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THURSDAY, AUGUST 16th, 1934

THE MAN OF THE HOUR

There is no man in Canada who so attracts the public interest and who at this moment commands the attention of the people as does Hon. Mitchell F. Hepburn, Ontario's premier. Since assuming office Mr. Hepburn has demonstrated that he is not only a brilliant campaigner but also a man of action. He has demonstrated that he believes promises are made to be kept, not broken and has commenced a clean-up of the Ontario government service which has won the approval of his opponents as well as supporters. This man of the hour in Ontario will speak in Newmarket arena to-night and a capacity audience is expected. Hear Ontario's Premier at the Liberal Nomination meeting in Newmarket Thursday evening.

GOVERNMENTS AND MUNICIPALITIES WORRY OVER RELIEF

Premier Hepburn on assuming office has shown that he appreciates the seriousness and the importance of the Relief Problem. On the other hand the interest of Hon. R. B. Bennett who made such gallant promises before the last Dominion election, seems to be diminishing. Premier Hepburn is to be commended for promptly giving this great problem the attention of his administration.

The Relief problem has been growing with the years, despite the fact that Mr. Bennett promised to end unemployment in 1930, or perish in the attempt.

Relief is alleged to have cost Canada,—that is the governments, municipalities and individuals,—over \$300,000,000 since the depression started. The Dominion government alone has contributed \$140,000,000.

Now with the western provinces and municipalities all over the Dominion having about reached the limit of their resources, the agitation to shoulder the whole thing on Ottawa has become so widespread that Mr. Bennett called a meeting of provincial heads to meet him at Ottawa to wrestle with the subject.

In any case the Dominion will not continue its help after August 15, and in the meantime it has cut down its share from one-third to one-quarter of the bill.

"The Dominion should take over the job," said an official. "It will be a help to thus focus the attention of the country on the enormous bill. The quicker we get 'relief' into politics the better."

Are the municipalities doing anything about it?

A lot. At the convention of the Canadian Union of Municipalities at Quebec, a resolution was passed asking Ottawa to take hold.

And why?

Because the municipalities' present taxing powers aren't wide enough to raise the money needed.

Duties and responsibilities imposed upon municipalities by Provincial governments for service which are of a national character, the resolution said, such as so-called social services and education, have been increased without a corresponding provision for raising necessary revenues, thereby placing an inequitable burden on real estate, beyond the capacity of realty to bear.

The point had now been reached where the very existence of municipalities was imperilled by failure to recognize and apply an equitable, stabilized and permanent basis of relationship between Provincial governments and municipalities.

And the Union asked that municipalities be granted power to assess a "special relief tax."

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Roger Babson, viewing the subject as an economist, says that "poor attendance" is at the bottom of church troubles. He suggests that the physical characteristics of churches be bettered, especially ventilation. He remarks, too, that the characters of the church members must be improved in a way that will "recommend them to non-church members." And he feels that records of attendance are highly important, more so than a record of the moneys taken in.

If all the implications are taken into account these suggestions are important; but Mr. Babson's really significant recommendation is this: "See that sermons are vitalized."

After all, the success of the church depends upon its ability to make people believe that they have immortal souls and that these souls are in peril and can be rescued through the plan of salvation offered from the pulpit.

If that idea can be put over, other matters become incidental. If it can't, the rest won't help much.

Mr. Babson's suggestions as to how the situation might be improved are interesting and worth setting down:

Each church should develop a definite spiritual and intellectual goal and develop a clientele accordingly.

Should work for the economic well-being of the people.

The physical characteristics of the church should be improved, especially the ventilation.

The character of the church members must be improved to commend the church to non-attendants.

Records of church attendance are very important and should be reported at annual meetings.

Insist on rigid standards for church membership.

See that sermons are vitalized.

The influence of the home must be for church attendance.

A very great deal might be said under each of these suggestions. What would you say if you were asked to discuss them?

