

The Porcupine Advance

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PARAMOUNT ISSUES

"Editor and Publisher," the notable New York journal published in the interests of editors and publishers and newspaper workers generally, in its issue last week had a very interesting and important summary of what leading editors of the United States consider the paramount issues facing the newspapers and the nation this new year. It is worth noting that the newspaper editors all appear to be agreed on the fact that the problems of the state are their special problems. A consideration of the summary of the views of these United States editors will also impress most Canadians with the opinion that the questions confronting United States editors and the nation as a whole have a very emphatic application to Canada and Canadians.

George B. Langan, editor of The Kansas City Star, thinks that the great need for 1935 is the interpreting in clear and incisive manner of the plans and purposes of the government in the matter of supporting the nation through the balance of the depression and speeding up recovery. He emphasizes the necessity for preserving the freedom of the press. A continuance of the war on crime is considered a vital factor in any programme of good government. The Kansas City Star editor further urges the use of the iron hand against pervasive radicalism and its twin brother ruthless industrial domination.

The editor of The Albany Evening News and Knickerbocker Press considers sound thinking by newspapers and people alike to be the great need of the day.

Wallace Ferry, editor of The El Paso Herald-Post believes that an outstanding need of the day is the feeling of greater security.

Earle Martin, editor of The Cleveland News, names unemployment as the greatest problem of the day. He advocates public works as a partial measure of relief from relief, and stresses the need for economy and retrenchment in unessentials.

"Getting public sentiment back to sane views of economics and individual responsibility" should be the objective of the newspapers in the opinion of the editor of The Portland Oregonian.

The need for a balanced budget, the necessity to cut government costs, the desirability for control of credit, the value to the people in general from fair regulation of business—these are some of the points featured by other editors.

The Houston Press concludes its opinion with these words: "Too many newspapers of to-day are run like a department store—offering their wares for sale, and being careful to do nothing to offend their customers." The Houston Press recognizes that a newspaper is more than a business. There are some people who would have a newspaper no more than a sort of sanctified purveyor of gossip, if their opinions are to be judged from their attitude. A newspaper of that "store" variety would be of little benefit to the community or the nation, and eventually of no profit to itself.

The application of these opinions to the Canadian situation will be apparent. Edward J. Meeman, editor of The Memphis, Tennessee Press-Scimitar, writes indeed as if he had felt the keen edge of the ruthless Hepburn axe. With the omission of the two words, "in Washington," his paragraph to "Editor and Publisher," reads as follows: "Whatever administration we have in Washington, there will continue to be large government activities. These are efficient only when positions are given on a basis of merit and competence. The finest service newspapers could perform, and the one of most unquestionable merit, would be to work unceasingly for the removal of patronage from the government service, national, state and local. There is no field in which it has not been demonstrated that this is possible; wherever it has been done, as in the city government of Cincinnati, or the Tennessee Valley Authority, there has been high efficiency; therefore let us make the merit principle general and apply it everywhere."

One brief article in the summary of the paramount issues facing newspapers and nations in 1935 is worth reproducing in full. It is by Lynn W. Landrum, in charge of the editorial page of The Dallas, Texas, Journal. It applies with full force to Canada, or to any other country. In answer to the question, "What do you think should be the major newspaper editorial objective for the coming year, locally and nationally?" Mr. Landrum gives the following:

- 1. Readability. An unreadable editorial is stillborn. The breath of life is not in it. One such year is one too many.
2. Clarity. If the editorialist can't say what he means, why should the reader waste time trying to guess?
3. Dispassionate analysis of ballyhoo and buncombe. But you've got to remember that most ballyhoos and buncombe bites mean well at least part of the time.
4. Persistent and persuasive emphasis upon guiding principles of long-time value as against emergency-spawned opportunism, benign and otherwise. The north star and the multiplication table are poor platform planks and have practically no grandstand value; but they come in handy when you have to check up.
5. Courage. Exhibit it and recognize it. Every instance of brave, resourceful or ingenious victory over adversity makes this old world richer for all time.
6. Good humour. Anger, error and injustice ride off in company. They are the three horsemen of bigotry.
These things the editorial page ought always to have. But surely they are needed now more sorely than ever before.

CONSIDER THE NORTH!

