

"THE LIBERAL"

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7th, 1937.

A WORTHY UNDERTAKING

The citizens of this community are undertaking a worthwhile enterprise in sending a carload of supplies to the drought stricken areas in Western Canada. This section of Ontario has enjoyed a bountiful harvest and a little effort will gather up a lot of fruit and vegetables which will not be missed by the givers and will be greatly appreciated by those unfortunate people who will receive the donations.

The situation existing to-day in many sections of the prairie provinces is a national calamity of the first magnitude. The drought was more complete and more extensive than ever before in the previous crop history of the west. The estimated yield of wheat in the prairie provinces this year is 35,000,000 bushels compared with 283,000,000 bushels in 1929.

The extent of the stricken area is approximately 84,000 square miles—practically equal in area to England, Wales and Scotland. Within its borders are five cities including Regina and Saskatoon, 341 small towns, and a farm population of over 350,000 occupying about 90,000 farms with over 30,000,000 acres of improved land. Fodder is so scarce that 300,000 head of livestock will have to be sold. Gardens were a failure over the entire area as what escaped the drought was destroyed by grasshoppers.

It is a sad picture and everything possible should be done to send relief to our unfortunate Fellow-Canadians.

CHANGES IN ONTARIO SCHOOLS

At long last the majority of children have started back to school throughout Ontario, and this year face a considerably changed course of study. New regulations issued by the Ontario Department of Education provide for rather sweeping changes in the methods of teaching in the public schools. Grades affected by new regulations will be from one to six.

Most radical changes in the new course include discouragement of written examinations as tests of students' progress; discouragement of homework for pupils up to grade six; less stress in the factual type of teaching; greater freedom for teachers in grading pupils and the teaching of Old and New Testament parables because "the curriculum should be pervaded by the spirit of religion."

In the 164 page volume outlining the new courses, rigid time limits for each subject will be abandoned, the report states. "In planning the work and play of a class it may be sufficient to remember that the time table should be flexible, should permit the necessary variety, and should provide in just balance for every type of activity," one passage states.

The division of class time for subjects suggested is English, 30 per cent., social study, 20 per cent., and 10 per cent. each for health, natural science, arithmetic, music and art. Ten per cent. is roughly estimated at one-half hour per day.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

In Canada and the United States the week of October 3rd to 9th is being observed as Fire Prevention week. The Dominion Fire Prevention Association in co-operation with Provincial Fire Marshals, local Fire Chiefs and others are co-operating with civic organizations in the furtherance of the aims of Fire Prevention. About 350 people are burned to death and a much larger number are injured by fire in Canada every year. The recorded loss of property by fire in Canada during the 15 years, 1921 to 1936, exceeded \$650,000,000. In other words, at our present burning rate, approximately one human life is sacrificed and \$110,000 worth of property is destroyed every day in the year. Fire is no respecter of persons. Every man has a responsibility towards his neighbours and that responsibility should cause every right-thinking person to pause and consider what he owes the community in which he lives. We owe it to ourselves but in a greater degree to our fellow-citizens to permit no condition to exist upon our premises that will invite a visitation of fire. A great majority of fires are so easy to prevent that it is certainly a moral crime to tolerate the things which bring them about. Cities and towns, like individuals, reap what they sow. To permit the erection of fire-traps, to fail to provide an abundant and reliable water supply and means of using it or to fail to apply the everyday rules of fire prevention, is to constantly face a menace of heavy fires and sweeping conflagrations. Why tolerate a condition which not only levies tribute upon life and property but in effect imposes an added cost to the conduct of every feature of business activity and increases the burden of the people in providing the necessities of life. We cannot afford to go on and be indifferent to it all. Fire Prevention Week is a particular week set aside to call attention to the menace of fire. Are you doing your part?

CANADA MAY BALANCE BUDGET

Coming from unexpectedly increased revenues a balance may be achieved next year of the Canadian budget. For the first five months of the current fiscal year, every kind of revenue has shown an expansion with the income tax and sales tax being the leaders. Customs and excise duties, post office receipts follow close behind. To nullify some of the prospective increases will be a considerable rise in expenditures before the end of 1937, chiefly because of relief works and the completion of the National Defense program, but this is not expected to hold back to any great extent our steady progress towards a balanced budget.

HEALTH

A HEALTH SERVICE OF THE CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN CANADA



DRY FEET

There are certain small things which, if neglected, may cause a considerable amount of discomfort; whereas, if attended to, they go far to make for comfort. One of these is the question of keeping the feet dry. If we allow our feet to become wet and then sit for some hours at home, in school or at work, the chilling of the feet, while the rest of the body is warm does, for some reason, predispose to colds in the head. In order to avoid head colds which are such a nuisance and which, sometimes, lead to serious trouble, the feet should be kept dry and warm.

