



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

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Gypsy Caravan Has Modern Counterpart

More than twenty firms in Canada have turned their attention to the manufacture of automobile trailers and the production of these houses on wheels on the North American continent for the year 1937 is expected to reach a total of 200,000, says a writer in the June issue of C-I-L Oval. The cost of a trailer may run anywhere from \$500 to \$5,000 or more, according to the requirements of the buyer as to interior fittings. The most modest trailer, however, supplies all the comforts of home on a miniature scale. Beds at front and rear are of Pullman type that disappear when not in use or form a seat by day, the dining alcove table may be dropped and there is usually room for an oil stove, refrigerator, radio and electric light installations. The exterior coverings of nearly all trailers are either weather resistant Duco automobile finish or rubber coated fabric in one or more color tones.—Brampton Conservator.

Another Year

If this issue of THE FREE PRESS were made on the regular day, it would be No. 1 and this journal would have entered its sixty-third year of publication. THE FREE PRESS made its bow to Acton on Dominion Day, 1875. Acton has seen many changes during that time and we hope THE FREE PRESS has kept pace with the growth of the community. We might even qualify for a few reminiscences, as it is twenty-eight years since the present editor had his first association with THE FREE PRESS.

We do not, however want to sermonize but just simply say as another year has rolled around, the pleasure it has been to serve Acton with its community newspaper. Many factors have gone to make whatever success may have been achieved in the goal to make it a good newspaper. For the kindly co-operative spirit of all in our work we are duly appreciative. To enumerate would be to give a chance for an omission. So, as we pass another milestone, may we continue hand in hand, working in our common object of advancing the better interests of Acton and the district. Perhaps not always seeing eye to eye, but never losing sight of the common goal.

Residence for Relief

One of the sore spots in the administration of relief has been the bills which municipalities have been called upon to pay for outsiders who move in, apparently in many cases in order to get the benefit of relief allowances. The residence requirement of one year in Ontario gives partial protection to a municipality, but the bills for such relief cases later become quite burdensome. Out in Yorkton, Sask., the city council has taken a very decided stand on this question and has fixed the period of residence necessary to qualify for assistance at three years. Referring to this action, the Yorkton Enterprise says:

"Yorkton taxpayers have never demurred at the cost of helping their less fortunate fellow citizens, who are unable to make ends meet during these difficult times, but when it comes to providing for 413 people who have never contributed anything to the building up of this community, that is an entirely different matter."

With the government bearing such a large share of the relief costs in Ontario, action similar to that in Yorkton cannot be taken here, but municipal councils in this province who have had heavy costs imposed upon them by this class of relief cases will envy the Yorkton council in being able to handle the matter in the way it has done.—Barrie Examiner.

Grown Up

To-morrow Canada will celebrate its seventieth birthday. And as ages of individuals go is advancing well in years, but when considered as a nation is but a youth. With the characteristic optimism of youth, Canadians can look on the years immediately ahead with a great deal of pleasurable anticipation.

Government reports recently issued show that Canada is enjoying a good measure of increased trade and conditions are greatly improved. Emerging from a period of years of depression, there is every reason for optimism on this seventieth birthday. Canada is a young country. Its natural resources are playing and will continue to play an important part in its future. Unlike an older land, it has these great storehouses of nature yet to explore and their wealth to give. Ours is really only the task of proper guidance. Not a selfish guidance, that will enrich only a few, but a guidance that will assure all who have the desire for progress a living under better conditions. Only in such a way will Canada become a greater nation and Canadians a great race.

The days of national babyhood are past for Canada. At seventy it is assuming a place among the older nations of the world. Just what will be the story of these years will be written by the men and women of to-day. Will it be "O Canada, we stand on guard for thee," or "O Canada, we stand on guard for me."

Haltonians Are Asking

Those County Councillors of a few years ago, who combined the offices of Clerk and Treasurer of Halton in the interests of economy and greater efficiency, will have a feeling, no doubt, that the dark days of the depression are indeed over and caution can be thrown to the wind. Surely that is not the leadership that is needed at the present time, when on every side warning of just such over-expenditure are being issued.

The combined office of County Clerk and Treasurer has been in vogue for about seven years. By the combining of the offices a considerable amount has been saved in salary each year. There is no doubt that marked efficiency has been accomplished by this change. Just why the County Council now makes a change and increases the salaries is something that is a bit difficult to understand. Of course we have on many other occasions found County Councils difficult of understanding.

