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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1926

Autumn

Autumn is here and we are once more surrounded by nature's glorious color scheme. The leaves must fall, but before they do they treat us to one of the most charming and most dazzling of all nature's myriad color effects. And this touch of glory makes autumn to Canadians a never-to-be-forgotten scene of many-hued beauty. Surely a Master Hand has spread these colors upon nature's broad canvas, and a spirit of love and power is abroad and manifest these vivid autumn days!

Courtesy

The virtue of courtesy should be taught early in the life of children both by example as well as by precept. The place for courtesy to begin is in the home—indeed it should early become a habit with every child. Our fixed opinion is that courtesy is a much neglected subject in both the home and school in far too many instances. If it is taught as it should be we have failed to recognize the evidences of it in the conduct of the children on the streets or anywhere else. All the virtues should begin in the homes, be continued in the schools and then they should blossom throughout all future life. A writer has said, the home is a power-house in which we learn the arts of life and then they are dispensed wherever and whenever there is need for them. Contrasted with our compatriots the French, the others of our country's nationalities are not a courteous people. In the matter of the courtesy of children one meets out of doors. English children are far more respectful than in Canada or the United States. So when we claim that courtesy should be taught early in the homes and always in the schools, we are pleading for a home-life and school-life that will cultivate the thoughtfulness and affection and the general conduct of all our people old and young that Canada needs. Then let all of us plan reforms in conduct that will enable us by our general behavior to show thoughtfulness in action in every place in the family and the world at large.

This column has been insistent in urging more and better bands and therefore it was with sincere regret that we learned that the famous Huntsville band was to be disbanded. It was a musical organization of exceptional merit and it is a decided loss to the country that it will cease to function.

Mr. Shaw, the founder and generous patron of the organization has not made public his reasons for disbanding the enterprise, but if it is because of the heavy financial burden the Province of Ontario would be well advised to give a generous grant to ensure its continuance. It would be an expenditure that would be heartily supported by the electorate.

It is good advice to "build wisely" and avoid the regrets which result from building without planning for the future. The township of North York is experiencing a steady growth which in a few years will reach remarkable proportions. Now is the time to lay the foundation of an ideal community and the proper method is by systematic planning. Without delay the sections should be allotted, business, residential and industrial areas and the building rules should be strictly adhered to. Small stores will be continually starting up and if not provided for, promise to present difficulties for the future.

Winter is coming and we should at least be planning some activities for the long evenings in store for us. The question has been asked "Can a Choral Society be organized in this district?" If it is asked frequently enough we feel sure that it could be answered in the affirmative. The district is no doubt rich in vocal talent and it only remains to someone to supply the necessary leadership and the possibilities of a real choral society could be soon realized. Let's have a few letters on the subject.

A few weeks ago our attention was drawn to an incident which revealed an amazing lack of community spirit in the town. A family had lived in the village several years but visitors from Toronto after making numerous inquiries could not find out where the family lived. It leads us to ask the question as to whether or not we are as considerate as we should be of the stranger in our midst.

Apart altogether from the sentimental side of the question it is plain every day good business to be friendly to, and considerate of the new arrivals. A special effort should be made to make the people who have recently moved in feel at home in their new locality. Some one, possibly a member of the town council or board of trade should make it his business to introduce them at the banks, also the different merchants and give them a chance to chat and get acquainted, and interest them in civic affairs. We should try to make the stranger feel as if he were doing us a favor by joining our community and that at least we consider him and his family as one of us. It is a pretty safe bet that a new citizen thus welcomed would do more to boost our town than one which is given an apparent cool reception.

That gentleness is necessary to a well-rounded character should not be overlooked. By gentleness is not meant effeminacy, or softness of any kind, but that real, genuine sterling quality in one which has ever marked the truly great men of the world. Some one says, "The truly great are the most gentle."

