

DURHAM CHRONICLE

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Whosoever is afraid of submitting any question, civil or religious, to the test of free discussion, is more in love with his own opinion than with the truth.—WATSON.

Thursday, February 18, 1926.

UNKNOWN NAGGERS

"They meant well, but they were constitutional naggers."

During the perusal of a story the other day, we came upon the above significant sentence and were forcibly struck with the truthfulness of it. How many of us are inclined to go out upon the highways and byways pointing out the shortcomings of some, giving unsought advice to others, and, generally speaking, making nuisances of ourselves! We mean well, and undoubtedly think we are right, but in the end, unconsciously develop into "constitutional naggers."

Webster's dictionary defines a nag as one who "annoys by petty faultfinding; irritates by persistent scolding or urging; or one who frets pertinaciously." Nagging, it can be seen, means a lot more than the general public accepts as its definition. To most people, nagging is the constant scolding, sometimes carried on between members of a family, but in the wider sense, it includes anyone who, to use a vulgar expression, does not know enough to mind his own business and persistently engages in the pastime of attempting to make his neighbors think as he thinks or do as he does. The "pertinacious fretter," too, is a nuisance and the more to be pitied because he, least of all, realizes the nuisance he makes of himself. There are some people who are not content to fret over their own troubles but must include in their programme everyone of their acquaintance. Placed in any company they are always in trouble, and if by any chance they become free of it for a time, they will fret about that. If the weather is cold, they fret; if it is hot, they fret; they fret about this, that and the other thing, until even their most loyal friends and ardent admirers balk at spending an hour in their company.

Nagging is a pernicious habit, and the pity of it is that the subject himself is generally unconscious of the trouble he causes both himself and his friends.

THE END OF THE STRIKE

The strike of the anthracite coal miners of Pennsylvania has been settled, according to dispatches in Saturday's dailies. One hundred and fifty-eight thousand miners are affected, and it is expected they will go back to work at once following the ratification of the pact Tuesday of this week.

In reality, the rank and file of the miners gained nothing, for they go back to work at the same wage scale as before the walk-out on September 1 last, though the miners claim a victory on the check-off demand.

Undoubtedly, for the first time in the history of mining strikes, this is the first occasion in which the public has been in any sense the victor. Though forced to burn soft coal and substitutes in order to tide them over the winter months, the fact that this was done with the minimum of discomfort must have shown the strikers that their supposed strangle-hold on the fuel situation was not so deadly as they had thought. From now on, the public knows it can get along with substitute fuel, and it is now a well-known fact that those whom the miners hoped to bring to their knees wintered a whole lot better than their would-be conquerors, many thousands of whom are now in destitute circumstances through being idle during their most productive season of the past six months.

"The public be damned," the motto of the strikers, now means little, and the winter of 1925-26 will probably go down in history as the year in which the public, instead of being "the goat" emerged victorious. Whether this hypothesis be true or not, one eminent authority has asserted that the lesson learned since last September will undoubtedly assure the public an abstinence from strikes for the next twenty years.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Those who are the first to give other people "a piece of their mind" are usually the first to resent taking some of their own medicine. The author of "The Prisoner's

Song" is dead. Some of the rest of us will follow soon if its popularity keeps up.

An English judge has freed a Birmingham man from a drunk and disorderly charge on condition that he leaves for Canada. The sooner the government at Ottawa informs the British authorities that Canada is no haven for the tight little Isle's beer soaks the better. Deportation is the remedy.

John D. Rockefeller has denied the rumor that he recently bequeathed ten million dollars for the erection of a church. Possibly America's oil magnate has joined the forces who think in literal terms and believe that salvation is free.

THE LOGICAL STEP

Four states now join Illinois in their fight to legalize an extraction of water at Chicago which is already costing the commerce of the Great Lakes millions of dollars a year. Deceived by propaganda emanating from the noisome region of the sewage canal, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri and Louisiana through their respective attorneys general have united with the drainage district to resist the suit in the federal supreme court which, if successful, will stop this disastrous diversion of water.

