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Our Teachers

Who wouldn't be a teacher? If the pupils don't pass the teacher's no good, if the student is "Pushed" in an effort to reach the required standard it is dangerous to the health of the children, if the teacher keeps strict order she is too cross, if she doesn't she is no disciplinarian, and so we might go on indefinitely. To try to please the average community of ratepayers is no sinecure of a task. No matter how efficient or how conscientious a teacher may be it is unfortunate that there are always some who will criticize. It is a good thing, however, that in the profession are men and women who diligently pursue their chosen work very often in the face of discouraging circumstances.

The Normal School results will soon be announced and hundreds of young men and women will be launching forth into the sea of the chosen profession—teaching.

It is a noble profession. Just how important education is, it is hard to estimate and when you think of education you must of necessity think of the teacher.

Now it is passively known by the people of every civilized country and realized with deep concern by a thinking nucleus in each one, "that the schools presage the world of tomorrow. As the teachers nurture the character of a child of the present, they determine the stability of the whole human race.

With this knowledge then, it is important to have in every school a strong personality that will reflect itself in the life and character of the children under his or her care.

Youth is the age of impression. It is the time when ideals appeal and are effective. Then how important it is that those giving impressions and getting ideals should consist of the select and strongest of our citizens.

Teaching in the past has not been a profession. It has been only a stepping stone leading into other professions. The social standing and salaries have been such that the brightest of our young people refuse to remain in it, or even enter it at all. In our universities we find the medical, law and engineering departments with a large registration, whereas the number going in for teaching is very small. This is not a satisfactory condition of affairs. We need in Canada to-day strong teachers in our public and high schools, and they are as greatly needed as any other group of professional people. The lot of the school teacher is not always the brightest and easiest, and trustees and ratepayers can do much to help in the education of their children by extending assistance instead of criticism to the "school ma'am."

A Band For North York

The music of to-day is commercialized. There is a strong tendency towards being contented with supporting the cult of concert artists and celebrities. People are satisfied to spend large sums going to hear a few world-famed artists, often not so much to hear them as to see them and in order that they may tell their acquaintances about it. In this way they completely forget the values of the art as a naive expression of one's soul.

Just as the world of music is intent on the virtuoso, so musical instruction follows along the same lines. We send our children to music teachers, who often teach them merely the technicalities, without giving them a true love and appreciation of the greatest of the Arts.

G. Bernard Shaw says, "This unhappy country would be as prolific of musical as of literary composers were it not for our schools of music, where they seize a young musician, turn his attention forcibly away from the artistic element in his art, and make him morbidly conscious of its mechanical conditions, especially the obsolete ones, until at last he becomes not a composer but an adept at a horribly dull sort of chess played with dots and lines, each player having different notions of what the right rules are, and playing the game so as to flourish his view under the noses of those who differ from him. Then he offers his insufferable gambits to the public as music and is outraged because I criticize it as music and not as chess."

We have an almost unlimited supply of music at the present time—phonographs, player pianos, radios and while we undoubtedly obtain the enjoyment from these—how much more we would get from performing ourselves or from listening to our relatives and friends perform. It would not be as perfect, certainly, but it would satisfy that creative instinct which is inherent with all of us, and which should have expression.

Let us give ourselves and our young men a chance to develop the musical instinct along truly artistic lines. Let us have a band in North York in which we may play for the love of playing, in which we may strive towards genuine musical culture which brings with it keener appreciation and true enjoyment. Let us have a real understanding of music and all that it conveys. And where would we get better or more comprehensive instruction than in a band? It is the duty of citizens of North York to support the efforts of those who are endeavouring to organize a band at Willowdale and we assure those at the head of the organization of our hearty co-operation. Let's have bands—the more in the district the better—which would give pleasure to every individual in the different communities, whether they be players or listeners.

Let's Have Optimists

The Optimist lives under a clear sky; the Pessimist lives in a fog. The Pessimist hesitates and loses both time and opportunity; The Optimist makes the best of everything now and builds himself up, steadily and surely, until all adversity is overcome and the object in view realized.

The Pessimist curbs his energies and concentrates his whole attention on failure; the Optimist gives all his thought and power to the attainment of success, and arouses his faculties and forces to the highest point of efficiency. The Pessimist waits for better times, and expects to keep on waiting; the Optimist goes to work with the best that is at hand now, and proceeds to create better times. The Pessimist pours cold water on the fires of his own ability; the Optimist adds fuel to those fires. The Pessimist links his mind to everything that is losing ground; the Optimist lives, thinks and works with everything that is determined to press on. The Pessimist places a damper on everything; the Optimist gives life, fire and go to everything. The Optimist is a building force; the Pessimist is always an obstacle in the way of

progress. The Pessimist lives in a dark, soggy, unproductive world, the Optimist lives in the mental sunshine that makes all things grow. We need more Optimists and less Pessimists and blue ruin howlers in every department of our public life to-day.

You have doubtless noticed that the fellow who has been complaining most about the heat is the same chap who weeks ago was growling that he was going to migrate to a country that had a summer.

By all means let us have a field day in Richmond Hill which will make our Village the Mecca of this great district. It behooves every citizen to support the committee which has been appointed to make arrangements for the day and if all do a share there is no reason why it will not be an unqualified success. Other places have put it over and reaped rich rewards both financially and from an advertising standpoint.

