

# The Liberal

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## Don't Act First - Ask Afterwards

There is every reason to believe that the business men of Richmond Hill have as keen judgment and as acute perceptions as business men anywhere. Working hard and thinking hard for their dollars as they do, they don't like to see them "go up the spout" any more than anybody else.

But the fact remains that even with the good judgment which they exercise as a matter of course there are still occasions where they are in need of some form of specialized assistance regarding unusual propositions. Among those propositions may be numbered ventures designed to separate them from their dollars under the guise of "promotions" of one kind and another.

We have said before and we repeat that legitimate projects out-number dubious ones overwhelmingly. But sometimes it is hard to discover the line which separates bad from

good. It is unfortunately true that sometimes the doubtful ones look best on the surface — that the salesmanship exercised in putting them across excels that devoted to the worth-while venture.

Caution pays. But that caution must be backed by something tangible. The Richmond Hill Business Men's Association, in its request to the village council to provide for a form of licensing of itinerant salesmen has endeavoured to provide that something. The village council, in its cordial reception of the suggestion, followed by action to determine if the suggestion is fair, reasonable and workable, has shown sound judgment and a desire to protect those to whom it is responsible.

A form of licensing of itinerants is something which need not be feared by legitimate concerns. It should help to scare the dubious ones off. It is not necessarily a complete guarantee that projects are on the up-and-

up or have sound intrinsic value. But it will at least give the police, through sources which are available to them and not to the ordinary business man, an opportunity to investigate.

Mention of the police recalls an instance which occurred last year when salesmen called on local business houses endeavouring to sell them on the idea of a "police" publication. Investigation revealed that the police had absolutely nothing whatsoever to do with the project. Cornered, the sponsors admitted that they were incorporating the word "police" in the title of the publication to establish confidence. The inferences are easily drawn.

Licensing is not a perfect solution. But it would seem to be the best available. In any event it is a step in the right direction. At least it will provide an opportunity for business men to ask first and act afterwards instead of reversing the process.

## Princely Pickets

Nowadays, when unionizing is the fashion, it is not surprising to hear that India's displaced ruling princes are banding themselves together to claim the shelter of trade unionism against the Nehru government's inroads on their ancient dignities and privileges.

Nor is it surprising that the Indian National Trade Union Congress is not interested in forming a "princes' local" on the obvious grounds that these men could not be considered a legitimate working class body.

What is surprising, of course, is what the maharajahs and lesser no-

bility are after. They are not aiming at boosting their income. They are not even interested in some form of pension plan or other "fringe benefit." But they are deeply concerned with the deletion of their names from the government's invitation list when official functions are in the offing.

Trade unionism has proved a powerful thing in recent years and, if the princes get themselves really organized, with some such slogan as "Maharajahs of the World, United," they might win the concession they are shooting for. Of course, they might have to take a turn on the picket line before victory is achieved,

## The Don Valley In Our Future

Study of the map and the story of the report of Hon. William Greisinger, Minister of Planning and Development for Ontario, on the Don Valley Conservation project, which appears elsewhere in this issue, will indicate that the plan is one which has a hefty impact on this part of the country.

From their sources near Teston and Richmond Hill the two branches of the Don form an important topographical feature of the district. They haven't the majesty of the St. Lawrence—the scenic grandeur of the Niagara River—but nevertheless they play a part in the life of the country which perhaps is not too well recognized by those who cross the little streams as they travel the district's highways.

For water and its courses, its part in maintaining the life of man on earth by its effect on those top four inches of soil which provide the food by which he lives is something as old as humanity itself. All history points to the necessity of its proper preservation and utilization. It may seem a bit silly at first to suggest that the little streams which pass Richmond Hill and Langstaff and

Thornhill on their way to the great lake, to the river, to the sea, can influence the course of civilization.

But the little stream plays its part, as it forms a portion of the infinite network of watercourses, in making the mighty lake on which so many depend. And as it dries up so dries the lake—and so mankind is forced into new paths by inexorable nature. Fartetched? Then think of the valleys which once were mighty rivers—of the western plains which were once a huge inland sea. Think, too, of the deserts which in the earlier days of man's time on earth were covered with tropical verdure.

The process of drying up is a slow one. So gradual is its onset that men hardly notice it. But in nature's timeless march it weaves its irresistible pattern. Sun and frost and wind and rain all contribute their quota to the change and man plays an even greater part as civilization and its practices hasten the erosion of the soil.

There are the inescapable facts. It is time to realize them. But there is another side too.

Constant talk of the growth of population in this part of Ontario may

## Inflation And Work

The correct definition of inflation is a rise in the money supply relative to the stock of things which can be bought. Therefore, it is equally correct to say that inflation is only another name for a reduced standard of living.

