

THE DURHAM CHRONICLE

Published every Thursday morning at the office, Garafraxa Street, Durham, Ontario, by W. Irwin, Editor and Proprietor. The Chronicle is mailed to any address in Canada at the rate of \$2.00 per year, \$1.00 for six months, 50 cents for three months. To any address in the United States of America, \$2.50 per year, \$1.25 for six months, 65 cents for three months. Foreign subscription rates on application. Member Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association.

Thursday, November 27, 1924.

DANGEROUS RAILROAD CROSSINGS

There are too many dangerous railroad crossings in this country, and with the increasing motor traffic, the Railway Commission might well be advised to take some action in the matter. In a country like Canada, with a small population and a large railroad mileage, it is obvious that the level crossing cannot very well be abolished, but it is equally obvious that the majority of the dangerous ones could be made much more safe than they are at present and at no very great expense.

The accident at the Durham hill last Wednesday night is but one of many that occur daily throughout the Dominion. We think we can remark without any "I told you so" spirit that the citizens of this town have long expected just some similar disaster, and while we have been told that the railroad company was not responsible for the local accident in any way, the conditions surrounding the crossing were—and the Railroad Commission is responsible for these same conditions. When the railroad was completed in 1908, the Commission ordered a bell to be placed on the crossing. The railroad company complied with this ruling, and thereby are legally exonerated from any blame.

But conditions in 1908 and 1924 are vastly different. Since 1908, motor cars have come into use, and in the recent past, the Hamilton-Owen Sound road has been designated a Provincial Highway and an excellent roadway built, with the natural increase in traffic. Even until 1920, the "bell" signal was not so bad, but with the increased use of closed cars, it has become obsolete and practically no protection to motorists. This feature was responsible for the accident to Mr. David Smith last week. He was driving a closed car, did not, in fact, could not hear the bell, and reached the crossing a second after the C. P. R. night train, with disastrous results to himself and his car. Though his was the first accident to happen, there have been several "near" ones, in our opinion, it is high time that railroad crossing signals keep up with the times and be made more effective.

There is in use at several points in Ontario a signal which not only sounds a bell on the approach of a railroad train, but also waves a signal over the track which no one can miss seeing. At night this signal is lighted by a red lamp and is a most effective warning that a train is approaching. Might we suggest that our Town Council take the matter up with the Railway Commission and ascertain if it is not possible to have one of these modern signals installed on the crossing here? The railway company will install this system when ordered to do so by the Commission—and not until then. Further, it is not likely the Commission will order the change unless their attention is drawn to the matter. So far as Mr. Smith is concerned, it is a case of locking the stable after the horse is stolen, but we think it is the duty of our town fathers, now that the lesson has been learned, to take immediate steps to see if some more effective signal cannot be installed.

FERGUSON AND THE O. T. A.

"In a fighting speech before the big Conservative conference at the King Edward hotel yesterday, Premier Ferguson left no doubt as to his intention to resist all efforts, within or without his own party, to thwart the will of the people as expressed in the O. T. A. plebiscite on October 23 last."

The above paragraph is the first one in the leading, front page news article in Wednesday's Toronto Globe last week in its report of the bi-Conservative convention held in Toronto.

It must have taken some effort for The Globe to pen such a tribute to Premier Howard Ferguson, leader of the Conservative party in Ontario.

All during the recent plebiscite campaign, The Globe and certain other Liberal interests would have led the public to believe that Premier Ferguson and the liquor party were one, and that even if carried, the O. T. A. was doomed through lax enforcement and a government that was not interested in the morals of the rising generation.

Previous to the campaign of 1923, Premier Ferguson announced from every platform that if he and his government were returned to power, there would be a vote on the O. T. A. when the proper time came. That time arrived, and the vote was taken on the 23rd of last month. Premier Ferguson and the Conservative party maintained all through the campaign that the will of the people must rule. His reiteration of his stand at the big convention in Toronto Tuesday afternoon, and the fact that the Conservative party, almost to a man, stood behind him, should quiet the fears in some quarters that the O. T. A. would be a law in name only.

