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GENERAL NEWS AND VIEWS

Only a few weeks until Christmas. Do your Christmas shopping now or you will not do it early.

How about the Community Christmas Tree this year? Last year the funds for this worthy undertaking were raised by subscriptions and a very few good hearted citizens bore the whole financial load. Is this fair? How will the money be raised this year? Send along a suggestion.

The mild summerlike weather of this week has been much enjoyed. If you didn't happen to look at the calendar you might think it was mid-summer instead of nearly Christmas. Reports from various parts of the district tell of budding lilacs and the like, but we may expect zero breezes any day now.

During recent military operations in the Far East, one side captured the other's general. An envoy was sent to negotiate his exchange.

"We will give you four colonels for him," said the other. The offer was declined. "Eight majors?" "No." "What, then?" "We have given the matter most careful consideration, and the least we can accept are two dozen tins of condensed milk."

Two newspaper headlines in a metropolitan daily this week, captured our attention. One emphasized the meagre wages of \$4.00 and \$5.00 per week paid to sales girls in The Woolworth chain stores, while the other blatantly proclaimed that Barbara Hutton Mdivani, heiress to the Woolworth millions, had lavishly spent \$10,000 in a single all-night party at a famous Parisian hotel. These two headlines tell the story of the dominating iron hand of capitalism over the down-trodden masses. These girls slaved daily eight and ten hours behind a counter, that the Princess heiress might throw a party that would startle the world.

Good potatoes have been selling as low as fifteen cents per bag in Simcoe County. Won't the farmers get rich on that.

It takes a lot of live people to make a live town.

Sir Robert Falconer, former president of Toronto University, is mentioned as a probable Liberal candidate in the Muskoka-Ontario riding in the next Federal election.

There are 1200 patients on the waiting list seeking admission to the Ontario Mental Hospital at Orillia. A large addition to the hospital is contemplated by the Ontario Government.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church at Strange in King Township, last Sunday celebrated its 97th anniversary. The original church was built of hewn logs in 1837.

Elmer Philpot, once strong advocate of the C.C.F., now declares that this movement has been killed because its members talked it to death.

Only two million hot dogs were sold to the sixteen million people who attended Chicago's Exhibition. Are tastes changing or people growing suspicious?

Egg production at the lowest point of the year accounted for the firm prices of recent weeks. The consumer hope the hens will soon get busy again.

A hick town is a place where you say "Gimme Jones' store," and Central says, "His phone has been took out."

Orillia Town Council, at the request of the bakers of the town, passed a resolution which is being submitted to the Provincial government, whereby municipalities would have the power to impose a tax or charge a license up to \$200 on outside bakers retailing bread within its territory.

"How did the Smith wedding go off?" "Fine until the parson asked the bride if she'd obey her husband." "What happened then?" "She replied, 'Do you think I'm crazy?' and the groom, who was in a sort of a daze replied: 'I do.'"

"Pay as you go" electric meters will be installed on the premises of consumers who are seriously behind in their accounts, a decision that effect being reached by Midland Public Utilities Commission. The meters may be adjusted to any rate, so that the consumer may be forced to gradually pay up his arrears while buying electricity for his present use, by adjusting the meter to a rate higher than the actual charge for Hydro.

When a deer jumped in front of the truck George Walker was driving, the impact nearly sent the five-ton vehicle into the ditch, and the animal suffered slight bruises and shock near Orangeville. Walker escaped serious injury, although he was thrown against the steering wheel with great force.

Legislation which would authorize municipalities to inflict such heavy taxes upon hawkers and peddlers as to force itinerant merchants out of business is strongly advocated by Clifton Stewart, president of the Orillia Retail Merchants' Association.

Who says the Bennett Government is not doing anything to relieve the burden of tariff taxation which is weighing upon the people? Bleached beeswax has been placed on the free list.

A farmer turned into his gate recently and met a tramp coming out. The tramp greeted by a friendly "Hullo," mistook the farmer for another wanderer in quest for a meal. "Say, mate," the tramp confided, "Don't go in there. The cooking's not up to much!"

The assumption of the entire cost of highway construction and maintenance by the Ontario Government relieves the municipalities of twenty per cent of the outlay. Of still greater importance to the taxpayers, no new taxation is to be levied to raise the amount formerly paid by the municipalities, the necessary funds being saved by reducing expenses.

Every one seems to produce its own class of criminals. The present decade will be known as the kidnapping and bank bandit era.

A group of men in a photograph look about as comfortable and conscious as a class of boys who have been playing hockey but are at last brought before an irate schoolmaster.

Talk seems to be the most expensive commodity that some people are willing to throw in towards the betterment of their home community.

Bridegroom (to the bride when they had settled down to keeping house after their honeymoon trip)—Now let us have a clear understanding as we settle down to married life. Are you the president or the vice-president of this organization?

Bride (sweetly)—I want to be neither president nor vice-president. I'll be perfectly content with a subordinate position.
Bridegroom—What position is that, my dear?
Bride—Treasurer.

Way Back in the Liberal Files

FIFTY YEARS AGO
From Our Issue of Nov. 20th, 1884
The fall session of the County Council opened on Tuesday last. There was a good attendance of members at the opening. Several notices of motion were made on the first day, among which were the following: by Mr. McClure—That a committee be appointed to investigate the matter of expense in the Industrial Home; By Mr. Turner—That all the toll-gates in the County be removed as soon as possible; By Mr. Jackson—That in the opinion of this Council, the school law be amended so as to provide for the election of school trustees by ballot.

The Village Council met in Lorne Hall on Wednesday, Nov. 19th. The Reeve in the chair, Members present: Messrs. Moodie, Hopper, Crosby and Law. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved, and several accounts were ordered to be paid. Moved by Mr. Moodie, seconded by Mr. Law, that the Reeve be authorized to sell the small fire engine to the best advantage, as it is not required for use by this Corporation. Moved

by Mr. Crosby, seconded by Mr. Hopper, that the Reeve be instructed to offer a reward of \$5.00 for the conviction of parties injuring property in the Village belonging to ratepayers. Carried. The council adjourned to meet on Wednesday, Dec. 17th.

The wheat this fall is looking well, and will likely brave the storms through the coming winter. In some places it has grown so high that farmers have thought advisable to cut the top off, as when too heavy it is in danger of being smothered by the snow.

Mr. E. J. Davis, Warden of the County of York, gave a banquet to the members of the County Council and a large number of invited guests from the city of Toronto and surrounding country, at the Albion Hotel, on Tuesday evening last. It was remarked by many during the evening that it was one of the most pleasant social gatherings of the year, and surpassed any previous Warden's dinner.

Deputy-Reeve Dooks has bought Teston church shed and gangs of men are moving it to be put up as soon as possible for shelter for stock and implements.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Marshall and daughter of Kettleby, Mrs. E. Campbell and Miss Ruth of Toronto and Mr. and Mrs. A. Marshall also of Toronto visited with D. McMurchy's, Sunday.

Anyone who wishes to send fruit to Fred Victor Mission may get their jars, also clothing and quilts would be appreciated for the W.M.S. bale.

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