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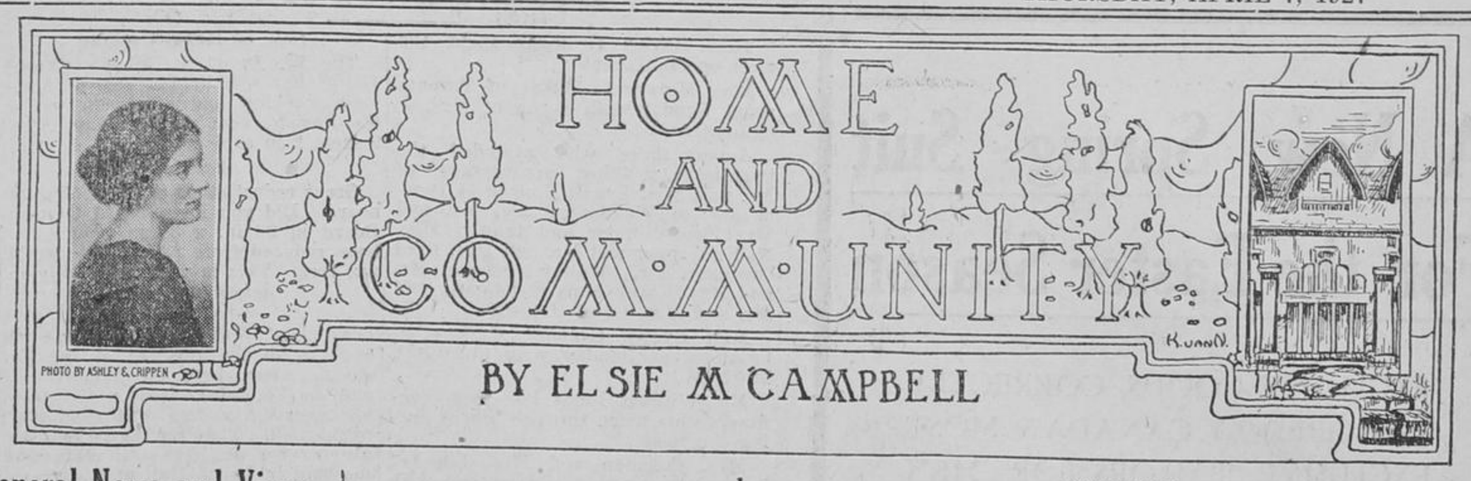

General News and Views

This is your own home paper. Send in all the news you can.

"Make Canada a land to love" is The Montreal Witness' latest slogan.

Safety rules are guides—they point the safe way.

Gananoque's tax rate for the year 1927 has been fixed by the Town Council at 56 mills on the dollar.

Our life—a little work, a little play to keep us going—and so, good day!

Deaths from whooping cough now exceeds those caused from diphtheria in Ontario.

According to an Ottawa naturalist there are twenty-four kinds of snakes in Canada. This list does not include the well-known "snake in the grass."

It doesn't do any harm to remember that he who takes no interest in amusements eventually loses the capacity for being amused.

Little complaint in regard to the condition of fall wheat is being made so far. There is more ice on the wheat than farmers care for, but it is considered too early to make forecast of the crop in this district.

There is an old saying that the year which commences on Saturday as did 1927, will have a moderate winter and hot summer, with only average crops of grain, but a good crop of honey. Well, we'll wait and see.

Time is flying, yet, there has been nothing definite done regarding the proposed celebration in Richmond Hill of confederation.

Wider roads or rubber fences for the benefit of budding motorists is the plaintive request from an exchange.

All the learned scientists who last summer and fall contributed to the general attempt to impress on the people of the country a prediction of a frightfully cold winter and long, cold spring to be followed by a summer which could scarcely be expected to grow much food have been proven false prophets. Even the Chatsworth weather prophet predicted, cold rough weather in March up to the 20th and not a cold rough day did we have. Western people are now ascribing the dire prophesies of last year to southern land boom propaganda and they say it was successful in bringing into the southern states thousands of people from whom the real estate sharks extracted ten million dollars.

Occasionally one hears of business men who attempt to economize by advertising appropriation and it always serves as a reminder of the old fable about the frog who starved to death sitting with his mouth open waiting for Providence to send along a fly.

July 1st is the probable date on which the highways department will be prepared to enforce the statute, hitherto in abeyance, requiring all motor car drivers to have permits. Hon. Mr. Henry explains that when the law comes into force any person who has driven a car for six months will be eligible to receive a permit without examination. Any person who cannot thus qualify will be required to satisfy a government examiner of his fitness to be behind a steering wheel. New car purchasers will also be examined unless they have previously driven and can qualify under the six months rule. The fee will proably be only 50 cents or a dollar, as this is not intended as a source of revenue, but a means of control.

