

"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, APRIL 6th, 1939.

"THE LIONS' LIBERAL"

Here it is, folks, The Lions' Liberal, and we hope you get some of the pleasure out of reading it that our staff did in preparing it. A hearty vote of thanks is due all the advertisers who responded so splendidly to our call—the results were away beyond our expectations—and to Jack Smith for giving the members of the Lions Club this opportunity of displaying their journalistic talents and reaping the profits of the advertising. I want to personally thank the staff for their fine cooperation—Editorial, Advertising, News—all have done nobly. It has been an honor and a real pleasure to act as

Editor-in-chief,
R. D. LITTLE.

LIBERTY, INTELLIGENCE, OUR NATION'S SAFETY

(By Lion James Stewart, President)

LIBERTY is a word whose significance needs to be re-examined. Surely we have outgrown the naive idea that "men are born free and equal". Men are not born free; an infants' freedom would be merely freedom to perish. Nor are they born equal—physically, mentally or any other way, as is evident from even the most superficial observation of children. Some, indeed, achieve a measure of freedom later, but in doing so they achieve a greater and greater inequality.

Such liberty as we would enjoy we must win, and the nature and extent of the liberty aimed at should be decided upon and striven for. Liberty, unexpected and unprepared for, may be a disaster. The welfare of society restricts the freedom of the individual and the two must be reconciled by compromise. Either extreme leads to one or the other of the rampant "isms" we suffer from. Selfish individualism, "dog eat dog" is bad enough on one hand; regimented fascism even worse on the other. Not the least service rendered by "Service" clubs, such as the Lions, is to encourage the establishment of a happy medium between individual freedom and common welfare. The membership, of men of widely different ages, interests, and background, imposes a tolerance and wider sympathy with the "other fellow" that would effect great improvement, political, economic and religious, if it were universal. As it is, we hope that our conception of liberty is gaining, and the rapid growth of such organizations (except in the totalitarian states, where they are suppressed) is encouraging. The welfare work undertaken by Lions helps to extend this Spirit beyond our own members and to remind us that each man's freedom is modified by the good of all.

INTELLIGENCE is a natural gift that occurs, like gold, wherever you find it. This does not imply that it cannot be extended and improved by training. One of the urgent needs of these perplexing times is leadership from trained intelligence. Those who propose curtailing efforts and expenditures toward public education would do well to ponder this. Some go so far as to advocate abandoning secondary education except for those who can pay for their own, and reducing the time and extent of primary education. The excuse is that the expense has become too great a burden for the public to bear. This simply is not true. During the past ten years the unit cost of education, (the public charge for one day's schooling for one student) has gone steadily down, while the value of the opportunity offered has gone up. The total public expenditure on education has increased somewhat, it is true, on account of the much greater number reached by educational services; not a condition to be deplored, unless, as one is inclined to suspect, what the "blue ruin" deplorers really want is an ignorant and subservient public. They might as well advise carrying on mining only at ports and rail terminals to save haulage. That would be very nice if that were where the treasure is to be found. It is not. This folly, if put in practice, would miss mother lodes in the back country and the most profitable opportunities of the industry. Education only for those who can pay for it would have left in obscurity most of the leadership we have.

It would be much wiser, and in the long run even more profitable, to extend free public education both wider and higher, so that the best intelligences, among the young of any class or region, might be discovered and developed. Beginnings, as yet feeble and scattered, have been made. A certain will, when probated, provides that a sufficient part of the estate of a wealthy and public spirited native of North York (on whom be peace) shall provide yearly for the college education of the one outstanding North York High School student. Queen's University now offers twelve Dominion scholarships for competition annually, each one of which provides the winner with the means for a college course there. The federal government should go into this business of discovering and developing ability on a large scale. We need intelligence at the top whether it can pay its own way or not.

OUR FUTURE welfare, taking the longer view, will depend more on a wise use of Liberty and leadership by Intelligence than on economics, diplomacy or armaments.

NATIONS will learn to manage their own affairs and get along with other nations. They must. Perhaps only after a major disaster has cleared the decks. Perhaps only after they have learned to place the welfare of humanity above narrow nationalism. Liberty and Intelligence may accomplish it; neck and neck races between anti-aircraft guns and bombing planes never will.

SAFETY, in the end, is not to be despaired of. The common people, (whom God must love, he made so many of them,) are so numerous as to be unconquerable. They are gluttons for punishment; they can "take it". They have come back after wars, famines, and pestilences, and can do it again if they have to. At least a few of them in each generation possess high intelligence, capable of leading the rest forward and upward. The great majority of them love and prize liberty. They will eventually achieve safety through peace in spite of dictators, ignorance, and present difficulties and dangers.

THE QUEEN OF FESTIVALS

(By Lion Rev. W. F. Wrixon)

We greet Easter with joy. Everything in nature as well as this message of triumph won in another sphere incites to this. Easter Day is one of the greatest, if not, indeed, the greatest of all Christian festivals. It is the culminating point in the series of festivals which expressed the truly Christian and exquisitely beautiful idea of the Christian Year.

Easter was called by the early Christians the "Great Lord's Day", the "Feast of Feasts", the "Queen of Festivals", but the word Easter is derived from "Eostre", the name of the Saxon goddess whose festival was celebrated in the spring, and after whom April was called "Eostur month". Eostre, like East, comes from the root signifying "to shine", and the name was not unfittingly transferred to that great and sacred season which was the spring-tide of fresh hope, light and joy to the world. Other old English names for this festival were the "Uprising", "Again-rising" of the Lord, and "The Bright Day".

