"THE LIBERAL"

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THURSDAY, APRIL 18th, 1940.

A GREAT AND A GOOD MAN PASSES

The passing of John D. Patterson this week removed one of York County's most distinguished citizens. For over half a century he occupied an important place in the industrial and agricultural life of Canada and his wide business connections extended to the United States and South America.

A native son of this community he was known best in recent years as an ardent Agriculturist and his Don Head Farm has been a model and inspiration to all interested in better farming and improved livestock.

As a citizen he was loyal and devoted to his country and community and gave freely of his means in support of every good cause. Quiet and unostentatious he never sought the limelight and consequently his countless benefactions were never exploited. In his quiet and sincere way he lent his support to every worthy cause and the community will be much the poorer for his passing. Perhaps the greatest tribute to the life of John D. Patterson is the loyalty and devotion of those who were associated with him in his business and Agricultural enterprises. He enjoyed to a remarkable degree the esteem and genuine affection of those associated with him and one of his greatest concerns in life was the good and welfare of those who worked with him.

His death removes from this community a great and a good man, who made a lasting and worthwhile contribution to his day and generation.

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EUROPE'S CHANGING SCENE

One by one the lights are going out in Europe. The small, free, independent nations, which have contributed so much to the cultural, scientific and social life and progress of Western civilization are being swallowed up by merciless Germany, whose only law is might. First it was Austria, then Czecho-Slovakia, Poland followed and now, without warning, without the formality of the declaration of war, Germany has seized Denmark and invaded Norway. Next it will be Sweden and already there are rumors of Germany extending her authority over the Danubian States.

It is difficult to use restrained language in describing the action of Germany, or to find adjectives sufficiently strong to condemn the policy of the Reich. If anyone ever had any doubts as to the nature of the German challenge to Western civilization they should be dissipated now. Law, pacts, treaties mean nothing to the madman who has control in Berlin. The seizure of Denmark and the invasion of Norway is just another step forward in a policy, which has as its goal, the ultimate domination not

only of Europe, but of the world. It is becoming clearer as time passes that Western civilization, its culture, its liberty, its regard for human rights and its religious freedom are today at stake. As far as Canada is concerned we must tighten our belts and proceed to co-operate to the utmost with Great Britain in a fight which means the very existence of everything which we hold dear in life.

TREE PLANTING

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Spring is here and the planting season is upon us. The Ontario Forestry Branch, at Toronto, supplies trees to rural schools throughout Ontario, and in Lambton County, which would be much improved by tree planting.

A school house that is in attractive surroundings has a beneficial effect upon the children who go there. A few trees and shrubs add greatly to the appearance, and these trees can be obtained and full directions for planting and caring for them afterwards, are given.

In most cases this improvement must be instigated by the teacher and the work done by the pupils. With the co-operation of the parents much can be done at school and it does not need to detract from school work. Actual tree planting would be a splendid lesson to correlate with Agriculture or Nature Study, a compulsory subject on the curriculum.

The first Friday in May is Arbor Day and the Ontario Department of Education regulations says in part:

"In rural school sections and in villages Arbor Day, the first Friday in May or a school day as near thereto as climatic conditions will permit, shall be devoted to planting shade trees, making flower beds, and otherwise beautifying and improving the school grounds.

SPRING CLOTHES

Easter came so early this year and the spring season has been so long delayed that we think the time opportune to discuss the association of Easter with new spring clothes. It has often been pointed out that the traditional connection between Easter and new spring clothes is not particularly suitable to the Canadian climate. The 1940 spring would seem to bear out this contention. With Easter as early as it was this year a parade of spring finery is an impossibility.

Discussing this question The Printed Word says: "The impulse to buy new clothes and display them in church or on a board-walk is directly connected with spring. The date of Easter is also dependent on the vernal equinox in a roundabout sort of way. Hence it has been assumed that there is a necessary connection between new

clothes and Easter. The assumption does no harm in countries where spring pays some attention to the calendar, but in this part of Canada at least, we have no reason to believe that spring is here until, by the calendar, it is about half over. One is often inclined to wonder whether it might not be as well to divide the Canadian year into three seasons

instead of four. Or, if we wish to continue the pleasing custom of parading new finery on a given date, why not choose the first of May, which of late has become more associated with dreary labor demonstrations than with the joyous spirit of Merrie England? Merchants, who now too often see their Easter windows disregarded while the passing crowds battle the blizzards, would at least have a fifty per cent chance of getting one or two good shopping days."

