

"THE LIBERAL"

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CANADA IS "THEIR BABY" NOW

A Western member of the House of Commons, in a recent speech, said that the returned soldier is not the problem of Canada, but that Canada is the problem of the returned soldier.

In communities such as Richmond Hill that have just held their municipal elections, the observation of the honorable member suggests no inconsiderable realism. The returned men and women, although a minority of the population, have made themselves felt as a community force, and, in the years to come, they will undoubtedly represent an even more potent force in village, city, provincial and Dominion governments.

And that is as it should be.

Almost a whole generation of young Canadians went into the three services in the six years of war, and these people are presently going to take Canada in hand. The returned man of today is younger than the man who came back from the First World War. He is better educated. His horizons are broader. He has greater capacity for serving Canada than his father had, and, all in all, he is a distinct asset.

"OBLIGATION BINDS ALL"

A correspondent compliments The Liberal on its efforts to call public attention to the message the churches of Richmond Hill have for all the people of the village and district. With respect to the recent church census, he deplores the finding that many people profess adherence to a certain church, but seldom if ever attend the service.

"Religion," he writes, "is vividly real when we view it from the outside, as it were; when its ideals are visualized in character, character as seen and known in Christian living. The sad thing is that men should ever be unwilling to associate themselves with the great privileges of religion, should ever seek to rid themselves of its obligations. This last they cannot do. The obligations it binds upon one it binds upon all."

We agree with the views of our correspondent. The world of men and women cannot live and prosper without religion. No one can help but recognize that religion gives to the world its meaning and purpose, and when men ignore it or are indifferent to it, they miss the transforming power by which the world can become the Paradise in which rational beings can peacefully reside.

ATTENTION! G.B.S. HAS AN IDEA!

George Bernard Shaw has undoubtedly friends and well wishers in Richmond Hill as he has throughout the English speaking world, and undoubtedly also everybody will wish him well in his latest venture, that of setting out to reach the age of 300 years. We may doubt, and even more than doubt, whether he can do it, but all the time we will be holding the opinion, secret from the rest of the world, that if he can do it we also should be able to do it.

Mr. Shaw says that in his second century he will be approaching maturity and the years of wisdom and will, therefore, be fit to practice the arts of government and when he reaches 200 he declares he will be fitted to make a workmanlike job of the chancellorship of the exchequer.

To do what he sets out to do, G. B. S., of course, will have to keep his feet dry and avoid colds. His latest undertaking somehow suggests the old Irish rhyme: "It's not the cough that carries you off, but the coffin they carry you off in."

AWKWARD FOR THE C.C.F.

The C.C.F. government of Britain is developing a habit that must be extremely annoying to the C.C.F. leaders of the Dominion, namely, the habit of enunciating a policy without regard to the 'fix' in which it may leave the Socialist brethren in Canada.

North York can readily recall the C.C.F. promise at the last election that the insurance business of this country would be nationalized if the C.C.F. constituted the government.

Now, however, comes the labor government of Britain officially and unequivocally declaring that its program of nationalizing certain major industries and public utilities does not include the insurance companies. They are to be left to function on the basis of competitive free enterprise which experience has proved best calculated to assure the public most efficient service. What will the C.C.F. do about it now?

A BOY AND HIS DOG

A Richmond Hill school teacher, surrounded by his boys one day, asked them to recount their experiences with dogs - could they, he wanted to know, of their personal observation say that a boy's best friend is his dog. Later the teacher declared:-

"Not one of the boys evaded the question. Some told of their own experiences and of the experiences of their friends. Others, not satisfied with the dramatic quality of whatever facts they may have had at their disposal, told stories largely fiction. But everyone of the lads believed and was anxious to prove that a dog is surely a boy's friend.

The fact that a boy can be and usually is the best friend of a dog is not given so much attention. The Christian Science Monitor, however, sponsors the view that the literature of boy-plus-dog has been enriched with a story as spectacular as any yarn spun by imagination - a story in which the loyalty of a dog to his master is marked by the master's loyalty to the dog.

"The setting itself is breath-taking - the Niagara River Gorge," says The Monitor. "Two boys, between 10 and 12 years of age, and a dog were playing in a wild place near the ledge of the gorge. The dog chased a bird too near the edge and went over - over and down, a hundred feet. The boys got a rope and went down after him, with not entirely happy results, but at least with the final effect of all of them being rescued.

"We hope the dog appreciated his master's devotion. And we hope that any older people who may be inclined to write off the action of the boys as foolhardiness will recall that adults have performed feats of daring - like walking a tightrope over Niagara Falls and plunging down them in a barrel - for less admirable reasons than those which impelled the boys to lower themselves down that hundred feet of cliff."

IT WOULDN'T WIN FRIENDS HERE

"Sixty million jobs" is the interesting title of a book

by Henry A. Wallace, U.S. Secretary of Commerce, and in as much as most of us in Richmond Hill are interested in work one way or another, and whether we like it or not, we read the book in the hope of extracting something of value to ourselves and our friends.

