

**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

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20th, 1934

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Once again Christmas time is here and once again we take this opportunity of expressing to our readers our sincere best wishes and the compliments of the season. May every home in this district experience the real joy and gladness of Christmas and may the world step a little nearer to a realization of that message of the first Christmas-tide, "Peace on Earth, Good Will Among Men." To one and all we extend again that time honored wish, A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

**A WORTHY CAUSE**

The Christmas season affords opportunities to help so many worthy people and deserving institutions or organizations, that it is not always easy to make a selection within the limits of your purse. There is however one, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, that yearly carries on its good work for little sufferers, of any denomination, from Ontario. As it accepts patients from outside Toronto, The Hospital for Sick Children does not receive anything from the Toronto Federation for Community Service. Its need of funds to enable it to assist its little patients is therefore always urgent. Last year no less than 7,511 children were nursed back to health and happiness. Then another 93,000 treatments were given to other children. What greater good could any person do than assist suffering childhood? Contributions may be sent to the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, and will be gratefully acknowledged. It will help to relieve the pain and misery of some unfortunate child or children, and helping "one of the least of these" will constitute its own reward.

**OPTIMISM**

We heard a good definition of an Optimist the other day: "A man who sees in every adversity some opportunity."

In these days of adverse business conditions is every man's opportunity to show his colors. Have we faith in ourselves and faith in this great and glorious country? Then don't sit back and let the other fellow start the ball of Prosperity rolling. Each of us must do our bit.

Throw aside that business mourning band, and use a brass band instead. There was never anything so good that it could not be improved upon, and the worse things are the more chance there is for improvement. Here's our opportunity, (yours and ours).

Prosperity doesn't always mean having a "good time" in the modern sense of those two words, but with the right spirit you will really ENJOY buckling down to business at hand, devoting time and energy to it, developing and gradually seeing it expand.

To bring back prosperity our country needs sane thinking, every man with his shoulder to the wheel, and wise spending.

Its the fellow who faces the sun who sees no shadow. Let's face the sun of PROSPERITY.

Let's get busy, everybody push and start the old ball rolling, then watch it get momentum and gather as it rolls.

**ARE YOU GOING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS?**

He little knew the sorrow that was in his vacant chair; He never guessed they'd miss him, or he'd surely have been there; He couldn't see his mother or the lump that filled her throat, Or the tears that started falling as she read his hasty note; And he couldn't see his father sitting sorrowful and dumb, Or he never would have written that he thought he couldn't come.

He little knew the gladness that his presence would have made, And the joy it would have given, or he never would have stayed.

He didn't know how hungry had the little mother grown Once again to see her baby and to claim him for her own. He didn't guess the meaning of his visit Christmas Day, Or he never would have written that he couldn't get away.

He couldn't see the fading of the cheeks that once were pink, And the silver in the tresses; and he didn't stop to think How the years are passing swiftly, and next Christmas it might be

There would be no home to visit and no mother dear to see. He didn't think about it—I'll not say he didn't care, He was heedless and forgetful or he'd surely have been there.

Are you going home at Christmas? Have you written you'll be there?

Going home to kiss your mother and to show her that you care?

Going home to greet the father in a way to make him glad? If you're not I hope there'll never come a time you'll wish you had.

Just sit down and write a letter—it will make their heart strings hum

With a tune of perfect gladness—if you'll tell them that you'll come.

**BICYCLES ON HIGHWAYS**

A boom in the bicycle trade is reported which is a good thing in a way, but it may be a mixed blessing. Cyclists are a danger to themselves and to motorists on the highways. They take their lives in their hands when they use the highways at night. Cars travel at such high speeds that the reflector is not visible until so near that it takes quick and cautious steering to get by without an accident. In the daytime cyclists sometimes "gang up" and parties of two or three boys ride together, often abreast so that they can converse. The most dangerous factor about cyclists is that so many of the younger riders do not keep an even course. They ride slowly, and either because of their slow pace, or because they are just "fooling around," they sway, or they deliberately steer deviously. This happens so suddenly and unexpectedly that motorists have little chance to avoid them. At best the highways are dangerous places for wheelmen nowadays, and while it is pleasing to know that the cycle trade is busy, there is much need for an educational campaign for safe riding.

**Fling The Gladness Boomerang**

By John Edwin Price

"When a bit of sunshine hits ye  
After passing of a cloud,  
When a fit of laughter gits ye  
An' yer spine is feeling proud,  
Don't ferget to up an' fling it  
At a soul that's feeling blue,  
For the minute that ye sling it  
It's a boomerang to you."

Who is these that does not like a cheerful soul? Who is there that doesn't have sufficient clouds and dark times in his life, so that he welcomes the ray of sunshine that accompanies a person who radiates good cheer?

The man who has gladness to share has a very valuable asset which he can always invest to advantage. A man who goes about with a watering pot of good deeds and encouraging words is going to share with someone when the gladness flowers bloom.

Or to again change the figure, if you throw a stone into the center of a pond the waves not only go out in the opposite direction from the stone but they also ripple back toward you. The same law holds true about gladness. When you fling some gladness into another's life the waves of its influence are sure to come your way.

Someone has said that happiness is a perfume. You cannot spray it on others without spilling some on yourself. No matter what figure is used to express it the truth is the same, there are boomerang qualities about the influence we let go out from our lives into others. That's why I say, "Fling the gladness boomerang."

Did I hear someone saying, "Aw, he's just enlarging on the old statement, 'Cast your bread upon the waters'." Well, I ain't said that I ain't.

