

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.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1927

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Let us be glad for the many good things that 1927 brought us. Let us forget everything unpleasant and let us start 1928 with the very best of wishes for all. We thank the people of this district for their patronage during the past year; we appreciate your confidence in our integrity and ability to serve you. And now as the old year passes and whistles and bells and the blowing of horns herald the coming of 1928 we extend to you and yours the sincerest of good wishes for happiness and success.

Printer's Ink is the sea on which our civilization is sailing along. We have passed through the stone age, the bronze age, the iron age, the steam age; now we are at the dawning of still another age. The sun of the new era has reddened the east and the new day is upon us, but the meridian is still afar off. What the scholars of the years to come will call this age we do not know, but whatever it is called there must be given full cognizance of the power of printer's ink in shaping its destiny; of, in fact, creating it. Johannes Gutenberg will stand as the precursor of that age, for he invented movable type, and type has moved the world. With the first creaking of the first printing press, thought for the first time in the history of man took wings and became ubiquitous. The little rivulet of ink that had its source in the Gutenberg press has in recent years become a vast ocean of storm-tossed thought.

You'll find this world's a fine old place, if you'll but make a fight and meet dull care with laughing eyes and do the things that's right. If you will lead the children's steps across life's stoney road, and from some tired shoulders lift the heavy, toilsome load. If you'll but speak a cheerful word when things are sad and blue, or chase the shadows from a face and see the smiles break through. These little deeds are all we need to run work into play, they free our paths from selfishness and clear dull gloom away. For kindly deeds are never lost—they sing a glad refrain; they sweeten up our daily toil and ease the weary pain. — B. I. L. L.

And now for all those New Year Resolutions.

It is unnecessary for us to announce that 1928 is Leap Year.

Monday next is polling day in many townships in this district. We hope that there will be a large vote polled so that the result will truly indicate the will of the people.

Richmond Hill Council was accorded an acclamation this year. Councillor David Hill replaces Councillor Baldock who retired on account of pressure of personal business but all the other members are the same as last year. We wish the incoming council every success and trust that their efforts in 1928 will result in abundant blessing and prosperity to this municipality which they will have the honor of serving.

Quebec has banned heavy motor traffic for the present to save the Provincial roads from destruction. It is a wise move that may have to be followed here.

A Buffalo minister is of the opinion that Mayor Thompson of Chicago is "the greatest of American star-spangled jackasses." Well, he is at present the most conspicuous of them.

A Montreal man claims to have four distinct voices. It must be nice to be able to do a little community singing all on your own.

A civil servant says he sleeps five hours out of the 24 and spends eight in the office. That makes 13 hours sleep in all—Says the Montreal Star.

Thirty years ago turkeys were selling on the Toronto market at from seven to nine and a half cents a pound. Butter was 19c. pork \$6 per cwt., and potatoes 70c. How times do change.

Christmas is when we buy presents for other people and New Years when we make resolutions for ourselves. Wouldn't it be glorious if we could buy presents for ourselves and make resolutions for other people?

To Our many Customers and Others

Best Wishes for

A Happy New Year

With Twelve Happy Months to Follow

I. D. RAMER & SON

Richmond Hill, Ont.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

EXPRESSES THANKS

Richmond Hill
December 26, 1927

Editor The Liberal

Dear Sir:—
Allow me space in your valued paper to thank the people of Richmond Hill, Maple and Gormley, on behalf of the local corps of the Salvation Army for the interest they have manifested in our work, we appreciate the support which they have given to the same during the past year. If we can assist anyone in anyway night or day we shall be only too glad to do so. We wish all a happy and prosperous New Year.

L. R. ELLISON, Lieut.
Officer in Charge

NO SMOKING!

Editor Liberal

Sir:—

No Smoking—No Smoking. As a traveller on the radials, I see in Richmond Hill Station, waiting room the two notices as above. I also often see quite a bit of smoking in the same room, also know of ladies who on opening the door to enter and seeing men in there with cigarettes or pipes lighted, shut the door, go out again to wait outside in the cold, rather than be inside. Is that as it should be in face of the above notices?

Thanking you to insert this in your next issue of the Liberal.

TRAVELLER

"Progress" Replies to The Clerk's Letter

The Editor Liberal
Richmond Hill

Dear Sir:—

It was a great pleasure to read Mr. Hume's letter in last weeks issue of your valuable paper, and I crave permission to reply to same, my only regret being that I am not able, owing to the Christmas rush, to give more time and thought to my reply.

However with the time at my disposal I will endeavor to make reply to the best of my ability and before entering into the more important points would like to make mention of two minor points which I think should be clarified.

First.—What Mr. Hume terms my sweeping indictment of individuals. There is no reason to apply my remarks to individuals, because I was referring to a public body, and I have equally as much respect for the men he mentions as what he himself has, and I honor their memory, and being a great believer in giving boquets in this world in preference to the next, I am going a step further and say that I consider my friend Mr. Hume as one of the greatest of the men he mentions, and firmly believe he has done more for this village than any other man of my acquaintance, so please Mr. Editor let us drop personalities.