Now, people in this country, where a better-than-most living standard is the rule, don't like the standard to drop off, so the emphasis has been placed on ever-increasing money wages. This spreads a lot more dollars around, and, within a short time, the people who have the extra dollars face an increase in prices. This causes a chorus of sighs about the good old days when "a dollar was really a dollar." And the merry-go-round of wage increases and price increases goes on and on.

Let's face the facts. That green-back that man has in his pocket is still a dollar. He can still get 100 cents for it at any bank, not just 60 cents as you might suppose when you hear it called a "60-cent dollar." But the reason the dollar is weak is because the man with the dollar won't do as much for it as he once did. That being true, how can he expect it to do as much for him?

To quote the Royal Bank of Canada's thoughtful Monthly Letter, "No cheating or bargaining or smartness will ever get a single one of our wants out of nature's storehouse at half price. Our physical strength de-

pends on working our brains. If we want more, we must work more. As a nation, we cannot buy and consume twice as much goods as our grandfathers did unless we produce twice as much goods."

What's the solution?

"Ideally, of course, wages and salaries should be established except for promotion or merit, or at least no advance made that would simply bring a price increase," a correspondent of ours suggests. "The benefits of improved manpower and machine efficiency, with consequent lower costs, should be devoted principally to price reduction that would not only increase the purchasing power of our current earnings but of our savings as well. Under the present system we may be ahead of the game currently through having more than enough extra cheap dollars to pay the price advance, but unfortunately the value of past accumulations is being dissipated."

And if it hasn't struck you yet that they are being dissipated, just look at the small "help wanted" advertisement which ran recently in the New York Times and read something like this: "Messenger, 40-hour, 5-day, \$34, steady. Prefer retiree, man between 46-65." We understand the advertisement got 245 answers from men who had retired on pension and had found that their fixed incomes, bought through hard work and sav-

ing, bought with "100-cent dollars," would no longer buy them the things they needed.

There is only one method of minimizing inflation — you can't completely defeat it — in times such as these, because war goods have to be paid for from increased taxes and increased taxes are inflationary in themselves — and that method is a combination of increased manpower and machine efficiency and the will to work longer hours if necessary, but certainly a full day's work for a full day's pay.

To our way of thinking, the accent should be on the word "work." Cut down work and we'll soon have a "15-cent dollar." Cut it further and we won't have a "dollar" at all!

## Editorial Opinions

Sign on a local theatre stated recently:

"THE SKIPPER SURPRISED HIS WIFE with Robert Walker."

Seems to us that that's one which certainly should have carried the tag "Adult Entertainment."

"Canadians have a bad habit of estimating their accomplishments in American values. If they habitually made comparisons on a per capita basis, a lot of inferiority would vanish."

## Clothing from IRO for Korean Refugees



One hundred tons of warm winter clothing, shown being loaded aboard U.S. Navy transport at Bremerhaven, Germany, are part of a \$175,000 consignment for Korea from the International Refugee Organization, a United Nations Specialized Agency. They are earmarked for civilian refugees, now numbering more than two million.

## The Gardener's Column

(By Al Rice)

### Roses in the Garden

Roses should be planted as early in the spring as soil conditions allow. Preparation of the soil is important. It should be dug to a depth of twenty-four inches using well rotted cow manure. Use cinders or gravel for drainage if your soil is wet or sad. A rose garden does much better with a southern exposure. Roses should be pruned before planting. Cut back canes of Hybrid Teas, Perpetuals, Polyanthus to 6" to 8", this will give more abundant bloom. Planting holes should be twelve to fifteen inches wide and at least as deep to allow natural spread of roots. If weather is hot spray the plants with garden hose occasionally to prevent drying out of tops.

To spring feed your established

roses work into the soil between then a mulch of well rotted manure, later when flower buds have formed apply superphosphate, 2 lbs. to 200 square feet, sprinkle over surface then water thoroughly.

During the summer keep all faded flowers cut, pruning the flower shoots back to the third set of leaves from the base, this will give you much more bloom. Do not apply any fertilizer after July as this will cause them to continue late growth and prevent them from ripening to withstand the coming winter.

**Climbing or Rambler Roses**  
 Planting and soil treatment is the same but they require a little different pruning treatment. In spring, cut out all dead wood and weak canes or any sucker growth below the graft.

## "Know Your Neighbour"

"Swallowing the anchor" is the seaman's term for retiring from a life on the water to a life on land. But before he did so, CAPT. E. C. HAWMAN, subject of this week's "Know Your Neighbour" feature, whose picture appears on the front page, had put in a good many years sailing Canada's lakes, rivers and canals.