The fact that the change was made on a vote on the question by a majority of one, would indicate that opinion on combining the offices was pretty evenly divided. We recall on another occasion that Burlington's debuture issues was guaranteed on a division and only one vote passed the plan. Since then the Provincial Government has made such action impossible again. A majority of one demands careful consideration. Just why is it necessary to pay more salaries for the work and doubtless shortly to have two separate offices? Has the boom struck Halton all over, or just in the raising of the salaries?

Taxpayers who meet the County levy will be asking these and many more questions. Will two small salaries be inducements to a better type of applicant than one adequate salary? Or will two plums be easier to divide than one?

EDITORIAL NOTES

Dominion Day to-morrow and Canada has reached the three score and ten mark.

To-morrow is a holiday. "Try Courtesy" while on holiday as well as on every other day.

"We always accept the right of defense but we should never subscribe to the right of retaliation."—Anthony Eden.

The activities of a thief in the district this week would seem to offer convincing proof that it is unwise to keep quantities of money or valuable papers in the home.

Canada was the leading exporter of honey to the British Isles in 1936. Shipments of the Canadian product amounted to 2,295,328 pounds, an increase of 560,000 pounds compared with 1935.

Apparently there are not as many adult visitors as one would expect at the park. Those who do go agree that there is ample need for the erection of shelter for those who enjoy the bathing facilities there.

"Modern science is giving mankind for the first time in all history a method of securing more products for the individual without forcing the individual to steal them from someone else." Roger Babson.

Mr. Lloyd Dingle, of Burlington, has been chosen Conservative nominee for Halton. The candidate who received the most votes in Halton's last election was also from Burlington, and likewise a lawyer. But then, that was a Dominion matter.

One of the exchanges prints four lines that any newspaper editor would be glad to pass on. It is entitled "A Publisher's Blessing."

O blessed is he who does not fuss
When he receives a bill from us;
But knowing his subscription due,
Sends in his money to renew.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, JULY 4th

GOD HEARS A PEOPLE'S CRY

Golden Text.—Before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.—Isa. 65: 24.

Lesson Text.—Exodus 1: 6-14; 2: 23-25.

Time.—1766-1912 B. C. Place.—Egypt. Expedition.—I. Israel in the School of Prosperity. 6-14. The history of a long period of time, compressed into verse 7. What had been intended as a temporary sojourn in Egypt during the famine (Gen. 45: 9-11; 46: 6), had prolonged itself into a stay of over three centuries. But this long sojourn was necessary. If the Israelites were to conquer Canaan, time and opportunity were needed for the development of a strong and mighty host of fighting men. In the fertile plain of Goshen, enjoying the favor of Joseph's royal patron, they prospered exceedingly and multiplied rapidly, so that "the land was filled with them." The seventy souls that came down with Jacob, went up out of Egypt, 600,000 men strong, plus women and children (Ex. 12: 37). This marvelous increase was due to the fact that God had promised it to Jacob (Gen. 48: 19). There is to be a similar remarkable increase of Israel in the future (Ex. 36: 10, 11, 37, 38; Jer. 33: 22). Egypt, as the mistress of the then civilized world, was an excellent training school for these wandering desert nomads in the arts and crafts of settled life. But this prosperity was not an unmixed blessing. It seldom is. Along with the culture of Egypt, they absorbed much that was undesirable and which threatened the integrity of their national life. They became infected as well as educated. Infected with the prevailing polytheism of the land (cf. Josh. 24: 14; Ex. 20: 36). They forgot the God of their fathers; Canaan became a hazy memory, a dim tradition.