The case will, of course, be heard and decided on its merits. We refuse to believe, however, that if the people of these four states had any adequate appreciation of the facts involved, they would not for a single moment, sanction the action taken by their chief law enforcement officials.

On the same day that these four states joined forces with Illinois to raid the lakes, the diversion issue again made its appearance on the floor of parliament at Ottawa. There indeed, is a fit forum for its discussion, because the water which Chicago is taking from the lakes in defiance of law is as much Canadian as it is American water.

Answering questions asked last week by Dr. R. J. Manion, Conservative member for Fort William, Charles Stewart, minister of the interior, told the house that the government was keeping close watch of the Chicago situation, was in communication with the administration at Washington, but that "we have no definite assurance that the curtailment provided for in the permit (of the war department) will be effected, since such curtailment is dependent on the sanitary district and the municipality of Chicago concurring in and fulfilling all provisions and conditions imposed in the permit."

In other words, the government at Ottawa is satisfied that Washington intends to suppress Chicago's action but has no confidence that it will be enforced. In view of the history of the case covering the last two decades, we submit that Mr. Stewart's skepticism is well grounded.

This was not, of course, the first appearance of the question in the Canadian parliament; it has a habit of appearing often, and always in a way disturbing to that fine spirit of comradeship that should always exist between men of the dominion and men of the republic. There is now pending in the house a resolution by Thomas L. Church, Conservative member from Toronto, urging that "immediate and drastic action be taken by the government, through the British government, to enforce the boundary waterways treaty (1909) and to forthwith collect damages from the United States for breaches of the treaty by the Chicago drainage canal. These damages, this same resolution recites, amounts to several millions per annum, in injury to Canadian interests."

Even if Chicago had the law on her side, which she has not, even if a waterway to the gulf required 10,000 cubic second feet of lake water, which it does not, even if congress, the supreme court and the common consent of American opinion upheld Chicago, which they do not; even if this extraction of water carried no penalty to the great commerce of the lakes, which of course it does—even if the whole set-up of fact supported instead of demolished Chicago's pretensions, Chicago's policy of continued extraction should be suppressed. No profit could possibly accrue to Chicago, Illinois and the Mississippi valley could balance the injury done to international relations by permitting this raid on the waters of a great commercial highway.

This is the one conspicuous grievance Canada now holds against the United States. Tariff resentment is as nothing in comparison. Losses of population to the states are overlooked, troubles over smuggling, disputes over power rights and other issues constantly arising between neighbors are merely parts of the day's work. But the diversion of water at Chicago is in quite another category. It alone at the present moment threatens a friendship that has survived a century.

Chicago may go ahead enlisting help to perpetuate her policy of destruction, may bring to bear on the issue all the weight of her wealth, prestige and reckless determination but the facts stand out plain and indisputable. She is wrecking a commerce worth hundreds of millions a year and making an enemy of a people which wants to be friendly. The ultimate logical step from such a policy will be a chain of lakes dotted with men-of-war—if water enough is left to float them—and a 3,000-mile border marked by forts and armed sentries.—Cleveland (Ohio) Plaindealer.

At times it is hard to distinguish between a cool head and cold feet.

A bee dies when it stings you. Now if that was only the case with a man who sells stocks.

EXPORTING GRAIN VIA THE MARITIMES

HYMENEAL

HAY—MacCANNELL

The Maritimes ports' plea that they be given a larger share of Canada's export grain traffic is receiving much sympathy from journals in other provinces. There is a general demand that Canadian grain which is now exported via the United States should be diverted to the Maritimes, and reference is being made to pre-Confederation promises that geography should not be allowed to prevent the Maritimes from participating equally with sister provinces in the prosperity of the new Dominion. Saturday Night, a journal with as many readers in the Maritimes and the West, in proportion to population, as in the central provinces, desires no less than its contemporaries, the welfare of the Maritimes, but it believes that there is a general lack of information in the present matter, and that nothing but harm can result from neglect or refusal to face the facts.