How fitting that Easter should come at this particular time of the year, after winter with all its dull and stormy days, sickness and death. It comes in the spring, when the great miracle of the resurrection of nature is being performed before our very eyes. It comes at a time when we need its message of cheer and hope. How comforting and assuring is its Divine message "Peace be unto you" during these days of unrest, suspicion, wars and rumours of war.

Christianity is the religion of life, not death, because it is the religion of the Resurrection. Our religion brings us to Calvary, but not to leave us there, for we are bidden to go on to the Empty Tomb. Life, not death, is the message of Easter. Christianity has staked everything on the Resurrection of Christ, and any religion which displaced the Easter faith from the centre of its preaching and devotion would not be anything like Christianity as it has played its part in the world, but would be some other religion.

Easter is not only a time of revival of church attendance, but a call to personal devotion to the One Who said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life."

THIS FESTIVAL

"I crave your pardon, that I did not know.
But for you told me so,
Being a stranger here,
This festival you celebrate every year
I took to be a sort of dress parade,
And fashion promenade,
The matter of a hat and gloves and gown;
But for your telling me, I had not known
It had to do with linen grave-clothes
Laid from the awakened dead;
And with a napkin, folded by itself,
From that aroused Head."

LOCAL TRADE

(By Lion R. K. Young)

A great deal of trade which at one time was done in the small village or town, now finds its way to the larger centres. Many people make it a point to do all their shopping in the city. This is unfortunate. It is a short-sighted policy. Money spent outside does not return and if everyone were to do this, the village would soon become bankrupt. On the other hand if everyone did their best to purchase as much as possible locally, the village would prosper. The prosperity or lack of it is largely governed by the amount of trade which the citizens and outlying districts give to us. When you spend money in the village it profits someone here. If he in turn spends the money here also, someone else is helped and the benefit is extended. When you spend money outside, it is gone.

It is a mistaken idea that things can always be purchased more economically in the city. True the selection is wider there and some times cheaper but for a great many articles, the price is almost standard everywhere. There are those who will drive all the way to the city to make purchases that will not amount to five dollars. It is simply impossible to drive to Toronto and back for less than a dollar and a half, not counting your time. Surely you lose two ways. You lose immediately and still more you lose later, because the money you spend there does not come back to you. Spent here some of it might and in the long run would. Before buying in the city, why not find out what you could do at the local stores and if possible give them your patronage.

HOBBIES

(By Lion R. D. Little)

We should like to offer a word of encouragement and congratulation to those who are responsible for the Richmond Hill Hobby Show. Our dictionary defines a hobby as "one's particular favorite pastime", and the more pastimes one has the richer one's life. With the trend of the times definitely toward more leisure and fewer working hours, what are we going to do with this leisure if we have no hobbies? To our mind it is rather sad to encounter anyone who has reached maturity and who has not fallen under the spell of a hobby, and so we feel that if our Richmond Hill show will plant the hobby seed in the minds of our boys and girls, they will have something to enrich their lives, and when they come to the "sere and yellow leaf"—an age when the majority have a great deal of leisure—the cultivation of a hobby or hobbies will pay dividends.

We heard of a man the other day who has reached middle life. A bachelor, he has accumulated considerable of this world's goods, has plenty of leisure, but on the road up he never detoured from the main highway to one of those winding paths that lead to life's oases. He never learned how to play, never had time to cultivate the finer arts. He doesn't like travelling, so day after day he just sits—a bore to himself as well as others.

So cultivate a hobby, boys and girls, let it be collecting old stamps or last year's birds' nests—reading good books or gardening—but have a hobby.

TENNIS IN RICHMOND HILL

(By Lion Paul E. Angle)

The value of play in the development of a sane and wholesome life is recognized today as perhaps never before. Today it can be said without inviting contradiction, that the provision of facilities for play is an integral part of the duties and obligations of an organized community. Richmond Hill has not overlooked this obligation.

We have a very creditable rink which is of use to all ages in winter. We have two suitably equipped playgrounds for smaller children in summer. We have a splendid bowling green and a curling rink which together take care of the needs of the older people both summer and winter. These are important and valuable facilities for play on the possession of which we are to be congratulated; but they provide nothing for the use of young people in summer. We have two Tennis Courts operated by church clubs, but they are so poorly equipped and so woe-

aged waiting for an opportunity to play.

Tennis is an ideal game for both young men and young women, and there are many of these young people in Richmond Hill waiting for the opportunity to play the game. Some of them now go to other communities to play, but many cannot go elsewhere. To meet the needs of these young people there is now being formed in our village a Tennis Club which hopes to construct and operate at least two first class courts in some central location where another can be added if the need arises.

One of the chief requirements of such courts, is an efficient lighting arrangement which would make it possible to play at night, thus providing accommodation for a large number of players. This lighting together with good fencing and efficient construction throughout will require considerable expenditure, and as most of those who desire and need this equipment are young people with small and in some cases no income. Ye Lion Editor appeals to the village council and to the community at large for support of this worthwhile undertaking.

What these young people are attempting will, by increasing the desirability of Richmond Hill as a place in which to live help to attract new residents to our village, and thus help to increase and maintain property values here; above all it will enrich and enlarge the lives of our young people. Where is there better opportunity for investment?

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