

Says Good Employment Stops Undue Drinking

Steady and profitable employment is urged by H. A. Preston, of Matheson, as the best method to stop intemperance in the matter of liquor drinking. In a letter to The Advance this week, Mr. Preston says:—"Ten millions for Northern Ontario! Hope it is true! Fix up the roads around the settlers and build the belt line or roads for the North, and also keep the Ferguson highway in good state. This sure is one way to stop men from drinking liquor, at least to a certain degree. When the power line to Gowganda was built I worked on it and I never saw a drunken man. But when it was finished I come to Timmins and there I met some of the boys who had worked with me and they were out of a job and of course they drank more. Just now there are a lot of men fixing the road south of here to Ramore and since they started a month ago I have not seen any of them intoxicated, but before it started some of them had been on the unemployment roll and I know that four or five were continually drinking. I also think that the T. & N. O. Railway extension to be built to James Bay will cut out a lot of drunkenness because I have noticed quite often that when men are working they do not drink a quarter as much as they do when out of a job. So, building roads and keeping men employed is one sure way to make men drink less. Keep the good work going!"

Whether drinking is caused by unemployment or not, there should be very general support of Mr. Preston's suggestion about keeping men employed. Every time any man in this North Country is out of work it is a standing shame and disgrace to somebody. There is so much work that should be done here that no man living here now need be idle or should be idle. If a man will not work it is a disgrace to him and he should be ashamed of himself. If he cannot find work, then the shame and disgrace must go to others. There are many fine people in this country who have been unable to secure employment at times. That is a disgrace to the foresightedness of those in authority. There is so much to be done in the way of building roads and other enterprises that properly arranged there would be work for all able-bodied men all the time for a considerable time.

THREE HUNDRED TONS OF LIGNITE READY TO SHIP

The transportation of three hundred tons of lignite mined at Blacksmith's Rapids to Ottawa for test purposes, commenced last week when the first sleigh loads reached Coral Rapids and were stored in readiness for loading on to railway cars. The remainder of the quantity mined will be rushed by the sleigh route so that sufficient to make up carload shipments will be at the railhead within the near future. Information from the fields is to the effect that the deposits are proving to be even more valuable than was at first thought.

Pembroke Standard-Observer—Mr. R. J. Deachman, a self-authorized tariff expert at Ottawa, contends that the more we pay out for imported goods the greater is the employment. We are afraid that the country will scarcely take this for gospel.



IN "TORY PLOT"
Lord Brentwood, who as Sir William Joynson-Hicks, was Home Secretary in the Baldwin Government, is named with other prominent Conservatives in a "Tory Plot" story in the leading British Labor newspaper. The journal claims that the agitation in Great Britain against the reported religious persecution in Russia is "a gigantic Tory political plot."

SAUCE STARTLING "FACTS" ABOUT GYPSIES AND GYPSUM

Without prejudice, the following is published as it appeared in a special column of The Northern Miner. It is designed not to enlighten by its encyclopaedic information but to lighten by its humorous sagacity. The Northern Miner says—

"At a recent meeting of the Toronto branch of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, a speaker sprang the following:

"Within recent months a learned judge of the Supreme Court in one of our provinces rendered a decision in which he stated that 'Gypsum is not a mineral.' One of the daily papers of that province undertook to elaborate on that decision, and published the following: 'Of course it isn't. Who under the sun ever thought it was? Gypsum is a vegetable, like macaroni. It grows on the arid desert plateaus and is harvested each year by bands of gypsies. That is where it originally got its name 'gypsum'—from the 'gypsies.' A verb bearing the same root and springing from the same source is 'gyp.' In times past bands of gypsies, to get ahead of neighboring tribes, used often to harvest the crops—or outcrops—of gypsum before it was ripe and sell it to deluded customers as the matured product. Thus it sprang up that a customer who had been cheated on gypsum by gypsies was said to have been gyped.' We might state in closing that gyping on gypsum by gypsies is most common in Egypt."

New York Evening Post—The days of "holy wars" are past. Yet civilization of "holy wars" are past. Yet civilized opinion must sympathize with the churches in their present attempt to turn the sentiment of the world against the religious persecutions by the Soviets. Such an appeal, such a protest, may possibly mitigate the severity of these persecutions. Anything that serves to check the cruelties of the Soviets is worth while.

