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THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

"Not what we give, but what we share For the gift without the giver is bare; Who gives himself with his alms feeds three, Himself, his hungry neighbour, and Me.

The best and happiest way to celebrate Christmas is to do something for someone else and it is especially pleasant to do something for the children.

It is for children more than for others because it is a day that commemorates the birth of a child—that wondrous Christ child who was born in a manger of a stable in the little town of Bethlehem 2,000 years ago.

Now, there will be scarcely a child in all the world who will not await the dawn of Christmas morning with a wandering soul. It is the dawn of that day when the morning stars sang together, and when peace on earth and good will toward men were proclaimed from the high heavens. But, there will be many a child to whom Christmas will not bring its dearly longed-for happiness.

The children of the rich will not be disappointed, nor will the children of the very poor be disappointed. It is the child who has not rich or well-to-do folks, but who, at the same time, is not subject for charity, who will be unhappy when Christmas comes.

And it is this child that we should seek out and make happy.

You see, it is a fact that we can make a happy Christmas for ourselves only by making someone else happy. Do not think that you can make a happy Christmas for yourself any other way, because you cannot do so.

Try the way here pointed out. The child is easily found, and when you have found that one and have made it happy, the very angels of God will envy you the gladness that you feel.

WHY NOT MAKE IT UNANIMOUS?

Unofficial reports which leak out from time to time from sources in the "know" indicate that when the T. T. C. makes the quarterly report on the operation of the North Yonge Railways an operating surplus will be shown. This is gratifying news to the residents of North Yonge Street district and if such a showing can be made in the first year the future is full of promise. The general satisfaction with the service, an operating surplus in the first six months and whatever other good news the report may have when it is published on December 15th should be pretty near enough to induce the six ratepayers in Richmond Hill who voted against the radial by-law to come forward now and make it unanimous.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

A petition for a water main on Benson Avenue prompted some discussion in Richmond Hill council as to the possibility of securing a portion of the funds voted for unemployment relief. It was a suggestion which judging from reports in the press of the province is quite common. Apparently any town or municipality having any public undertaking in mind at once thinks of getting a share of the unemployment relief fund. If there is unemployment in the municipality such undertakings are quite in order and in keeping with the purpose for which several millions of the peoples money was voted by parliament. Aurora, Newmarket and other towns everywhere in Ontario are doing work under this plan and are thus relieving unemployment and at the same time getting needed public improvements.

If there is "unemployment" in Richmond Hill which promises before spring to be a hardship to families or a burden on the municipality the council would be well advised to consider applying for a grant from the unemployment fund and going ahead with the construction of the proposed water main on Benson Avenue. In this way the municipality would put up dollar for dollar with the provincial and federal government. If the total cost of the work is \$5000, the cost to Richmond Hill would be \$2,500. A portion of the grant would however be eaten up by the extra cost of doing the work under winter conditions as compared to conditions existing in a more favorable season.

The whole matter rests and should be decided by the council as related to unemployment conditions. If the work is needed to provide work it would be advisable to apply for the grant, but Richmond Hill or any other municipality should not grasp at the public treasury on the assumption that they are getting something for nothing. Municipalities which plunge into expenditures merely for the sake of getting the grant will find to their sorrow that the "chickens will come home to roost" in the form of increased taxes and increased debenture debt which will in turn be a hardship on the working man who was originally intended to be benefitted by the undertaking and by the legislation.

REGISTER THE UNEMPLOYED

Now that unemployment relief is suggested for Richmond Hill it would be advisable for the council to have all unemployed in the municipality register. It would serve a two fold service in that it would enable the town fathers to determine the exact amount of unemployment now existing and would moreover be a valuable record of those needing employment in case of any public work done throughout the municipality. Most centres throughout Ontario have such a registration this winter.

THE HOME AND SCHOOL CLUB

Last week we carried an account of the regular meeting of the Home and School Club. This organization is one which should receive the hearty endorsement and support of all parents who have children attending school. The meetings form a common ground on which teachers and parents can meet and discuss the problems of class room and home. The organization helps to create a better understanding between the school and the home and if those interested approach the problems in the proper spirit many questions which are a source of trouble to both teachers and parents will be easily solved. We wish the organization every success throughout this and coming years.

A report from the T. T. C. showing an operating surplus on the North Yonge Railway will be a nice surprise to put in the stocking of the ratepayers of North Yonge Street.

ABUSES OF UNEMPLOYMENT GRANT

That already abuses have crept in to the administering of the funds voted by the Federal Parliament for the relief of unemployment is the charge of the Palmerston Spectator in a recent issue. The case of the town of Fergus is cited where a government grant of \$10,000, has been obtained although only a short time ago it was the boast that in that municipality there was no unemployment. It is unfortunate if there is such laxity in the administering of this fund intended to relief distress throughout the country.

The Mount Forest Confederate complains that Mount Forest only received \$5000, while Durham received \$12,500, and hints that the reason for the difference was not a difference in unemployment but a difference in political conditions. "Is Mount Forest, as has been suggested, working against a political undercurrent, while Durham has a strong undercurrent in its favor?" it says.

Then again there is evidence that many municipalities are just grabbing at the millions voted to relieve unemployment in order to undertake needed public works with the relief of unemployment as a secondary consideration. On this phase of the subject the Arthur Enterprise states: "It is always to be remembered that the unemployment relief measure was not passed to give municipalities assistance with needed public work. There is no doubt, however, that many towns, where unemployment is not abnormally great, are asking for grants because they see an opportunity to secure assistance with some improvements."

TAXATION

Any suggestion which would tend to relieve the burden of taxation is timely just now when in municipalities all over Ontario the annual tax payments become due. For that reason if no other the resolution presented in County Council last week by Richmond Hill's Reeve asking that a portion of the gasoline tax be returned to the municipalities to relieve the burden of taxation has been the subject of much discussion. Even those who doubt the feasibility of the suggestion agree that something must be done to relieve the burden of municipalities whose only source of revenue is direct taxation.