There is no truer test of a man's qualities for permanent success than the way he takes criticism. The little-minded man can't stand it. It pricks his egotism. He "crawfishes." He makes excuses. Then, when he finds that excuses won't take the place of results, he sulks and pouts. It never occurs to him that he might profit from the accident.—Thomas A. Edison.

Many good folks are lamenting the passing of the era when men and women consecrated their lives to unselfish service and prepared themselves to become ministers, missionaries, teachers or country doctors that they might administer to the spiritual, mental and physical needs of humanity without thought of large worldly gain. They are not in error when they charge that modern men and women are choosing vocations today in which they can do the greatest service to themselves.

People to-day are coming to the belief that the best way they can help others is to produce much that their profit will be large and that they shall never become dependent upon society. The old idea of service was direct. The new service is indirect. Twenty years ago it was still thought that only ministers, doctors and teachers served humanity. To-day every workman who carries his whole day's wage home is known to have earned that wage in service to society.

Elbert Hubbard's version of the Golden Rule was "Do unto others as though you were the others," but an even more up-to-date version is, "Do yourself much good and no bad to others." Getting something for yourself is reprehensible only when it is gotten at the expense of another.

Gavel From Wrecked Church Presented to The Aurora Council

A piece of wood taken from the interior of the wrecked church at Bapaume after the town was captured by the British in 1917 was made into a gavel and presented to the Town Council of Aurora by the York Rangers as a souvenir of the unit's Diamond Jubilee celebration. To correct some misstatements, particularly those in some Toronto daily papers, that the wood was taken from the Cloth Hall in Ypres, the adjutant, Capt. C. W. Giggis, has sent the following letter to Mayor Walton of Aurora:

"Dear Mr. Mayor:—As a matter of record I beg to advise that the gavel presented to the council of the Town of Aurora on Monday, September 6th by the York Rangers Regiment as a souvenir of our Diamond Jubilee Celebration was made from a piece of wood taken from the interior trim of the wrecked church in Bapaume shortly after this town was entered by the British in March 1917. One of our battalions, the 127th, serving in France as the 2nd Bn. Canadian Railway Troops, was on that front at that time. The piece of wood was given by Capt. J. C. Boylen, was made into a gavel by Sergeant D. Calder and turned over to the Regiment by the 127th Battalion Association for presentation to the Town."

York Mills

(Special to the Liberal)

Wednesday last was a gala day for York Mills when the new "Baron Renfrew" school was officially opened. During the afternoon several presentations were made to the school. Chief of these being a beautiful Union Jack which was presented by the 48th Highlander Chapter of the Daughters of the Empire. Mrs. Burden and Mrs. Kenneth McLaren represented the chapter and the latter who is the educational secretary presented the flag to the head boys. The flag was then run up and saluted. The Lord Eglinton Chapter of the Daughters of the Empire presented a picture of the Prince of Wales. Mrs. C. J. Catta presented several beautiful historical pictures. There were addresses by the Chairman, Col. Van Nostrand, Mr. Harris, the Principal and two of the trustees, Mr. Cruikshanks and Mr. Dawn. There were several choruses given by the pupils and one group of girls gave a drill in which they represented the Union Jack. This was led by Mary Paterson who recited a very suitable poem. Ethel Steele and John Grierson the honor pupils were presented with a gold and silver medal respectively.

Mrs. C. W. Jeffreys was in charge of the refreshments which were served on the lawn and Mrs. Douglas Joy and Mrs. Van Nostrand poured tea.

The schoolroom was crowded when Mr. Cruikshanks opened the evening meeting where Assistant Chief Inspector Chisholm declared the school officially open. Following this, addresses were given by Col. Sandford Smith the Architect of the school, the Principal Mr. Harris, Col. Van Nostrand, Reeve Hicks, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Carson, Mr. Scrace, Mr. Wallace and Mr. Mustard. Many complimentary remarks were heard from all those who went through the beautiful new building after the meeting.

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