

THE LIBERAL

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SAFETY OF PEDESTRIANS

"The careless pedestrian must bear his share of the blame, too," says a bulletin of the Ontario Department of Highways, dealing with the 45,803 accidents on the roads of the province in the past five years, in which personal injury or property damage of more than \$50 was involved. These accidents have cost 2,495 lives, injury to 41,983 persons and property damage of \$4,846,757 a very heavy toll to pay for the use of motor cars, despite the added pleasure they have brought to many.

"The careless driver has a tremendous burden of guilt in these accidents," the bulletin emphasizes, but it is quite right in calling attention to the responsibility of the pedestrian.

The largest group of fatal pedestrian accidents is, of course, among children playing on the streets. But next in line, making up 16 per cent of the total of 1,058 pedestrians killed in five years, come those among people walking on rural highways.

"It is worthy of note," says the bulletin, "that in about 66 per cent of these cases the pedestrian was walking with the traffic instead of on the left side of the road and against traffic as has been recommended as the proper safe practice."

That is a point that is worth bearing in mind. In some states of the United States it is now compulsory under the law for pedestrians to walk on the left side of rural roads, and the principle seems a sound one, especially at night.

BURIED RURAL MAIL BOXES

A rural mail carrier's life has not been a happy one during the last three or four weeks, but the box-owners along the routes could reduce the hardships of the mail men by clearing the snow from the boxes.

Rural mail men are expected to place the mails in boxes provided for the purpose, they are not expected to dig down through snow drifts to find these boxes—though some of them have done so several times during the recent storms.

Owners of rural-mail boxes could help carriers immensely if they would at least see that the boxes are accessible.

We have never read the Departmental instructions to rural-mail carriers, but there is not much likelihood they contain any orders about digging down through drifts to locate the mail boxes, though they are on posts. Box owners might give the carriers a helping hand in this direction.—Goderich Star.

COUNTRY CORRESPONDENTS

Country correspondence is sometimes passed over lightly by those not interested in it—more often than not with a wisecrack as to lack of importance. Yet many readers look for the "News from the Corners" the first thing when they open the paper—not the war news from the Ethiopian front, or the world series baseball—but the little homely jottings about the real folk they know intimately, even to the astonishing intelligence of Mr. and Mrs. William Brown Sundayed with Mr. and Mrs. John Smith. And that brings us back once again to mention Mrs. Elizabeth Mahakey of Oasis, Missouri, who won first prize as best country correspondent in the United States. This lady lives in a village of twenty-seven persons, the only news correspondent there. Her prize included a trip to New York where she was greeted and feted by the big shots of the newspaper game and accorded every honor that the newspaper-world is capable of providing. She also won fifty dollars in cash and a silver trophy and it is interesting to note that she won it against 1,500 other contestants.

THE MIDDLE CLASS SUFFERS

There is in Canada the great middle class on whom the safety, the solidity and the future of the nation depends. On this class the great burden of taxes is falling, and will continue to fall in increasing weight, on the men and women who are trying to earn a fair and decent living, to maintain a home and raise a family. Unbearable taxes, a division of wealth through socialism or any other program means a destruction of this middle class. We have only to look to Russia where this class has been destroyed, and see a country of master and slave. We do not want the same thing to happen in Canada.—Listowel Banner.

COUNTY COUNCIL SETS POOR EXAMPLE

The constant plea for wiping out of county councils as unnecessary bodies is on the increase. Such incidents as occurred in the York County last week is largely responsible for the people becoming disgusted with county councils. York County Council appointed two members as their representatives on the York County Children's Aid Board, and it was whispered that these committeemen would receive \$7 per day for their services as do all other committeemen when meeting in between sessions of the council. The Children's Aid Board of probably fifteen members all serve without any remuneration, and even pay their own travelling expenses, and for the county to send in their representatives at such lucrative fees is certainly something that will not go down with the public or the members of the Aid very well. The County Council condemned the Children's Aid for their alleged extravagance, and rightly so, but the sort of example set by the council is to say the least not very commendable.—Stouffville Tribune.

HOW THE LIBRARY HELPS YOUR TOWN

Completes its educational equipment, carrying on and giving permanent value to the work of the schools.
Gives the children of all classes a chance to know and love the best in literature. Without a public library such a chance is limited to the very few.
Minimizes the sale and reading of vicious literature in the community, thus promoting mental and moral health.
Effects a saving in money to every reader in the community. Through the library every reader in the town can secure at a given cost from 100 to 1,000 times the material for reading or study that he could secure by acting individually.
Adds to the material value of property.
Appealing to all classes, sects and degrees of intelligence, it is a strong unifying factor in the life of a town.

