

**"THE LIBERAL"**

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**LIFTING THE C.C.F. CURTAIN**

The people of North York and of other ridings throughout Ontario will recall the promises of C.C.F. candidates at recent elections to prevent unemployment, largely by government regulation and control of certain industries.

The Liberal is convinced that these candidates and their followers actually believed they could put their promises into effect. True, with respect to some of their representations, they seemed to suggest that they held some copyright, patented power to do the impossible. But we are prepared to acknowledge the sincerity of their purpose even in spite of the havoc and harm their experiments have effected in localities that gave them ear.

The arbitrary regulation of industry and trade being foreign to the ideals of a free people, the C.C.F. program in Saskatchewan, for example, has turned out a fizzle. Hon. J. H. Sturdy, Reconstruction Minister in the C.C.F. cabinet at Regina, announces that "almost every private employer in Regina has indicated he will be unable to expand his business in 1946 unless there is a radical change in present economic conditions," and he adds that the "unemployment situation" is equally serious in most parts of the province, especially in the larger cities.

Mr. Sturdy says in effect: "We C.C.F.'rs have subjected business and industry to all kinds of restrictions and inferences, to legislative threats and uncertainties, and even to expropriation. We have undertaken industrial and business operations, and otherwise adopted policies disquieting to business and making its future operations problematical."

There can be no wriggling out of the hole in which the C.C.F. in Saskatchewan finds itself. Conditions there, much worse than in other provinces, cannot be ascribed to transitional or reconversion considerations. They result from the fact that free enterprise has been denied the opportunity of showing what it can or cannot do. It has been surrounded by political and economic interference. It has not been given a break.

We can rejoice that we would have no such hobby-horse riding in these parts. Yet, in our rejoicing, we can not deny the people of Saskatchewan our sincerest sympathy. Nor can we bring ourselves to censuring the promoters of that province's ill-fated political experiment in the light of our belief that they did not mean to substitute chaos for order. They were at least sincere but what price sincerity?

**SHOVEL IS NOT THE ANSWER!**

Hidden behind many a Richmond Hill coal bin, there is no doubt a perfectly good shovel that has not been used since an abortive attempt was made last Spring to do something or another with it in the back yard "garden."

It isn't pleasant to think that the shovel is in first class condition. Indeed, reflections about the shovel and its uses are anything but agreeable with the weather as mild as it was last week-end, so mild that by forgetting this is the month of January, we could have almost "kidded" ourselves into believing that Spring is just around the corner.

But if we are the realists we picture ourselves to be we must not try to "kid" ourselves. Rather should we recognize that we are going to need that shovel—more than once or twice this winter—perhaps, and if we hearken to the advice of one George Latimer, who died recently at Angus, Ontario, at the age of 106, we might even be induced to rejoice and be glad that we have such a shovel.

This Mr. Latimer lived 438 feet from the street line in abundant Ontario winters, and he always kept his own path completely shovelled. "It's the best exercise in the world," he said on his 105th birthday, availing himself of the right of a centenarian to explain how to live a long and happy life. And then he added: "Anyone can do it if they avoid liquor and tobacco."

We sincerely regret our inability to subscribe to the formula of the late Mr. Latimer. Everyone will recall our report a few weeks ago of the plan of George Bernard Shaw to ignore the years and live far into the centuries. But G. B.'s formula also had some unpleasant features to it with respect to re-shaping our habits, and so we had also to abandon his plan.

We are not discouraged, however. We are quite willing to consider any other programs that may come our way having longevity as their object, and, indeed, if we discover one that is reasonable we will put our stamp of approval on it unhesitatingly—but as for taking that shovel out of its place of hiding behind the coal bin, we have nothing further to say.

**OUR TOAST: THE BARN CAT**

Virgil may sing of arms and the hero of Troy, Tennyson of his argosies of magic sail and a million others of stars and moonlight, but our theme is the barn cat.