**Gross Mismanagement of Farm Loans Uncovered By New Hepburn Administration**

ASTONISHING FACTS REVEALED

By the middle of January, the Ontario Farm Loan Board will have disposed of the 900 applications for loans which were reviewed by the previous board and when the last cheque has been paid out the board will cease to exist as a lending body. According to department officials, the Federal Farm Loan Act will become operative in Ontario under enabling legislation to be passed at the next session of the House and all loans will then be under Federal auspices.

The severe criticism launched by the United Farmers of Ontario in convention this week against the policies of the Ontario Farm Loan Board has directed public attention to this phase of activity and has somewhat overshadowed the all-important unemployment relief problem. Premier Hepburn said some time ago that when the true facts concerning the operations of the old board under the Henry Government were disclosed "the public will be staggered."

Very little has been told about the work of the board under W. B. Roadhouse, who was ousted by the present administration. But it is learned on the highest authority that no department of government in the province has been so mismanaged as has the farm loan board. Of the \$54,000,000 loaned since the board was created by the Drury government in 1920, \$40,000,000 was loaned to farmers in the past four years. And the vast majority of the 18,000 loans made since 1920 should never have been given, it is claimed. It is now considered doubtful whether the province will recover even half of the \$54,000,000.

Since J. B. Fairbairn, deputy minister of agriculture, took over the chairmanship of the board some months ago, an examination of the books and records of the old board have revealed some astonishing facts. Misapplication of funds received by the board from farmers in interest and principal, granting of loans to an amount in excess of actual value of farm properties, and general mismanagement of the work have been revealed.

New applications for loans will be considered by the board and approximately 900 applications which were reviewed and approved by the old board are now being dealt with. These applications have been investigated again and in numerous cases the amount of the loans approved by the former board have been reduced considerably. In many instances the approval has been cancelled.

Ontario farmers need not lose hope because of the decision to halt loaning money. It is believed the Ontario government is formulating its agricultural policies on the basis of a change in government at Ottawa. The Ontario loans are at five per cent whereas the Federal board loans money at five and a half per cent. Obviously this is too high an interest rate and undoubtedly it will be lowered if a Liberal administration is formed at Ottawa.

A rotating system of employment will give work to 25,000 men in then

Northern Ontario this winter. The Federal government's refusal to contribute to major proposals along the Trans-Canada Highway has thrown the full responsibility back on the Hepburn government. Extension of cash relief to additional municipalities was also announced during the week by Hon. David Croll, Welfare Minister.

The resolution passed by the U.F.O., asking the government to make the distribution of milk a public utility, is reported to be in line with the government's own views. The other day Hon. H. C. Nixon, Acting Premier, threw out a feeler when he said the government would give consideration to legislation of this nature. It is recognized that grave abuses have crept into the milk industry and that drastic changes will have to take place in the system of distribution. Farmers who have been long-suffering in the matter are at last becoming articulate and their loud demands for a fair profit from sale of milk are beginning to have effect. There is every reason to believe, judging from present signs, that important legislation will be enacted at the forthcoming session of the Legislature to abolish many of the abuses now prevailing.

**GAME FOR ALL TO ENJOY**

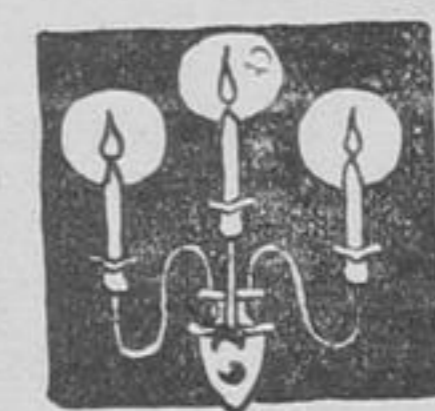
Christmas is always the time of merriment and the hostess who can provide a series of mirth-provoking games is assured of success. An amusing way to manage an evening's entertainment is to appoint some general man a Lord of Misrule, after the early English fashion, giving him the sceptre for the evening, with power to name the games, forfeits and reward.

Pitching snowballs through a holly or fir wreath can provide a lot of fun. The balls of cottonwood are allotted certain values, 1, 5, 10, etc. The guests are divided into teams, each guest taking a turn at throwing the balls through. The number on each ball which goes through is added to that team's score.

Those who are to take part in the obstacle race must leave the room, to be brought back just one at a time. A course is prepared, ornaments, books, etc., being placed here and there along the way. The player is told that he must avoid all the articles, under penalty. When he is blindfolded, the obstacles are quietly removed, but his elaborate efforts to avoid the obstacles which do not exist, are always amusing for the onlookers and to the player when the fold is removed from his eyes.

Ask each guest to bring to the party a photograph taken in early childhood or infancy. When you have collected them all, arrange them in a row on the wall and have the guests guess as to the identity of them. A prize may be given for the one who makes the most correct guesses.

Funny man! He will shed his blood for the right to govern himself and won't take the trouble to vote.



**Greetings to You All**

TO OUR FRIENDS AND PATRONS—TO EVERY ONE IN "OUR TOWN"—WE WISH A HAPPY CHRISTMAS—FULL OF ALL GOOD THINGS.

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**NEW YEAR'S WEEK-END:** On sale December 28 up to and including January 1. Return limit to leave destination not later than midnight Wednesday, January 2, 1935.

**FARE AND A THIRD FOR THE ROUND TRIP**

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