When a ewe belonging to Mr. Newton Watson, Kleinburg, gave birth to four lambs on the morning of 17th of March—all fine and healthy—the owner exclaimed with joy—"Hurrah for Old St. Patrick."

Mr. Arthur Hambly, Kleinburg, is the proud possessor of two little nanny goat kids.

Last week the town of Uxbridge struck their rate for 1927 at 54 mills on the dollar, which establishes a record for high taxation in this part of Ontario.

A report is being circulated through Aurora and district that there are several cases of diphtheria and scarlet fever in that town, but The Banner is informed that there are no cases of diphtheria and only 8 mild cases of scarlet fever.

BUTTONVILLE

A contest was held at Unionville on Monday evening April 4th between Buttonville euchre club and Unionville. Buttonville winning the silver cup by eight games there being thirty-five tables playing.

Mr. Job Hooper visited at Toronto during the last week attending a birthday party in honor of his brother.

Mr. Frank Stephenson had a birthday last week and had a few relatives to wish him happy returns.

The roads on the fourth line are being improved by being scraped.

The annual Sunday evening Young People was well attended last Sunday.

SIR CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER Son of one of the Fathers of Confederation, who has died of pneumonia in Vancouver.

Victoria Square

Friday evening 1st April there was a dance in the Public Hall. There was a good crowd and Stiles' orchestra furnished the music. Oscar Brooke was floor manager. All enjoyed tripping the light fantastic.

The stork visited Mr. and Mrs. Harry Foster last week and there is a fine little daughter in the home. See him smiling!

Mr .and Mrs. A. Buchanan, West York ,have moved on the farm purchased from H. Collard by R. Whittaker.

Mr. Robinson and family have moved into Mrs. Woodward's home for the summer.

Mr. Chas. Dennie is stepping high these days. Hats off he's a Grandad.

Mr. Wm. Nichols visited the Square Sunday.

Mr. Frank Brumwell motored over the fifth on Sunday evening.

The roads at the beginning of this week were in ideal shape for this season of the year.

Mr. Harry Forester wears a broad smile these days. He now has the honor of being called "Father."

Rev. Wesley Dean, a former pastor occupied the pulpit here on Sunday afternoon. As is his custom he delivered a very timely and inspirational address.

The Young Peoples League held their annual meeting and election of officers on Wednesday night. Miss Ethel Mortson was re-elected president a capable staff were elected to assist her in carrying on the work for the current year.

At the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of United Church a resolution was unanimously carried that for the present the church here would continue as a part of Richmond Hill circuit.

This motion was carried after careful consideration of a mandatory resolution submitted by the committee of one of the negotiating churches.

The pupils of number six visited number seven on Friday afternoon; the time was spent very profitably in contests in spelling and arithmetic. Three in all. The pupils in both schools proved to their friends that they had done some work. Number six in two weeks raised their percentage in spelling ten per cent. In some cases they had thirty mistakes less than they had in the last contest. Miss Viola Walker is certainly deserving of credit for the improvement her classes are making in these two important subjects.

The result of spelling contest for the whole school number six 89½% correct. Number seven 96½% correct.

Two pupils in number six had no mistakes and ten in number seven won a zero also.

In arithmetic contests the visiting team lost on a small margin.

At the close the girls of Gormley treated their friends to homemade candy.

Out of seventeen tests conducted since last midsummer the Gormley boys and girls have lost only one. The parents may well be delighted with the success of their boys and girls in this phase of their school work.

Willowdale

The Willowdale and Lansing Young People's Society of the local United Churches were entertained to a Banquet on Friday evening April 1st in the Willowdale United Church.

Rev. Geo. Waugh pastor, presided over a splendid toast list to the eighty person who sat down to the well-laden tables.

Miss W. Rice was given a presentation by Miss L. Russell on behalf of the Y. P. S. for winning the oratorical contest and Miss Helen Waugh and Miss Nellie Brown received a presentation from T. Armstrong on behalf of the Y. P. S. for their efficient and splendid work in directing the play of the United Young People's Society Concert held recently.

OPTIMISM

This is a wondrous telescope,
If you but hold it to your eyes
'Twill fill your world anew with hope,
As each good thing it magnifies.
If troublous times should come to you,
And all your life seem dull and grey,
Just use your spy-glass wrong-end to
And watch your worries fade away.

