

"THE LIBERAL"

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10th, 1940.

A GOOD JOB WELL DONE

The response of the citizens of this district to the Emergency War Appeal of the Canadian Red Cross was very gratifying and we extend congratulations to the committee, the canvassers and to the people who gave so generously. The magnificent sum subscribed is evidence that our people stand ready to meet the challenge of the demands of the present struggle in the right spirit. This is the spirit which is carrying Britain through the present trying period, and it is the spirit which will in the end lead us to victory. The appeal of war sufferers simply cannot be ignored by those of us who are able to go about our daily lives unhampered by bombs and air raids. It is essential that the Red Cross carry on supplying comforts to our airmen, soldiers and sailors who are keeping the Hitler hordes away from our homes.

Practically everyone gave something to the Red Cross which was a gratifying feature of the campaign. There may be some causes which we can leave to "George" and the other fellow who can usually be depended upon to do it. The Red Cross however has universal appeal which reaches to the heart of every man and woman. There may be some things for which we feel no responsibility and can pass up the appeal, but in the relief of suffering which is the aim of the Red Cross no one can rightly claim exemption.

CANADA'S FIRE BILL

Fire Prevention Week, which is being observed throughout Canada from October 6 to October 12, is fraught with special significance this year because of the relationship of waste to the country's war effort. Fire loss can only be described as waste which is especially lamentable when the country is at war. Last year Canada's fire record represented a sheer loss of \$24,632,509. In ten years this property loss has totalled \$311,583,930. As the Canadian Underwriters' Association says, in a pamphlet dealing with Fire Prevention... "if a group of dangerous criminals was roaming throughout the country," the public "would expect the proper authorities to take action." The public "would want those criminals arrested, tried, and, if condemned, subjected to the punishment ordered by the courts." Yet, "today, there is an 'enemy' at large about whose presence most of us are indifferent. That enemy is Fire." Just think of it... at a time when Canada is spending millions of dollars every day on the war we unblushingly admit a fire loss record in 1939 of nearly \$25,000,000 most of which arose because we as a people, did not exercise elementary rules of carefulness. It is also significant that, of the fire loss in Canada last year, approximately one-fifth was not insured.

Where do most of the fires, that account for this tremendous wastage, originate? The Canadian Underwriters' Association points to a few of the causes which led to the accusation that most of them are attributable to carelessness. For instance, last year's fire record in Canada shows that:

- 13,785 were caused by smokers' carelessness, involving a loss of \$2,135,069;
- 4,959 originated in stoves, furnaces, boilers and smoke pipes and caused damage of \$1,953,748;
- 4,175 started in defective and overheated chimneys and flues and the loss involved amounted to \$1,702,202;
- Hot ashes, coals, open fires, caused 2,742 fires with a loss of \$328,806;
- 2,622 fires started in electrical wiring and appliances. The loss amounted to \$1,371,211;
- And there were 2,492 fires attributed to miscellaneous known causes, such as explosions, fireworks, friction, hot grease or metal, steam and hot water pipes, etc., and these fires destroyed property to the value of \$727,070.

When Canada, in company with the rest of the Empire is striving mightily to overcome the destructive forces of Hitler and Mussolini surely it is not too much to ask that we, as individual Canadians, give a little more thought to the subject of carelessness which involves wastage of property... yes, and lives and employment as well... We talk of war effort! Here is a case in point where every man, woman and child, can do a service to the country by observing simple rules in an effort to reduce the almost criminal fire loss in this Dominion which, everyone should remember, affects the rates charged for fire insurance.

SCHOOLING STARTS AT HOME

"As a matter of fact, we believe that the home is the best school yet devised by mankind to prepare children for life," comments an experienced school teacher... Discipline in the first and last essential is a parental duty; to "discipline" is to lead in the home, and when this is done, a greater school success and more worthwhile results come to those whose parents have been discreet disciplinarians. "I would stress the point," says another teacher, "that a home should be a 'school' in its invitation to learning. Children are curious, they imitate, they learn by looking at pictures and reading. In the parental home does the child find good manners, cleanliness, speech, kindness, justice and tolerance worthy of imitation?" The home, through the presence of good books, papers, music and conversation, ought always to be an invitation to learning.—Coldwater News, Ont.

BRITAIN UNDAUNTED

When the final chapter of this world carnage comes to be written, it will be told that the victory came to the people who had the bulldog determination that the people of Britain are showing to the world every day; the cause of right will prove victorious over the cause of brute force. Britain stands today the champion of all free people and all people who desire to be free. Is it any wonder, therefore, that even in the United States there can be heard singers rendering with fervour those wonderful lines, "There'll Always be an England."—Alameda Dispatch, Sask.

Thornhill United Church News

The Parsonage, Thornhill, Ont.,
Tuesday, October 8th, 1940

"I wish I was a little rock
A-sittin' on a hill,
A-doin' nothin' all day long
But just a-sittin'—still!
I wouldn't eat, I wouldn't drink,
I wouldn't even wash!—
I'd set and set a thousand years
And rest myself, b'gosh!"
Dear Friends:—

The title of that verse is "Perfect Bliss." Well, it wouldn't be, to most of us. We prefer life and action, something to do. Well, one cannot say that there isn't plenty to do around Thornhill, even in the churches, or perhaps we should say, especially in the churches. There seems to be something going on every day or night, and the string of announcements last Sunday morning took almost as much time as the sermon! The result is that there is something going on every night this week except Saturday. However, as long as the results of such occasions are as deeply spiritual, as well attended, and as wholesome and sincere as was the meeting of the Y.P.U. held last night in the S.S. room, then all well and good. In devotion to the interests of the Kingdom of God, in spiritual insights and earnestness and in the sincerity and earnestness of their purpose, some of these young people can take their place alongside the finest in the land. In short, they have 'the gist of the matter' and it should be an inspiration to any minister to have such loyal and devoted young people in his congregation and to work with. And the same holds true, we are sure, as regards the members of every other group within the church. Everything is going to go from good to better, and from better to best, and we are going to have some really wonderful times together as we try to do the work of God in this place, and to maintain a respect for His Word, His House, His Day and His Name.