DISTRICT FORESTERS MAY CLOSE CERTAIN SECTIONS

New Ontario Forestry Bill Gives Wide Powers to Prevention Officers in Employ of Ontario's Government.

Drastic powers allowing district foresters engaged in fire prevention and fire fighting to close any area in Northern Ontario's bushlands to traffic or to terminate any lumbering operations are provided in the bill introduced Wednesday in the Legislature by Hon. William Finlayson, Minister of Lands and Forests.

The bill was given first reading after the minister had spoken at some length on its provisions. During his address the intimation was made that a tax to cover the cost of fire prevention would be instituted by the Government in view of the probability that fire prevention costs will continue to increase as the service becomes more and more effective.

"It is not necessary to explain the importance of preventing forest fires," began the minister. "There is a tremendous danger from fires every year. A vast wealth of timberlands is menaced.

"In a statement tabled to-day an estimate places the value of this timber at \$600,000,000. It is actually far more than that. For instance, a nominal sum was stated some time ago as the value of the timber in the Patricia area.

"Airplane surveys, photographs, inspections hitherto impossible, have now shown that that estimate was far below the actual value. It is necessary to preserve and protect this huge asset of the Province."

After reading figures showing some of the losses, the minister continued.

"Tragedies are enacted in the north. Picture the farmer who is placed on his little bush farm; we build schools for his children, roads to his farm, tell him to build a home; he saves money, acquires a few cattle and some other stock and builds a barn.

"Then comes the fire. All he has is gone. He runs into the night and huddles with his wife and kiddies under a blanket and is lucky to escape with his life.

In 1923 and 1924 the province started to build up a forest fire protective and fighting service; the best in the world. Recently the largest pine operator in North America had stated that Ontario had the finest service in America and his operations extended from Georgian Bay to the Pacific coast.

"But the fire danger is with us always," continued Mr. Finlayson. "Only steady persistent efforts over long years will build up a fighting force that will cope immediately with outbreaks.

Three years ago I told the House of the low loss of that year, only 30,000 acres, and it was said then the danger was over.

"Then came last year with its long drought and dry forests. The 'Saturday Night,' a Toronto paper, ran a series of articles attacking our service our towers, our planes, radios, everything. They said we were buying too much modern equipment and not spending enough for men.

"In the old days we sent out students from the universities who traveled in pairs. Two went away in a canoe to patrol a certain area and we said 'Goodbye and God bless you.' That was all we could say.

Students are of no use to the department now, the minister continued. Instead the building of a permanent force of men who year after year will patrol the same area, learn that area, who can handle their equipment, repair it, overhaul a pump, cross country with a boat; in fact do what needs doing when it needs doing, has been begun.

"And I wish that could be told everyone," the minister added. "It hurts to have to write to hundreds of young boys and tell them we can't use them. And members keep trying to get jobs for their constituents' sons.

"Prospects this year are that we will have to spend as much again as we did last year. All signs point to another period of drought, and dry forests mean fires. Our planes and radio do wonders. Planes spot fires, rush to the nearest telephone or radio point and big planes with equipment and men are rushed in.

"I ask the House for support in a serious situation.

"I would say that the expenses should be put on an insurance basis. You all know how you pay a premium wherever you live for fire protection. It may only be a little hand reel or it may be a city station, but you pay your premium.

"I think that the people who benefit should pay. It is estimated that the rate would be only .0027 mills applied as tax to cover all the expense of the service.

"In this bill there are two sections which are drastic and radical. The first provides that no one can carry on Summer operations in the woods without first obtaining a permit from the district forester. He can refuse a permit or he can impose certain regulations for the use of any permit he grants. He can say the permit holder must have one or two of our pumps kept handy and payment made for their use.

"In the second even more drastic power is asked. Last year when the fire hazard was so very high the biggest difficulty was to keep people out of the area. It is now proposed that the minister may order any area closed to everyone and he may extend the area if he sees fit.

"These are the two provisions. We ask you to help by giving your consent. We also suggest that townships may

WHIST DRIVE BY SONS OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL CLUB

The Sons of England Football Club held a most successful whist drive in the Hollinger hall on Tuesday evening of last week. All present enjoyed a real good evening at cards. The following won some fine prizes:—ladies, first, Mrs. Sears; second, Mrs. Bound; third, Mrs. Jopson; gentlemen, first, J. Farrer; second, J. McGilviray; third, A. Jones.

