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MAKING CANADA A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE AND WORK

Last year, publishers of weekly newspapers across Canada honoured George W. James, of The Bowmanville Statesman, with the Presidency of The Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association. In keeping with his desire to give constructive leadership to this organization and to be of service to it, as well as Canada as a whole, he wrote two score of the Dominion's leaders in government, religion, education, industry, finance, and business. In each case he sought their opinions as to Canada's greatest needs and the manner in which these needs should be met.

To each he put just one question: "What can the Editors of weekly newspapers do to make Canada a better place in which to live and work?" The replies of these distinguished gentlemen have been studied since by the Editorial Committee of the Association. Journalists all over Canada have hailed these answers as a most constructive contribution toward the solution of many of the country's present day problems.

Commencing in this issue, this week, we are publishing each week, one of these letters. We believe that our readers will see in these letters the tremendous value that others have seen in them. The Canadian Printer and Publisher, Toronto, a trade magazine, describes these letters as "valuable documents of authoritative observation." That, in truth is what they are, for they are written by men who are leaders in their own particular sphere of activity, successful men who have risen to the top by the force of their own ability and personality.

Among the leaders of our country whose letters will appear from week to week are included: Sir Edward Beatty, President of the Canadian Pacific Railway; S. J. Hungerford, President of the Canadian National Railways; Col. J. B. Maclean, Founder of the Maclean Publishing Company; S. H. Logan, Past President of the Canadian Bankers' Association; C. H. Carlisle, President of the Dominion Bank; W. R. Campbell, President, Ford Motor Company; T. A. Russell, President, Massey-Harris Co.; C. L. Burton, President, Robert Simpson Co.; His Excellency, the Cardinal Villeneuve of Quebec, head of the Roman Catholic Church in Canada; V. R. Smith, General Manager, Confederation Life Assurance Company; A. A. Dyrart, Premier of New Brunswick; W. J. Patterson, Premier of Saskatchewan; T. D. Pattullo, Premier of British Columbia; Rev. Dr. R. P. Bowles, ex-Chancellor of Victoria University; B. W. Coghlin, ex-President, Canadian Manufacturers' Association; James A. Richardson, Chancellor, Queen's University; J. S. Woodsworth, Leader of the C.C.F.; Rev. Dr. Hugh Munroe, Moderator, Presbyterian Church in Canada; Rt. Rev. Peter Bryce, D.D., Moderator, United Church of Canada; A. M. Miller, Director of Advertising, Chrysler Corporation of Canada; Dr. Horace L. Brittain, Director, Citizens' Research Bureau of Canada; B. W. Keightley, President, Association of Canadian Advertisers; Harold M. Gully, Vice-President, Silverwood's Toronto Dairy, Limited; Geo. S. Houghham, Secretary, Retail Merchants' Association of Canada; Frank Pendergast, Assistant to the President, Imperial Oil Limited; W. A. R. Kerr, President, University of Alberta; John C. Kirkwood, Sales Promotion and Feature Writer, Toronto; H. Napier Moore, Editor, Maclean's Magazine; A. A. McIntosh, Editor-in-Chief, The Globe and Mail; Dr. A. R. Carman, Editor, Montreal Daily Star, and several others.

The subjects dealt with include the conduct of government, politics, religion, trade and commerce, social problems, unemployment, problems of the home, education, health, insurance and other matters of national and individual importance.

In presenting them to our readers, we do so with the thought in mind that every Canadian should be vitally interested in the solution of the great problems that confront us, and we feel that individually we might be better equipped to do our part in bringing about a solution after having perused the letters of these great leaders in the life of our Dominion. The editor will welcome comments from readers on these letters from week to week. Often, by free, frank, and open discussion many helpful points are brought to the surface, not thought of at first, and from people who seldom appear in the limelight.