Born in Collingwood, birthplace of many Great Lakes sailors and ships, Captain Hawman started sailing when he was 17. His first ship was the W. C. Franz of the Algoma Steamships line, on which he embarked as an Ordinary Seaman. It was only four years before he had his mate's certificate — only four more years before he had his master's inland certificate and took over his first command, the 345' Windsorlite of the Imperial Company. Winters spent in the Marine School at Collingwood played a big part in his rapid advancement.

While most of his time was spent on freighters he put in some time on a passenger vessel, the Rapids King, when he first went as mate, sailing from Windsor to Wallaceburg up the fast St. Clair and the winding Sydenham rivers.

In 1929 he went to the Sarnia Steamships line, taking command of the Scott Misener. He stayed with the company for twenty years and finished up by commanding the big Royaltan, 545 foot flagship of the line.

In 1932 he received his master's coasting certificate permitting him to control ships sailing from one port to another on the Atlantic coast. During those years he sailed from the Head of the Lakes to Halifax, carrying many types of cargoes — iron ore, coal, grain, pulpwood, limestone, bauxite. When he started sailing a compass was the "king pin" of navigation. Before he left the lakes the gyro-compass, the ship to shore phone, radar, direction finders, depth finders, had all come into use.

Like many another sailor's family, Capt. Hawman's paid the toll which the sea and the lakes demand from those who sail their waters.

His brother, chief engineer on the Kamloops, was lost on Lake Superior. Another brother, Captain Bill, lost his life off Michipocoten in 1947. Captain Ed himself had one ship go down under him — the John J. Boland, Jr. which turned over in a heavy storm in Lake Erie in 1932, taking two of her crew with her.

Captain Hawman settled down in Oak Ridges in 1949 with Mrs. Hawman, the former Linda Young, and daughter Marilyn. There he took over the gas station which, in deference to his many years on ships, is called the Wheel House. The ship's wheels which form its main decorative features recall the stormy days and nights when he sailed the lakes.

He is an active member of the Oak Ridges Lions Club, of which he is second vice-president. Through it he is trying to help the boys of the community in many ways — a help which is further evidenced by his chairmanship of the Group Committee of the Scouts. He is, as well, a member of the International Shipmasters Association, a member of the Marine Club of Toronto, a member of the Masonic order at Sarnia and a member of the Oddfellows at Collingwood.

As so happens to the men who retire from a life on the water he has become intimately mixed up with horses. His connection, however, is a somewhat academic one — the actual contact being made by his daughter Marilyn, spark-plug of the Oak Ridges Riding Club, through which many of the district's youngsters are becoming experienced horsemasters and prize winners. Marilyn herself has contributed greatly to the large number of ribbons to be found around Oak Ridges representing equine victories.

They form a queer contradiction — the wheels which tell of a life on ships — the ribbons which tell of victories in the show ring. But the Hawman family seems to be quite happy with both of them.

### OTTAWA LETTER

by  
**Jack Smith, M.P.**  
North York

Government expenditures these days run into not millions, but billions. Canada's greatest ever peacetime estimates were presented to Parliament this week and this procedure is a curtain-raiser for the budget which will be brought down soon.

Main estimates which are presented to the members in printed form total around \$3 billion, 6 hundred million. Then after a while we will have supplementary estimates of 1951-52 expenditures which likely will bring the grand total to around \$4 billion. This is a lot of money for a country with our population. In round figures that's what its going to cost the people of Canada to run their public business this year. These are staggering figures and no wonder are causing very serious concern to your government and to the people from coast to coast.

A simple answer to the cause is the fact that our expenditure, for defence during the coming fiscal year will not be far short of the total government expenditures for the second year of World War II. In that year, however, there was no attempt at a pay-as-you-go policy, something your government is trying to do for the coming fiscal year.

The coming budget is certain to mean substantially increased taxes for Canadians. The only remaining problem for your government and your representative, is to decide how the increased taxes will be levied.

**St. Lawrence Seaway**  
 Members of all parties here at Ottawa join almost unanimously in the hope that the United States soon will agree to the joint development of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Completion of this project is considered essential for our defence plans and the provision of badly needed electrical power.

Construction of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence seaway to a full depth of 27 feet would guarantee forever an all-water route for our commodities at a substantially reduced transportation cost. It will link the Canadian west to the Atlantic seaboard and join our prairie wheat fields with the United Kingdom and European markets. Canada's share of the cost of this great project will be \$240 million, of a total cost of more than \$800 million.

**Immigration**  
 Since the conclusion of World War II immigration has been actively encouraged by the government with the view to fostering the growth of the population of Canada through the careful selection and permanent settlement of such numbers of immigrants as can be absorbed in the national economy.