There need be no apprehension. Premier Ferguson and the Conservative party stand four square on the temperance question and will enforce it to the full. To do this, however, they must have the support of prohibitionists of all political faiths. There must be no lying down on the job just for the satisfaction of seeing the Conservative administration fail in O. T. A. enforcement.

LICENSES FOR MOTOR DRIVERS

The proposal before the Ontario Associated Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce at their eleventh annual meeting at Toronto last week to ask the Ontario Government to make it compulsory for all drivers of motor vehicles to undergo an examination and take out a license is a good one.

As the law stands now, any person with the necessary money may purchase a motor car and, with one or two ten-minute lessons, is permitted to turn himself loose on the highway as a full-fledged motor driver. Sometimes he gets away with it, but often he does not. Getting down to the fine point of the matter, the green driver is more of a menace on the highway than the "speeder" who is generally a good driver and confines his speeding to the open highway, using care and caution when going through urban centres or in heavy traffic.

Railroad companies require years of training before a man is allowed to handle the throttle, and it is a peculiar fact that most motor car drivers break into the game with little or no training at all. With steel rails to run on and the telegraph to guide his movements, the chances of a railroad engineer blundering and making a mess of things are reduced to a minimum. He has his running schedule to go by, and if he at any times "opens her out" and runs too

fast, the conductor has the authority to order him to slow down.

But how different with the driver of a motor car! He starts down the highway at a speed to suit his own sweet self, his only care, in many instances, being to keep an eye on the speed cops and keep out of trouble. He does twenty or forty miles, drives on his own side of the road or the other fellow's, and if he gets into trouble, it takes a couple of lawyers and a county judge to adjust the damages.

So long as motor cars are driven there will be motor accidents, and the licensing of drivers will do much to minimize a good many present-day evils in motor traffic. The government might even go farther. Judging from the manner in which some motorists use the highway, the government might well insist on a "sanity" test before a motorist is allowed to turn himself loose on other motorists and innocent pedestrians.

EMMA GOLDMAN

After an absence of five years in Russia, Emma Goldman has returned to England, seeking, as she puts it, "one this country's traditional liberties—the right of asylum."

Entertained at a dinner given in her honor by Colonel Josiah Wedgwood, a member of the cabinet in the late British Labor Government, Miss Goldman declared Soviet rule a failure, and said also that a reign of terror exists over the entire country. Continuing, she said:

I have come here to throw some light on Russia. I know the Russian situation better than most people who have written about it. I know the language. I spoke it for two years with people high and low, and I have come out to speak for the oppressed masses of Russia, silenced as they never were silenced under the czar.

It is superstition that confuses the revolution with the ruling party of today. There are thousands in prison and concentration camps in Russia, not for opposing the Government, but for opinion's sake. To call the present Soviet Government a worker's experiment is the most preposterous lie ever told. The party in power has emasculated the revolution; it is slowly undermining all that is best in Russia.

The time has come when silence on the Russian situation makes you a party to the crimes which are being committed there. Unless you understand the mistakes of Russia in the past seven years it is likely there will be repetitions elsewhere.

My cause against the Bolsheviks is not that they have been too revolutionary, but that they are not revolutionary enough. The Russian Bolsheviks are the arch counter-revolutionists of the world. For what is revolutionary that does not hold high ideals? All ideals have been discredited in Russia.

Coming from such a source, the above remarks are of more than passing interest.

It will be remembered by many of our readers that Emma Goldman was one of the passengers on the United States Government ship, *Buford*, in 1919 when the wholesale deportation of Russian anarchists and Bolsheviks was made from that country. Previous to this, she was for many years a resident of the United States and was at the head or associated with every anarchistic movement for two or three decades. Emma Goldman was his mistress and supposed guiding spirit of Alexander Berkman when he shot and wounded the late Henry Clay Frick in 1894 at about the time of the Homestead strike near Pittsburgh. She was an associate of "Big Bill" Haywood in his socialistic campaigns throughout the United States and who is now a fugitive from justice and supposed to be at the present time a resident of Russia.