In the Spring no one needs to advise the country woman to be hopeful; just at this time of year "Optimism" is her middle name. And this is not to be wondered at. For most women in the country winter is a dreary season— a time of wet rubbers and stockings eternally drying behind the stove; of wet floors where cold little feet have tracked in the snow, of clothes freezing on the line and fingers freezing as they put them there. But we must turn the other end of the spy glass on these disageeable memories and watch them disappear.

So many pleasant things are looming up just ahead of us. The March winds rolled up all the snow blankets and April is here with her scrub pail giving the earth a grand old washing. The willow trees have put on their bright orange rain coats before the willow bushes have even taken off their furs. The maple syrup industry is in full swing and the air is filled with the songs of the birds which have come back to us over thousands of miles of land and sea.

And this is the time we plan our gardens, we all get that urge which we have inherited from our pioneer forefathers to get out and plant something, to bury seeds in the brown earth and watch the mystery of growth. Already the Marsh Marigolds are beginning to put forth tender young leaves so it can't be too early for us to put in a few sweet peas and some garden peas. Some people, fooled by the mild weather last month took a chance and planted their early garden stuff then but it hasn't been heard of since. But we are all so hopeful in the spring that we can't be pessimistic even about the weather.

This is the time when we look toward future successes in the garden line and forget all about past failures. What if the garden fence didn't keep the chickens out last year and we lost all our tomatoes? This is a brand new year and things will be quite different. Perhaps the cows spent a happy afternoon in the flower garden last summer or the pigs broke in at night and rooted up all the dahlias. Well, we will just have to see that the gates have better fastenings this year and things like that won't happen. So we go sailing along buying our seeds and planning our gardens; we come down with a bump in a new place this year but we will have had a lot of enjoyment and good wholesome exercise out of our gardens first.

But we are beginning at the wrong end of this Spring business—there is a lot of good wholesome exercise to be had at housecleaning before we can spend much time in the garden. Duty before pleasure! But there is a sort of excitement about this springtime tearing down and tearing up that appeals to the average woman. Down through the ages it has been woman's special privilege to fight dirt and disease. And in our own small domains we are fighting them today just as surely as we will be fighting them someday in the political arena.

At that no-far-distant time our job will be very much the same as it is now but on a larger scale—letting in the sunshine ,clearing out dark corners, giving the political rags a good airing, beating the dust out of old mouldy traditions ,throwing old laws on the scrap heap and making new ones—in short, making the world a safe and pleasant place for the men and children.

Helpful Hints

If your tea cups are stained inside rub them with damp salt. Salt will remove the stain from egg spoons.

When making cookies, form the dough into a long roll. Set in a cold place overnight. Then slice into cookies with a sharp knife.

Butter the edge of a cream jug and it will not drip on the tablecloth.

If a drawer is hard to pull out, take it out and wax the surfaces which touch each other. Or rub with laundry soap.

If there are many pairs of stockings in the wash pin each pair together with a small safety pin. They can be drawn over the line to dry, kept in pairs ready for darning and no time lost in sorting.

To remove tea stains soak the spot in glycerine.

Cracked eggs may be boiled without leaking if a tablespoonful of salt is added the water.

Salt added to the water in which eggs are being poached will keep the white from scattering.

The Umbrella That Kept Lent.

The rain from heaven does fall alike,
Upon the just and unjust fellow,
But mostly on the just because
The unjust has the just's umbrella.

Seasonable Recipes

Nut Cookies

One cup sugar, one-half cup butter, one egg, two tablespoons milk, one and one-half teaspoons baking powder ,one-half cup nuts, flour. Roll thin and bake in a moderate a oven.

Walnut Wafers.

One-half pound brown sugar, one-quarter pound walnuts, slightly broken, three tablespoons flour, one quarter teaspoon baking powder, one-third teaspoon talt, two eggs. Beat eggs, add sugar, salt, flour, lastly nuts. Drop small spoonful on buttered pans bake until brown, remove from pan as soon as done.

Nut Bread

Three and one-half cups flour, four teaspoons baking powder, one teaspoon salt, one cup chopped walnuts, milk, one cup sugar, one egg. Let rise for twenty minutes and bake one hour.

Whole Wheat Currant Gems.

Two eggs, two cups white clour, two cups Graham flour ,one teaspoon molasses ,one-half cup white sugar, one teaspoon salt, one teaspoon soda, one cup currants, one pint sour milk, one tablespoon melted butter.

April Showers

Now is starting April's reign
When it rains we won't complain,
For sunshine soon will come again.
To spread its warmth o'er hill and plain
And waken all the sleeping grain.
April's storms come not in vain,
So let's do as they do in Spain,
When it rains they—let it rain!

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