There was another very successful whist drive in the Miners' Union hall after the Junior Sons of England lodge meeting on Friday, Feb. 28th, commencing at 8 p.m. There were specially good prizes and refreshments were served. The proceeds of the event were in aid of the Junior S.O.E. summer outing. All present had a good time.

WANTS SAULT STAR MAN TO TAKE FEARSOME OATH

(From Stratford Beacon-Herald)
It is a puzzle to know what to do about this. Just a few weeks gone back this paper assured Jim Curran of the Sault Ste. Marie Star that it would believe every animal story that carried a date line from the Sault.

There is one today that takes credulity. Charles James, fireman on a railroad train, saw a wolf on tracks when the engine was going along about 28 miles per hour. The animal was crazed by the headlights, so the fireman crawled out to the cowcatcher, and just as the engine was upon the wolf the animal by the scruff of the neck and carried it back into the cab.

Years ago, behind the little red school, when the boys traded jack-knives, there was an oath that ran like this: "Open and shut, whittle and cut, whole blade or no trade." Then, too, there was another even more binding: "Spit your death and cross your heart."

If Jim Curran will take either of these two oaths we'll believe that wolf story to the last hair.

call on us for assistance and pay half the cost of fighting a fire. Some townships are now asking us to reimburse them for fire fighting they did last year. We propose that reeve or head of a council may call on us but will pay half.

In conclusion, Mr. Finlayson stated that the powers sought might sound drastic but that they were necessary powers before the service could give of its best. He asked for the support of both sides of the House on the passage of the bill.

Pathfinder—Your bank account will indicate how fast you are going better than your speedometer.

Coral Rapids Will be Headquarters for Work

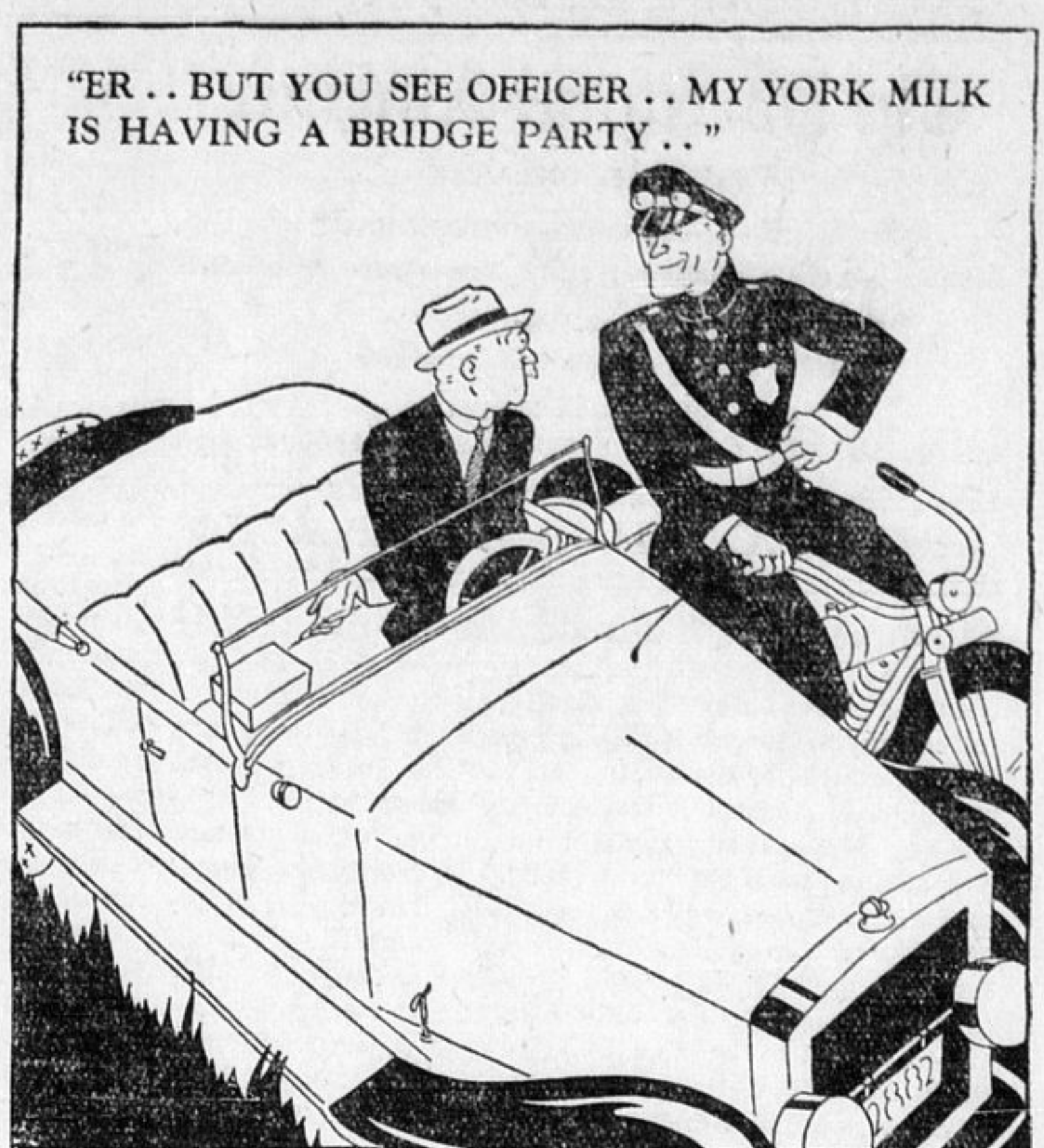
According to despatches from the south, headquarters for the work of extending the T. & N. O. farther north towards James Bay will be located at Coral Rapids, the present end of the steel, and the task of preparing supplies will be commenced almost immediately. H. F. McLean, of the successful contracting firm, is expected to go north in the course of the next few days to make preliminary arrangements for starting the job.

