

The Canadian Champion

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G. ARLOF DILLS, Editor

Business Office Main Street, Milton Telephone No. 220

EDITORIAL

Get Off to a Good Start

Schools re-opened on Tuesday and students went back to studies in advanced grades. The end of the term at this juncture may seem a long way off. It may appear that the course can be easily covered and more than a share allowed for leisurely going. The long holiday may make it difficult to settle back in the routine of study and attention to work.

The student, however, who takes the attitude that the year's course is really a year's work and that the best way to win is by getting an early lead in the race, rather than depending on the final spurt to finish, will find that his or her year has been easier and that the most has been gained from the study. Passing examinations is not the sole achievement in school courses. Acquiring the complete knowledge from the year is the thing that will stand in the best stead in life after leaving school. Examinations are merely a final test to determine ability to progress.

Schools are in session. Now is the time to get off to a good start and hold your lead.

Worker is Still Ahead

All things considered, including the all-important cost of living the average Canadian industrial worker is considerably better off to-day than he was in 1941, says the Financial Post.

According to the latest DBS employment and payroll figures and the cost-of-living index, the ordinary wage-earner's pay envelope is nearly 40 per cent. heavier than it was in 1941.

But in the same time, the official cost of living rose about 22 per cent. This is based on the index of 110.5 at June 1, 1941 and 134.9 at June 1, 1947.

In the past year, weekly wages in eight leading industries and financial institutions jumped 13.3 per cent. In the same period, the cost-of-living rose 10 points or about 8 per cent.

Therefore, judged solely on official statistics, the wage earner is still a good bit ahead of the game even on the past year, when, because this was a period of rapid decontrol and soaring prices, it was expected that the cost-of-living index would catch up with, if not pass the increase in wages.

At June 1, industrial workers were getting the highest average weekly pay cheque in Canadian history, \$31 a week. At June 1, 1941, it was \$25.25. Hourly rates were up to 78.3c, while hours worked were down to 43.2 a week.

There aren't any comparable statistics for the years before 1941, but it is estimated that the average industrial worker was earning about \$1,000 annually in 1939. Based on his pay at June 1 this year, he's now earning \$1,872 a year.

Looking Under the Human Hood

I have spent a good deal of my lifetime under the hoods of automobiles. When I see a car, I want to lift the hood and look under it, for under that hood is the engine; the thing that makes it go, its heart-beat, its inner power and push. But I have been just as interested in looking under the human hood to see what makes a human being go.

Every person I have ever met has helped me. There isn't anyone whose trail has crossed mine who hasn't left some impression on my mind. Events have never influenced me so much as personalities have. I can handle events—or if I find I cannot handle them, I just let them go and they handle themselves.

My first memory has to do with my father, and it is still vivid although I could hardly have been more than three years of age. My father came in from the fields and said that he wanted me to go with him so he could show me something. It was springtime, and the birds were building their nests. After a short walk, father suddenly stopped, pointed up, and said: "Henry, there's a song sparrow's nest." Since that day the song sparrow has been my favorite bird.

And that is the way life works. We elders should remember that almost everything we say, or do, may leave an unforgettable impression on the mind of a child.

People often ask why we keep our shops immaculately clean. My mother taught me that. I want my shops to be as clean as my mother's kitchen. I believe that people are happier and better people in a clean place than they are in a slovenly place.

And, besides that, it pays. Keep an engine clean and it's a better engine. Keep a life clean and it's a

better life. Keep a home clean and it's a happier home. Keep a mind clean and it's a clearer mind, better able to solve the problems which confront it, better able to make clear-cut decisions. A disordered shop is a bewildering place, and a disordered mind and life make a bewildered person. There is a lot to that old Biblical statement that cleanliness is next to godliness; it is next to prosperity also. When you look under the hood of a human being and see slovenly disorder, watch for a smash!—Henry Ford in the Rotarian.

Press Day at the Ex

Last Friday was Press and Radio Day at the Ex. Every day is designated for some particular Canadian group or industry. You may ask, why would Press Day hold any particular interest for us from any other day. Well, in the first place, there is the opportunity for re-union with other editors and men in the publishing and printing industry. It's surprising how many one may meet about the Press building especially if one has been going to such events for the past twenty-five years or so. Then newspapermen are guests on Press Day and that's always an inducement.

Perhaps the highlight of the day for newspapermen is the directors' luncheon at noon, when after the meal served in the administration offices, an outstanding speaker usually presents some helpful message. Friday's speaker was Hon. Mr. Caldwell, Australian Minister of Immigration and his address was outstanding. We learned of Australia's needs for more population. Her geographic position that made more population necessary if she were to be free of the Japanese threat from which she had one miraculous escape.

We heard that Canada's and Australia's problems were almost identical, and that both countries could absorb much of Britain's over populated areas. It was a message from another member of the great commonwealth of nations. We have no thought of going into detail on the address but we know it will temper and help many of us as we look now and in the future at world problems.

Press Day has other attractions at the Ex too, such as midway tickets that we don't use like we used to. What makes the Ex great is this providing something distinctive for every branch of Canadian life and the 1947 event has followed traditions of the past well and offered improvements.

The Decrease Should Continue

Automobile accident deaths on Ontario highways in July totalled 42 according to Ontario Highways Department statistics. This was 22 fewer (34 per cent.) than in the same month last year, 59 fewer than in July 10 years ago.

The 42 deaths in July this year included five children between ages 5 and 14, compared with 14 in the same month last year.

Since Ontario's Financial Responsibility Law went into effect in 1930 there have been 75,698 motorists' licenses suspended for infractions of its provisions. Of these, about 60 per cent., it is understood, have been restored either through the passage of time set for the suspension or because the party at fault gave required proof of financial responsibility, paid outstanding judgments, etc. Figures exclude suspensions under other than the financial responsibility provisions of the Highway Act.

Ontario's Financial Responsibility Law was given considerably more force last spring when the government provided for an unsatisfied judgment fund to pay claims of highway accident victims unable to collect indemnity from the party at fault. This is expected to bring a larger proportion of claims in highway accidents as people now know that if they prove their case they will be indemnified up to the limits provided.

When payment is made from the unsatisfied judgment fund on behalf of any offending motorist, his license is suspended until he reimburses the fund.

Moreover, the number of offences for which a motorist's license can be suspended if personal property or personal damage results, was increased.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Getting back to school and getting outfitted has been quite the family topic this week.

Most folks around here can answer in the affirmative when queried "Have you been to the Ex yet?"

Now for the Fall Fair season and the opportunity of seeing the local exhibits and meeting the friends who live so near and yet whom we meet so seldom. Yes, the small fairs are a great community centre.

Georgetown Lions Club has made a survey of the town and finds that the population is 3115. So far we have depended on the figures of our assessor and have not found the need of a Lion figure to give a picture of our size.

A decision has been handed down by the British Columbia Court of Appeal that a trade union can be sued. This judgment is just. It is only right that labor unions should be held responsible for the acts of their members and any damage that may be caused by them in connection with strikes; and also that they, as such as management, should be made to meet all their obligations pertaining to contracts.—Barrie Examiner.

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