

THE LIBERAL

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J. Eachern Smith, Manager

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TELEPHONE 9.

I pray Almighty God that the words I write in this house may be pure and honest—that they be dictated by no personal spite, unworthy motive or unjust greed for gain; that they may tell the truth as far as I know it—and tend to promote love and peace—amongst men.
—William Makepeace Thackeray.

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1927.

RICHMOND HILL FAIR

Every citizen who claims among his virtues, loyalty to community enterprises should attend and boost the Richmond Hill Fair. It is an annual event which is part and parcel of the life of this entire district and belongs as much to one person as another. It is the people's fair and it is up to the people to make it a success. The directors who give their time gratuitously and those who with financial assistance do so in an effort to keep this, one of the oldest and best educational institutions in the community, a live issue. Their efforts will be of no avail unless the citizens by their patronage and attendance ensure the success of the seventy-eighth annual exhibition. PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE RICHMOND HILL FAIR.

The new liquor permits are to cost two dollars. But as in the case of the automobile, it is not the initial outlay but the maintenance that counts up.

A lady writer says that modern young men have no consideration for their elders and stay to all hours when visiting their sweethearts. An exchange says it is becoming quite evident that both parking and sparking laws need considerable revision.

Hon. Chas. McCrea, Minister of Mines, is spoken of as likely to succeed Premier Ferguson if the latter becomes leader of the federal Conservative party. He and Hon. John S. Martin appear to be the outstanding members of the Ontario government at present.

The unfortunate part of it is that a lot of the motor accidents could be avoided were it not for the impulsive desire of some drivers to "step on the gas." In the last analysis traffic tragedies are for the most part to be charged not to accident, but to wilful recklessness.

The motorist who approaches a railway crossing without reducing his speed and taking other precautionary measures—well, he's a fool.

CANADA'S FIRST PREMIER

Sir John A. Macdonald, the "chief architect" of Confederation is properly admired for his shrewdness, his broad vision, and his marvellous capacity for leadership. He was loved for his wit, his generosity, and all his warmly human characteristics. He stood for a united Canada, the British connection and a respect for the law that ensued order at a stage of the country's development when lawlessness might easily have been the rule. Though he had great ability for affairs he served the land he loved through a long life with so little thought of personal profit that in old age he was a poor man.

Ready in compromise, nimble in political strategy, our first premier was far more than an able parliamentarian; he was a statesman to whose foresight Canada owes such enduring benefits as the purchase of the West from the Hudson's Bay Company; the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway that opened the prairies for settlement, and brought British Columbia into the union; and the adoption of a tariff policy which all succeeding governments have continued, with necessary modifications to this day.

Above all his career illustrates the importance in the interests of general harmony of making concessions to divergent elements and minorities that might otherwise become insurgent. Thus early he learned that "you cannot rule Canada without the French," and though an Orangeman he always considered Quebec's needs to the extent that he always had support from there, and sometimes his chief support. Never was this trait more evident than when his diplomatic winning of Howe, by offer of better terms, quelled the secessionist agitation in the Maritimes.

Born in Glasgow in 1815, he migrated with his family in 1820 to Upper Canada, where they settled at Kingston. He was educated at the Royal Grammar School, which he left at the age of fifteen to enter a law office; and was called to the bar at the age of twenty-one. After eight years of practice, he was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Canada in 1844, and continued to represent Kingston in Parliament until his death in 1891. His first term of office was in 1847-8 as Receiver-General in the Draper administration. By 1857 he had become Prime Minister in the Macdonald-Cartier ministry. On the defeat of the Tache-Macdonald administration in 1864, he was a prime mover in the formation of the "Great Coalition" designed to carry through the plans for Confederation; and after the resignation of George Brown in 1865, Macdonald was the chief figure in the discussions and bringing into force of the British North America Act. Therefore at the inauguration of this Dominion in 1867, he was selected to be the first premier; and by force of his genius he held the position with the exception of Mackenzie's five years of office, until his death.

While his opportunism and his conviviality had been held against him, impartial historians agree that Canada could not have been happier in her first premier, since Sir John A. Macdonald combined the wise vision, that knew how to build well for the future, with a strong hand, that held discordant elements together in the embryo nation, until natural fusion might take place.

FOR THE FULLER LIFE

Interest in physical education is growing. Everywhere physical culture colleges and so-called life extension institutes are springing up.

All will agree that this attention to hygiene and physical training is an excellent thing. But it seems odd that so many should lay stress on physical culture merely as a means of prolonging life.

The value of physical education in extending life is, after all, only incidental. Its real merit is in making life worth living.