The truth is that if Halifax and St. John are to handle a large volume of export grain, the whole of Canada must pay the cost, and that cost would heavily outweigh the benefit derived by the ports. Grain handling is not quite so remunerative as some people in the Maritimes seem to imagine. There are not millions in it. A writer pointed out the other day if a Halifax elevator were to handle fifty million bushels of grain, it would receive but some \$200,000 for its services. Outside of the regular liners, which take grain for ballasting purposes, 250 vessels might be required to carry such an amount, and assuming that each vessel would spend \$1,000 in port while loading and that half of this, or \$500, was profit, the city's merchants would make \$125,000 from the custom of those 250 ships. Add this sum to the \$200,000 received in elevator charges, and we have \$325,000 as the profit to the community from handling fifty million bushels of grain.

Now as to the cost of getting this \$325,000. At the present time, in order to provide grain to ballast passenger liners, the railways haul grain all the way from Georgian Bay ports to Halifax and St. John for 9.1 cents per bushel, including elevator charges. This works out at about three-tenths of a cent per ton mile, whereas the normal freight rate on grain is about three-quarters of a cent per ton mile. This means a loss to the railways of the difference between those rates, or sixteen and eight-tenths cents per bushel. Thus if it carried fifty million bushels, the Canadian National Railways would, according to Mr. A. A. Wright who compiled these figures, have to contribute the nice little sum of \$8,400,000 to enable Halifax to get its \$325,000. And the Canadian National Railways means the taxpayers of Canada. The Canadian Pacific Railway is out proportionately on grain carried to St. John, and if the amount were increased, the loss would have to be made up, as it is now, by other users of the line.

It is obvious, therefore, that rather than ship large quantities of grain to Halifax and St. John, the rest of Canada would find it better to pay to these ports a subsidy in place of paying larger amounts in railway deficits.—Toronto Saturday Night.

What He Said

In an English court, a man was on trial who could speak nothing but Irish, and an interpreter was called and duly sworn in. The prisoner at once asked him some questions, and he replied. The judge interposed sharply.

"What does the prisoner say?" demanded the judge.

"Nothing, my lord," answered the interpreter.

"How dare you say that when we all heard him? What was it?"

"My lord," said the interpreter, beginning to tremble, "it had nothing to do with the case."

"If you don't answer, I'll commit you. What did he say?"

"Well, my lord, you'll excuse me, but he said, 'Who's that old woman with the red bed-curtain round her sitting up there?'"

The court roared.

"And what did you say?" asked the judge, looking a little uncomfortable.

"I said, 'Whist, ye spalpeen! That's the old boy that's going to hang yez.'"

California gets the beauty prize, but Florida's real estate profits can also show a pretty figure.—Springfield Republican.

GRANT'S Latest in Spring Goods

Brocade Crepe, @ per yard... \$1.75
Figured Crepe, @ per yard... \$1.40
Tricolines, @ per yard... \$1.25
Plain Voiles, @ per yard... .50c
54 inch Navy Serge @ per yard \$1.50
Satinettes, @ per yard... .50c
Entirely New Designs in Bordered Goods, dress lengths, @... \$4.50

C. L. GRANT - DURHAM

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Mrs. E. Renwick of Toronto spent last week with her sister, Mrs. T. Atchison.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ellis and daughter, Ada, from Holstein, spent Saturday afternoon with Mrs. T. Atchison.

Mrs. F. C. Hopkins of Dromore is spending this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Kerr of Vernon.

Mrs. John Renwick of Toronto is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. Atchison.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Gagnon and daughter, Norma, spent a few days in Toronto last week.

Mrs. J. S. McIlraith, who last week was a delegate to the horticultural convention in Toronto, remained over till Saturday night to visit her daughter in the city.

Mr. Leslie Mann and mother, Mrs. Mann, of Stratford, accompanied Miss Daisy Mather home Friday night and spent the week-end with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Mather.