Not once but several times in our office this year we have had farmers say, "If I sold every pound of grain I grew this year I couldn't pay my rent and taxes." The payment of taxes under conditions as they exist to day is a real burden and many a farmer is to day asking the question, "where are the taxes to come from?"

The province although committed to large expenditures for good roads and other provincial undertakings has an immense revenue from the gasoline tax, from the liquor stores and other sources and there is a general feeling that the increasing load of taxation falling on the shoulders of the overburdened municipalities should be shared by the provincial treasury. Shortly the provincial government will receive a province-wide deputation whose plea will be "divvy up." That the plea for relief will be successful is the wish of every ratepayer who does business with the tax collector.

We have become so accustomed to "increased taxes" that we are almost reconciled to the ever mounting tax bills.

The Board of Trade Community Christmas Stocking Banquet which has as its aim a COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE for the kiddies is exemplifying the true "Spirit of Christmas." The function which will be held on Wednesday, December 10th in the Masonic Hall, should receive the generous patronage of the citizens.



Health Service

OF THE

Canadian Medical Association

Edited by

GRANT FLEMING, M.D. — ASSOCIATE SECRETARY

HOME CARE OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

The care of any case of illness in the home presents many problems and difficulties. If the sick person is suffering from a communicable disease, there is to be considered, in addition to the usual problems, the one of preventing the spread of the disease to other members of the family.

In order to do this, it is necessary to know how such disease is spread. The bacteria or germs which cause disease live inside the human body. They multiply very quickly, and so exist in surprisingly large numbers. The germs leave the body of the person who is ill in the normal secretions of the body.

The communicable diseases are spread by contact, of which there are two kinds—direct and indirect. Direct contact occurs when the germs are passed directly from the sick to the well. In most of the communicable diseases from which we suffer in Canada, the germs are spread by the transference of secretions from the nose, mouth and throat.

In sneezing, coughing and loud talking, particles of germ-laden secretion are expelled, and if these go directly from a sick person into the nose or mouth of some other individual, disease is spread by direct contact through the transference of this secretion. Kissing is also a common way of spreading disease-germs by direct contact.

Disease germs do not live for any length of time outside of the human body. Articles which have been soiled by the secretions of a sick person are said to be contaminated. The cup which a patient uses is contaminated because, in the act of drinking, he deposits some saliva on the lip of the cup. If this cup is used by another person before it has been sterilized, then that person takes into his mouth some of the germ-laden saliva which the patient previously deposited on the cup. Such transference of germs by means of some object is called indirect contact.

In caring for a case of communicable disease at home, the point which must be kept constantly in mind is that there must be no opportunity for either direct or indirect contact. If the hands are soiled with the patient's secretions and are then placed in the mouth, or if they are allowed to touch food or anything else which goes into the mouth, we find one of the most common ways of spreading disease.

The patient must be isolated in order to lessen the chances of spread of the disease. The person who is caring for the patient should keep an apron or gown for the sick room, and should scrub his or her hands after giving the patient any care. It is not possible to mention all the details here, but all precautions taken have the common aim of preventing secretions from the sick person from reaching anyone else. If care is taken, the disease will not spread.

Questions concerning Health, addressed to the Canadian Medical Association, 184 College Street, Toronto will be answered personally by letter.

WAR ON DOGS IN BRECHIN DISTRICT

New ways of contending with the sheep killing dog are being sought, and found, by farmers of the Brechin district where the latest practice is to run down any dog coming within reach on the No. 12 Highway. So successful have the sheep breeders been in this war that dog owners have almost without exception, been forced to chain up their pets and allow them loose only when accompanied. According to George Elliott of Brechin, one dog owner of the village has already lost three hounds.

Advertisement for Santa Claus Recommends featuring a cartoon of Santa Claus and text: "Santa Claus RECOMMENDS SOMETHING IN CHINA OR GLASSWARE IS ALWAYS ACCEPTABLE AND USEFUL FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS"

Our Store is stocked with a Variety of Choice CHINAWARE GLASSWARE and NOVELTIES Which make ideal Gifts for Christmas. We invite you to visit our Store and look around. Just a few suggestions at popular prices are CUPS and SAUCERS 45c. up WATER SETS \$1.50 up And a variety of Brass Goods suitable for Presents We have just received from the Old Country a shipment of Grafton Bone and Coalport China.

Advertisement for DON'T FORGET: "says wise old Santa, that gifts are fine, but after all, the way to a man's heart is the stomach,—and the feast is a very important part of the holiday celebration. The Leader Store is stocked with the finest groceries in town, and can take care of your every need— at prices that cannot be equalled. We have a store full of goodies awaiting your order. Phone or come in—either way you will receive the best of service."

Advertisement for The Leader Store: "A. A. EDEN Telephone 8 — Richmond Hill, Ontario"

Advertisement for I.D. RAMER & SON: "EVEN TEMPERATURES day and night when burning Reading Anthracite. Order what you need today from— I.D. RAMER & SON PHONE YARD 10 COAL and WOOD RESIDENCE 85-J The Answer to the Burning Question THAT BETTER PENNSYLVANIA HARD COAL"

Large advertisement for Richmond Hill Dairy: "Guard the Child's Health USE Richmond Hill Dairy PERFECT FOOD MILK builds bone and muscle in growing children— supplying needed lime and butter fat for which there is no substitute. See to it that your child drinks plenty of milk during the winter months. Children need plenty of energy building foods during these months. Tell us to leave Milk, Cream or Whipping Cream at your home regularly. Phone 42-J and we will do the rest..."