Supplies will be rushed in at once and these will be transported over the snow roads now available. This phase of the work will be completed before the spring thaw sets in earnest, it is stated. At present, communication with Coral Rapids is maintained from Cochrane by a "mixed" train every Saturday. This leaves Cochrane at 8.30 a.m., but the hour of its return is, uncertain, depending largely on circumstances. The run is an extension of the usual trip to Island Falls.

More frequent train service over the 90 miles separating the two points is now certain, as supplies will be taken in over the steel to Coral Rapids. A special trip was made a few days ago to bring out representatives of the diamond drilling firm of Smith & Travers, in charge of the operations for the Ontario Government in the coal deposits at Blacksmith Rapids, and occasionally other special runs have been made for various purposes. Considerable freight has been taken in during the winter months.

Coral Rapids at present comprises a few shacks, but an increase in its size is imminent. Government engineers have their camps located there, and they will be joined soon by a regularly-appointed agent of the T. & N. O., which has been calling for bids for the post to be established at Coral Rapids. It is likely, also, that an officer of the Ontario provincial police will be stationed there in the immediate future, although no appointment has been made yet. Inspector W. T. Moore, of district headquarters at Cobalt, is going up soon to look over the ground. Any police work hitherto necessary has been done from Cochrane.

Toronto Mail and Empire—In Montana a cow was struck by a plane making a landing, and now the bossy is blamed for being in the road. From point of view of pre-arrival, we think the cow had the right of way, but she is just as dead as though she were wrong. Pedestrians will kindly take a tip.

