

"THE LIBERAL"

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THE SIMPLE LIFE

Numerous preachers have asserted that happiness does not depend on material possessions, and the period immediately before us is likely to put that theory to the test. Instead of making the hackneyed New Year's resolutions about giving up tobacco and liquor, one might well employ one's hours of meditation in preparing to forego a long list of other commodities that have never been condemned as harmful. The chances are that the new resolutions will be kept.

The prospect is not frightening. If razor blades and electric razors vanish from the market, the men can cultivate beards. Cosmetics are also threatened, so while the men retreat into ambush, the unadorned female face may appear. Looking forward to a new set of faces on our friends and acquaintances lends interest to the coming days of scarcity.

Rationing of rubber and gasoline will have compensating advantages. More walking will improve our health and figures and give us better appetites for the home-grown foods that may replace imported products. If shortages of civilian clothing force us to extract the last bit of wear out of our garments, we can cheerfully all be shabby together and abandon the task of keeping up with the Joneses. If we cannot take summer vacations away from home, we can explore our own cities and countryside and discover for ourselves the unnoticed charms that have attracted strangers to them in the past.

Whatever happens, life in 1942 is going to be adventurous for civilians as well as soldiers. If plans for the full utilization of our human resources are wisely made and efficiently carried out so that everyone is able to do his or her best for the great cause, the simple life will be happy as well as novel.

THE MAGIC OF WORDS

Among all the many gifts possessed by that great man, Prime Minister Winston Churchill of Great Britain, there seems to be no talent greater than the wonderful moving force of his speech. He has, if ever man had, the "magic of words." He has the faculty of packing power into every phrase — of making his words live. An ancient seer when asked the secret of oratory replied that there were three great needs — first, sincerity; second, sincerity; and third, sincerity. That may well be the secret of the magic of words on the tongue of Prime Minister Churchill. He has the belief of a zealot in the justness of the British cause. He has the most complete faith in the power of the British people to overcome all obstacles and endure all sacrifices. He has the firmest belief in the final victory. Perhaps, this suggests the reason why he won the thunderous applause of all when he addressed the United States Senate and the ovation given him at Ottawa. "The magic of words" of Premier Churchill represents faith, hope, belief, sincerity. His summary of the causes of the war, the progress of the war, the service and sacrifice necessary, to bring the final victory were the words of a sincere patriot, the faith of one who has held through a long and a stormy life to ideals that rest among the stars but may be brought to earth for the benefit and welfare of all humanity. The message of Churchill may be one that no other man on earth can deliver with the power that he can give it, but this may be so for no other reason than there are no others so completely filled with the sincerity, the wholehearted zeal and faith of Winston Churchill.

THE PRICE CONTROL MEASURE

After spending one full week with the wartime prices and control board at Ottawa we came away convinced that the administration of the new price ceiling legislation is in very competent hands and that with general acceptance on the part of consumers, retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers, farmers and all other parties concerned, the new plan can be made to work.

In the words of Chairman Donald Gordon, the measure must succeed if we are to avoid inflation and a complete breakdown in our wartime economic set-up.—Simcoe Reformer.

CANADA'S PART NOT FULLY REALIZED

Praising Prime Minister Churchill's Ottawa speech, Sir Gerald Campbell, British Press Service director, declared this week he was "glad of the tribute paid to Canada."

"Not enough has been said of Canada's part in the war," Sir Gerald told a special press conference.

"When the war started, Canada found most of the machine tools necessary had been allocated elsewhere. The first Canadian division to go to England had to be equipped there. Canada is now going ahead at a tremendous pace and with wonderful effect."

Sir Gerald, who earlier in the war was British High Commissioner to Canada, told correspondents Canada "has been ready from the word go to play her full part. People haven't realized her great contributions."

"This air-training program was an enormous undertaking," he said. "When the blitz really started Canada speeded up the program unbelievably. She got air-training centres in order quicker than even the most optimistic expected."

Sir Gerald said the Canadian-trained pilots may be the ultimate source that will win the war.

"Combat fliers are going to get tired," he explained. "It's a military axiom that the general who can throw in fresh forces when both sides are exhausted will win—it's the difference between a stalemate and a victory. These young pilots, trained in Canada, could well be the margin of air victory."

SAVE WHEREVER POSSIBLE

Banning the sale of rubber tires; cutting the production of passenger cars, stoves, refrigerators, etc. and the announcement that rationing of gasoline will become effective April 1 next, should impress upon every Canadian that conservation of every commodity is necessary if we wish to preserve our liberty. The more we conserve voluntarily the less necessary it will be to put compulsion into operation.

"RECOVERY"

(SEASONAL AND PERSONAL)

By Ted Ridge

You and I can remember a time in the not so remote past, when there was a great deal of chat about National Recovery, and there were a great many different programmes for it, all of them either infallible or suicidal, according to the school of economic thought to which one happened to belong. Insufficient attention, however, has been paid, at all times, to the usually pressing question of Individual Recovery. Take your own case — do you feel that you have entirely recovered? I am not, at the moment, referring to the recent Depression or to the present World Crisis, or to the upsetting influences of Price and Wage Controls, etc., but to the Festive Season. Are you yet the same man or woman that you were, say, on December 24th, 1941? Would you claim in economic terminology, that your confidence is restored? It is true that Christmas is long past, and even the New Year is now well under way; but I permit myself to wonder whether the hangover has quite ceased hanging over? Certain factors, possibly have militated against rapid recovery in the full Rooseveltian sense; for example, you may be a Scot, with a highly developed sense of the importance of New Year (and then there was St. Andrew's Day not so very long before Christmas, was there not?) It may well be that certain aspects of the dawning year have set you back—for instance, you may have caught a slightly jaundiced view from that billious-looking notepaper of which Municipal Authorities and His Majesty's Canadian Collector of Taxes are so fond, when they intimate to you that certain accruals have to be catered to. Or perhaps, just when you were getting on nicely, a New Year's greeting from your tailor or dressmaker caused a serious relapse. Then what about that slice of cake on Christmas afternoon, on top of the midday plum-pudding? Your system may still be wrestling with that, for the effects are very lingering, though, granted a strong constitution, not invariably fatal.