In Southern Ontario newspapers there have been reports that Northern Ontario members of the Legislature are furious because of the fact that all the heads of departments in the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway service have not been dismissed. In the North itself, or at least in that portion of it served by the T. & N. O. Railway there is no evidence of any enmity or dissatisfaction in the matter. On the contrary there seems to be general approval of the way the T. & N. O. is being conducted and the evident effort made to serve the people. The people of the North appreciate the notable services given by Geo. W. Lee and the other commissioners in the past. They recognize that the previous commission was removed solely on political grounds. At the same time the value to the country of at least some of the new commissioners is fully appreciated. In Col. Mac Lang, the new chairman of the T. & N. O. Commission, and C. V. Gallagher, the vice-chairman, the people of the North realize that they have two able men who know the North and are ready to serve the North to the full of their ability. With the new general manager given a free hand and with the supervision of the North Land commissioners, the T. & N. O. has been recapturing its popularity in the North. It is an odd fact that no one here in the North seems to be dissatisfied with the T. & N. O. Commission's work. Among the men whose business and patri-

onage support the railway there seems to be no desire for changes or dismissals of the staffs. All this sort of talk seems to originate elsewhere. If anyone is telling in the South that there is any demand for the further use of the axe on the T. & N. O. they are spreading things far from the truth. Col. Mac Lang is admitted by his friends to be a skilful politician. What his enemies may think of him is difficult to say, for you have first to find those who hold any dislike for him. Few men keep closer touch on popular opinion than does the same Col. Mac Lang, and he has been following along the lines that meet with public approval in his attitude towards dismissals on the T. & N. O. Evidently, he believes in a square deal for the men employed and a sensible deal for the country at large. Consequently there have been no wholesale dismissals, and those who know Mac Lang best will expect no ruthless folly to the detriment of the railway and the province.

Tuesday's Toronto Mail and Empire told of a conference expected to be held at Toronto probably to-day. This conference is supposed to be held with the idea of settling the differences between Col. Mac Lang and the politicians who want wholesale and reckless dismissals. In its article The Mail and Empire touches on the secret of any trouble there may be. The Mail and Empire says that Armand Racine, one of the T. & N. O. Commissioners is reported to be insistent that the recommendations made in his report on the railway be carried out. Just why the Racine recommendations should have precedence over the opinions of men like Col. Mac Lang and C. V. Gallagher would be difficult to explain. Mr. Racine knows nothing about the North, less about the railway business and little enough about anything else than political matters. His whole report was no more than a political document. On the other hand Col. Mac Lang and C. V. Gallagher have long and successful experience in public affairs and they know the North, its people and its needs, in a way few can equal. The powers-that-be at Toronto would be well advised to listen to the men who know. As far as Mr. Racine is concerned he did his part in the enquiry, preparing a political report that must have delighted the heart of the man who sits at Queen's Park, Toronto. Now, however, Mr. Racine should fade from the picture. The conduct of the T. & N. O. should be left to the men who are serving the North. It is the people of the North who are primarily concerned about the T. & N. O. Politics should be given a rest. It would be well now to centre on the business of having the T. & N. O. fulfill its destiny. Mr. Racine should fade from the picture.

GHOSTS NEAR PERTH

It was that rope-twirling old roisterer, Will Rogers, who said that all he knew was what he read in the newspapers. Some newspapermen are like that, and they would be the better for a change in tutors. It all depends on the newspapers that may be read. Any man who will religiously read The Advance each issue will know a lot before the year is out. He will know the new births, the old drunks, the visitors to and from the district, the business concerns that are alive, and the people that are dead. He will have a fairly broad and intelligent conception of life as it is in this mining camp.

On the other hand if a man depends on the daily newspapers he will hold rather questionable opinions upon life, death and the hereafter. Reading recent issues of the dailies, for instance, tempts the reader to imagine that life in a big city consists of quintuplets, the Hauptmann murder trial, the trouble in the Saar and the case of all the ghosts at Perth, Ontario. It is difficult to believe any of these things, but such is life! "Believe it or Not?" is what Ripley says.

About those Perth ghosts, however! The daily newspapers found them, and left them where they were. Most of the newspapermen also left—but not where they were, by miles. And this is how the story goes!