Don't envy the school teachers the long vacation that is open for them. Try ten months with a roomful of children and see whether you wouldn't need a vacation yourself.

This is an era of good roads, of better roads and many taxpayers say expensive roads. The fine highways of to-day add much to the appearance of the country and the comfort of the drivers. A good impression is left in the minds of travellers who pass through a town on well kept and improved roads. A good highway helps build up a reputation for a town or district. We fear some of the motorists do not leave Richmond Hill with a very good impression of our village if they judge us by our main street.

The Winners At Thornhill Field Day

Thornhill's third annual field day was an unqualified success from every standpoint and the officers and members of all the committees are well pleased with the results.

Ideal weather prevailed and early in the afternoon it was evident that all attendance records would be smashed. The supper served by the ladies under the direction of Mrs. F. Simpson and Mrs. Robert Thompson was all that could be desired and all who partook of the good things were loud in their praise of Thornhill ladies' cooking.

The field events were keenly contested and were carried out with despatch. There was something doing every minute and the large crowd was well provided with attractions. The unqualified success of the day was due in no small degree to the hard-working committees who had charge of the different events. Messrs S.S. Findley, B. H. Eaton and Pascoe Drake had charge of the softball, Messrs G. Stokes and J. Pearson engineered the tug-of-war, Messrs R. Simpson, J.E. Francis, R. McIntosh and B. Sharpless handled the races and F. Ecklen and E. Walker looked after the midway.

There were thirty-four teams entered in the softball tournament which was played in groups, 20 teams from the city and 14 from York county in the men's section and in the ladies four from Toronto and six from the county. Five games were in progress at the same time and were followed with interest by the large crowd of spectators.

New Toronto Band, Winners at the Canadian National Exhibition last year furnished the music for the day.

The day was such a success that the members have high hopes of soon being able to purchase the park on which the sports were held.

The winners in the various events were:—

100 Yards Ladies' Race:—1, Miss H. Conacher; 2, Miss F. Currell; 3, Miss O. Rashleigh.

75 Yard Fat Man's Race over 200 pounds:—1, William Dean; 2, Mr. Hepburn; 3, Mr. Rashleigh.

Special Relay Race 4 men to team: 1, Thornhill team; 2, Scarboro team; 3, Scarboro second team.

Special Relay Race 4 ladies to team: 1, Lansing team; 2, Thornhill team Captain Marion Smellie; 3, Thornhill Team Captain Mrs. W. Luesby.

1, Men's Sucking Bottle Race:—1, Ross Wesley; 2, W. Sherman.

Women's Slow Race:—1, Mrs. Riddell; 2, Mrs. Luesby; 3, Miss Smellie.

Clothes Peg Race:—1, Ross Wesley; 2, P. Wire.

Boys under 6:—1, Charles Irish; 2, Chas. MacMillan; 3, Bruce Findlay.

Boys under 9:—1, Jim McCasky; 2, Bill Findlay; 3, Jack Marr.

Boys under 13:—1, Allan McCann; 2, Ed Fee; 3, Ed Scott.

100 yards Boy's race under 16:—1, W. McKay; 2, W. Brydie; 3, Earl Browne.

75 yards Married Women's race:—1, Mrs. Parsons; 2, Mrs. Jones; 3, Mrs. McIntosh.

75 Yards Men's race over 50:—1, Mr. Swayze; 2, Ed Walker; 3, Wm. Deah.

Girls under 6:—1, Phylis Routley; 2, M. MacIntosh; 3, V. Elliot.

Girls under 9:—1, Margaret Irish; 2, Hilda Marr; 3, Vivian Routley.

Girls under 13:—1, Thelma Elliot; 2, Elsie Irish; 3, Esther Johns.

100 yards girls race under 16:—1, M. Stark; 2, Stella Oganandy; 3, Rose Marr.

Half-Mile Handicap Men:—1, F. Ball; 2, Ross Wesley; 3, E. O'Neil.

Tug-O-War:—1, Markham Township Team; 2, Richmond Hill Team.
Softball Men:—1, Old Orchard Athletic Club; 2, Scarboro Athletic Club.
Softball Women:—1, Hope Union Church Ladies' Athletic Club; 2, Humber Bay Ladies' Athletic Club.

Poultry Culling Classes

Last week a Poultry Specialist from the Poultry Department at O.A.C., Guelph, conducted a Poultry School in York County which was arranged by the Agricultural Representative.

Professor Snyder was well pleased with the progress made by the six young men who attended the School and secured training in Culling such birds as White Leghorns, Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds and Banded Rocks.

The purpose of the Culling School was to prepare young men to do Culling work for farmers. The Representative is not free to satisfy the demand for his work while these young men can now take it on. Farmers requiring Culling should try to get a day's work in their District to make the charge lower. Those requesting work done should write to the Dept. of Agriculture, Newmarket and make application. July is the proper month for Culling out the Boarders and unprofitable birds.

The students who attended were: Ross Armitage, Newmarket; Clare Sanderson, Unionville; Ross Chapman, Bethesda; Norman Stockley, Bethesda; Bert Kane, Gormley; Charlie Rogers, Newmarket.

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