

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, FEBRUARY 2, 1928

TREADING ON "CORNS"

Every newspaper serving the best interest of its field must perforce tread once and a while on the "corns" of someone, and it is almost too much to expect that an editor, possessed as he must be of many human frailties can please everyone. The real power of a publication rests on its facilities for the dissemination of worth-while information and news to its readers, its ability to expose extravagance, corruption or inefficiency on the part of public bodies, the fear of publicity in its columns alone often preventing wrong doing or inaction.

Inefficient or unscrupulous men in public life dread the "limelight" of publicity, while honest and straightforward citizens welcome the publication of facts that often influence and shape the destiny of the community or country. Be it a daily, weekly or monthly, TRUTH must be its guiding star if it seeks to shed its light successfully on civic, provincial or national problems. All right-minded people agree that the ideals of journalism should not be sacrificed to the bigot, to the narrow-minded, to the office holder, to the so-called influential, any more than to cheap public favor as a circulation booster, at the sacrifice of principle. It is often, and in fact always, easier to pursue a "wait and see" policy, to pander to all shades of opinion by side-stepping the issues of the day for fear of stepping on some-one's "corns," than to face facts brought to light frankly and fearlessly. FEW PAPERS CAN AFFORD TO OCCASION THE ILL-PLEASURE OF A READER, BUT NO PAPER CAN AFFORD TO PLEASE EVERY READER. To be WORTH WHILE, to have no fear of the estimate of the world, public matters and news dealing with the welfare of a community must be discussed without fear or favor if the influence of a paper is to grow. And we have found that lovers of fair play and honest and far-seeing citizens concede that right to the press, and seldom is such discussion regarded as presumptuous or unnecessary.

OUR GROWING RESPONSIBILITIES

Our National responsibilities grow. We are to have an Ambassador to France. France will send one here. This follows the appointment of Mr. Massey last year to the United States. It is more than likely that similar action will be taken with Japan. On grounds of race friendship we are of course more closely related to France than we are to Japan. It was only natural that France should come first, but our Pacific relationships are of growing importance. Canada's Western doorway should not be forgotten. It is only a few years since grain started moving outward by the Pacific route. Before the war, Vancouver had a magnificent harbor, but her shipping was negligible. To day it is one of Canada's great Seaports. It seems hard to make the East realize this fact, but it must be driven home. There are two front doors to this country and the Pacific seems destined to be as important as the Atlantic from the standpoint of National development and National trade.

When Laurier came into power in 1896 our exports to Japan totalled \$8,148,000. In 1914, the total was \$1,587,000,000, that was the high water mark at that time. Last year the total went over \$34,600,000,000. The increase with China has been on a similar scale. With the other members of the Common wealth, Australia and New Zealand the development has also been rapid—true, the Pacific coast is coming into its own.

Nor need there be any jealousy so far as the East is concerned. This country is too big for that. The growth of one section of Canada does not hinder, it helps the other. There must be the fullest recognition of the needs of the Pacific Coast in every future session of the Canadian Parliament. Every effort should be made to cultivate good will with the Nations of the Pacific, our future depends on it—an Ambassador to Japan is a good idea. There is work for him to do. It is work of vast importance.

GOSSIP

What grievous injury has not gossip done in this world, still doing in this world. Even the best and staunchest reputation can be worn away by the constant wear of the gossipping tongue. Throw enough mud and some will stick. Such is the doctrine of the malicious gossip.

All gossip is not malicious, by any means, but it has the same effect. There are those who will deliberately make up stories about their fellow-beings, or by suggestion plant an adverse thought in some one's mind. The piece of gossip that is based on a barefaced lie is of malicious origin.

Then there is the group that reads its own explanation of a set of circumstances sometimes point either in a harmful direction or have no especial significance at all. But there are those who must interpret along the harmful, injurious lines. They can't give their fellows the benefit of any doubt. If there is a chance to think evil, evil must be thought.

Gossip is unending in the trouble it can make. It can break up homes that would have been happy if gossipping tongues had been stilled. It has sent many an innocent but sensitive, creatures to suicides.

We have a good many offenders against a good many laws who are altogether more respectable, more to be respected by their fellows, than are the gossips who sit at home in snug security and who think of themselves as the Lord's appointed indeed, there is no offender against good taste or good morals more despicable than the individual who is willing to tear to shreds the reputation of another on flimsy perphases and maybes.