At the little farm home of John Quinn on the shores of Black Lake, about 16 miles from Perth, there have been ghosts popping. Inanimate objects have suddenly been imbued with life, according to the stories told with a straight face and a crooked voice. Stones thrown by hands unseen have broken windows. Tea kettles refuse to stay on the stove, jumping down as often as placed on the heating apparatus. A mirror seems to drop from the wall without anyone touching it. Pieces of firewood jumped out of the wood-box under their own steam. Dishes cavorted around without reason or excuse. One man swore he saw three flatirons walk down stairs a step at a time. A monkey wrench hanging on a nail on the wall spun round and round until everybody was dizzy. All this happened without any apparent human agency behind it. "Believe it or Not!" says Ripley.

Newspapermen, judges, ministers of the gospel, workers and idlers and others watched the most astounding capers of lifeless articles. They all are ready to take affidavit that they saw what they saw. In the meantime the whole district is excited and hurried about the strange manifestations. No scientific explanation is offered. Professors are inclined to scoff at it all, suggesting that it is only a publicity stunt. But the people of the district are reported as being alarmed and nervous.

Of course, there is a simple explanation of the matter. Perhaps, Charlie Stone, of The Perth Expositor will give that explanation. Maybe the gullible guys of the daily press tempted his patience too far, and he told the boys something that would keep them occupied for a time at least. Charlie could put so many chills in a story like that that few young newspapermen would hesitate to doubt his story. They would sooner accept the tale than spend a ghostly evening in attempting to disprove it.

Canada has had quite a number of those alleged ghostly visitations. The Perth one has the most of the others backed off the map. It takes a red-blooded ghost these days to crowd Mr. Hauptmann, Mary Pickford, R. B. Bennett and hockey off the front page.

By an odd coincidence the ghosts began to walk just at the time when the return was announced of a certain gentleman who had been holidaying at Bermuda. The Perth Expositor in the interests of all concerned, should exorcise the ghost near Perth.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

The Kincardine Review-Reporter is authority for the statement that a London gentleman, who died recently, was found to have willed all his large fortune to his lawyer. There seems to be something wrong with a story like that. How could a man who had a lawyer have any estate to leave? But perhaps the man died unexpectedly!

Tim Buck, recently released on parole from Kingston penitentiary, is quoted as saying that he intends to be a candidate at the coming Dominion election. Buck recently travelled out of here by airship. Now, he apparently plans another expensive holiday event. Apart from the cost of the election campaign, it will cost \$200.00 for the deposit required from candidates for the Dominion election. Again, the question is asked:—Where does the money come from?

The Vancouver Sun recently had an unusual editorial which it has reproduced in some of the leading dailies in Canada. The Sun more or less foolishly paying for the advertising space in which to publish the odd views advanced, Canadians, according to this editorial, have three possible choices:—Fascism, as exemplified in Italy, Communism as developed in Soviet Russia, and Liberalism as demonstrat-

Governor-General's Talk on Boy Scouts

Earl of Bessborough Speaks of Value to Nation of the Boy Scout Movement. Asks Support in Campaign.

The following address delivered some days ago at Ottawa by His Excellency the Governor-General, the Earl of Bessborough, should be of general interest. Not only does it touch upon the Boy Scout movement, but it goes deeper than that and takes up the whole attitude of Canada in regard to youth and the true progress of the country:—

"I am now starting my fifth and last year in Canada as Governor-General. During every one of the past four years, I have travelled many thousands of miles throughout this wonderful Dominion. As the representative of the King in this country, I have endeavoured to testify to Canadians of all ages, in your great cities and in your remoter country districts, the close personal interest that His Majesty feels in all his Canadian subjects."

"In my travels, I have met a very great number of the men, women, and children of this glorious country. I have seen many sides of Canadian life. I have seen, I hope, something of the hearts and minds of Canadians, as well as much of their outward activities. It has been, as you can imagine, a very agreeable, but also a very moving, and a very illuminating, experience. From that experience, one impression stands out more vividly, perhaps, than all the others I have gathered—and that is that Canada, as a country, is vitally instinct with the spirit of youth."

"By that, I do not mean that Canada is, historically, a young nation, as nations go. I do not mean, either, that Canada at the present moment offers greater professional opportunities to youth than do other countries. What I do mean is that Canada today seems to me pre-eminently conscious of the needs of youth, anxious to give youth a fair chance, proud of its own boys and girls, and determined to make the most of the fine raw material of citizenship which those splendid boys and girls provide; and this explains what I have also noticed everywhere—that in Canada, the elders seem to stay younger, to keep youth in their hearts longer than they do in most countries. There is, in fact, throughout this great country, a deep seated sympathy with youth, a realization of the obligations of Age to Youth, which is one of Canada's greatest national assets."