Secondly.—He objects to my using a Nom de Plume if I so wish, equally perfect right to write a newspaper on any subject I choose and use a Nom de Plume. Now Sir I have a as much so, as I have to send my subscription to the Star's Santa Claus Fund, or the Childrens Hospital, under the same name, moreover I think Mr. Hume will agree with me that the greatest donations to any public good, are usually given anonymously.

As regards the major points of his letter, we are told that the information contained in the blue book, as quoted by me, is absolutely false, and that the figures in his office are correct. It has always been my understanding that the figures published in the Blue Book are furnished by the different Municipalities, and if this is the case, are we to understand that one set of figures is sent the Government, and another set of figures furnished for the ratepayers perusal.

Of course we quite understand that a laymen will soon become lost in the conglomeration of accounts, and when one is confronted with the great intricacies of Capital Accounts, Debenture Charges, Operating Costs, Revenue Accounts, etc, we can sympathise with him if he makes a pardonable mistake, but when the figures are taken from the Blue Book as issued by the Ontario Government and sworn to as correct, it will take more than a simple statement from any individual to convince me that they are false, but assuming they are wrong, should not the error have been corrected by our council through the proper channel. I am informed that if an error has been committed it will be gladly rectified, if proven, so it is up to our next Reeve and Council to have these false impressions deleted from the minds of the people of Ontario.

Then we have an elaboration of the wonderful improvements that have taken place under the skilful guidance of our Councils during the past fifty

years, and they are so stimulating to the tired brain, and apparently have demanded such a great amount of ability and for sightedness to engineer them through, that I must repeat them for the benefit of our younger generation who may be making a study of Political Economy.

1. School Buildings
2. Sidewalks
3. Skating Rink
4. Street lighting
5. Waterworks
6. C. N. R. Station.
7. Grain Elevator

When one reviews this wonderful list, we feel like saying "Well done thou good and faithful servant" but in all due respect to our past councils, I must ask; were any of these improvements done, except under the pressure of emergency, and furthermore with the exception of the schools, is there one item that we can look back upon with pride, and say This is the work of the master minds of our past councils or do we with somewhat of shame say this just one of the mistakes that has been made, and as proof of the alleged sweeping statement in my last letter, I again repeat the waterworks was an act of imbecility, the sidewalks on certain streets was an act of inefficiency, the street lighting system was an act of incompetence, and my alleged sweeping statement is nothing more than a true definition of the action of our previous councils, and I submit to Mr. Hume, even at this late stage, can he with pride, point to any of the three items mentioned, without a blush of apology radiating his smiling countenance.

But seeing that the wonderful improvements that our previous Councils have done, have been enumerated, let me mention a few things they have left undone.

1. Have our taxes been kept down with their economy, in proportion to what they have been in other centres where a progressive policy has been followed?
2. Have any inducements been given manufacturers to locate in this village, or to retain those we had?
3. Has any attempt been made to provide work for those who have made their homes here?
4. Has any attempt been made to bring citizens to our Village to enable the Merchant doing a normal business?
5. Has any attempt been made to put a fair and equitable assessment on our properties, so that the underdog is not paying for the more favored?
6. AND ONE MORE VITAL AND IMPORTANT QUESTION I WOULD ASK. Has our population decreased each year for the past ten years, and if so, WHY?

Is it not usual for any City, Town or Village to keep its inhabitants, and usually increase its population from year to year, and if it is true that our previous councils have been such a wonderful success, why is it that seven out of every ten of the present population would leave to-morrow if they could, but they are somewhat in the same position as the Jew in Aberdeen.

One other point I would like to mention. In a progressive and successful Village we generally find keen competition to be elected to the Council and School Board, but here we generally find it pretty hard to get good men to allow their names to go in for nomination. This apathy may appear to some as a silent vote for contentment and satisfaction, but I think it really means a silent vote for discontent and disinterestedness.

No Mr. Hume your defence of the past masters is very weak, what we need is a progressive council, men with visualization who realize that what was good for our Grand Fathers is not good enough for the present day, we must have sidewalks that one can walk on without fear of breaking an ankle, we must have Street Lights that will enable one to see where they are walking or driving, and also announce to the tourist, that they have arrived in a progressive Village instead of letting them think they are passing through the back end of a huge farm, we must have waterworks that is going to be a credit to our Village, we must bring manufacturers to our Village, we must spend money on improvements that will be returned tenfold through the taxes from an increased population, we must make Richmond Hill a place fit to live in as God intended it should be, and we must see that our people have at least a chance of employment within their own boundaries, without having to migrate to other centres, and the young man, who is raising a family that will be a credit to the Village of Richmond Hill, should have an opportunity of doing the Municipal work, in preference to those who have retired from their farms, and now find the nest egg not so elastic as they thought.

If we want to make money we have got to spend it, and it is the council

fired with the ambition to succeed, with a strong determination to go ahead and put in what improvements are necessary, and have the foresight to see that every cent spent on these improvements will be returned tenfold that will go down in history as the real makers of Richmond Hill, and their names will be honored, not only in the small confines of Richmond Hill but will likewise be honored by the people throughout the length and breadth of this great Dominion.

Thanking you Mr. Editor for publishing this reply, and asking the privilege for making use of your columns.

Yours very sincerely
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