COUNTY COUNCILS

There is talk of the legislature abolishing county councils and cutting down its own numbers. If county councils go, the Richmond Hill Liberal will be on the band-wagon. The Liberal has been waging ceaseless war on the county legislature. The county council does seem to be just another spending body, not immediately responsible for its spending to the taxpayers. The county council has served a good purpose in evening things up, in roads, education and hospital costs, between town and country, but the provincial government can achieve the same thing through judicious grants. We think it only a matter of time until county councils go, and if the tempestuous Mr. Hepburn begins to think about it, they are likely to go in a hurry.—Newmarket Era.

LIKELY ALMOST UNANIMOUS

The question of eliminating County Councils is fast becoming a live issue if one may judge from the numerous expressions of opinion that are being heard and read at present and if a vote were taken on the matter it might resemble the recent vote in Germany and Austria.—Markham Sun.

PEACE AND WELL-BEING

The production of commodities which were unknown 50 years ago now provides employment for a fourth of all those engaged in gainful occupation in the United States. Forty per cent of the sales of one of the largest American corporations are represented by articles which have been developed within the past ten years. The fathers of men of today were middle-aged before the coming of railways, steamships and the telegraph revolutionized means of travel and communication. The electric light, telephone, motor car and radio are developments which all had their origin within the memory of men little past their prime.

All these great forward steps in adding to comfort and convenience had their origin in times of comparative peace. How much more could be added to the promotion of human comfort and happiness if peace could be made the normal in national relations.

Interesting Account of Visit To Ottawa Experimental Farm

By Gordon Graydon, M.P.

Meet Dr. E. S. Archibald, Chief in Command of the Experimental Farms in Canada. You'll like the Doctor when you meet him for he combines good humour, courtesy and easy approachability with sound common sense, a keen analytical mind and a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of his work. He gives one the impression of a business executive when you first meet him and to handle the heavy responsibilities he would need to have exceptional executive capacity. I found him this morning at the administrative buildings at the Central Experimental Farm. It was raining "cats and dogs", but rain or no rain he insisted upon taking me for a tour of the great agricultural plant of which he is the head and of which he is so proud. The administration building is just 2 1/2 miles from the Parliament Buildings—just a nice little walk before breakfast. It is a new structure and was opened in June 1936, by the Prime Minister. In memory of Sir Charles Saunders, who discovered Marquis wheat the building was named.

Before telling you something of the farm, I must say a word or two about my most interesting guide. Dr. Archibald was born at Yarmouth in Nova Scotia. His father was a lumberman and fruit grower. Young Archibald went through primary and secondary schools in that province and then proceeded to Acadia University where he received a degree in Arts. He wanted to go into agriculture. Money was scarce, so he decided to make some ready cash to enable him to attend the Agricultural College at Guelph. He first went to work as a herdsman for a well-known breeder of shorthorn cattle in Middlesex county and after staying there for awhile went to work in 1907 for B. H. Bull & Sons at Brampton. There he stayed for 2 years as herdsman and learned a good deal about the art of breeding and raising Jerseys. In 1909 he found that he had enough financial reserves to attempt the course at Guelph. For four years he was there and after graduation he was given the chair of Animal and Field Husbandry at Truro Agricultural College in his native province. At the end of four years' service in that capacity he was appointed Dominion Animal Husbandman at the Experimental Farm at Ottawa. The year 1918 saw his appointment as Director of Dominion Experimental Farms, a position he has filled with distinction ever since. Mrs. Archibald is a girl from the Maritime provinces but her father was formerly a bank-manager at Kitchener, Ontario. Talk about your proud fathers! You should have seen the fond expression on his face when I asked him what family he had. Two girls comprise the family. One is 19 and studying at Queen's University while a younger one is preparing to enter that educational institution. No doubt was left in my mind but that they were the apples of their dad's eye.

And now for a tour of the farm. The deed to the farm calls for 860 acres situated at the south limit of the city of Ottawa in the county of Carleton. 320 extra acres are rented by the government to be used for experimental purposes while nearly 1,500 acres at the Connaught Rifle Ranges are similarly used for grazing land. In the busy summer months about 550 are employed altogether at this huge farm. Just now there are less than 400 out there.