A general extension of life is of interest mainly to the actuary. More appealing to the average man or woman is the new zest in life that comes from physical training and health culture. It is less the desire to live longer than to live more fully that is increasing the ranks of the physical culturist.

A hearty appetite, a perfect digestion, a 100 per cent. efficient liver, a clear brain and a general physical exhilaration—given these as a reward of physical culture, no one worries much about the problem of life extension.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Why The Tag Day For The Library

Dear Mr. Editor:—
Having been asked the above question several times of late by citizens of our town I, in turn ask space in which to make a brief explanation of the reasons which influenced the Women's Institute in its decision to apply to the Council for this privilege.

For the past year the Institute has been trying to raise a substantial amount of money for Library improvements which are known to be pressing and for other which in their opinion are advisable. This work was not undertaken without accurate knowledge concerning the needs as every effort was made to find out from the Library Board what could be done with present means and what ought to be done if these means could be adequately increased, so as to meet the wishes of many of our citizens who are not at all satisfied with the present accommodation or service in the library.

It was found on investigation, that there is no complete catalogue and that a new catalogue which will be of real value will cost several hundred dollars and will take considerable time in its preparation. It was found that there are a large number of old volumes which ought to be entirely scrapped, that many books—some of them the very best reading the library contains are "skied" because the casing is old-fashioned, and that a re-arrangement of all of the contents is also advisable. Then as it has been proposed in the Women's Institute that there should be a Children's Corner and the initiation of a "Story Hour" for the children there were several conferences with the librarian on this point and a careful going over of the present stocks of books for children.

It was found that while a small part of the present quarters of the Library might be set aside for the children that the stock of worth while books suitable for boys and girls was in need of many additions and it was felt and felt strongly that unless the Library provided more for our children and young people the very best of reading matter in a sufficient amount to meet the needs then we were not as citizens or parents doing our full duty.

Strangely enough in all our first inquiries we did not seek or get information that we now have, viz., that our taxation for Library purposes is not by any means at its maximum and that here, at least we had one remedy for existing unsatisfactory conditions. We are now aware that while a Library tax of three-quarters of a mill may be levied on the village we have at present only four-tenths and that therefore the present annual grant to the Library could be increased by this means from about \$316.00 (the present amount) to about \$560.00 if the tax were put at the maximum.

As we did not find this out in time to approach the Council and ratepayers we have gone on raising money for the library fund and have already on hand \$170.00 or thereabouts besides the potential returns from the proposed Tag Day.

Not until next year therefore can we hope to have the tax rate for Library purposes where it ought to be so meantime as we wish to do something immediately to improve matters we are going on with the Tag Day which is simply a means of indirect taxation. We know that our citizens will pay into this Fund gladly and will feel as we do that it could not be put to a bet-

ter use nor collected for a more constructive piece of work. We have therefore great hopes that they will be as generous as their means permit and will give us the sinews of war to make headway with the long overdue improvements in the Library.

ANNE A. PERRY,
President, Women's Institute.

Toronto, May 12, 1927.

A Plea For The York Pioneer And Historical Society.

To The Editor;

Sir:—
This honorable society was organized in 1869 and has been functioning ever since. Its object is, to quote from its Constitution:—
"To unite in friendly relations those who are natives of, or who emigrated to the original county of York (in the former Province of Upper Canada), and their descendants; and for preserving and perpetuating such historical recollections and incidents, documents and pictorial illustrations, relating to the early settlement of this district of the province, as are worthy of being rescued from oblivion; and for marking and acquiring historical sites and landmarks; and for receiving papers and communications on these and kindred subjects to be read at the meetings of the Society, and when desirable, published in the annual report, or separately as may be decided upon."

Membership in our Society is open to descendants of the early settlers in the "Home District" (the original County of York) shall be taken to mean the old "Home District" which included the following townships:—Adjala, Albion, Brock, Caledon, Chinguacousy, Essa, Etobicoke, Georgiana, Three Gwillimburys, Innisfil, King, Mara, Markham, Mulmur, Tossorontio, Medonte, Floss, two Orillias, Oro, Pickering, Rama, Reach, Scarborough, Tecumseh, Thora, Tiny, Tay, Toronto Toronto Gore, Uxbridge, Scott, Vaughan, Vespra, Whitby, Whitechurch, York), who have reached the age of twenty-five years; to any persons, British subjects by birth or naturalization who have resided in the present County of York or in the City of Toronto for twenty-five years or over; and also to the wives, husbands or children of members, provided they are not less than twenty-five years of age."

