

**"THE LIBERAL"**

Established 1878

AN INDEPENDENT WEEKLY

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AT RICHMOND HILL

J. Eachern Smith, Manager

Advertising Rates on Application. TELEPHONE 9

THE LIBERAL PRINTING CO., LTD.

Member Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association

Subscription \$1.50 per year — To the United States \$2.00

Covering Canada's Best Suburban District

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd, 1939.

**THE RELIGION OF DEMOCRACY**

President Roosevelt called the attention of the people of the world who listened to him in one of his recent radio talks, to the essential and unchangeable difference between democracy and the totalitarian forms of government, whether those are called Communism, Fascism or Nazism.

That difference, reduced to the simplest terms is that democracy alone of all of them is founded upon religion. If that is not instantly clear, consider it for a moment.

We who believe in religion believe that all men are equal in the sight of God and that every human soul is capable of choice, of reason, of developing and perfecting himself in the image of the Divine ideal. On that belief was our democracy founded, and in that belief it must persist, or it will perish.

The philosophy of Communism is that man is the product of economic forces. The Nazi doctrine is that the only people entitled to exist in the state are those of a particular blood strain.

Totally different is the democratic philosophy that every human being partakes in some measure of Divinity and that the goal of his life, is not to live and labor and die under the lash of authority, but to strive for self-perfection.

In a society so organized on the democratic philosophy, the final authority, is the moral principles based upon the Ten Commandments and the Golden Rule in which Jesus summarized the law and the teaching of the prophets. As someone has said, men must be governed by God or they will be governed by tyrants.

It is no wonder that in nations such as Germany, Japan, Italy and Russia, where the exactly opposite view rules, official spokesmen denounce such speeches as that of the U. S. President as significant of hostility to themselves.

One thing Canada is not hostile to the people of any nation in the world. But many of our citizens are definitely hostile to the ideas and principles upon which many nations are being governed today, and to the false prophets who have led their people into subservience.

\*\*\*\*\*

**A HOPEFUL RECORD**

There were 135 fewer deaths in automobile accidents, 607 fewer cases of injury, and 451 fewer accidents last year than there were in 1937, although there were 38,563 more passenger cars and 5,944 more trucks registered in Ontario, and, probably, more visiting cars.

Publication of these statistics with such commendable earliness after the close of the year calls for a tribute to the Highways Department for an intelligent digestion and use of statistics.

The figures themselves also call for more serious and extensive praise to the department for its very aggressive safety campaign, and for its efforts to remove some geographical dangers by improvement of highways.

There have been, of course, other factors, and one of them is the attention that has been paid to education in safety by the newspapers, a campaign in which this newspaper can say with pride it has had a share for several years.

The results of safety education throughout the province are very gratifying. But the drivers themselves also merit congratulation, for not all the warnings in the world are any use unless people pay attention to them.

Yet another factor, undoubtedly, in the reduction of the death and injury toll has been the stiffening of penalties throughout the province in cases of criminal negligence.

But it would be a poor and unmerited compliment to motorists in general if this were cited as one of the major factors, important results though it may be brought.

\*\*\*\*\*

**DODGERS**

The efficacy of the dodger or handbill as an advertising dodge has long been a subject of controversy. There is at least one good feature of the dodger; its dissemination upon doorsteps has been the introduction to employment of many boys who have later become men with doorsteps of their own. All through their lives, these men who were boys maintain a personal interest in dodgers. They are given to feeling the weight and observing the bulk of a single paper and of estimating how many such papers they could have carried in their prime, at the age of thirteen, say.

Even while trying to peel a wet, limp, sticky dodger from their front doorstep, these men are interested in the dodger, because it is the thing which gave them their start in life, their first pay for work done. If they are men who have not succeeded in the affairs of the world, they may well hark back to that afternoon in a remote year when they hid their bundle of dodgers under a bridge and reported to their employers that they had distributed them all. Such men may well shudder, for it is not given to all to realize at just what point their characters took a turn for the bad. But there may be other men who have succeeded even though they once hid a pile of handbills, and these men may be inclined to wonder whether they are not about due for events to catch up to them. At any rate, all old dodger peddlers take an interest in dodgers, even though not to the extreme extent of reading them.

