

"THE LIBERAL"

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31st, 1936.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The old year draws to a close — the new year is dawning. With a feeling of optimism we hail its approach. Business conditions in Canada in 1936 have shown an upward trend and the outlook for 1937 is distinctly promising. We have every reason to believe that in the coming year business activity will continue to increase and that there will be a greater measure of prosperity for all. At no time during the past six years has business in Canada presented a more encouraging picture, and the signs of the times should be encouraging to all but the confirmed pessimist. With the sincere wish that the promise of better times may be fully realized in 1937 and that the coming year may be one of health, happiness and prosperity for the people of this district we say to one and all, A Happy New Year.

THE VALUE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Two American writers, quoted in December Reader's Digest, make interesting contributions to that perennial subject of discussion, the value or otherwise of a college education. One of these writers—who graduated from Harvard 25 years ago—tells of the present standing of his fellow graduates of that period. The list of occupations given for these include almost every possible kind from that of president of a university or a high official in the League of Nations to owners of lunch counters and members of the Harvard Club of the penitentiary at Sing Sing.

One in eight of those covered by the survey are supported either by the government or by their families. Eighty are engaged in "finance," that is in telling others what to do with money they have not got themselves. Only 13 per cent even pretend to have taken any part in the public affairs of their country. The best record of all was made by one, now a distinguished scientist, who worked his way through college by serving as a night telephone operator and "sleeping heaven knows where."

An intelligence survey conducted in New York City by the other authority quoted, tells a somewhat similar story. "Children," says this writer, "who had to work for their money ranked higher than those who received allowances when at school. They did chores and so naturally developed a wider range of skill and abilities." In one case a study was made of 110,000 people on relief and the quickness with which re-employment was secured. Save in technical fields there was little difference between those with merely high school training and those with college education.

All of which is not the detriment of university training but the facts given do seem to indicate that such training is worthwhile only for those with the aptitude and industry to make it worthwhile.

THE BRITISH PEOPLE

It is impossible not to admire the strength and stability of British character during the exceedingly hard ordeal in the controversy which arose regarding the proposed morganatic marriage of King Edward. Emerson wrote that English character was at its best in a great crisis, and this is perfectly true, if it be broadened to mean British, which includes all the races. English, Scotch, Irish and Welsh. The shock of the sudden publication of the details in the British press after a long period of silence might easily have upset a more excitable people, but from Premier Baldwin and the House of Commons, down to the crowds on the streets, with only a few exceptions, good judgments and restraint were displayed. It reached its climax at the abdication of King Edward and the proclamation of the new King George VI. In the response to the appeal made by Premier Stanley Baldwin in the House of Commons, the British people closed their ranks and the entire nation became solidly anchored to the new King. From first to last during the period of crisis and suspense the people preserved a truly patriotic frame of mind. Even the political parties refused to take advantage of the situation for political gain, and those who assayed to do so found their influence seriously diminished.

A SUCCESS RECIPE FOR 1937

This is success: to live beyond deceit,
Too big to play the liar or the cheat,
Too big to lean when burdens heavy grow,
Asking no favor from a friend or foe,
Standing to life and all that it may mean
With head erect and hands and conscience clean.

This is success: to live from year to year
Not asking always sunny skies and clear,
But wise enough to know and understand
Life never runs exactly as we've planned;
Seeking the best, but when the worst is met
Taking the blow without too much regret.

This is success: with all to play the friend,
Willing to give and glad at times to lend,
Laughing and singing whensoever you may,
But walking bravely through the rainy day,
Giving your best throughout the passing years,
Neither deceived by flattery nor by sneers.

This is success: the love of friends to win,
To taste no pleasure that may lead to sin,
To take no profit from the hand of shame,
But by a fair fight win or lose the game;
To get from life such triumphs as you can,
But still through good or ill to play the man.

—Edgar A. Guest.

Municipal election day is the time when ratepayers have the opportunity of electing those who will manage their business for the coming year. Public business after all is merely the business of every citizen, because every ratepayer is a shareholder in the municipality. When you elect a member of council you are selecting a man to transact your business. It is important business and we trust that in the municipalities throughout this district there will be a large and representative expression of the will of the people on Monday next.

WAY BACK IN LIBERAL FILES

FORTY YEARS AGO

From our Issue of Dec. 31st, 1896
The Municipal Council for Markham Township were on Monday elected by acclamation as follows: Reeve, W. Scott; 1st Dep.-Reeve, J. Lawrie; 2nd Dep.-Reeve, A. Quantz; 3rd Dep.-Reeve, Dimme; Councillor, John Eckardt.