If you are showing any of these symptoms, it is clear (so I learn from the Medical Correspondent of one of our leading regional dailies) that you are suffering from "tired dyspepsia". This is a nasty complaint, which reaches the proportions of an epidemic in December and January. "It is a condition that frequently follows a long spell of sedentary and mental effort" involved in being the life and soul of the party on Christmas Day, not to mention the strain of becoming, once and for all, a Changed Man on January 1st. "It is not infrequently the sequel of a series of official or other entertainments, including heavy meals, late hours, and possibly unwanted refreshments taken for the sake of politeness." Extraordinary! There is no doubt that modern medical science reaches an almost uncanny degree of insight. What layman, working by the mere light of nature, would ever have guessed heavy meals, late hours, and excessive refreshments would bring on a condition of "tired dyspepsia"? It serves people right for taking refreshments "for the sake of politeness", instead of taking them for the sake of being refreshed, which is the only proper motive for taking refreshments. Of course, a good deal depends on the refreshments, and if they happen to be, as only too often, some Special Offer of Christmas Port, then tired dyspepsia is not only an inevitable but a just retribution, which, so far as I am concerned, will never have a particle of Sympathy.

The pathological aspects of this distressing complaint are of great interest to the inquiring mind. "Primarily it is due to a certain degree of nervous exhaustion reflected in a loss of tone in the muscular equipment of the alimentary canal and a consequent derangement of the normal secretion of the various digestive juices." When you see the matter put like that, you realize how crude and how inaccurate it is to describe the post-festive condition as "indigestion due to overeating," or anything of that sort. It throws a flood of light on the unschooled mind to learn that what one had been accustomed to think of as a tummy-ache is really "a loss of tone in the muscular equipment of the alimentary canal."

Helpful though this knowledge is, the practical question remains—how to regain lost tone? How whip up the alimentary canal to its customary muscularity? The answer is

one, I fear, which will rob the year's greatest festival of many of its attractions. An entire week-end must be devoted to penance — or, as this austere medical authority puts it, "must be firmly dedicated to the purpose." Saturday must be spent in bed, with no sustenance except a cup of tea in the morning and afternoon. However, lest the flesh should be too cruelly mortified, there should be "plenty of barley-water, home-made lemonade or orangeade at hand to drink." On Sunday, half of which is to be spent in bed, things begin to brighten; the penitent, now (let us hope) well chastened, is allowed "a seidlitz powder before a light breakfast of tea and toast, and possibly a single boiled egg." Things steadily improve as the day goes on, for there are fish and fruit for luncheon, and break and milk for supper. On Monday normal diet may be resumed, but the day is to be devoted to "light exercise". The patient's cup is filled (if the contradiction may be pardoned) by total abstinence throughout the period, and "smoking should be strictly rationed."

You may ask, and not without reason, are Christmas and New Year worth it? Well, I don't know whether it is of any interest to you, but it is distinctly stated by this medical adviser that "anything in the shape of work should be banished for three days." That may be some slight compensation? Willowdale, Ontario. January 3rd, 1942.

Buttonville

On Tuesday, January 13th the monthly meeting of the Buttonville Red Cross Society will be held in Brown's Corners United Church basement. Come as early as possible for a full day's work, and bring your own lunch.

You are invited to dance to the music of Russ Creighton's orchestra at the opening party in Buttonville Hall on Friday evening, January 9. The Sunday School of Brown's Corners United Church held their Christmas celebration on Tuesday afternoon. Games, songs, recitations, lunch and a Christmas tree were part of the fun. Miss Mary Rodick was in charge of the games and Mrs. S. English in charge of music.

Mr. E. Walton is visiting for a few days with his brother in Cleveland, Ohio. The Buttonville Red Cross euchre and freeze-out held in Unionville Hall on Monday evening was very successful. Prize winners for the party were: 1st, Miss Blundell; 2nd, Mrs. V. Trunk; 3rd, Mrs. Wm. Baker. Men, 1st, Murray Roberts; 2nd, Mr. Cline Burr; 3rd, Mr. John Young. Lucky prizes went to Mr. E. Walton and Mrs. R. Walker who were fortunate enough to be sitting at table seven when the game ended.

Freeze-out prizes went to Miss D. Stephenson and Mr. A. Newson for 1st and to Miss J. Thomson and Mr. G. Francy for second.

The annual meeting of Brown's Corners United Church will be held in the church on the evening of Jan. 13th after the Red Cross meeting.

Don't Put It Off

For some time you have been promising yourself a new suit. Don't put it off too long. We still have an ample supply of excellent quality material to choose from, but this condition may not always prevail. Let us outfit you now with a new suit by Richmond Tailors.

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