From January 1, 1946 to December 31, 1950, there were 430,389 immigrants admitted to Canada. Of these 48,461 were dependents of Canadian servicemen and 115,439 were displaced persons.

**Convict Population**  
 On March 31, 1950 the convict population on penitentiary registers in Canada numbered 4740 according to the annual report tabled in Parliament this week. This is an increase of 515 or more than ten per cent over 1949. This also is an all-time high record, which of course has a relationship to Canada's increasing population. The total population as at March 1, 1950, was 13,766,000. Therefore there was one convict in Canada to every 2904 inhabitants.

**Government Departments**  
 There are at present eighteen federal departments of government. Many of these are large and their activities cover a large field. However so that readers may be at least generally familiar with these departments and their activities I propose to briefly summarize the activities of one department in each weekly letter.

The Department of Finance is an extremely important one and presently is under the direction of the Hon. Douglas C. Abbott, M.P. The Minister of this Department is responsible for drawing up and presenting the annual budget or financial statement of the nation. Thus he determines the methods and rates of taxation to raise the money necessary to carry on our national business.

The Minister of Finance is regarded as a high ranking member of the government and is responsible for the Royal Canadian Mint, the Bank of Canada, and the Tariff Board. The Department also is responsible for legislation governing insurance companies and banks.

### SUNDAY AFTERNOON

by DR. ARCHER WALLACE

### THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH

Once when I was pastor of a church in Toronto, I had a bright idea; at least it seemed so to me. There were a lot of old people in the congregation and I thought it would be a good idea to bring all over seventy together; have home tea and sandwiches and a good gossip, with no holds barred. I had visions of sixty or seventy old timers exchanging reminiscences. It would be somewhat nostalgic but in the main an enjoyable get-together.

My wife was a little critical. She said "How do you know the ones over seventy? You'll probably invite some who are only sixty-nine, then you'll be in trouble." I told her I would investigate before issuing invitations. However, I did make at least one mistake. A man rang me up and said his mother was quite hurt because she had been invited. I said "I thought your mother was seventy, Bill." "She will be in a few weeks," he answered, "but she thinks she could pass for sixty-five or even less."

Frailty, thy name is woman. But men aren't any better.

I did straighten it out by a little bit of diplomacy. I asked her if she would act on the reception committee; tell the guests where to put their coats, and see that they were all made acquainted and welcome. She liked that and during the party when there was a general hum of conversation, she drew me aside and said: "The dear old folks are all having a good time." She had still six weeks to go!

I liked her spirit; by that I mean her zest for living and youthful outlook. The span of human life has been extended; certain diseases have been considerably reduced, others eliminated altogether, and a child born today has a life expectancy of over fifteen years more than one born a century ago.

But growing old is not a matter of years as much as one of outlook. Pitkin's book "Life Begins at Forty," was a vigorous protest against the idea that people must become decrepid and a burden to themselves and others, simply because life's autumn comes. Many of the most cheerful and buoyant people we know, have passed three score and ten, and they have found a philosophy of life which enables them to make every new experience a stepping stone to a richer and fuller life.

A lot of young people expect

so much that when disappointments and frustrations come they don't take it very well. Hesitations and indecisions often make them restless and unhappy. Older people have found themselves, they can laugh at their own mistakes and often thank God for their sorrows.

One of the finest promises in the Bible was written more than twenty-five centuries ago. Here it is: "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary and they shall walk and not faint."

Isaiah put life's progress in right perspective. First comes flying then running, later walking. It means that first comes joy and praise followed by calm steps and firmness. There may be less excitement and exuberance as life proceeds but there is steady progress and deep tranquility of spirit.

Elderly people have not the physical vitality of youth but they can have, and often do possess, more stability and because they have learned so many lessons, a deep faith in what Stevenson called:

The kindness of the scheme of things,

And goodness of our veiled God.

A modern philosopher writes: "The greatest human achievement is the annihilation of lower diseases — that is life's supreme victory." It would be hard to state the case better. The supreme achievement — not to make money, attain popularity, or to dominate others — but to have spiritual control over thinking and our conduct.

I started by mentioning the lady who did not want to be considered old. No doubt the search for the fountain of youth has gone on since the beginning of time. How can we remain young? Here is the answer. We have perpetual youth when we realize that our life is that of the spirit. When George Macdonald was asked if he believed man had a soul, he replied: "Man is a soul and has a body." That was sound reasoning and thoroughly scriptural. God sustains and refreshes the soul: "He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither."

Our quotation today is by Longfellow: There is no death, What seems so is transition.