"There are in the world today many so-called 'Youth Movements'; but of all those of which I have any knowledge the one for boys that appeals to me most is the Boy Scout Movement. In my opinion, this organization which lays such stress on honour, on loyalty, on neighbourliness, and on 'playing the game,' is the one that is the finest and is best suited to Canada. Naturally, its emphasis on loyalty appeals to me, for is not life made up of loyalties—loyalty to one's friends; loyalty to those things that are beautiful and good; loyalty to one's country; loyalty to our King; and above all, and most important of all, loyalty to God."

"Doubtless you have heard that the Chief Scout of the World, Lord Baden-Powell, is coming to Canada next spring, and that I have challenged the Scout organization to celebrate what may be his last visit by laying plans for a considerable expansion and improvement of the movement. Canada has 65,000 excellent Scouts, but I know that is not enough. There should be at least one hundred thousand in this country, and Scouting should be made available to the hundreds of smaller communities which at present have no organized activities of any kind for their boys."

"Mr. Beatty, the president of the Scout organization in Canada, is just as much in earnest about this matter as I am. With his co-operation, an all-Canadian Conference of Scout Provincial Presidents, and Provincial Commissioners, met in Ottawa last September, and decided to accept my challenge. "Organization for the campaign, with this object in view, will begin tomorrow and I am calling upon every adult member of the Association in every province, and upon everyone who loves Canada, to lend a hand with this big task."

"May I ask the people of the Dominion to do this for me? I would feel a great deal happier on the sad day my office, if I could report that the Scout movement, which lays such stress on loyalty to the Throne, had been firmly placed upon its feet for the next five years, and that plans had been completed for greatly extending and increasing its usefulness to Canada."

"To be a good Canadian and a good Scout will always, I feel sure, be synonymous terms."

London Free Press:—The latest trade figures show that Britain is still forging ahead. It is a blessing for Canada that Rt. Hon. Bennett has looked to London and not Washington for leadership.

in the United States. Just at the time that The Vancouver Sun was publishing this sort of nonsense, Hon. Mr. Bennett was announcing his programme avoided fascism, communism, and liberalism as they have it in the United States. The Vancouver Sun, with its usual tendency to play politics, suggests that Hon. Mr. Bennett has the attitude of mind of the fascist. Without criticizing in any way President Roosevelt's new deal policies, it cannot be denied that he has fallen below the Bennett standard, while adopting a mixture of fascism and communism that is hard to equal on this continent.

It is not so long ago that the birth of twins was considered an event worthy of special note. The birth of triplets those days created a furore. Now, nothing less than quintuplets seems to impress the public. The recent birth of triplets

Doesn't Approve of Beer and Cheese Diet for Infants

The following editorial article from The Carleton Place Canadian touches on a timely topic in very effective way, treating one of the extreme statements made by a United States medical man in the spirit in which such stuff should be taken. Here's the editorial, heading and all:—

A New Diet for Babies The following appeared on the front page of several Canadian daily newspapers a few days ago, sponsored by the Associated Press:

Madison, Wis., Jan. 3.—If your baby shows nervousness by crying easily, jumping at strange noises and sleeping badly, give him a piece of cheese and a sip of beer, says Dr. H. Curtis Johnson.

A leading child specialist, Dr. Johnson said that American cheese, fresh and mild, is exceedingly beneficial in nervousness cases. Beer, he added, is rich in vitamin B and the antineurotic vitamin contained in yeast.

"Lack of calcium in the blood often causes nervousness in babies and adults," Dr. Johnson said, and that, "American cheese is an excellent source of the needed mineral."

"We have it on good authority, not from our own experience of course, that a bottle of modern so-called beer, if left standing on a varnished or painted table, after being imbibed and drippings allowed to run down its sides, will on being lifted, after a few hours, leave a circular ring with the paint or varnish removed. You may test this experiment yourself and judge of its correctness. Any liquid that will remove paint or varnish must have a fine invigorating effect on the delicate membrane of an infant's stomach."