BIRDS OF THE SEASON

(By Farley Mowat)

bird arrived in Richmond Hill. Un- open water. sung and unheralded, but quite def- During the last month or two I chapter. A shower for the Missioninitely present. The Horned Lark have been gathering up most of the ary Bale will be held at the next was the bird and of all the many local lists kept in or near Richmond meeting on May 21st at the Parspecies who act in unusual ways for Hill of birds seen in the locality. sonage. their own good the Horned Lark is Next week it will be ready for pubthe most interesting. The Lark's lication. Something like 180 species the North York Red Cross Society idea seems to be a hard season but have been recorded in this district was held last Friday with an ata merry one. And he puts it into and they will be listed in this column tendance of 140. An immense amount practise by coming North long be- along with indications as to their of work was reported done during fore the snow goes, wasting no time rarity and whether they breed here. the month. Since Sept. 1939 the dillydallying around the countryside I suggest you clip the list and use total number of pairs of socks knittsinging his head off. Instead no it for reference sooner is he (or she as the case may | Any information that readers can | knitted articles amounted to 508 and be) back than the business of nest- give will be very welcome. Also if 1370 pieces of hospital supplies. In ing is begun. As early as two weeks you have any questions on birds you addition sewing and knitting were ago the first eggs were being laid would like answered send them with done for local purposes and families in warm nests built under the shel- a stamped addressed envelope to were assisted where necessity deter of protecting snow banks. And this column. Interesting local items manded. The secretary, Mrs. Angus in two more weeks, when all the will be used in these articles. other birds are working on nest building, the Horned Lark will be Migration was slow last week. The ing held at the Royal York Hotel able to sit by in the spring sunshine only observers to report new birds on March 5th. This branch was FINE SALT, 100 lbs. 65c. and jeer at his less ambitious neigh- have been Harris Hord, John Curzon, highly honored by the appointment bours. Three weeks of sub zero con- Jim Bailie and a large grey cat that of their president, Mrs. L. A. Reeves ditions and hard work at the beginn- caught and killed the first Kinglet to membership on the Provincial BLOCKS, each 40c. ing of the season and then the spring of the season. and summer to enjoy in leisure.

Owl whose young are about ready ing Dove (exceptionally early), Can-sented with the Service Medal for to hatch by now. The difference be- ada Geese, Loggerhead Shrike, Marsh 23 continuous years as convenor of BRAN \$1.35 per cwt. tween the Owl and the Lark is that Hawk, Bluebird and believe it or not, the work committee of the local Red it takes only a couple of weeks to a Canary, probably an escaped cage Cross Society. Miss Mazo De La raise a family of larks but a full bird. two months are necessary before the often too cold to leave the nests so incubation starts as soon as the first egg is laid. Since the eggs are often several days apart, the young a week after hatching vary in size from as small as a sparrow to as big as a Blue Jay.

The first robin was back about winter in Florida. two weeks ago In time for the post Easter storm. His enthusiasm was unabated after the storm but bewildered, not to say worried as he to, last Tuesday. waited nervously for Spring to do something about it. Incidently the male robins arrive back first. The females begin to show up about the middle of April. As with most birds the male robin invariably comes back to the same bit of territory he used last year. And if there is already an occupant war becomes imminent. Both males start off by singing their loudest for an hour or so and covertly watching each other. Sooner or later this bit of by-play palls and the rightful owner makes a dash, seldom does the 'squatter' wait. Usually he is a last year's bird who has hoping that an accident might have deprived a certain garden of its formale robin can be quite easily distinguished from the male by the uniform colour of the head and back. The male has a very dark head, almost black, which stands out from the slaty colour of his back.

The song sparrows that are singing their heads off around town this week are not residents. They are a much more Northerly race of birds and probably nest several hundred miles farther North. The resident song sparrows will start to arrive in a week or two.