The Central Experimental Farm was started in 1886 by Sir John Carling who was then Minister of Agriculture and since that date it was developed to the point of efficiency and value of which it boasts today. I cannot, in this short article, deal with all the phases of the farm work but will deal briefly with the principal features. The work at the farm comes under the following heads: Animals and poultry, field husbandry, bees, illustration stations and the five plant divisions of cereals, horticulture, forage crops, tobacco and fibre crops.

As we went to the far end of the farm we saw the farm buildings which formerly belonged to the Booth family, the barns of which now house a hundred head of pure-bred shorthorn cattle. The herd is used for studies of production and for pasture investigation work. Dr. Archibald told me that these barns had a great record for animal health. There have been no cases on record so far of either tuberculosis or Bang's disease. A real Scotsman is in charge of this herd—Archie McKinvin. He came out for this purpose in 1927 after farming twenty years in Ayrshire.

On the way in from the Booth farm one passes the nutrition barn where a check is being made on the

digestibility of all Canadian feeds and in the distance may be seen the new fire-proof Records Buildings where many of the government departmental records will, in future, be stored. Much experimentation is going on with various kinds of grasses and horticultural plants as well as grains. The new smut-proof varieties of grain are attracting wide attention among farmers in Canada. The horse stable is a most up-to-date building. One Clydesdale mare now in foal has so far produced nine fillies. She is fourteen years of age. Windlaw Gay Man, a beautiful, well-bred Clydesdale stallion is one of five imported about four years ago. There are about 45 head of horses altogether at the farm. Only Clydesdales are kept there. Other breeds may be found at Experimental Farms elsewhere in the Dominion. Another son of old Scotland, Alexander McKendrick, has looked after the horses for seventeen years and is as proud as a peacock of them all. Only two breeds of cattle are to be found at this farm—Holsteins and Ayrshires. About 100 head are stabled just now. I was impressed with the sanitary condition of the stables. The cow-stable has stanchions and water in front of the cows. Milking machines are used and a thorough test of each type of machine has been made in the past few years. No milk is sold. Most of it is made into cheese and butter by way of experimental work and the farm dairy is a model of cleanliness. It has a pasteurizing plant and a testing laboratory in connection with it.

One of the interesting experiments being conducted at the farm is in connection with Yorkshire and the Swedish Landrace hogs. The experimental stage has not yet been passed but the two types are being closely observed by the officials. The Landrace hog has "flop" ears and a small compact shoulder with a deeper and fuller ham. This is the breed which the Danes largely use to capture the British bacon market. The officials at the farm seem to think that the Yorkshires are still superior but the experiments are not complete as yet. The Landrace sows so far have produced on an average of 6.5 pigs per litter while the Yorkshires average 8.5. In Denmark the Landrace makes a much better showing than that. Climatic conditions here may have something to do with it.

THE FOOT PATH TO PEACE

To be glad of life, because it gives you the chance to love and to work and to play and to look up at the stars; to be satisfied with your possessions, but not content with yourself until you have made the best of them; to despise nothing in the world except falsehood and meanness and to fear nothing except cowardice; to be governed by your admirations rather than by your disgusts; to covet nothing that is your neighbor's except his kindness of heart and gentleness of manners; to think seldom of your enemies, often of your friends and every day of Christ; and to spend as much time as you can with body and with spirit, in God's out-of-doors—these are little guide-posts on the foot-path of peace.—Henry Van Dyke.

COULD THEY?

(Smiths Falls Record-News) There are many people who seem to feel that they could run a newspaper much better than the Editor. Maybe so! But, from our observation, the man who thinks he could run a newspaper with all ease and please all the people, is having a heck of a time to keep people pleased in his own line of business.

There are no duplicate keys to the heart of a wise maid.

Time prevents any elaboration on the services which I should describe at the farm but I hope this gives my readers a little glimpse of the experiments being conducted at this big agricultural institution.

NEXT WEEK—Grant MacNeil, C. C.F. Member for Vancouver-North.

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