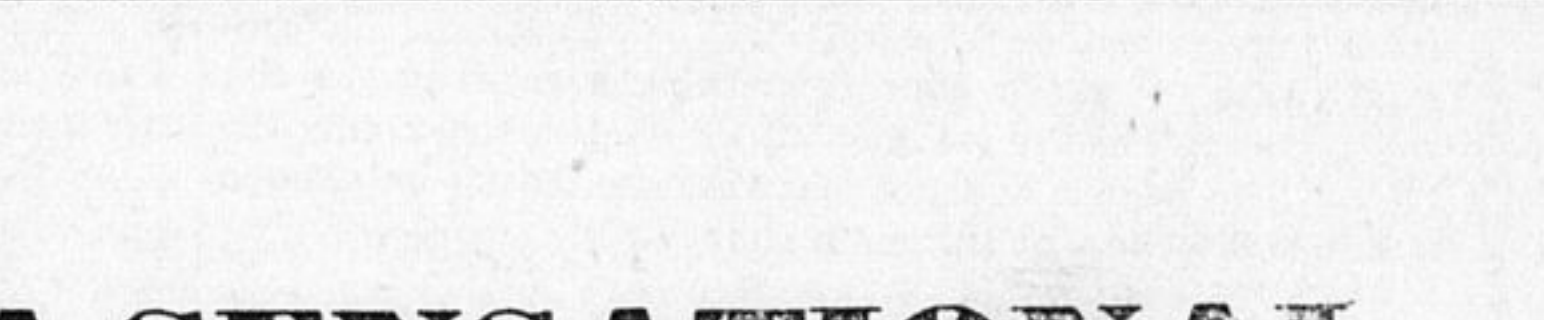


"ER... BUT YOU SEE OFFICER... MY YORK MILK IS HAVING A BRIDGE PARTY..."

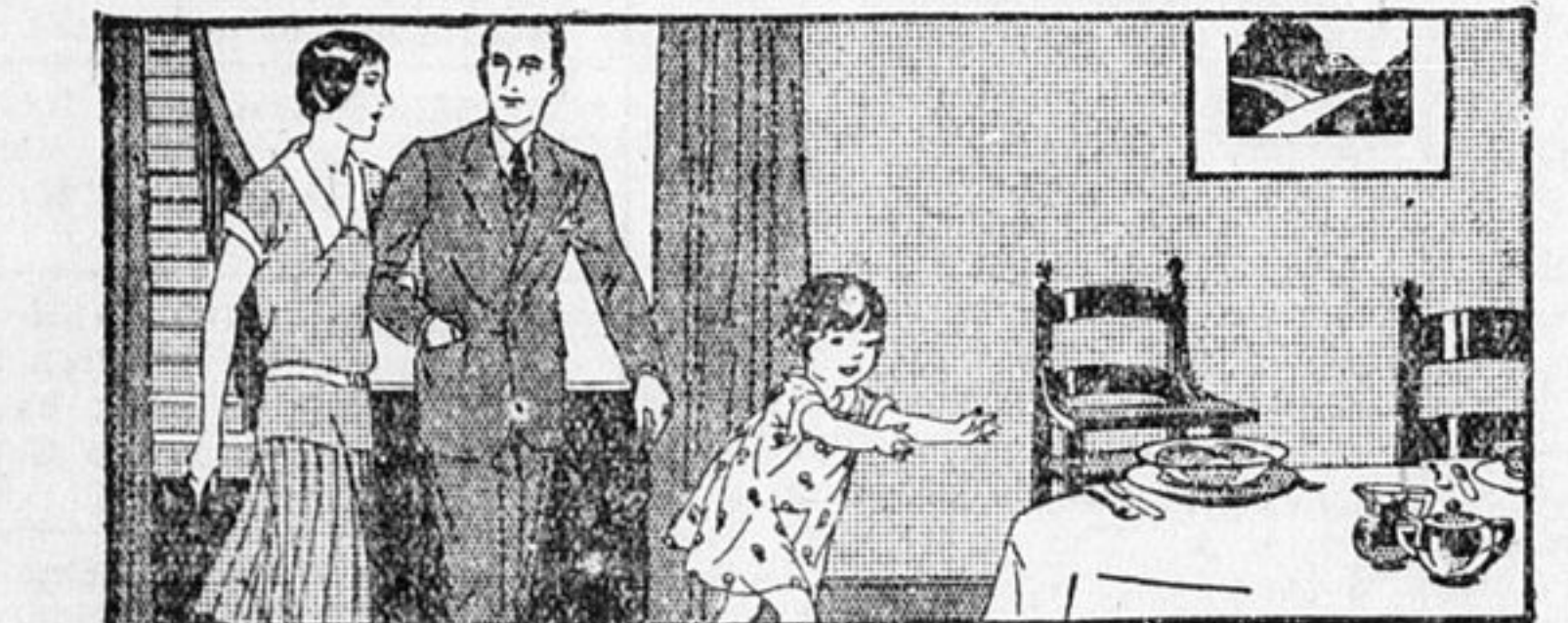
Of course, Mr. Stiggins was confused. He meant to say his wife was giving a bridge party and that was why he simply had to be home on time with the York Milk Chocolate.

"Well," said the officer, "If you knew as much about driving a car as your wife does about pleasing her guests, you could do sixty-five all day and I'd never bother you. Better settle out of court—one box of Rowntree's York Milk or thirty days."

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