The writer has known of Emma Goldman for the past twenty-five odd years and in that whole period, never knew of her being connected with any movement that did not have the knife or gun behind it. In 1901 it is even whispered that she and her gang were directly responsible for the murder of President McKinley. Leon Czolgosz, the man who did the deed, was merely a tool.

It is therefore of more than passing interest to us to know that Emma Goldman, the hater of capitalism, arch anarchist and would-be destroyer of governments and government officials, a member of the same gang that put the late Czar of Russia and his family to a shameful death, has found it impossible to live longer with those of her own class and is forced to come back to "Britain." "The Mother of Governments" for a "refuge" from conditions she can no longer bear.

Of course, Emma Goldman hates the United States. It is quite natural that she should bear no friendship toward a country that gave her a life banishment from her shores. But the point is: Russia today is in the same position that the United States would have been in had Emma Goldman and her ilk had their way thirty years ago. England will not do it, but it would be meeting out real justice if the British authorities were to kick her out and see that she spent the remainder of her days in Russia under conditions which she herself agitated for so many years and helped to create.

CRISP COMMENT

"Ma" Ferguson was elected which means that "Pa" will keep on the apron.—*Detroit News*.

Soup is served in a new London play. So far the critics have observed silence.—*Ottawa Journal*.

Painting the kitchen yourself is cheaper, if the paint is the color of your pants.—*Kingston Whig*.

By the way, what's become of the goose-bone prophet who was always predicting a hard winter?—*Border Cities Star*.

Job had troubles, but he never was four miles from town with a cigarette and no match.—*Kingston Whig*.

Wembley will remain open for another year. Remember, 1925 will be your last chance to miss it.—*Toronto Telegram*.

Rail rates require reduction from Prairie Provinces to Pacific. It is not only alliterative but true.—*Lethbridge Herald*.

We may not be able to stop drivers from drinking, but we can stop them from driving.—*Seattle Post Intelligence*.

Mr. Lloyd George would feel more comfortable wearing the mantle of Asquith than a Paisley shawl.—*Vancouver Province*.

"Home Sweet Home," wasn't written by a man with a garage.—*St. Catharines Standard*.

There is to be a dictionary of American English. A grammar of the same might be useful.—*Hamilton Herald*.

Emma Goldman would return to the U. S., but Uncle Sam sings an old ditty: "Whoa, Emma!"—*Toronto-Telegram*.

The Annual Victim



BORN

McKay.—At Grace Hospital, Windsor, on November 1, 1924, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank McKay, a son (Albert George).

McKnight.—At Wainfleet, Welland County, November 19, to Mr. and Mrs. R. J. McKnight, (nee Agnes Ramage), a son.

Pearl.—In Glenelg, November 11, to Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Pearl, a daughter, (Esther Isabel).

Strachan.—On November 20, at Grace Hospital, Winnipeg, to Mr. and Mrs. George Strachan (nee Edna C. Reid, 33 Stadscona Street, a daughter, Edna Elizabeth).

MARRIED

Ashley—Harvey.—At the residence of Mr. Allan Bell on Wednesday, November 26, 1924, by Rev. James A. Taylor, Mrs. John Harvey to Mr. Ernest A. Ashley, both of Durham.

Grierson—Richmond.—On Monday November 10, at the Manse, Chesley, by the Rev. Major Graham, Winnipeg, M., younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Richmond, Concession 12, Sullivan, and formerly teacher at Bunness School, to John N. Grierson of Durham.

Premier Oliver of B. C. has hardly enough supporters to make his mind easy. Like another Oliver, he is asking for more.—*Toronto Telegram*.
(The hydro secretary who cashed a cheque for \$29,000 is reported to

DURHAM MARKET

Corrected November 27, 1924

Table with market prices for various goods: Wheat, Live hogs, Oats, Barley, Buckwheat, Peas, Hay, Eggs, Butter, Potatoes, Hides, Sheepskins.

Dressed Fowl

Table with prices for dressed fowl: Ducks, Geese, Chickens, Hens, Turkeys.

Veteran Star Theatre

TWO SHOWS: 8 and 9.15 P.M.