We have been keeping our eye open for a good specimen of barn cat, and we regret to announce that there appear to be none in Richmond Hill or in the immediate environs of the village. We did notice some fine feline specimens on Richmond St. and one on Centre St. appealed to us strongly but failed a little to measure up to our requirements of what a barn cat should be.

What we want to find is a barn cat such as one we knew years ago. Its job was to be guardian of grain bin and feed bags. Sure always of a saucer of milk twice a day, it could look through peek holes in frosted windows and watch the flakes descend, savoring the difficult landscape with that calm independence of spirit on which happiness is often founded when bed and board are comfortably assured.

About another barn cat a friend of ours once knew he thus writes: "Through still nights of cold stars and retiring thermometers, having taken up a strategic position on a forkful of hay, it would listen in alert sentryhood for that rustle in the oat straw, that cautious gnawing at a vulnerable crack in the feed box which indicated the raiding activities of some brave but due-to-be-short-lived mouse or rat."

Cat fanciers say that it is in such moments of midnight sport that the barn cat acquires much of the sleekness of form and satisfaction of whisker which make him a shining ornament of stall and stanchion.

**VANILLA AND CORN BEEF FOR US!**

Do we lack good manners or are our manners better

than those of the people of the British Isles?

No, we are not starting something. We just want to report that this is the theme of a flock of letter writers down Montreal way. Someone wrote a letter to one of the Montreal papers complaining that the manners of the average Canadian, presumably the man or woman we would find in a city like Toronto or a village such as Richmond Hill, are atrocious, or something along that line. And since then the pros and cons of the proposition have been thoroughly debated. Says one of these letter writers:—

"I lived in England for many years and came to Canada to find courtesy far more refreshing and sincere than anything I had ever known, and I wouldn't trade that courtesy for all the manners in the world. The present discussion reminds me of a shop keeper in Alexandria, Egypt, by far the most polite man I had ever met. I was so charmed by his manners that I made some extensive purchases from him, only to realize a little later that I had been remorselessly 'gypped'. I think it better to live in a country where most people call a spade a spade even at the risk of some discourtesy."

That is one side of the case. Another writer, as her letter in the Montreal Gazette puts it, would establish the theory that "manners maketh man".

"I have been nonplussed by the lack of manners at the present time, even in those whose education and social position would lead one to expect not only refinement, but ordinary kindness," she writes.

"A story I once heard concerns a young man of ability and really fine character who failed to obtain a position he was seeking in the business world because of his table manners at a luncheon where he was introduced to the president of the concern. This may open the eyes of youth as well as those older ones who have permitted themselves to neglect the training of their parents in earlier days.

"As Miss Doris Hedges says in her letter, 'Manners Maketh Man', but too often in recent times those who endeavour to live up to this and practice consideration for others are dubbed 'old-fashioned and mid-Victorian'. All this with a condescending air of pity!

"But are we, of the 'old school' really the ones to be the object of pity?"

The way we look at it is that whether our manners are good or bad, if they make others uncomfortable, we would be inclined to be rid of them. Dainty lady who simply adores vanilla ice cream, and who closely follows the book of rules in eating it, has her points. But so, too, has Jiggs with his corn beef, sometimes eaten out of his fingers.

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

The Prices and Trade Board announces that canned chicken is to be nine to eleven cents per pound higher to consumers. Wasn't it only a week or so ago that a group of poultry raisers told Richmond Hill housewives it would be thrifty to have a few hens in the back shed?

Thirteen deaths from pneumonia since the beginning of the year is a Toronto record that must arouse us all to the necessity of health preservation measures especially in our schools.

There is nothing new under the sun. Even Ralph Waldo Emerson foresaw atomic energy back in 1878. At a lecture he said:—"Our sleepy civilization... is very scornful about bows and arrows and reckons Greeks and Romans little better than Indians and bow-and-arrow times. As if the earth, water, gases, light and caloric have not a million energies, the discovery of any one of which could change the art of war again, and put an end to war by the exterminating forces men can apply."