Another splendid congregation last Sunday morning, but may we continue to urge you, again and yet again, to get into the habit of church-going, and to bring a friend or your visiting relatives, your neighbour or your nearest stranger with you. At least, ask them. It doesn't cost anything to invite people, or to be friendly, and you might be surprised how much some of them are just hungering for such an invitation. At any rate, we can all work together to the end that our little church may be well and comfortably filled every Sunday with a God-fearing, God-loving congregation of sincere and devout Christian people. One hundred and twelve last Sunday morning, and fifty last Sunday night; let us do better as the days go by. Do you know, more than half the number present at the evening services has been of young people? That is significant of something, isn't it? And they want you to be sure to be at church a week from Sunday night, for after the evening service on that day they are going to play hosts and hostesses to their elders, and there will be a grand old hymn-sing, lantern slides, and refreshments. The young ladies will look after the providing of the refreshments and the young men will look after the serving, and some of each will look after the cleaning up and the washing of the dishes. Will you not come and join us on that happy occasion? We are sure you will thoroughly enjoy every moment of your being with us and we hereby extend to one and all a cordial invitation to come and be with us at that time, even though you may not be able to come and worship with us at the regular hour of service, which is seven o'clock.

Last Sunday evening the young people assembled at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Smellie, after the evening service, and enjoyed just as much as ever the singing of many hymns and the discussing of a very interesting problem such as is common to the experience of many of us, time and time again. About twenty-seven young people were present, but we hope for even more, as time goes on. Next week the evening fellowship hour will be held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, and we hope all young people will be present... at church. An interesting topic will be up for discussion at the meeting next Sunday night; going to be there?

The Adult Bible Class has been re-organized and will meet in the customary place this coming Sunday morning at ten o'clock. Mr. Currey and Mrs. Thompson have been appointed as teachers, and they look forward to keen interest, faithful attendance and full co-operation on the part of every member. May we invite you to be present? We are

sure you will enjoy every minute of the lesson period, and the sharing of views and information, in which we will all join, in the spirit of Christian fellowship and informality.

YOU WILL PLEASE REMEMBER THE ANNIVERSARY SUPPER ON THE 16TH! Yes, on Wednesday evening next a congregational supper will be held in the S.S. room commencing at six p.m., to be followed by a programme in the church. Let us make this one grand get-together, an occasion of congregational fellowship and a grand opportunity to have a really good time and to get acquainted with the strangers in our midst, the new-comers to our community, as well as to greet old friends and renew old acquaintanceships. More about it again.

Also do not forget that the services of the 20th will be outstanding, being marked by the presence of special speakers, the rendering of special music, the evidence of special decorations, not forgetting, of course, the congregational hymning at the close of the evening service. Plan now to attend each of these special services, to hear a really good speaker, and to enjoy something unusual in the way of a good old-fashioned hymn-sing.

Well, perhaps this will be enough for this week, and now a little touch of humour to keep us all in a cheerful mood: The story is told of a famous surgeon who had a hobby of running to fires. Once, as he had just removed the brains of a youth, the fire bell rang and he ran to the fire. The youth came out of the ether and went home — minus the brains. The surgeon came back, saw what had happened, and put the brains in a preservative, expecting the youth to come for them. Weeks later the surgeon saw the boy on the street and told him to come around for his brains. "Never mind, Doc," he said, "I'm goin' to be a preacher, and I won't need 'em."

BLESSED ARE THE SINGING SUNSETS

Blessed are the singing sunsets, for they are songs to lift the soul of man until he sees white clouds with golden fringes, crimson coverlets of everlasting glory, flames of faith along the hills of hope, horizons made into golden gates of gilded splendours.

Blessed are the singing sunsets, the pink and purple beauties, the golden and crimson reaches, the purple royalties of romance, spiral stairways leading upwards to the stars, roads of romance reaching to the gates of gold, flaming banners of immortal dreams.

Blessed are the singing sunsets on lake and sea and plain and hill, on prairie, plain, and mystic mountains.

Blessed are the singing sunsets, for they grant a benediction to our days and lift our hands and eyes and heart far upward to the ever-shining lights.

(William L. Stidger)

And so till next week, goodbye, expressing the hope that you may have a happy and helpful Thanksgiving week-end, returning to your work in the days that follow with a renewed faith, hope and courage; and be assured that "God governs in the affairs of men. If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, neither can a kingdom rise without His aid."

Sincerely,
Your minister.

STANDARD TIME

To remedy the confusion attendant upon various methods of computing time, Sanford Fleming, a Canadian, brought forward in 1878 the plan of adopting for the whole earth 24 standard meridians 15 deg. apart in longitude, starting from Greenwich. These meridians were to be the centres of 24 time zones; in each zone the time adopted would be uniform, and it would change by one hour in passing from one zone to the next. After long discussion the railway managers of the U.S.A. and Canada decided to adopt the system. In the summer months number of countries advance their time by one hour, or, as it may be put, adopt the time of the next zone to the east. Fleming died in 1915.

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