This year's migration seems to be about two weeks behind the average If there are any skeptics who claim that this winter was no worse than that of the winter of '84 etc., let them consult the records of ornithologists for the year they are interested in. Unless very unusual weather conditions interfere most birds arrive back within 5 or 6 days of the previous year's migration. For instance the Red-wing has appeared on Grenadier pond in Toronto on or about March 12 for the last twenty or thirty years. This year the first Red-wings arrived on March 18. Robins are two weeks late, Song Sparrows about 10 days and other early birds in proportion. However now that spring has come (?) the birds that normally appeared on specific dates in April will probably be pretty well on time.

There are about 150 species that migrate in any numbers through North York and each week we will print a list of the birds to be ex-

pected for the week. This week the list is small comparatively. If by any chance this column is still running by May 15 the list of birds for the following three days would take up most of

the column. Birds that should arrive back between April 10-17: Bluebird, Flicker, Marsh Hawk, Mourning Dove, Sav vanah Sparrow, Kingfisher, Tree Swallow, Goldfinch, Wilsons Snipe, Cowbird, Phoebe, Vesper Sparrow, Hermit Thrush, Pied-billed Grebe, Towhee, Pipit, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Winter Wren. Added to these are a number of waterbirds

Local Notes

also has two males and a female was the guest speaker. Cardinal at her feeding station.

NEWTONBROOK

returned home after spending the

Galbraith and Mr. C. O. Bales attended Toronto Centre Presbytery for a few days he looked utterly held in Westminster Church, Toron-

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Brown and son Irwin attended the 25th Anni-Minesing last Friday.

We are glad to hear that Mr. Reid Brumwell is recovering from his recent illness.

Misses Bertha and Irene Smith attended a miscellaneous shower last week in honor of Miss Elizabeth Stephen of Toronto.

The members of the Women's Association met for a sewing meeting last Thursday and completed three quilts for the Red Cross.

North York Horticultural Society no definite breeding territory and is held its regular meeting in the Town Hall with a large attendance. A very interesting address on "Table Decormer occupant. By the way the fe- ations" was given by Mr. E. C. Prince, illustrated by colored lantern slides. A special feature of the meeting was a competition among several of the members for the best address on "Personal Knowledge of the Garden". Two floral oil paintings were offered for the two best addresses and were won by Mrs. R. Jarrett and Mr. F. Vincent. Mr. G. A. Preston, principal of Earl Haig Collegiate Institute, and Mr. J. S. Hall, acted as judges.

The annual Athletic and Novelty Night of Earl Haig Collegiate Institute will be held on Friday, April 19th at 8 p.m.

The Auxiliary of the W.M.S. met at the home of Mrs. A. W. Galbraith

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A TOTAL OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

last Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. Fred Foreman presiding. Interesting readings were given by Mrs. W. T. Wells and Mrs. W. T. New. The devotional service was conducted by Mrs. Foreman and prayer was off-On March 3 the first migratory | who will show up wherever there is ered by Mrs. A. H. Halbert. Mrs. Murray presented the study book

The regular monthly meeting of ed has amounted to 1228. Other read a very comprehensive and interesting report of the annual meetexecutive. At this meeting in To- BLOCKS, IODIZED, each 40c. Birds seen include Cowbirds, Ruby- ronto one of our most valued mem-Another early nester is the Horned | crowned Kinglets, Grackles, Mourn- | bers, Miss Mary Bathgate, was pre-Roche was unable to be present to Dr. Lillian Langstaff reports that give an address on account of illowlets leave their parents. When a Coopers Hawk has spent the last ness. Miss Ruth Home, a lecturer the owl is laying the weather is week in her garden. Dr. Langstaff on the staff of the Toronto Museum,

> So that King Township may have enough money to carry on extensive road repairs this summer, some 1,760 1 Car load of Pine Slabs and acres of fertile marsh land may be Edgings cut 1 foot lengths, at Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Starling have put up for sale, members of the council decided at their meeting on Saturday.

> Reported owned by a syndicate, Rev. A. H. Halbert, Mr. A. W. according to Reeve Thomas McMurchy, the land has been in arrears of taxes for the past 12 years. "Unless some legal matter interferes, the land will be put up for sale," the I Solicit Your Continued Patronage reeve said.

He added that council was anxious to improve township roads, but with its budget cut by \$12,000 it was versary of Mrs. Brown's brother at finding it increasingly difficult to provide the necessary moneys.

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