NEWTONBROOK

The Kinsmen Quartette of Radio fame will take charge of the service next Sunday evening in Newtonbrook United Church. Their selections were very much enjoyed at the anniversary concert last autumn and no doubt those who heard them at that time will want to hear them next Sunday evening. Mr. Ramer will preach the sermon. A hearty welcome to all.

Through the kindness of one of our local dealers, Mr. Leo Johnson, a radio was installed in the United Church for the reception of the first radio address of His Majesty King Edward VIII since his accession to the throne. A large congregation including a number of the Sunday School scholars filled the church auditorium. Rising spontaneously to their feet at the playing of the National Anthem, the congregation united in tribute to His Majesty. The reception of the broadcast was exceptionally clear. The pastor was assisted in the service by Rev. Dr. G. S. Smith who offered prayers for the direction of the Empire and also for King Edward VIII and the Royal Family. A sermon for the children preceded the regular sermon which was given by the pastor. Fitting musical numbers were also an added attraction of the morning service.

A St. Patrick Tea will be held under the auspices of the W.M.S. at the home of Mrs. J. C. Bales, Lansing, on Tuesday, March 17th, from 3 to 7 p. m. Please keep this date in mind.

"Hitch hiking round the world" the illustrated story of a years wanderings through twenty-seven countries was enthusiastically received by a large and appreciative audience in the United Church on Tuesday evening of last week, held under the auspices of the Y.P.S. Leroy Tall was the lecturer and his simple method of narration, graphic and illuminating, just made you live with them on their trip around the world. It was a thrilling story of adventurous youth, admirably told, and one gained an insight into the conditions of the ordinary types of people of other lands that are not often portrayed on the screen. The illustrated pictures were master pieces and one could not help but admire the artistic beauty of the slides. Altogether it was a very splendid travelogue.

The Girls Mission Circle will meet at the parsonage for their regular meeting next Thursday, March 12th, at 8 p.m.

Mr. George Lockerlie, manager of the Sterling Store, Northmount, is in the Toronto General Hospital and expects to undergo an operation this week.

Mrs. W. T. Wells gave a dinner party for her aunt, Miss R. Stevenson of Toronto, in honor of her birthday which comes on Feb. 29th.

Miss Helen Bales is enjoying a few weeks holiday in Bermuda.

Mrs. W. T. New returned home last Tuesday after spending a couple of weeks with her mother in Shelburne.

Rev. and Mrs. A. H. Halbert visited the former's sister in Orangeville one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Brett of Petawawa Ave. who have been visiting their son, Rev. Arthur Brett, in San Carlos, California, since last October expect to arrive home about April 1st.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Smith and daughter Miss Ruth who have spent the last five months in Long Beach, California, are expected home very soon.

The Y.P.S. met last Monday evening with a good attendance. Miss Mary Douglas, convener of the Christian Fellowship, presided and led in the devotional worship service. The meeting was then handed over to the president, Mr. W. T. New, who led in a discussion in which all took part. It was announced that the annual Y. P.S. Rally would be held in Newtonbrook United Church some time in April.

A treat is in store for the members of the United Church Sunday School. On Saturday afternoon, Mar. 14th, after partaking of a sumptuous supper, the Sunday School staff of officers, teachers and scholars will enjoy a trip across Canada. The Sunday School superintendent, Mr. A. W. Galbraith, will conduct the tour and promises to have the entire party back safe and sound in time for Sunday School the following morning at 10 a.m.

We extend deepest sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Jackson of Connaught Ave. in the loss of their little son Roy, aged fifteen months, whose death occurred last week. Interment took place in Prospect Cemetery, Toronto, last Wednesday afternoon, with Rev. A. H. Halbert officiating.

TO FARMERS—Get a supply of Coopers Warble Fly Powder for your individual herd. It pays. I. D. Ramer & Son, phone 10.

TESTON

We were off the map last week owing to the fact that our correspondence was not taken from the mail box. Perhaps the bad state of the route was the cause.

Last Friday evening, Feb. 28th, a pleasing event was the birthday party for Mr. Hadwin at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. Kyle. "Mich" as he is familiarly called, has passed the eightieth milestone and is still enjoying good health. Some of his friends who attended the party were Mr. J. McLaughlin 79, Mr. Jerry Piercey 78, Mr. Eagen also in the seventies, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Diceman who are nearing 70. Oysters were served with other good things at supper. An enjoyable evening was spent and no doubt many events of the distant past were recalled. We extend many happy birthdays to Mr. Hadwin and his friends whose birthdays are near at hand.

There was a good attendance at Young People's Society on Sunday evening. It was Christian Fellowship evening and Miss Sadie Windas presided. Miss Muriel Kyle read the lesson. Miss Jean Hadwin read a poem "Eventide." The speaker of the evening was William Peterman whose talk was much enjoyed. The week previous Howard Heacock's Ever Ready had 18 members and Bob Watson's Excelsiors 12. This week they seemed fairly evenly divided.