It is doubtful if very many people save the proof-readers ever bother much about the actual reading matter in a dodger. Certainly few study it after the dodger has been thrown on a stoop and trampled upon by the shoes of those who do not appreciate the money and toil, both mental and physical, that have gone into the creation and distribution of it.

But whatever may be said for and against the dodger in general, there is one type of its distribution that merits and thoroughly gains the outraged indignation and active hatred of all who become its victims.

It is a practice of the police in many municipalities to note the length of time consumed by the automobiles in waiting at the curbs for their masters. The policeman, strolling by with his chalk, also notes such features in the vicinity of the waiting automobile as hydrants, alleys and the like. Now, it is a well known fact that almost all motorists return to their parked cars with a sense of guilt heavy upon them. They have nearly always overstayed their allotted time, or there may be a hydrant that they have failed to notice. In any event, it will be not at all unlikely that they have broken some municipal by-law or regulation.

they are yet a great way off. They crane their necks to see if the law has been at their windshield and left there a piece of paper signifying that they will lose money or liberty for a misfeasance of some kind. There is worry in the heart of a motorist when he approaches his parked car. There is blank despair when he sees a piece of paper stuck in his windshield wiper. And, then, when he finds it is only one of those pesky dodgers there is wild fury in the heart of that motorist. He cries out against this dodger and against all dodgers and against all the people who think dodgers would ever be likely to sell anything.

**Spanish Civil War Cost Million Lives and Over Ten Billion of Dollars**

**MEN OF EVERY NATION TOOK PART—SPAIN'S FUTURE STILL A QUESTION MARK**

The long, cruel and bloody Spanish Civil War is drawing to a close. General Franco's insurgent troops have driven the Government forces across the French border, where some 150,000 to 200,000 have surrendered their arms. Premier Negrin and many of his Cabinet are in exile or their whereabouts unknown. Despite bold statements from Madrid that the Government troops will continue the struggle, the outlook is that the last zone still unconquered will surrender in a few days.

Civil wars are usually carried on with more bitterness and more savagery than international struggles and this war which has now raged over two and a half years is no exception. It has cost probably a million lives and over 10 billion dollars in treasure. Spain has been impoverished to an extent that it will take years to recover. This war, however, has been more than just a civil struggle, it has been an international conflict. Soldiers from nearly every portion of the globe have fought in the rival armies. Some 700 or 800 Canadians, forming what was called the Mackenzie-Papineau regiment, enlisted with the Government troops, while several thousand Americans formed the Lincoln battalion. Many Englishmen and adventurers from all parts of the globe, who felt that the Government stood for liberty and freedom, were fighting with their troops. In the early part of the war Russia assisted the Government forces with fighting planes and aviators.

On the side of the insurgents were to be found Italians and Germans, but particularly the former. It was Mussolini's overwhelming aid to General Franco which led to his final successful drive and the collapse of the opposition in Catalonia. Italian troops formed the spearhead of his army, while Italian planes and Italian tanks overwhelmed the ill-equipped forces of the Government. It is nothing short of amazing how the ministerial forces held out as long as they did. The unsuccessful siege of Madrid will go down in history for its memorable, heroic and stubborn defence. It was the fall of the Province of Catalonia and the great industrial City of Barcelona which led to the final collapse of the Government. The Catalonians are described as the Irish of Spain. They are descended from native tribes, probably Celtic in origin. They have always wanted their independence. They fought the Castilian regime for many decades. Barcelona has been the seat of many revolutions and is the home of the Anarchists. However, bare hands could not fight against modern mechanized armies and there was no alternative but surrender.