ADVERTISING OF LANDS SOLD FOR TAXES

The Toronto Star commenting on the protest of Ontario papers on the Government's regulations which compel municipalities to advertise their local sale of lands for unpaid taxes in the Ontario Gazette, says:

"Mr. W. E. N. Sinclair at the last session of the legislature moved a resolution calculated to end the farce of compelling municipalities to advertise their local sales of lands for unpaid taxes in the Ontario Gazette, a chaste and select government publication which has no local circulation in any municipality in the province. Nobody sees the Gazette but a few lawyers here and there and a few knowing persons who, familiar with the procedure of the government in connection with this and that, watch for it. One can imagine some close money-lender keeping the Gazette under keen observation in the hope of picking up a good

property for almost nothing. Some cases have been reported in the province of nice properties being sold for a song while the people of the community where the property stood knew nothing about the sale taking place.

"The press of the province has been speaking freely on this subject for several years. The municipalities are compelled by provincial statute to advertise their sales of land for taxes in the Ontario Gazette. No doubt this is a convenience to some provincial statistician in Queen's Park who keeps the books in relation to these transactions. The municipalities which pay for this useless advertising make the Ontario Gazette a profitable enterprise in so far as the government is concerned but at a severe cost to the municipalities.

"If lands are to be sold for taxes nobody is more concerned than the people of the locality. They know what values are. The sale of land for taxes should be advertised in the local newspapers and, beyond that, in the newspapers of the county town. Such advertising would mean something and get results. If it is necessary in the interests of the compilation of provincial statistics each municipality could be required to send to Queen's Park such information as is desired in connection with lands sold for taxes.

"It is to be hoped that the Hepburn government will bring in reform in this matter."

WHAT OF 2034?

(By Allan Reid in the Iroquois Post)

Many communities are celebrating their 100th birthday this year and much has been written of the happenings during the past hundred years. The younger generation of course is concerned much more with what is going to happen in the next hundred years.

Since the fateful year of 1914, the whole human race has witnessed the most dramatic, fleetly moving, revolutionary progress recorded in the annals of mankind. Indeed it may be truly said that, in the short space of twenty years, the world has, mechanically and scientifically, moved forward more than it did in any two-hundred years previously.

Ocean liners create new records between continent and continent. Railway trains driven by machinery which is fast rendering the equipment for years regarded as "standard" hopelessly out of date, travel at speeds of over one hundred miles per hour. Automobiles have become so popular that they have altered radically the habits and manners of more than half of the inhabitants of the Globe. Aeroplanes once regarded as being the finest human contraptions for speedily and gloriously breaking one's neck have now reached such heights of reliability and speed as to make them the predominant topic at International Disarmament Conferences. Television and Radio have opened up fields of endeavour which, only thirty years ago would have been condemned as savouring somewhat of magic or witchcraft. Labour saving devices and gadgets have revolutionized the whole social system.

Mind has triumphed over matter so rapidly, so vehemently, that mankind, believe it or not, has been unable to keep up with the pace. The world is passing through the throes of unprecedented social upheavals. Over-production, rendered possible by scientific progress in engineering and other spheres, has shown, within the past decade, the anomalous condition of Want in the midst of plenty. Cotton crops in the United States, for instance, have been destroyed in order that economic marketing of cotton may be maintained, while millions of people throughout the world have not, figuratively speaking, a clean shirt to put on their backs. Unemployment, with its attendant evils has reached unprecedented figures throughout the world. On the other hand, scientific progress has been leaping forward as never before. The question immediately arises "What conditions will prevail throughout the world One Hundred years from now?"

Will economic and social activities have become stabilized with scientific progress. Or is the world going helter-skelter to an inglorious "last Round-up?" Are the coming generations of men and women going to prove themselves capable of extricating the world from its apparently overwhelming difficulties? There is certainly much room for conjecture on this subject.

