

THE LIBERAL

Established 1878

AN INDEPENDENT WEEKLY

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AT RICHMOND HILL

THE LIBERAL PRINTING CO., LTD.

J. Eachern Smith, Manager

Member Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association

Subscription \$1.50 per year — To the United States \$2.00

Covering Canada's Best Suburban District.

Advertising Rates on Application.

TELEPHONE 9.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20th, 1933

GARDENING TIME

Have you done anything to the garden yet? This is the popular question these days. With the first tinge of spring weather there comes an anxiety to close to Mother Earth and putter around in the garden. Heads of municipalities all over Ontario are urging those who have been on relief during the past winter not to miss the opportunity of planting a garden in preparation for next winter's needs. This is timely advice and should be heeded by everyone. An ample supply of vegetables is a valuable asset in combating the depression and in meeting the emergency of unemployment. Yes, by all means, plant a garden this year.

"Gardening Time" is when spring officially begins. When you see householders out in the yard with a rake and a spade, you know that spring really is here.

It is very easy to do the hard work of planting a garden plot in the early spring when everyone is full of vim and vigor, and yes, how easy it is to neglect that plot and let the weeds flourish when the sun gets high and hot along in June and July. It is then the real test comes and the real garden lover is revealed. However that is some weeks away, so now let's enjoy the thrill of gardening.

THE FRIENDLY STREET

That little street is right in your own home town. If you make it a friendly street outsiders will want to come and share it with you. They will sense the glow of friendly contact and wish to linger long within its warmth. And a friendly street is so easy to obtain. Just a kindly attitude towards your neighbor and others with whom you divide the care of the day. Just a little human understanding of what constitutes gentleness and courtesy. That's all you need to make a street where old friends want to meet.

The community that prospers is always a friendly community. To-day the world is seeking out such places. There is so much of travail and harshness in the everyday affairs of life that friendly havens beckon from afar. If you want your home town to be prosperous, to be known as a friendly spot, then you be friendly, too. It is a good message to carry with you during the year—and it pays big dividends in happiness and prosperity.

DIVIDE ROADWORK ACCORDING TO ASSESSMENT

The suggestion has often been made that taxation should be determined by the ability of the ratepayer to pay taxes. Now we have the suggestion made in various sections of Ontario that roadwork should be given to the farmers and to others able to work on the roads in proportion to their assessment.

The council of the township of Bentinck has adopted this plan. The clerk is to prepare a statement of each assessment, and this will be given to the patrolmen to serve as a guide in dividing the work. The great objection to the present road system, as compared with statute labor, is that a comparatively small number of ratepayers get most of the work and money. If times were good, many of the farmers wouldn't "give a hang" whether they got any roadwork or not, as they could make good money by working their farms. Things are different nowadays. Bentinck's solution of the problem seems eminently fair and just.

In normal times there would be no demand for such a system and there are undoubtedly many good arguments in opposition to it. It may be successfully argued that the work can be done more economically by trucks or by contract, but that does not alter the most important fact, that the farmers and others in this time of depression find it hard, almost impossible to pay to have the work done. If farmers were given more opportunity to work out at least a portion of their municipal taxes it would be a big help.

Amazing New Beauty for Your Home

DURALITH Textured Walls Give Luxurious Charm at Little Cost



Let us give you an estimate without obligation. THE change will amaze you! You never dreamed that your home could be so beautiful. Even the shabbiest of walls are magically transformed with DURALITH, the wonder-working plastic paint. All kinds of artistic effects are possible—colorful stipples and textures—easily, quickly, inexpensively. Come in and see!

L.D. RAMER & SON
PHONE YARD 10 COAL RESIDENCE 85-J
WOOD
The Answer to the Burning Question

CASTROL OIL

We are exclusive representatives in this district for the Famous Castrol MOTOR OIL. It pays to use the Best. Call here for your next change of oil and be assured of good service and quality products.

HAROLD REID'S SERVICE STATION
GENERAL GARAGE SERVICE
Sieberling Tires Motor Accessories Gas and Oil
ELGIN MILLS ONTARIO

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

REDISTRIBUTION AND ELECTORAL REFORM

To The Editor.