FRIDAY--SATURDAY

November 28-29

BETTY COMPSON

"The Stranger" A Paramount Picture

have declared he believed "it was coming to him." If everybody reached out and took what they believed was coming to them, there wouldn't be enough to go around.—*Hamilton Spectator*.
Soviet Russia is willing to be friendly with France, but not to the extent of paying its debts to France.—*Toronto Mail and Empire*.
Nothing astonishes a true friend so much as your making good.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Mrs. Joseph Derby of Hampden is visiting with Mr. and Mrs. James B. Nichol and with her sister, Mrs. John Henry.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Brown and daughter, Miss Mary, left Friday of last week for Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where they will spend the winter.



A Gift that Increases in Value

WHAT DID YOU GIVE LAST CHRISTMAS? Toys for the kiddies—most of them broken by now. "Something useful" for the grown-ups—now worn out or forgotten. Cash to your employees—appreciated but soon spent. Other presents—hurriedly bought and perhaps ill-chosen. Are they remembered now?

Suppose this year you give them each a Bank Book containing an initial deposit, and urge them to add to it regularly. Could anything be more suitable?

Add "Royal Bank Pass Books" to your list of Christmas Gifts.

The Royal Bank of Canada

Total Assets \$560,000,000.

Every Day Is Bargain Day

THE PEOPLE'S MILLS

- List of flour and cereal products: Sovereign Flour, Eclipse Flour, White Lily Pastry Flour, Wheat Cereal and Rolled Oats, etc.

Our Feeds are of the Best Quality, and our Flour is Guaranteed. Prices right for Cash Highest Price Paid for Wheat delivered at the Mill Goods Delivered in Town Every Afternoon Phone 8, Night or Day.

JOHN MCGOWAN The People's Mill Durham, Ont.

TWENTY YEARS

From The Chronicle November 17

The directors of the picture Company held few days ago at which to purchase logs to be for the factory and a tom work. This will be appreciated by the com.

A year ago today, snow fell to a sufficient make sleighing, which very best quality up second week in December of the winter needs and will not soon be enough to clear the streets of those who are at the "Beautiful" Rev. Mr. Vansick commences a series of sings in the Baptist Sunday.

The marriage of Intosh was solemnizing, October 17 at the home of the bride, Thomas Nichol, 43 Colo.

J. and J. Hunter's store lighted with a there isn't another well provided with and Pickering in the upstairs, are also in same plant.

Mr. Moore and the West couple of years ago.

Mrs. Marshall's two-story brick due much to the lower, Hugh McDonald is work and plastering J. C. Nichol is stable to replace, burned down last McKay has the making a good job.

Today (Wednesday) a very interesting at the home of Mrs. McDonald of this youngest daughter, the bride of Mr. S. mery of Palmers employee in the factory here.

Mr. W. K. Reid, Wednesday night a months in Manitowish.

November Good factory, at 5 cents per yard Word was received of the death of the eldest son of John The funeral was Brandon, Man. We regret to of Ruby, youngest and Mrs. W. A. ford. The little of age and had a number of years.

December

We omitted last the misfortune of who was taken of this. He was of Hospital by Dr. town, is doing well in the course of

A very happy home of Mr. liams on November only daughter, Mr. William Lar

On Monday last of its oldest son of Mr. George K after a prolonged of 79 years. The in Alsace, Germ Canada at the ailing at Newma Durham about 5

Married.—At bride's mother, quiharon, on W 30, Donald McO Miss Elizabeth B

Darkie

(Our own Miss Ethel spent the week Dr. Pugh, Pa cently at the ho more.

Mrs. Aljoe's s well attended, a Mr. E. Baxter for a term.

Mr. B. Farrell set temporarily of Mr. and Mrs. week where of its stay will be Mr. James M with the Nic wood.

Mr. William ly at the home W. Aljoe.

Mr. and Mrs. a day this we and Mrs. Ham Miss M. McL tor with Price

Night golf straw. Up to was at home, —Detroit New

PLAY AN

A Play entit Lives"—a dram of the New I given at Lator ing, December Admission 25 boxes free.