**GORMLEY**

Miss Betty Farmer entertained a few of her friends in her home last Friday evening.

Mr. Joe Cherry left last Wednesday for New Bedford, Mass. where he is to be employed in the store of his Uncle George.

Last Friday morning Walter Bell arrived home from overseas and on Monday morning Harry Rumble was also greeted at the Coliseum. These boys have been away a long time and with their wives and families, we rejoice at their safe return.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Jones and family of Dixon Hill had supper Sunday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Sider.

Last Wednesday a number of our young people who are attending Fort Erie Bible School returned to their studies after their Christmas vacation. Those attending from here: Misses Edna Eade, Lois Heise, Agnes Cober, Agnes Sider and Bruce Steckley.

Mrs. Leslie Grove, Jr., is spending holidays at the home of her husband's parents.

Mrs. Jack Clubine and Margaret, Mr. Reesor Steckley, Mr. and Mrs. Allan Doner had supper Saturday evening with Mr. and Mrs. E. Hunt, Ruth and Marian.

Mrs. Frank Harvey and Mrs. Clarence Doner spent a day in Toronto last week visiting with Mrs. Fannie Heise.

Miss Hazel and Mr. Doug Steckley of Toronto, also Miss Blanche and Mr. Lloyd Wideman spent Sunday in their respective homes. Blanche is remaining for a week's holidays in her home.

We extend our sympathy to Mrs. John Epp and her family at the death of Mr. Epp. Only a short time ago Mr. and Mrs. Epp moved to Rossville, Indiana, with their son. Then last week he was accidentally hurt when cutting wood causing his death.

We were glad to see Mrs. William Bruce and Genevieve of Toronto visiting around Gormley last Saturday.

Miss Beulah Heise of Petersburg returned to work last Thursday after a Christmas vacation.

Student teachers from Toronto Normal School are visiting several local schools this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Gooding of Streetsville spent New Year's Day in the Gooding home.

On Monday evening Miss Agnes Wideman and Mr. Russell Williams of Toronto visited with Mr. and Mrs. Whitney Johnson and Wayne.

**UNIONVILLE**

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Conly and family returned last Wednesday to Orillia after spending the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. N. Ogden.

Mr. Tom Burns of Markham is teller in the bank during the absence of Miss Mavis Thomson who is on holidays. We hope the skiing improves before the holidays are over.

The sympathy of the community is extended to Prof. J. Coulson, Mrs. S. Weatherill and son Lloyd in their loss of a mother and grandmother. Mrs. Coulson has been in ailing health for some time and unable to take active part in the work of the church and community but has always been interested and as long as she was able she did work at home. The funeral service was held from the residence on Sunday afternoon with interment in Hagerman Cemetery.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed in Central United Church on Sunday, January 13th at 11 a.m. In the evening at 7:30 all are invited to attend the "Crusade for Christ and His Kingdom" and the period of Evangelism in which representatives of all church organizations will be taking part.

The following is a report from "Billy" Hiltz who served as member for Scarborough constituency at the 25th Ontario Older Boys Parliament held from Dec. 26th to 31st: "Every morning began with a worship period. In leadership training groups we discussed 'How groups could be started, how to run them and how to work different plans into the meetings. At the close of the periods an exam and essay had to be written. At the caucuses we learned about Boys', Girls' and Children's Work Boards and how they are managed.

The sessions in the Provincial House were run just like the provincial government. Bills were passed on the following: International Relationships, Church and Sunday School Attendance, Boys' Groups, Leadership, Clean Living, Personal Commitment. This is not a mock parliament but the legislation is to actually be carried out. We used the Provincial Chambers, Victoria University and their residences with meals served at Burwash Hall.

It was the most wonderful experience of my life and they cannot be told fully in words but must be lived through before they are fully understood."

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