Mrs. William Saunders left for Kincardine Monday to attend the funeral of her sister, Mrs. Donald Matheson, who died Saturday at her home near Kincardine.

Mrs. Jessie Reid spent the week-end visiting friends at Eugenia Falls.

Mr. James Brown of Alpena, Mich., and Mrs. Thomas Brown of Lansing, Mich., were in town for a few days last week visiting their sister, Mrs. Bert Someone.

Miss Eleanor Swallow of Transcona, Man., is visiting her uncle and aunts, Mr. Thomas and the Misses Supernault in Bentinck. Miss Swallow, a daughter of the late Thomas Swallow, was born in Durham but moved West with her parents about sixteen years ago. She reports her mother and other members of the family well. For the past four or five years, she has been employed in the C. N. R. offices at Winnipeg. We were pleased to have a short call from her yesterday.

Mr. Harold McKechnie leaves for Regina, Sask., on Saturday to attend a meeting of the Canadian Council of Agriculture in session at that place next week. Mr. McKechnie is one of five members of the Provincial F. O. executive to attend the meeting as delegates from Ontario.

Mrs. J. E. Peters and Mrs. W. H. Smith were in Owen Sound on Monday meeting with the interim committee appointed to arrange for the inaugural convention of the Woman's Missionary Society for the Knisley, Durham, Ontario.

Presbytery of Grey, which is to be held in Owen Sound on the 24th of April.

Mr. and Mrs. John Sirs left for their home at Unity, Sask., last Thursday afternoon after a few weeks' visit with the Webber and Ritchie families and other relatives here.

TEN TO ONE

The average worker in industry in Ontario has an ordinary chance of working for ten years with one accident that is sufficiently serious to warrant it being reported to the Workmen's Compensation Board. In normal times, there are nearly 450,000 employees under compensation in this province, and in the past eleven years, there have been 502,014 accidents reported to the Board, indicating an average slightly in excess of one report for every ten workers per annum. In the same eleven years, there were 4,328 fatalities under compensation which represents an average of more than one death per day in that period. One very encouraging feature of the reports of the Workmen's Compensation Board covering the year 1925 is that the death cases in that year showed a decrease of fifty-seven from 1924, there having been 402 death cases in 1924 and 345 in 1925.

A further decrease in serious accidents, including death cases, is something for which every employer and employee in industry in Ontario can conscientiously work with mutual satisfaction and benefit.

PURCHASED STALLION

Mr. Charles Mighot of Bentinck announces that he has purchased the celebrated imported Percheron stallion "Kossuth," and will put him on the road in this vicinity next season.

DURHAM MARKET

Corrected February 18, 1926.

Live Hogs	\$13.50
Wheat	1.30 @ 1.35
Oats	.38 @ .40
Barley	.55 @ .60
Buckwheat	.50 @ .55
Peas	1.10 @ 1.15
Mixed Grain, per cwt.	1.45 @ 1.25
Hay	10.00 @ 12.00
Eggs	.25 @ .33
Butter	.25 @ .30
Potatoes, per bag	1.50
Sheepskins	.50 @ .75
Cattle	.04 @ .08
Chickens	.16 @ .25
Ducks	.18 @ .20

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combination seemed to beat him.

During the game, sub-free by both teams, Morlock and Kress, to wonderful game.

A Clean Game

The contest was one of the semi-final series, when the home team wrong end of the score great measure was due to Sandy Little of Kress, who was on top of the play and permitted no infractions of the playing rules. The calls drew two penalties, six, they were for minor foul, but there is little doubt the referee allowed the away from him, both have mixed it up more, of the finest wins the world. And right like to pay a tribute as one of the fairest we have ever seen of a game. He is on to all the time, the referees them and necessary. His work is wonderful difference as to what we were handled first game of the second week. Though beaten team were satisfied the team won on their merit the official in charge to be desired.

The teams:

Elmira 1—Goal, B.

A. Seiling, W. Hills; goals,

G. Seling, Subs., Rau, Seidewald,