Business circles in the west end of Toronto will lose a well known figure in the death of Mr. Thomas Glass, which occurred on Saturday morning from blood poisoning after an illness of four weeks. He was a native of Richmond Hill and carried on a saddlery establishment on Queen Street west for sixteen years—Globe. Mr. Thomas Glass whose death is noticed above, served his apprenticeship with Mr. Wm. Harrison of this Village.

Inspectors for the Mercantile and Imperial Insurance Companies were here on Monday and adjusted the claims for insurance on the school buildings recently destroyed by fire. The former gave an order for the full claim, \$2000, and the latter allowed \$57 for damage done to the Public School building. The Board have reason to thank the insurance companies for the promptness in which the claims were settled, as well as Mrs. Redditt, who is agent for both companies. The inspectors marvelled at the good work done by the firemen in saving the surrounding buildings.

A quiet wedding was celebrated on Wednesday, December 9th, when Mr. Charles Clark, of Headford, was married to Miss Jennie, eldest daughter of Mr. E. Barker. The ceremony was conducted by Rev. J. W. Morgan at the Methodist Parsonage, Thornhill. The young couple started immediately for the north on a visit, returning Christmas Day, when a reception was given them at the residence of the bride's father. The popularity of the contracting parties may be judged from the fact that almost one hundred guests partook of dinner. The presents to the bride were both numerous and costly.

There will be no election for Vaughan Municipal Council this year, all the members having been elected by acclamation as follows: Reeve, S. J. Arnold; 1st Deputy Reeve, A. Bryson; 2nd Deputy Reeve, J. H. Kirby; Councillors, W. Watson, J. N. Boyle. The following were nominated but resigned: For Reeve, A. Bryson, T. F. Wallace, J. N. Stong, J. McNeil; for 2nd Deputy Reeve, J. B. McLean; for Councillor, J. Bell.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From our Issue of Dec. 27th, 1906
Mr. Robert Elliott, for many years a respected resident and well known farmer of Jefferson, passed away Saturday evening after being confined to his bed for about a month. The funeral yesterday was largely attended by relatives and friends. Interment took place in the Aurora cemetery. The funeral service was conducted by Rev. A. P. Brace, assisted at the house by Revs. R. Godfrey, N. Wellwood and T. Leonard.

At the residence of the bride's parents, Richmond Hill, on December 26th, 1906, by the Rev. L. H. Kirkby, Aurora, Edith May, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Smith to Charles Kerswill, Elgin Mills.

Mr. J. H. Ramer of Bloomington, has been busily engaged in unloading lumber for the grain elevator to be erected at the new station at Richmond Hill.

More than ordinary interest will doubtless be taken in the public meeting next Monday evening for the nomination of Reeve, Councillors and School Trustees. This is as it should be. We see no reason why our resident ministers, as well as all other good citizens should not be present and take part in the proceedings. We would suggest that the council provide a larger room than the council chamber for the nomination.

A large and well-given programme marked the school closing and Xmas Tree given by Mr. Fred Graham on Thursday evening. Much credit reflects on those who put so much energy into the work.

The closing exercises of Mr. Lewis Nichols' school on the 3rd were carefully prepared, and greatly enjoyed by all. The prettily-decorated school house, and the unique programme, meant work for some one.

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Ottawa Spotlight

By Wilfrid Eggleston

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—This is the season when year-end reviews flourish and forecasts are made of the coming 12 months. We have been saying that "things are getting better" for so many months now—some people have been saying it ever since 1930—that the more sceptical may be excused if they refuse to be impressed. But aside from the calamitous drought which reduced the western wheat crop to the lowest yield since 1919, and brought 250,000 people to destitution, the year 1936 has been one of remarkable recovery in Canadian industrial life. There is not the slightest doubt about it.

I have before me the figures for Canada's external trade. For the 12 months ended November 30th (December totals not yet being available) the exports of Canadian produce just miss the billion dollar mark. That was 178 millions more than the year before, 250 millions more than the previous year, 404 millions more than in 1933. Imports, similarly, are up 70 millions above the previous year, 111 millions above the year before, 226 millions higher than 1933. For 17 consecutive months the value of Canadian exports has registered a big gain over the same month of the previous year.

(Prospects for 1937)

What of 1937? Is it too much to expect that at long last the construction industry, including house-building, will return to normal activity, re-employing at one stroke at least 200,000 persons, directly and indirectly? That the federal budget will be brought within a few millions of a balance? That a new trade agreement, practically as advantageous as the last, will be ratified with the United Kingdom? That the burden of unemployment relief will ease everywhere, and in the happier localities disappear altogether?

