

Thursday, Dec. 9th 1926

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**...ING INCIDENT
IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN**
Opponents in Kent County Meet Intimately Under Most Unusual Circumstances.
What was probably the choicest incident of the political contest last week in Ontario is recounted in a despatch from Chatham, Ontario in The Toronto Globe. The incident oc-

urred about 4 p.m. on election day, when Rev. A. C. Calder, the Conservative candidate, met his opponent, Dr. C. B. Oliver, face to face, and in the most unusual and amusing circumstances. Here is the story in full as told by The Globe:—
“Mr. Calder had called on a Chatham woman to urge her to the polls. The lady stated she was unable to leave the house as she had no one with whom to entrust her two children. An arrangement was made whereby she would take her older child with her to the poll and then Mr. Calder would stay in the house with the baby until she returned.
“Shortly afterwards there was a knock at the door, and when Mr. Calder opened the portal, with the baby in his arms, he beheld no less a person than his opponent, Dr. C. B. Oliver, standing on the porchway.
“Is the lady of the house in?” inquired the doctor.
“No, she is not,” replied Mr. Calder.
“I gather, she has gone to vote.”
“You are perfectly correct.”
“Then the political barriers were broken down. Dr. Oliver, realizing the ludicrousness of the situation, was prevailed upon to enter, and the two contestants, alone in the quiet of the house, discussed in a most friendly and candid fashion the bitter contest which was waging outside.
“Have you seen any corruption in this campaign?” questioned Mr. Calder.
“No, I have not. As far as I know, on either side,” was the candid reply of the doctor.
“Nor have I seen any evidence of political corruption on the part of any one,” was the equally candid comment of the Conservative candidate.
“They shook hands, and expressed the opinion that, no matter which way the tide of victory would go, a splendid thing had been done for West Kent as a result of their presence in the field. “The riding had been cleared up,” as it were, of all signs of bribery or corruption.
“But time was precious.
“Dr. Oliver, who has been fighting hard every inch of the way and taking advantage of every opportunity to gain a point, saw a chance to do valuable soliciting while his opponent was acting the role as nurse-maid, so the adieu were hurried.
“As the doctor passed down the street he caught a glimpse of Mr. Calder still standing in the doorway with the baby in his arms—the baby that Dr. Oliver himself as family physician, had ushered into the world.
Commenting on The Globe's story it may be said that it matters little how much of literal truth there may be in the anecdote. As an illustration of certain desirable types of human nature, it is essentially true. It deserves to rank among the classical election stories, of which it may be remarked that Canada has a notable array. The Globe's story is almost worthy of the one told about Sir John A. Macdonald, with whose name and fame so many good stories are connected. In this story Sir John is pictured as calling at a house to canvass the lady, knowing that if the woman of the house could be won the men would vote all right. Sir John A.'s opponent, however, had called previously and being informed that the lady was too busy churning to talk politics he volunteered to run the

churn while the conversation was in progress. Before Sir John A. arrived his opponent had done so well at the churning that the woman was much impressed. When Sir John A. arrived she was busily engaged hulling strawberries and talking to his opponent who was running the churn like an expert. Sir John A. was not specially welcomed, but he was soon inside the house and took the job of hulling the strawberries from the lady. He proved very adept at the work, and the lady was soon worrying as to her choice of candidate. A man who could run a churn so cheerfully and effectively should make a good man to look after the people's interests in parliament. But the other man, who talked so well, and who was so expert at cleaning fruit also made appeal to her housewifely judgment. Just when the favour seemed to be settling on the expert churn man, Sir John A.'s ready wit turned the tables. Turning the conversation to a regular dialogue between his opponent and the lady, he distracted their attention long enough for him to be able to loosen the plug by the expert use of his foot. The couple were deep in discussion when out came the plug and the floor was splashed and splattered. Before the surprised politician really knew what had happened he had the churn torn from his care by the enraged lady who roundly scolded him for his gawkishness and carelessness. “Any man who can not be trusted to run a churn is certainly not fit to be member of parliament,” she said. Sir John A. won her confidence and the votes of her husband, sons and neighbours. And the old man smiled. “There is more to politics than making laws or speeches,” he said. “You've always got to watch the churn, when the other fellow is around.”