II. Israel in the School of Bondage, 9-14.

"Communion with God in the solitude of Goshen made a prince of Israel (Gen. 32: 28); conformity to the world amid the splendors of Egypt made Israel a slave." Some thirty years after the death of Joseph (v. 6), a revolution brought into power a new dynasty of kings. Joseph's invaluable services to people and country (Gen. 41: 46-49, 54-57; 47: 13-26), were forgotten. Short-lived and ephemeral is the world's gratitude to his benefactors and saviors. "The king is dead: long live the king!" is always the cry. The new Pharaoh looked with a hostile eye on the unassimilated bloc of Hebrew aliens so strongly entrenched throughout his kingdom (v. 7b) and in possession of the best district of the realm (Gen. 47: 11). Moreover, Goshen was in the direct path of a possible invader from the north, and he feared that in case of a war they might desert to his enemies. He resented on a strong nationalistic policy "to deal wisely with them." They were stripped of their lucrative positions and drafted into the forced labor of his brick-kilns and field drudgery. Their labor was so profitable to this builder-king (v. 11b) that he made up his mind to crush out their spirit and reduce them to a permanent state of penance. His first plan to wear them out by hard labor having failed (v. 12), he secretly ordered their male children to be killed at birth (v. 16-22), and when this scheme failed, too, he conceived such a disgust and loathing for them (v. 23) that he openly ordered them destroyed (v. 22). The next Pharaoh was still more cruel and hated them still more. There was no abatement from their persecution, no cessation from grinding toil. They sank into a condition of degraded animalism from which there seemed no escape. "Their cry came up to God by reason of the bondage."

III. God Remembers His Covenant with Abraham, 2: 23-25.

Pharaoh made the mistake to many men do: he left God out of his calculations (Matt. 22: 29; Ps. 127: 1), and so they were bound to fail. "His schemes were foolishness in the sight of God (1 Cor. 3: 19; Jas. 3: 15). "He had a plan and a purpose, but a greater king than he had also a plan and a purpose." Everything must fall that is against that purpose. God had not forgotten His people: in the hour of their darkest degradation a child was born who was destined, under God, to be their deliverer, and Pharaoh's brutal edict of extermination had served to open the way for this deliverance (ch. 2: 1-11). God makes use of the devil's cunningly devised schemes to further His purposes (Gen. 15: 12, 14; 48: 4). His delays are usually because His people are not ready, and it was so with Israel in Egypt. Before God could carry out His great plans for them there were lessons they needed to learn, and trial was a better schoolmaster for this purpose than prosperity. On the anvil of suffering, under the hammer of affliction, their souls became moulded and disciplined to the point where He could work with them. They learned patience, hope, faith in God, dependence on Him, and their common suffering welded them together into some sense of national consciousness. Had life in Egypt continued to be easy and pleasant, they probably would have settled down and the "Rephidim" of which they were all too fond (Ex. 16: 24). But the very extremity of their suffering served to recall God's promises to their fathers and kept alive their determination to escape. In prosperity Israel forgot God; in adversity they remembered Him. And God heard their groanings and, remembering His covenant with Abraham, looked down and gave relief. There is not a cry or sorrow on earth that is not heard in Heaven. We may

be making bricks in Egypt in misery and depression, but not one prayer uttered in secret or a single tear dropped in wretchedness is overlooked of our Father. "Who giveth joy for mourning the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness" (Isa. 61: 3).

IV. The Spade and the Bible.

Archaeologists have laid bare the ruins of the very armaments and store-houses for grain (treasure cities) which the Israelites built for Pharaoh. So do the stones of Pithom and Raames themselves bear witness to the authenticity of God's word. As fresh discoveries pile up one on another, the skeptics and "higher critics" scramble to revise their books. Thank God there is one book that does not need to be rewritten. The Bible had these things right all the time. Its trustworthiness is being triumphantly vindicated!

BREEDS MUST USE PUREBRED STALLIONS

In order to improve horse breeding in the Province of Ontario, the Ontario Stallion Enrolment Act, passed by the Ontario Legislature on August 1st, 1912, provided for the use of purebred stallions only, in the Province after the season of 1918.

To further indicate the relative merit of stallions being offered for public service, each stallion must be inspected at least once every three years and passed by the Stallion Enrolment Board. The certificates issued following inspection are named, Forms One, Two Three and Four. On the first two classes, the Ontario and Dominion Government co-operate in paying premiums according to the number of foals left to the service of these stallions.

These premiums encourage stallion owners to purchase and maintain for public use horses of high quality. More owners should take advantage of this inspection and enrolment by making sure the stallions used for service carry a high certificate, as it is only by the use of the best sires that horse owners can hope to improve the general standard of horses in Ontario.

PREJUDICES

I should like to add a word to one of the petitions in the Litany saying, "Forgive us our sins, negligence, ignorances and prejudices." How many wrong thoughts of others, false estimate of things, self-delusions are the result of prejudices formed hastily, or from some bias of feeling, from drawing conclusions on insufficient knowledge, or too great confidence in our own judgment?—Hare.

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