In connection with the redistribution of constituencies we read in the press that a "safe seat" is to be created for one member of Parliament, and that Liberals will be "hived" in a certain area. Doubtless the reporter is responsible for the phraseology, descriptive of the situation, as he sees it, yet it is undeniable that the words accurately describe what has been done under past redistributions. In addition to plans for safe seats and for hiving electors (if such is the case) we know that compulsory voting is receiving serious consideration. Of the three suggestions, not one is consistent with representative government, since each involves arbitrary interference with the exercise of the franchise; that this is true of the first two suggestions, requires no argument; compulsory voting is more plausible.

While representative government presupposes that all citizens have the right of voting—and should exercise their right—yet, it is possible that a citizen may find himself unable to vote confidence in either of two candidates; must he then, be compelled to express a confidence that is not real? If the state expects the citizen to vote; the citizen has the right to demand an opportunity of voting honestly, or, failing that, of refraining unfortunately, with single member constituencies as the basis of our representative government, it sometimes happens that the only honest course open to the elector is to not vote. In addition to those electors who have a purpose in not voting, there are many electors who are alive to public questions, but who, because of local conditions are indifferent about voting. In a large proportion of our constituencies, the result can be certainly foretold, even before the candidates are in the field; in those constituencies many electors who would vote (were they residents of a close constituency) excuse themselves, upon the ground that their voting is useless. The assumption that non-use of the franchise, can only mean indifference on the part of the elector, can not be justified by facts.

Let it be noted that the foregoing phases of the problems which are exercising the thought of our public men are the result of our single member constituency basis of representation.

Let us now consider our electoral problems from another angle.

In the years immediately following the war, the outstanding features of our political life was the multiplication of political groups. In the general elections of 1919 (Ontario Provincial) and of 1921 (Federal) in many constituencies three—and in some instances, five, and even six—candidates contested the elections; with the result that in these multi-candidate constituencies, the one declared elected frequently represented only an insignificant proportion of the electorate. Certainly in one instance the "representative" represented, only 13.67% of the registered electors. Such a result makes representative government little better than the rotten boroughs in Britain, in the pre-Reform Bill days. In the past war years, so seriously was the prestige of Parliament weakened, because of the development of political groups, that serious consideration was given to Proportional Representation as a system well adapted to the new conditions; in 1923 it appeared probable that this reform would be adopted in Ontario, but owing to the wavering of some supporters of the Government, the measure was withdrawn, and the tide ebbed. We are to-day experiencing a recurrence of conditions similar to those of 1919-21; in the next general election we will, in many constituencies, have a hotch-pot of candidates, and in the next Parliament, we will probably have the spectacle of members representing only shreds and patches of the electorate, yet fulfilling the duties of a "representative." Under Proportional Representation no candidate could be declared elected who had not received such a proportion of the total vote, polled that his right to speak with authority as a representative from his constituency could not be challenged; moreover, practically every voter would be able to point to some member of Parliament as the member for whom he had voted, and who would therefore be his representative, whereas—under the system now in force—the electors constituting the minority in each constituency, are not only not represented in Parliament—they are mis-represented. Can there be any doubt as to which system is most conducive to that confidence and contentment which are the strength of the nation? Surely if there is any remedy for the manifold imperfections of our electoral practices that remedy should be adopted.

John H. Humphreys, J.P., Secretary of the Proportional Representation Society, of London, England, has published a comparative analysis of the results of the last British general election, held in 1931; and of the Irish Free State elections, recently held, under Proportional Representation; the comparison is enlightening. According to Mr. Humphreys' analysis:—in the British election, for every 29,000 votes cast throughout the country, for National Government candidates, a Government supporter took his seat in Parliament, while it required, on the basis of the vote cast throughout the country, an average of 144,000 Laborite votes for every Labor Party member elected. In other words the vote of 1 National Government supporter was worth 4.91 votes cast by a Labor supporter. Such a result makes mockery of representative government.