It is much more sensible to buy a pair of rubbers than to spend money on doctor's bills. It is much better to take an extra minute or two to put on a pair of rubbers than it is to spend a day or two in bed as a result of having got the feet wet.

It is not always possible for us to avoid wet feet; sometimes the rain is unexpected and we are caught "un-awares." In such cases, shoes and stockings should be changed without delay, and the feet given a good brisk rub with a rough towel.

Clothes should be worn according to the thermometer. In winter, shoes should have thick soles, or light shoes should be worn under overshoes. If woolen stockings are necessary to keep the feet warm, they should be worn. There is a difference in individuals; some require heavier foot clothing than others in order to keep the feet warm. This is something which we must learn from our own experience and by which we must be guided.

Parents will find that they will accomplish something worth while in preventing colds if they make sure that their children's feet are kept dry and warm during the fall, winter and spring seasons. It requires a little preparation in the way of providing rubbers and overshoes, and, when they are provided, it needs some supervision to see that they are worn, but the effort will be well repaid in greater freedom from this winter nuisance and danger.

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

SLATS' DIARY

(By Oliver N. Warren)

Sunday: It was a grand feeling I enjoyed when I awakened this a. m. It were becos no boddie was yellen get up & mow the yard and etc. If it wassent for S. S. I could of sleep as long as I please.

Monday: But it was sertenly different this a. m. It seamed like just about 1/2 a hr. after I went to bed that Pa 5 Ma both sed to me in a stern voice get up & wash for breakfast. & as the wether neerly frosted it were tuff to throw off the blanket. But I were game & fineley did so.

Tuesday: The teacher wanted to no what I & Jake & Blisters was going to be when we get men. I sed a plummer shop & Jake sed confckshener & ice cream parlor. Blisters sed a preecher & becoss they dont have to do no work xcept visit among the ladsy & get good things to eat and etc. Maby I will be 1 all so.

Wednesday: Jake sed he is a majishen & can prove same. I sed less see you do it then & he sed he called on Elsy last evning & made her littell bruther & a penny both disappear at the same time. After some thot I was abel to see the funny part.

Thursday: Ant Emmy thinks she knows it all but I guess she dossent. Enny how she was out to our milk man's house & barn & etc. & he sed to her this is the latest milking masehen & she wanted to know wood it give better milk than a cow.

Friday: There is still some joy in the world even if not for the past 4 days. Today ended the schoolwk. & tomorro & Sunday I will be out in the grate open spaces. Unless Ma & Ant Emmy can think up sum thing that otto be done that I dont know nothing about.

Saturday: They did. They sum way got tipt off that the basement aint clean enuff to put coal in it. It is now. Or I suppose so. I cleened on it so long I all most faled to get to ft. ball practis before any of the other kids. Killed 2 birds with 1 rock. 1 bath only after cleening basement & practising ft. ball.

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WE WHO ARE ABOUT TO DIE— SALUTE YOU!

That was the greeting the gladiators of old gave to the Roman emperor before they perished in the arena.

But we are not gladiators and we are not going into battle. We have no hate for anyone. We are not sick of life. We do not wish to die. But we will, by the hundreds.

We are the people who are going to die in fatal motor accidents during the years 1937 and 1938.

Most of us have not even a premonition of the fate which awaits us. We do not realize that Death lurks around the corner. We have not seen his shadow nor heard his footsteps. And Death awaits.

Waits around the bend in the next car's faltering brakes, in the trail of some chance driver who loves to "jockey" in a line of traffic or wish past another car on a curve or hill. In the street, on the open highway, what matter where? Death waits and does not announce his coming.

We are marked down to die. The great god called Statistics has written down our names in his big book and by actuarial laws we are doomed.

We do not know it, but Death is coming.

Some of us are little children. Our deaths will be more horrible, more tragic, than others. But die we will. Parents, teachers and professional life-savers with all their earnest warnings will avail us not. We are marked down.

We are careless now. We do not take thought. Have you never been a child? Do you not know what it is to be a stranger to responsibility, to depend on others for care, for shelter, for protection?

Yes, protection. That is one of the things the child is taught to expect from his elders; something in a cruel and reckless age he does not receive.

Our deaths will be more tragic because more cruel than all the others. You can see the headlines: "Five children killed in safety zones," "Tots run over on way from school."

You will read these headlines many times over in the next year. But will you heed them? We who are about to die—salute you!

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