The official opening is all over down at Ottawa; the re-union felicitations have all been handed out and the complimentary bouquets exchanged. The House will now get down to the business of the session. The serious matters likely to come up this year include the St. Lawrence Waterway, the Budget involving the eternal question of the tariff income tax and sales tax, and numberless suggestions of various members. Then there are changes in the Customs Act likely to lead to quite a lot of discussion. To provide the odd kick in the proceedings there will be debate on Immigration. Every man on the street and every member of parliament has a solution and everyone believes his to be right. Hon. Robert Forke will bear the brunt of the controversy. Taking everything foreseen into consideration and making allowance for all that is not foreseen there promises to be enough tinder to kindle sufficient fires to keep the house warm whatever the weather—man offers to the people of the capital.

In wealth per capita in dollars, Canada is only surpassed by two countries in the world and she has no superior in the matter of natural resources. But more important even than all of that, Canadians have an asset greater than have the people of almost any country in the world—Canadians are a happy, healthful people, living in a climate unsurpassed, a diverse people who manage to get along reasonably well together and who are exceedingly optimistic and have every reason to be.

A drunken driver, is a potential murderer. The usual method of preventing potential murderers from committing their crimes is to deprive them of their weapons. Why not apply this to the drunken driver by depriving him of the right to drive a car in which he is a menace to his fellow-citizens?

BITTERNESS WITH LIFE

Ah life thou art full of bitter pain,
Mental cares, heartaches and awful shame.
We struggle on the hope has fled,
God thou knowest we wish we were dead.
We long with heart and soul our brain afire,
Grasping hold on life we fall back in the mire.

O bitter anguish God be thou near,
Help us to fight, give us strength, not fear.
Of the future thou knowest help us to face,
Lest we go mad in this awful race.
From life so bitter, God set us free,
Take us to rest above with thee.

Ah life here on earth thou can't not hold,
Our soul's fly aloft leave our body cold.
All that's left is poor human clay,
We go to a happier brighter day.
Where pain and sorrow are no more,
No matter e'er we may be rich or poor.

We are all rich in Gods great love,
Money and rottenness are not known above.
May we remember this while we struggle and fight,
On this earth may we try to live right.
No matter what pain or anguish or past sin,
May we be ready when the reaper gathers in.
Ernest A. Culley.

"Way Back in Liberal Files"

DO YOU REMEMBER?

This Week of 1891

When the annual meeting of the Richmond Hill School board was held, members present:—Messrs. Crosby, McConaghy, Glass, Switzer, Brown Lynett and Naughton.

When Mr. Will D. Atkinson's rink defeated Mr. W. H. Pugsleys and Co. by a score of 15-13. The former skip played three matches in the series and won them all.

When Miss Annie Langstaff was united in marriage to Mr. John Donaghy in the church of the Redeemer, Toronto, Rev. Septimus Jones officiated.

When a meeting of the Richmond Hill branch Bible Society was held in the Presbyterian Manse, members present:—Rev. W. W. Percival, Rev. J. C. Speer and Messrs Wm. Atkinson, Thos. Newton, A. R. Innes.

When the following stood first in their class in the Public School here:—Senior IV, Chas. Kurtz; Junior IV, Reggie Storey; Junior III, Harold Percival; Senior II, Beatrice Sterling.

DO YOU REMEMBER

This Week of 1897

When at Maple, William Bailey passed away in his 71 year.

When, near White Rose, 3rd Con., Whitchurch, John Forester passed away at the age of 77 years.

When at Woodbridge Simon Shunk passed away in his 83 year.

When Thornhill curlers and Richmond Hill played a friendly game. The following are the rinks and scores:—Thornhill, H. Ward, J. Wilson, F. Gallanough, W. Clark skip—11. Mr. Harper, Rev. Morgan, Dr. Nelles J. Morgan skip—20. Total 31.

Richmond Hill—P. Powell, W. Savage, F. Sims, W. Hall skip—20. H. L. Brown, F. Grainger, E. A. Coombs R. Moodie skip—15. Total 35.

When skating was held in the Richmond Hill rink every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. Admission 10 and 5 cents, good band in attendance.

DO YOU REMEMBER

This Week of 1907

When the King Council met, Members present were:—Reeve T. H. Legge; Deputy-Reeve, Alex McMurchy; Councillors, John Burns, R. J. Deacon and R. W. Phillips.

When suddenly at Maple, Florence, wife of Andrew Lloyd passed away in her 46 year.