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GREAT HORNED OWL SHOT AT HAILEYBURY RECENTLY
The following is from The Haileyburian last week:—
“What is claimed to be a member of the great horned owl family was shot by Mr. H. E. Blackwall in Haileybury on Tuesday morning. The bird was seen in one of the trees near the residence of Mr. D. L. Jemmett on Georgina Avenue and Mr. Blackwall brought it down with one shot. The owl, which was brought to The Haileyburian Office by Mr. George Holmes, measured four feet nine inches from tip to tip of its wings and was a fine specimen. Although it appeared to be of considerable size the weight was only two pounds and three ounces. Its talons were well developed and it was apparently full grown. It is very seldom that one of these birds is seen within the confines of a town, but this winter reports state that both these and white, or snowy owl, are being seen in various parts of the country where they are not usually to be found. They are natives of the farther north sections of the continent and it is claimed that they are being driven south by a scarcity of their natural food, which consists of rabbits, partridges and other birds and small animals. These have been largely killed off this year through disease and other causes and the owls are forced to move south in order to secure food. Mr. Blackwall states that last week he saw one of the snowy owls in the woods near Silver Centre, where it was hunting rabbits, to all appearances. This is the first of these that has been seen in this district for years. Various authorities on weather conditions have prophesied that the presence of the owls so far south of their natural habitat is a sign that there will be a long, hard winter. Whether this be true or not, it is impossible to say, but it would appear that the early coming of winter weather may have had something to do with the birds moving south.”

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TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN CHEMINIS AND ROUYN

Well-Known Contractor Helps in Plan for Accommodation of New Camp
Arrangements have been completed between the Nipissing Central Railway and Mr. W. Little, the contractor who did so much to provide adequate facilities for the Kirkland Lake camp before the advent of the railway there, and now a freight and passenger service has been inaugurated between Cheminis and Rouyn, having in mind the getting into Rouyn late at night of passengers leaving Toronto the previous evening. The out-bound trip will be made by leaving Rouyn early in the morning and arriving in Toronto the next morning. This will make a very helpful and improved service for Rouyn and will no doubt be duly appreciated. In referring to the new service The Northern Miner last week says:—“Snowmobiles, which operated on the Gowganda and other Northern roads will be used and are expected to negotiate the 28-mile trip in a few hours. The type of snowmobile used in the North is usually a light motor car equipped with runners instead of front wheels, and double rear wheels running on endless chains. For freight service it is proposed to operate three tractors each capable of hauling 20 tons. Freight charges will be at the rate of 74 cents per cwt. and passengers will be asked in the neighborhood of \$5, the price of last winter. On Monday the Nipissing Central Railway started a schedule of two trips a day between Swastika and Cheminis. Passengers from Toronto and other points south can make direct connection at Swastika and arrive in Cheminis in the late afternoon. When the stage service to Rouyn is operating on schedule, those desiring to do so can go through to Rouyn the same night, arriving there about eleven o'clock.”

SOMEBODY IS ALWAYS PLAYING THE PESSIMIST

Although in Canada there is practically no historic fact to back the idea, there is a very prevalent opinion that mines and mining camps are of very short life. When things are at their best, and prospects are rosy, there is a class sure to say: “Oh, yes, things are good all right, but it won't last.” Everybody remembers how often Cobalt was supposed to be ready to close up, yet Cobalt is going yet. It has been the same with the Porcupine and Kirkland Lake and nearly all the other camps. It is only a few months ago that these same blue lads had the Dome all done, and were weeping because the rest of the mines up here would likely follow in the same line. They had a lovely time just being sad. But the Dome has taken on a new lease of life and all the other mines are increasing production. But nothing can discourage the true pessimists in their despair. They are the most hopeful guys alive in being forever hopeless. The attitude of this pessimistic type is very aptly illustrated by a story in The Northern Miner last week. The following is the story as told by the Cobalt journal:—
“It seems that one of the Kirkland operators (this is probably not a true story) dreamt he died and went to heaven. One of the first persons he met happened to be an engineer with a rather lugubrious outlook on things. “John,” said the new arrival in heaven, “What kind of a place is this?”
“Man,” was the reply, “It's a glorious place. Yes. But it won't last. I give it two years.”
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