On the one hand, one may see contented men and women one hundred years hence living peaceably and happily under a new economic structure. A healthy, clean-living race of men and women living in true harmony, and the anomaly of hunger in the midst of plenty swept away. One may behold nations living in friendliness and peace, with the present day feelings of international distrust and jealousy thrust away into the limbo of forgotten things. Slums, and their attendant evils may have been swept away. Intolerance of graft, greed, selfishness, and other evils may make the whole world one hundred years hence a world fit for heroes to live in — in the real sense of the word. Scientific progress may be allied with all that is noble, elevating, and justifiable in a sane, healthy world.

On the other hand there exists the danger of the world of one hundred

years hence having become incoherent with vice, blood-shed, violence, and a general sinking into a morass of intolerance, greed, and, eventually, humiliation. Can you picture the fair cities, towns, and villages of Canada laid waste in ghastly ruins,—the reek of shells, poison gas, and other modern scientific aids to help in the extermination of the human race? Can you visualize the horrors of 1914-18 magnified in intensity, suffering, inhumanity to man, and their aftermath some ten thousand times? That is what International Warfare one-hundred years from now would probably represent. Can you picture the scientist pitting his scientific discoveries against brotherly and international love? It must be remembered that the horrors of 1914-18 would, in 1913, have been regarded as nonsensical and the products of some fevered imagination.

And yet, considering the quarrels over armaments, the race to discover fresh methods of exterminating men and women in warfare the ill-concealed jealousy and hatreds of nation toward nation, there IS a distinct danger of the world one hundred years from now having become a shambles—and the playground of blood-thirsty madmen.

The future of the world, — of Canada,—of all of us, lies in the hands of the coming generation. The task of holding high the torch must be undertaken by wisely trained, clean living men and women. Only by properly educating, physically, morally, and spiritually the younger folks, can the world ever hope to become peaceable, progressive, and free from carking care. Charity, and true fellowship begin at home—in our Home town. Let us all—old and young alike so live throughout the years to come in our own community that, even as fresh paint and beautiful flowers may make our town beautiful to the eye, the character and integrity of its inhabitants may be something to glory over—untrampled by vice or graft. Let us instill the principles of peace and Brotherly Love into the minds of those who are to follow in our footsteps. Let us do what we can to stimulate industry in our community. Let us "clean-up" our town in every sense of the injunction. Let us ban the evils and corruptions from our town so that, by every example, other towns may also be cleaned. Teach our younger citizens, during the years to come, how to cultivate the community spirit, and ever to work for the material and moral advancement of the town in which they have the honour to live.

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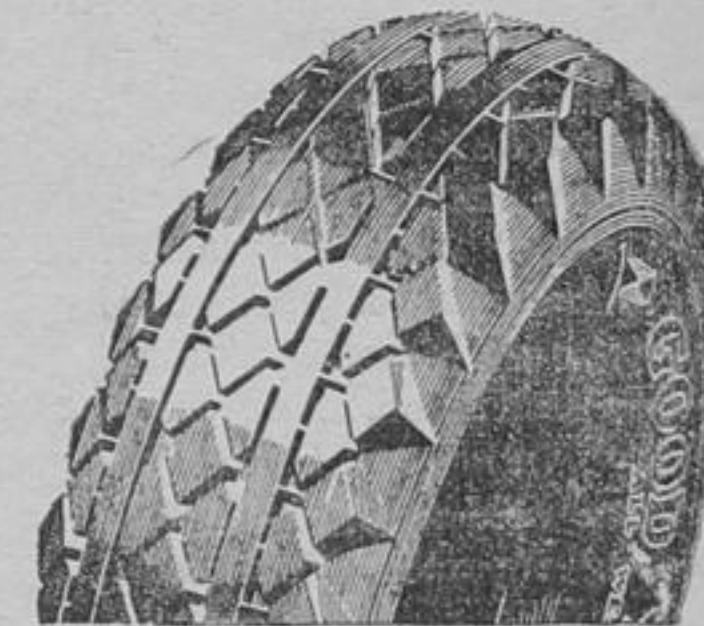
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