Compare this result with the result in the Irish election, where, according to Mr. Humphreys;—De Valera's supporters, in the Dail, represent on the average, 9,378 voters, while Cosgrave's supporters, represent, on the average 9,588 voters; an inequality of only 210 votes, as compared with an inequality of 115,000 votes in the

British election. The merits of the issues at stake in the Irish election, do not concern us, at the moment, what does concern us is the accuracy of Proportional Representation, as a method by which the wishes of the electors will be reflected in the personnel of Parliament; certainly the Irish obtained a Parliament truly representative of the wishes of the voters, and is not this supposed to be the supreme objective in every election?

In the light of the foregoing comparison, it is evident that Proportional Representation, surpasses our present system of election, as completely, as does the modern rifle, in efficiency, surpass the ancient blunderbuss.

Under Proportional Representation, there can be no "safe seats" made for any man, by legislation; on the other hand men who are of leadership calibre, would be assured of their place in Parliament; the country would be saved the loss that has frequently occurred from local conditions forcing a great man out of public life; it would also be impossible to "hive" the supporters of any political party; finally, with the removal of the handicaps which we have been discussing, electors would discover that no matter what the immediately local conditions might be, their votes would be worth their actual face value in determining the result of an election, sham battles would become matters of history; interest in elections would be uniform throughout the country, and the desirability of compulsion of voters would be forgotten.

Three quarters of a century has passed since Hare published his theories concerning Proportional Representation; from the day of publication, to the present, many of the keenest minded publicists have been warm advocates of the reform; more than a score of countries have adopted it, in part, or wholly; again and again it has proved its efficiency, yet it must be admitted, its adoption has made slow progress.

WHY? Of his own experience, the writer can testify that it is comparatively easy to win the sympathetic interest of ordinary citizens, when presenting the case for P.R., but if there happens to be in the audience a member of Parliament, from him hostile criticism may be expected. With all due respect, let it be said that some of our members of Parliament believe they have a "vested interest" in their constituency, and that the system which has placed them in Parliament should not be touched. On one occasion one of these gentlemen was very frank in stating his position: he said:—"I suppose Proportional Representation would be all right, but I can easily see how it might be the death of me politically."

We cannot have P.R. until our members of Parliament are ready to legislate for its adoption, and undoubtedly the vested interest attitude on the part of members of Parliament is the greatest obstacle to be overcome, before the reform can be won. The task is not a hopeless one, yet until the friends of P.R. become active in pressing their cause, the chance of P.R. becoming the law of this land is slight indeed.

In the past, parliamentary and electoral reforms have been the result of pressure from without Parliament, rather than, of leadership from within, and so it will be in the future—, but under our representative system (imperfect though it is) our parliamentaries are responsive to public sentiment, when strongly and persistently expressed: let the friends of Proportional Representation act accordingly.

ALEX. D. BRUCE
R. R. Unionville, Ont.
April 11, 1933

WHOSE FAULT

Butcher—Excuse me, madam, but you haven't yet paid me for the turkey you had at Christmas."

Customer—No, my husband sprained his wrist so badly carving it that he hasn't been able to write out your cheque yet.

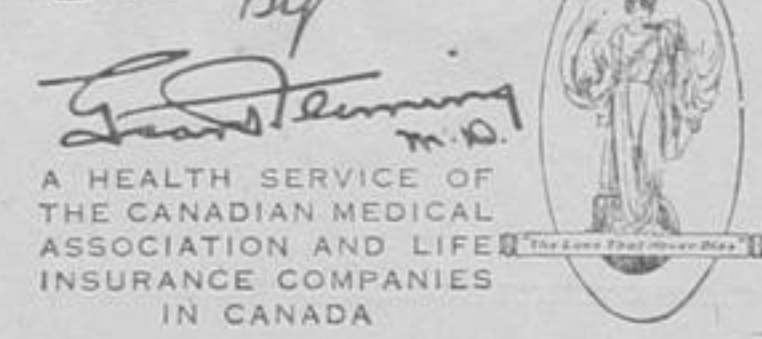
Thought

"A single grateful thought towards heaven is the most perfect prayer."
—Lessing.

"Growing thought makes growing revelation."
—George Eliot.

"The value of a thought cannot be told."
—Bailey.