The year 1937 will mark the beginning of the Trans-Canada air mail and passenger service from Winnipeg to Vancouver, and the completion of the landing fields and flying aids in the difficult section from Ottawa to Winnipeg. It will see the first of an expansion program of the Canadian Broadcasting corporation, whereby existing stations will be made more powerful and new ones will be begun.

The coming year will see the department of agriculture re-organized into three main divisions, under a director of production, a director of marketing, a director of experimental farms. It will see a long-range constructive program begun for the worst of the drought 'pockets' on the prairies.

The coronation, followed by the imperial conference at London, will be a highlight of the year. A new national defence policy will be threshed out in the House of Commons and the Senate. The national leaders will have to decide whether to strengthen Canada's land, sea and air forces, or whether to use the limited funds at the disposal of the government for only one or two of these.

Will 1937 see further lowering of Canada's tariff wall, notably in British preferential lines? It would not be surprising. Will it see the signing of a new St. Lawrence waterway treaty, or an endorsement of the present one by the United States Senate?

(Re-vamping the Constitution)

Will the whole basis of the financial agreements in the B.N.A. act be studied by a commission of eminent authorities, to see whether a division of obligations and taxing powers suitable for 1867 is still adequate? Will the government again go into the wheat business with a government board, or will the Turgeon commission advise that the best interests of all concerned lie in the retention of the present private grain exchange at Winnipeg?

And what of Canada's penitentiaries, now under review by a royal commission. Will there be new stress placed on modern theories of penology and reformation?

Given peace and tranquility throughout the world, it would not be difficult to chart with some assurance the main developments of Canadian life in 1937. But all things lie at the moment in the lap of the gods. At least it can be said that the broad foundations are in existence for a period of substantial betterment in Canadian life. Probably some of the worst inequities and injustices remain untouched. But a rising price level for primary products will make it possible once more for goods to be exchanged on a reasonably equal basis. Removal of many trade obstacles will add to the real income of thousands of people. A fair to heavy wheat crop with the good price which is now almost guaranteed, coupled with high produc-

tion and satisfactory prices in other production areas would work wonders. As the national income rises, the relative burden of taxation falls. So does the cost of relief.

TEMPERANCEVILLE

The annual meeting and election of officers of the Temperanceville W.M.S. was held at the home of Mrs. James Paxton on Thursday afternoon of last week. Mrs. Paxton presided for the devotional period. Rev. Westcott presided for the election of officers and the following members were elected to office: Honorary president, Ms. Westcott; President, Mrs. Jas. Paxton; vice-president, Mrs. Ray Jennings; secretary, Mrs. Roy Follitt; treasurer, Mrs. J. Umehara; organist, Mrs. Albert Follitt; Officers for the W. A. were elected as follows: president, Mrs. R. Brown; vice-president, Mrs. H. Clark; secretary, Mrs. W. Jennings; treasurer, Mrs. W. Lloyd. A lunch hour brought the meeting to a close.

The regular monthly meeting of the Willing Workers Mission Band was held at the home of Mrs. Umehara last Saturday afternoon. Mildred Follitt the president presided for the devotional and business periods. Millie Umehara read the story from the Study Book which proves to be very interesting from time to time. A splendid report of the year's work was given by the secretary, Reta Rumble. Mary Brown rendered a beautiful Christmas solo. Rev. Westcott presided for the election of officers and the following members were elected to office: Honorary president, Mrs. Umehara; President, Mildred Follitt; vice-president, Edna Follitt; recording secretary, Reta Rumble; corresponding secretary, Ruth Bateson; treasurer, Millie Umehara; program committee, Mary Brown and Mae Harman; recreational convener, Doris Payne; pianist, Jean Umehara.

The euchre club met last Tuesday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Giles Kerswill. There were seven tables and thirteen hands played. Prizes were awarded to the following: Men, 1st, Mr. C. Henshaw; consolation, William Barker Jr. Ladies, 1st, Mrs. C. Henshaw; consolation, Edna Follitt.

A large crowd attended the chicken supper and concert held in the Parish Hall last Saturday evening.

The regular meeting of St. John's A.Y.P.A. met in Parish Hall last Monday evening. Mrs. W. Whitten, the president, presided. Essays were given by the following members: Helen Rooney, Thelma Wood, Ella Dibb and Mae Thompson. Mr. Donald Frisby of Richmond Hill was the guest speaker. Some very interesting games were played conducted by Mary Stephenson. Lunch was served. Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Gowan of Aurora, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Paxton, Mrs. W. Mount and Mr. and Mrs. Noel Milne of Toronto spent Christmas Day with Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Beynon.

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Happy New Year

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