Mrs. W. Williamson is recovering from an attack of mumps.

Miss Jessie Diceman is visiting in Aurora.

Mr. and Mrs. William Brown of Aurora were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Garnet Diceman on Sunday.

Misses Marion and Muriel Kyle were home for the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wilson, Mr. J. Walker attended the funeral of Mrs. Arthur Walker at King on Sunday, and on Monday Mr. and Mrs. Wilson attended the funeral of Mr. Malcolm Gray, Toronto, who died about ten hours after his sister, Mrs. Walker.

Mr. Howard Jackson is recovering from an accident when he cut his foot while chopping.

Shrove Tuesday was observed by the Women's Association here when the Society held a pancake social and despite the weather conditions there was a fine attendance. Following the serving of pancakes and other good things a sing-song followed with Rev. Davis at the piano, and a program of games. Pancake night was a great success adding fourteen dollars to the W.A. Funds.

The three act comedy drama "The Third Customer" will be presented by Teston Y.P.S. on Thursday evening, March 19th.



MATERNAL MORTALITY

There is no subject upon which there could be more unanimous agreement than there is concerning the desirability of safeguarding the life and health of all mothers.

The sole purpose of directing attention to deaths resulting from conditions associated with child-bearing is in the hope that public opinion will be aroused and will demand that every reasonable effort be made to prevent such unfortunate happenings, at least to the extent that our present knowledge makes prevention possible.

The arousing of public interest may create, on the part of the individual, a fear that is out of all proportion to the danger. It is desirable to reassure mothers that, as far as they individually are concerned, there is no cause for alarm, provided they place themselves under medical supervision early in their pregnancy, and then follow the advice and instructions which they receive.

Maternity is a public health responsibility only in a limited way. The public health organization, whether it be official or voluntary, can do very little except in co-operating with the doctor who has charge of the case. Indeed, the real purpose of the public health organization is to bring the patient and the doctor together.

It is well to recognize maternity as a medical problem. No amount of written or verbal advice, or of nursing care, can replace the medical examinations and supervision. Without these procedures, the life and health of the mother cannot be safeguarded.

The problem is not entirely medical because on a moment's thought, it will be obvious that social conditions play a dominant role. The underfed, over-fatigued mother, living under insanitary conditions, is far more a social problem than a medical one. Better

standards of living all around will contribute to the partial solution of this problem.

Without in any way diminishing enthusiasm for the better care of mothers, it is desirable to see this problem in its right proportions, to reassure prospective mothers, and not to overdue the critical denunciation of those who may seem to fail in their responsibilities. Encouragement some times brings results that criticism fails to secure.

Public opinion is valuable when it leads to an appreciation of conditions through a proper understanding, but it is dangerous if it becomes unbalanced through lack of information.

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

AND SO IT GOES

When comes around this time of year, I feel that spring is getting near, it's Nature's yearly trick; gets lighter in the morning now, when I go out to milk the cow, and don't get dark as quick.

I gaze upon my stack of wood, and feel it's holding out quite good, may even see me through; I'll see a robin any day, and it will be red-dressed and gay, the first one of its crew.

I read what weather prophets say, look for their message every day, I am a hopeful bloke; I joy to find some hopeful sign, or that we're close upon the time, when winter's back is broke.

Quite soon I'll hear the croaking frog, and so I thumb the catalogue note beans upon a pole; I'll grow a squash, 'twill be so big, you couldn't put it in a gig, nor in a deep-dug hole.

I'll get a hook, a piece of string, and I'll go fishing in the spring, I'll sit on the bank; I'll polish up my tan sedan, it's good enough for any man, I'll put gas in the tank.

And thus I think of days of spring and feel as glad as anything, I hum a merry tune; but then I read old Probs-to-day, and notice that he has to say—it will turn colder soon.

The origin of things is forgotten, and future historians will think the idea of Thanksgiving was to celebrate junior's survival of the big game.

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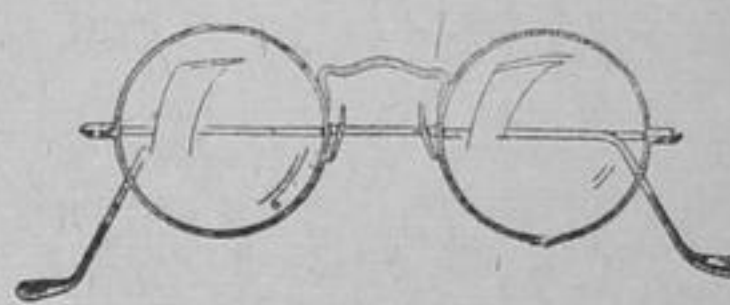
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