HEALTH



FOCAL INFECTIONS

A focus of infection may be defined as a diseased or abnormal condition situated somewhere in the body from which may arise infections in other structures or organs of the body. An individual, for instance, has an abscessed tooth which, unless extracted or otherwise adequately treated, is capable of producing complications, often with far-reaching and devastating effects. In such a case, a severe kidney infection or a crippling arthritis may follow the neglect or delay in obtaining skilled advice on what may appear to be a trifling matter. Or again, the frequently discussed and more frequently neglected tonsils and adenoids may be and often are responsible for the immediate and remote infections of the heart and kidneys. The possibilities are many, and scarcely a day passes that one does not hear of the neglect of some "trifling infection," which, in so many cases, has resulted in a prolonged illness or chronic invalidism, or which has even had a fatal termination.

The transference of infection from point to point in the body is largely the work of the lymphatics and the blood stream. It is possible, then, for a small and often obscure infection to be thus transferred throughout the body, to organs and essential structures whose delicate mechanisms and normal functions are disorganized by this additional strain.

On all the organs in the body, the heart and kidneys are the most vulnerable to focal infections. While infected tonsils may not, of themselves, cause bodily discomfort, or while the abscessed tooth may only occasionally give rise to a twinge of pain, there is no guarantee that such conditions are not insidiously undermining the resistance of the body, sooner or later to declare open warfare on a delicate part of some vital organ.

Diseases of the heart and kidneys rank high in the list of causes of death. The problem of disability and definite shortening of life from diseases of these organs is, in large measure, the problem of eradicating focal infections. Although teeth and tonsils are here stressed as parts where foci of infection exists, there are other less productive sources perhaps which the physician has in mind in the periodic health examination of his clients.

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

ST. MARY'S CHURCH RICHMOND HILL
1st Sunday after Easter Apr. 23, 1933
8 a.m.—Holy Communion.
11 a.m.—Morning Prayer.
Preacher—Rev. C. P. Muirhead.
3 p.m.—Sunday School.
7 p.m.—Evening Prayer.
Preacher—The Rector.
A.Y.P.A. Fireside Hour after The Evening Service.

HARNESS

ALL KINDS OF HARNESS AND HARNESS REPAIRS. SEVERAL GOOD USED LONG STRAW COLLARS IN STOCK. COLLAR REPAIRING AND FITTING A SPECIALTY.

ISAAC BAKER

Maple, Ont. R. R. No. 2
Telephone Maple 1063
(1 1/4 miles North of Concord)

SEED GRAIN

—FINEST QUALITY SEED—

GOOSE WHEAT, OATS, BARLEY CLOVER, TIMOTHY

AND

ALFALFA

VELVET BARLEY IS A POPULAR

BRAND WHICH HAS PROVEN

TO YIELD WELL

ASK US FOR PRICES

The Elevator I.D. RAMER & SON

Richmond Hill

Richmond Hill Machine Shop

Rear 81 Yonge Street

GENERAL MACHINERY REPAIRS, BOILERS
LAWN MOWERS AND BINDER KNIVES GROUND
GUNSMITHING

Dress Up For Spring

SPRING IS HERE, AND WE ARE READY TO SUPPLY YOU WITH THAT NEW SUIT OR TOP COAT.

CLEANING AND PRESSING ALWAYS RECEIVES OUR PROMPT ATTENTION

Goods Called For And Delivered

RICHMOND TAILORS

J. A. Greene,

TELEPHONE 49-J
Richmond Hill

RESIDENCE 49-W
Ontario

SEED GRAIN

Don't wait for the rush to get your seed cleaned.

Our Government cleaner is working better than ever.

WE HAVE BANNER OATS grown from Certified seed.

WE ARE MANUFACTURING all of our own poultry mashes. All quality rock bottom prices.

Paying best prices for wheat and oats.

THE MILL

Res. 82-W PHONES Mill 139-M

Your Hardware Requirements Are best taken care of at this store

A COMPLETE STOCK AT THE BEST PRICES

STOVES and ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

Good Used Coal Oil Stove for Sale

H. P. Trowell, Hardware

(SUCCESSOR TO C. N. COOPER)

We Give Prompt Delivery

Phone 93