiration of Genesis!

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"SALADA" TEA

HIS KNOWLEDGE

Lady Interviewer: "Then your knowledge, Mr. Tuggan, must cover a very wide field."
Dentist: "Thousands of aches, madam, roughly speaking."

NO COMFORT THERE

Old Amy (independently): "Well, I shall not be a nuisance to you much longer."
Nephew (treasurously): "Don't talk like that, aunt; you know you will."

MIGHT MISS SOMETHING

Another (after a vain attempt to sing, and could not get to sleep): "Why don't you go to sleep, dear?"
Peter: "Well, Mummy, I was waiting for you to stop singing."

SETTLEMENT WORK!

Man: "Heard Dave's going in for settlement work."
Friend: "Salvation Army?"
Man: "No, bill collecting."

Gowns for New Court Presentations



Norman Hartnell, young British dress designer has been entrusted with the task of clothing Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth of England, for the coronation season. Here are his ideas for two dresses to be used at court presentations during the season. At the LEFT, a gown for the debutante and at the RIGHT a gown for the lady who will present the debutante to Their Majesties.

Among Five Canadian Paintings Bought for South Africa



In the first important purchase of Canadian art works by a public gallery since 1926, the National Gallery of South Africa, Capetown, has purchased five Canadian paintings. The pictures purchased, Yarnod, formerly of Ottawa, but now on the staff of the Ontario College of Art, Toronto; and "Cranberry Lake," by Franklin Carmichael, A.R.C.A., Toronto. The picture, "The Long Barn," is reproduced ABOVE.

"River," a water color by Mrs. Peter Haworth, Toronto; "Winter in Quebec," by A. Y. Jackson, Toronto; "Little Haven, Nova Scotia," by Arthur Lismer, A.R.C.A., Toronto; "The Long Barn," by George D. Pepper, formerly of Ottawa, but now on the staff of the Ontario College of Art, Toronto; and "Cranberry Lake," by Franklin Carmichael, A.R.C.A., Toronto. The picture, "The Long Barn," is reproduced ABOVE.