The child specialist informs us that beer is rich in vitamin B, "B" may symbolize bull, bunkum or baloney in this case. We have seen lumberjacks and other healthy specimens of humanity, full of vitamin B which floats about in beer. It is not a pleasant sight and we have no desire to see a baby in the same condition. It is true the Dionne quintettes were given diluted rum, immediately after birth, with an eye dropper. At that time they were "in extremis" and the rum may be described as the equivalent of a solution of adrenalin given to an adult in the same condition, but no sane person would give a baby a diet of rum or an adult a diet of adrenalin.

We recall that a few years ago a "specialist" informed the world that the liver of a calf contained certain vitamins in large quantities. Previously to the announcement the liver was

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selling at five cents a pound and was often given away. Subsequently the price went to sixty cents, and even today is more expensive than some of the best meat cuts. Perhaps beer and cheese will soar in price the same way. We have heard the expression that a thing was so easy that it was like "stealing milk from babies." We would not care for the expression to be changed to "beer for babies." Babies raised on beer and cheese would probably revert to cannibalism or worse before reaching adolescence, if ever they survived such drastic diet. Let us take this same advice with a grain of salt.

REVENUE OF HOWEY MINES WAS \$333,601 FOR QUARTER

Howey Gold Mines, Ltd., for the quarter ended Dec. 31, shows revenue from gold production of \$333,601, compared with \$367,501 in the preceding three months. In the period the company milled 118,718 tons of ore with recovery of \$2.85 per ton, against 123,654 tons and recovery of \$2.97 in the September quarter. Operating costs in the quarter were \$1.85 a ton, before provision for taxes, depreciation, etc., compared with \$1.80 in the previous three months. For the full year the company treated 481,840 tons of ore and recovered \$1,603,103.

R. T. Birks, president, stated that December was the best month since last July. The lower output for the quarter was due to the mill being shut down for seven days in October, when a replacement had to be made in mill equipment. Extensive mine development has been carried out during the year.

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"CANADA'S NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE MUSCLE AND BRAIN OF HER MEN" CONVERTING THE WEALTH OF THE NORTH LAND INTO CASH Spectacular as have been the growth and expansion of New Ontario's industries—mining, lumbering, pulp and paper, power and railroad and highway building and maintenance, the development of her wealth is still only upon the threshold. Men and money are pouring in to realize on the immense natural resources. Tremendous impetus is being given to general business, and this is felt strongly in the agricultural communities, the wholesale and the retail stores. Men must be served. When enterprise began to fashion New Ontario's future, families moved in. The homesteader came, farms dotted themselves across the North—sources of supply for lumber and agricultural produce. A local market was developed and the merchant came to cater to the domestic and industrial needs of his community, to provide the supplies which, in the early days, had to be shipped into the North from far-away points. New Ontario's growth in agriculture and mercantile activity is not ephemeral. It is based upon solid foundations, an integral part of the expansion which characterizes this land of youthful vigor and great achievement. To-day New Ontario, from a food distribution standpoint, is a compact entity, served by the local agriculturist, retail merchant, warehouses and offices of the Crawley & McCracken Company located at strategic points, the wholesale grocery establishments of Gamble Robinson Company, National Grocers Limited, Western Grocers, the northern warehouse of Canada Packers, Swift Canadian Co., Cochrane Dunlop Hardware Co., and other wholesale and retail organizations in this enterprising and progressive Northland. CRAWLEY & McCracken COMPANY, LIMITED SUDBURY Toronto North Bay Cochrane Montreal Kenora Sauli Ste. Marie

in the West has been allowed to pass with only a few lines on the back page.

There is a report that the \$2.00 radio license fee is to be abolished! Now, if they could only abolish some of the radio record programmes.

Radio fans have heard the "Mikado" so often over the radio that if they met the gentleman on the street they would likely speak to him.

A man in Vienna is suing his wife for alimony. This is said to be the first time in the history of Austria that a case like this has occurred. It is a common enough matter for a wife to sue her husband for alimony, but in this case it is not considered that what is sauce for the gander should be considered sauce for the goose.

"EAT MORE BREAD" LATEST CAMPAIGN TO BE STARTED

In Canada we have our "Fish Week," "Cheese Week" and other kind of "Days" and "Weeks." Now a movement is on foot to get the people of the United Kingdom to eat more bread. A five year campaign is about to get under way with this object in view, according to the Industrial Department of the Canadian National Railways. The millers and bakers are said to be joining forces to endeavour to put the scheme across. If successful, it should mean greater imports of Canadian wheat.

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