At the present we have about 1200 members, but these largely belong to Toronto. We are anxious to increase our membership outside the city and therefore make a special appeal to the descendants of those wonderful men and women who were the pioneers to join up in memory of father, grandfather, or other ancestor. And we appeal to those who came later, but who have come to love this part of our great province. Let this Jubilee Year mark a notable increase in our membership. Come in with us and help us in our endeavor to build up a strong community spirit in York County and keep alive the old sentiments and traditions handed down to us by our forebears!

On Saturday afternoon, June 4th, our society will hold a public meeting at the Temple in York Pioneers Park, Sharon, to which all are invited. A splendid program is being arranged. Don't miss it.

Yours hopefully,
N. F. CASWELL,
Secretary Y. P. H. S.

Victoria Day

78th Annual

SPRING EXHIBITION

... OF THE ...

Richmond Hill Agricultural Society

WILL BE HELD IN

The DRIVING PARK, RICHMOND HILL

Tues., May 24

The Fair will be Officially Opened by

Hon. Geo. S. Henry, Minister of Highways
At 2 p. m. (Daylight Saving Time)

Valuable Prizes for Live Stock and Ladies' Work.

Grand Parade of Prize Winning Animals.

MONSTER SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT
\$150 IN PRIZES

Varied Program of Athletic Events

One and Two Mile Foot Races
One Third Mile Race for Girls

MUSIC BY NORTH YORK CITIZENS BAND

General Admission 25 Cents

GRAND CONCERT

In The MASONIC HALL

AT 8.15 P. M.

By the Georgian Singers and Players

Of Toronto

Reserved Seats 35 Cents General Admission 25 Cents

W. H. LEGGE, President

FRED A. CLARK, Vice-Pres. THOS. A. READ, 2nd Vice-Pres
R. S. COOPER, Secretary.

Thompson School of M-U-S-I-C

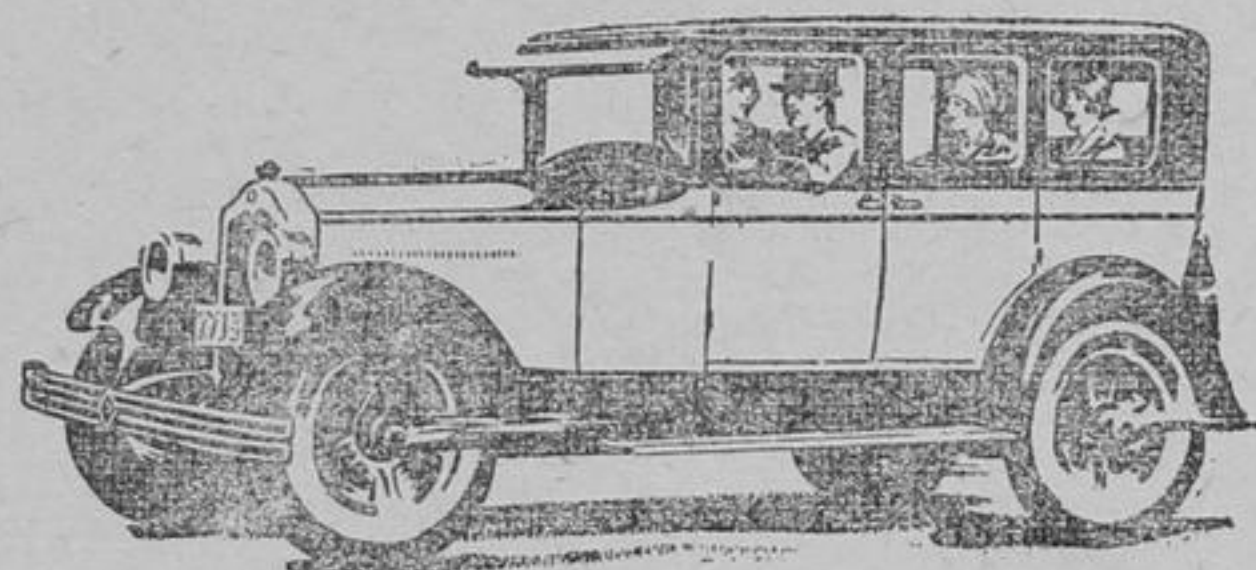
G. Strickland Thompson, Principal

The Thompson School of Music now having completed the Fall and Winter terms are prepared to accept pupils for the Spring Term. There are many taking advantage of this school from points as far away as Newmarket, Gormley, Richmond Hill, Thornhill, Newmarket, Oriole, Agincourt, Willowdale, York Mills and other smaller places.

Numerous requests have been made to keep the school open during July and August to accommodate those who are unable to attend during the winter months. The school will remain open for two or three days each week and those intending to take advantage of our very low fees coupled with the most capable teachers are asked to call or write for particulars.

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