The background of Spain which led to the present civil war is so involved that it is difficult to explain in the brief space of this column. The great Spanish Empire ended in the struggle of South America for freedom in the first half of the last century. Her last foreign colonies of any extent were lost at the time of the Spanish-American War. Spain was reduced to a second rate power. Since then there has continued in one form or another a struggle in outward appearances at least between Liberalism and Absolutism. In the seventies of the last century there was a revolution when a short-lived republic was set up. However, the monarchy was soon restored. The Spanish administration was so feeble that in 1923 there was established a dictator with the backing of the army. Primo de Rivera, King Alfonso was left about the same authority as King Emmanuel in Italy. Primo de Rivera went the way of all flesh and Spain again fell into anarchy. Finally an election was held which showed such an overwhelming majority in favor of Republicanism that the feeble King Alfonso and his family slipped out of Spain into exile. This was in 1931.

A second Spanish Republic was established amidst a fiesta of rejoicing. Liberty had at last arrived! A provisional Government of the republic

was drafted. It was Socialistic — not Communistic — in character but anti-clerical. The Catholic Church was to be separated from the state; religious orders were forbidden to engage in teaching or business. Property was to be expropriated where necessary for social utility, with provision for compensation. There was to be a general suffrage on democratic lines.

The new republic never sat comfortably in the saddle. Some of the extreme measures provided for in the constitution frightened the middle classes. There was an election in 1933 in which the middle classes, the land-owners and the industrialists supported by the church, won. There followed a union of all the Leftist parties in a Popular Front; Parliament became deadlocked and to make a long story short, in 1936 there followed another election. In this election the Rightists carried 143 seats; the Centrist parties 55 and the Popular Front parties 256. Of these only 14 were avowed Communists. On the other hand, of the popular vote the Rightist parties had 4,570,000 and the Leftists 4,356,000. This election took place in February.

The new Government faced a situation little short of anarchy. In almost every town and city there were strikes which brought business almost to a standstill. There were anti-clerical riots and churches destroyed. On July 17, newspapers outside Spain found that telephone communication with their correspondents had been broken off. A swift and well organized military revolt originating in the army in Morocco had started. Garrisons in many centres were quickly dominated by anti-Government forces consisting of nine-tenths of the army with the Foreign Legion and Moroccan native troops. The remainder of Spain was held by supporters of the Government. Then was launched the ghastly tragedy of the Spanish Civil War which has developed into a cruel class struggle. Italy and Germany have made it their war and it has taken all the diplomacy of France and Britain to prevent its spreading through Europe.

When surrender in the field comes what then? Will the foreign invaders leave Spain to allow Spaniards to heal their wounds? Will they remain to exact the price of the lives and millions they have spent to bring a Franco victory? France and Britain are using all their influence to force Mussolini to withdraw his forces. If Spain becomes a vassal Fascist state it will be a menace to both these democratic countries. France will be surrounded on three sides by Fascist enemies; Britain would find her position in the Mediterranean imperilled. Already the British and French have scored one diplomatic victory in preventing Italian forces from having any part in the surrender of the key island of Minorca.

The Spanish are an independent and a cross-grained race. Even with all he owes to Mussolini and Hitler we doubt whether General Franco will be ready to submit to Italian domination. European tension over Spain is not over; it is probably only beginning. But with France and Britain close allies, working together and determined no longer to surrender to Fascist demands, Mussolini may find that his Spanish victory has been in vain. The new Spain, even the Spain of a Franco dictatorship, is bound to be different from the old Spain which through incompetence lost its empire.

**York Market**

Guinea fowl are in season. Nice birds weighing about 3 lbs. were 65c. and 75c. each at North York Market on Saturday. Plump little pigeons were 35c. pair; dressed rabbits 35c. each.

Lamb prices were up a little, legs selling at 27c. lb., loin 27c., chops 30c., shoulders 18c. Beef was of fine quality and a prime favorite, porterhouse selling at 34c., sirloin 29c., round 24c., rump 22c., boned rolled rib 22c. to 28c., short rib 19c., blades 17c. and 18c., chuck 14c. and 16c. and brisket 11c. Loin of pork fetched 26c., leg 24c., butt 23c., shoulder 17c. Side bacon was 28c., back 45c. and peameal back 40c. At a stand in the annex which specializes in pork and cheese, were some fine meaty spare ribs at 28c. a lb., pork sausage 25c., smoked cottage rolls 30c., hams 30c., half or whole, 35c. sliced; back bacon 45c. or 43c. in the piece, side 35c. and 33c.