Mr. Wallace recognizes the immensity of the American job program, but something within, he says, cries that "it must be done", that sixty million jobs must be made available and that, too, by 1950. Only 47,000,000 persons were gainfully employed in the U.S. when war production was at its highest, and since then there has been an appreciable decrease in employment, making necessary the creation of millions of more jobs than would be the case if the end of the war had not altered the industrial picture. And the technological changes that are occurring afford no remedy, but, on the contrary, aggravate the problem. Production per worker, for example, moves upward, more rapidly now than before the war, and the progress thus made is not likely to abate.

One comforting thought, however, is that industry is constantly giving employment in wider fields. More men, for one thing, are now employed in garages and service stations than was the case at the close of the last war, and a great many more will be employed when cars return to the road in normal numbers. Then, too, the tourist industry with better highways and new means of travel is certain to call for many more workers. The old industries may not give us the expected volume of employment but great new fields are bound to open up.

Secretary Wallace, of course, has a plan through the operation of which he hopes to provide work for all. He proposes that the U.S. government will each year calculate how much private individuals, corporations, municipalities and the government are likely to spend. Then, if unemployment looms, the federal government will borrow and spend an additional amount sufficient to create full employment. The idea is to borrow the country's way into prosperity.

We believe Canadians would not approve such a course, that they would much prefer the policy followed by the Mackenzie King government of providing employment for all by emphasizing the creation of new wealth rather than by borrowing unnecessarily, and so long as sounder economic methods of providing work are available, borrowing must be considered unnecessary.

We feel, in any event, fairly certain a policy of "saved through debt" would not win many admirers in Richmond Hill.

BUTTONVILLE NEWS ITEMS

The death occurred suddenly on Saturday, December 8th of Mrs. Carswell of Toronto. Mrs. Carswell was Ethel Padgett, the only daughter of the late John and Mrs. Padgett of Buttonville. She was in her 61st year and leaves to mourn her passing her mother, Mrs. John Padgett and three brothers, Percy, George and Burnett. Interment was at Buttonville cemetery on Tuesday, December 11th.

White Gift Service at Brown's Corners United Church this Sunday at 11 a.m. Rev. W. A. Hummsett of Fred Victor Mission will be guest speaker. Master Bruce Harold will sing. The congregation will join with the Sunday School in this special service. Mr. Will Brooks, the Sunday School Superintendent, hopes there will be a large attendance and take advantage of this chance to show our gratitude for our many blessings by helping those less fortunate than ourselves. Gifts of useful clothing, toys and cash donations are very welcome. The need is great and this is the season for giving.

The Young People's Union met in Brown's Corners United Church last night. Dorothy Hood was in charge of the meeting, assisted by her committee. The president, George Bruce, opened the meeting and carols were sung. Dorothy Wallen read the scripture. Margaret Hood led in prayer and the minutes were read by Miss Ann Summers. Beautiful colored slides depicting the story "A Christmas Carol" were shown and the script was read by Marion Hood. It was a tradition in the lifetime of the late President Roosevelt that Chas. Dickens' lovely story should be read on Christmas Eve.

The December meeting of Brown's Corners United Church W.M.S. was held at the home of Mrs. K. Stotts. Mrs. N. Reid and Mrs. Stotts were in charge. Mrs. Reid presided over the devotional in which Miss Rhea Scott, Miss Mary Rodick, Mrs. J. Brown and Mrs. J. McQuay took part in reading the Christmas story from the Bible, and all present joined in singing the Christmas carols. Mrs. A. Stephenson sang "The Gift". Roll call was answered by 16 members and several guests were welcomed. Mrs. Stotts gave the synopsis on Angola Now, our study book in which she described the life of missionaries among the natives of Africa.

The election of officers returned the following to office: Hon. Pres., Mrs. C. J. Russell; Pres., Mrs. A. Newson; Vice-Pres., Mrs. W. Rodick; Secretary, Mrs. J. Brown; Asst. Sec., Mrs. K. Stotts; Treas., Mrs. D. Hood; Press Sec., Mrs. W. Craig; Home Helpers, Mrs. C. Burr; Mission Band, Miss E. Boynton; Flowers, Mrs. C. Boynton; Work Committee, Mrs. N. Reid, Mrs. E. Hill, Mrs. Walton, Mrs. Patterson, Mrs. E. Fuller, Miss Rhea Scott.

After a delightful lunch the meeting adjourned.

It's coming closer. What? The concert of S.S. 5 at Buttonville Hall on December 20th. Come and enjoy an evening's entertainment. Music, costumes, fun.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Bassinger visited with Mr. Bassinger's mother in Oshawa on Tuesday.

Miss Gloria Shenfield was a recent supper guest at Miss Joan Stephenson's home.

We are all advised to do Christmas shopping early, so several young ladies took Monday off to follow this advice, among whom were Mrs. Bill Hood, Margaret Hood, Lois Clark, Doreen Stephenson and Barbara Bruce.

An overnight guest of Miss Doreen Stephenson was Miss Barbara Bruce of Langstaff.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Healey were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. Louihan.

Some time ago we mentioned our young hunters coming home empty handed but that's ancient history. On Saturday Kenneth Stephenson shot a fox. Good work Ken. Guess we spoke too soon.

Mr. and Mrs. Cordingley spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. McQuay.

The many friends of Mrs. John Padgett and sons will join in extending sympathy in the loss of a dear laughter and sister.

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