When W. Bros. Lamon and New-

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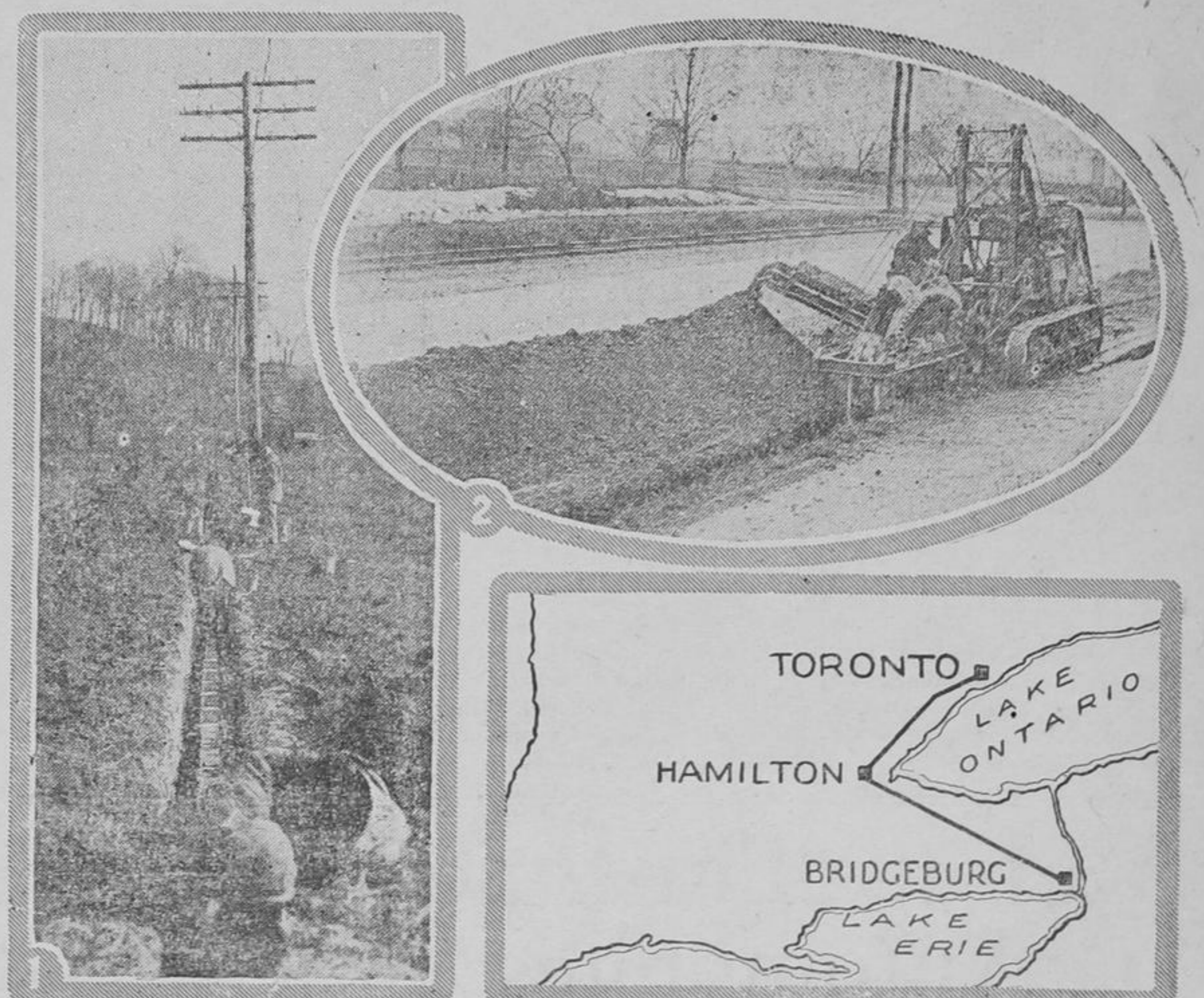
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Science Has Found a Way



It was only a short time ago that science found a way of putting long distance telephone lines in cables. Already the first big job of erecting telephone cable (106 miles from Toronto to Buffalo) is nearing completion. Eighteen miles of this cable are underground, and the latest type of motor-driven trench-digging machines complete about 1,600 feet of trench per day. The job will cost over \$1,500,000, but cables resist sleet storms so much better than open wire that in the long run a substantial saving will be effected, with a more assured service.