**Produce Prices**

Old cheese was 32c. lb., mild baby cheddar 25c., Canadian Swiss or limburger 28c. Butter was 25c. and 28c. lb.; eggs from 25c. to 38c. dozen; roasting chickens 25c. and 27c. lb., broilers 35c., geese 28c.

Rhubarb was plentiful, 2 bunches for 15c., large bunches of parsley were 5c., mint 5c., cress, green onions and radishes and leaf lettuce 3 for 10c., carrots, parsnips, turnips, leeks and beets enough for the average family were 5c., large cooked beets were 2 for 5c., Savoy's from 5c. each up, potatoes 20c. basket, mushrooms 30c. lb., celery 10c. bunch.

**Many Flowers**

The flower stands were a mass of beautiful bloom, and prices were lower, cut flowers and potted plants selling from 20c. up. Among the cut varieties were daffodils, tulips, freesia, stocks, roses, snapdragons, sweet peas and marigolds, while in pots there were English primroses, primulas, crocuses, hyacinths, daffodils, narcissi, begonias and cinerarias as well as a few pansies and forget-me-nots.

Home baked pies at 25c. and 30c. each, included rhubarb, apple, raisin, red currant and lemon; individual pies were 5c. each, chicken pies 2 for 15c., iced layer cakes were 20c. and 35c. each, nut and date loaf 10c., muffins 25c. dozen, bread buns 20c. pan, cookies 15c. dozen, bread 5c., 10c., 12c. loaf.

Nature tried to teach us sense. She put our eyes in front so we couldn't see the mistakes behind us.

**ROSE & HERMAN Barristers-At-Law**

40 Yonge St., Richmond Hill Telephone 133  
Office Hours—Every Monday and Thursday Afternoon and by appointment

Toronto Offices: 100 Adelaide Street West

HARRY R. ROSE

LOUIS HERMAN

Phone Willowdale 218

6189 Yonge St. Newtonbrook

**York Auto Wreckers**

Branch, Aurora

"IF IT'S FOR A CAR OR TRUCK WE HAVE IT"  
"Tony Saves You Money"

**MEN'S FURNISHINGS**

We are now stocked to meet all your requirements in men's and boys' clothing  
**WORK SHIRTS, OVERALLS, MITTS, ETC.**

**TAILORING**

Let us look after your every tailoring need. Men's and Ladies' Tailoring at most moderate prices. Phone and we will gladly call on you.

**FURS**

FURS REMODELLED AND REPAIRED  
FINE SILVER FOX FURS AT SENSATIONAL SAVINGS

**RICHMOND TAILORS**

J. A. GREENE,  
Phone 49J Richmond Hill

**Charles Graham**

MASSEY-HARRIS AGENT

Farm Implements, Machinery and Repairs

Telephone Richmond Hill 39

Beatty Farm Equipment

**J. FOX**

ALL KINDS OF SHEET METAL WORK

Furnaces, Eave Troughs, Metal Garages, Roofing

Jobbing Promptly Attended to

Established 1880

**SAND — GRAVEL**

WM. McDONALD

Telephone 62 Thornhill

From Maple Gravel Pit

GENERAL CARTAGE

by Truck

Phone Stouffville 7413  
Gormley R.R. 1

**BALING Hay & Straw**

Having taken over Moore Bros. baling business I am prepared to bale hay and straw on short notice. Price reasonable. Latest facility for moving outfit.

**PERCY COBER**

Successor to Moore Bros.

Real Estate — Insurance  
Conveyancing  
Estates Managed  
Rents Collected

**J. R. Herrington**

93 Yonge St. Richmond Hill

C.N.R. Money Order Office