

DURHAM CHRONICLE

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Whoever 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, August 23, 1928



1928 AUGUST 1928

Calendar grid for August 1928, showing days of the week and dates from 1 to 31.

Editorials

EARLIER ELECTIONS

We do not know whether or not the Durham Town Council has any plans for passing the necessary bylaw that will enable us to hold our municipal election on the first Monday in December instead of in January, but we feel that such a move would receive the assent of a large majority of the electors.

The Chronicle has on several previous occasions advocated this change in election date, but we do not seem to have struck the right chord so far as the members of the Council are concerned, though any with whom we have spoken have expressed themselves as favorably disposed.

The holding of our annual election in December instead of in January has many advantages. From the standpoint of the weather, if nothing else, it would be a distinct advantage. The first Monday in January is too near the holiday and follows too soon on the heels of the busy Christmas season for the greater number of the citizens to show much interest.

Along about the first of December with good weather, and before the commencement of the Christmas rush, would, we believe, be a much more suitable time, and all that is required, we believe, is for the Council to pass a bylaw to that effect. Several municipalities throughout Ontario have tried this new date and so far we have heard none intimating that they would go back to the old one with its snow, cold weather and general inconvenience.

There are many reasons why our election date should be advanced by one month. We know of no good reason why it should not, and if there are any who do we would be pleased to hear from them and publish their communications.

SUMMER HALF-HOLIDAYS

Mayor Wenige of London is the latest to come out with a suggestion that the towns of Ontario adopt a uniform day for their weekly half-holiday during the summer months. Mayor Wenige suggests Monday, claims that it would be more convenient for the shopping public and would mean a longer week-end for those on holiday. Further, it is reported that the London Council is to make a canvass of several towns and if the majority of these are found favorable to the scheme it is said that legislation will be sought to give the municipalities the power to act.

for their afternoon off that suits that particular municipality best. The day that suits some would not be adopted by others.

Jus what kind of legislation is insinuated at by Mayor Wenige and the London Council we do not know, but we cannot imagine they would go so far as to approach the Legislature for the authority to have any one particular day set aside for a holiday. Right at the commencement, this scheme is not feasible. No Government has any right in a country like Canada to say which day shall be observed. The statutory holidays may be proclaimed for Mondays, but when it comes to telling a business man that he must close his store on any given afternoon for the sake of taking a holiday, they are rather stepping into something over which they should have no say.

So far as The Chronicle can see, it will not be long before Saturday afternoon will be the day selected as the national half-holiday, even in the smaller centres, where it is now said that such a move is impossible. Some rural sections, we believe, even now take Saturday afternoons off during the summer, when the different farmer "boy teams" gather and have their baseball and other sports. Should this become general, and the plan is largely advocated in some sections, it will be but a step for the merchants in the smaller centres to follow suit and make Saturday afternoon their day, too. No Legislature can have this done; it must be the choice of the people.

With the motor car, house to house salesmen, chain stores, mail order houses and what not, the average small town business men have enough trouble to get along, and with sales tax, income tax returns, government inspectors, pure food detectives and numerous other rules and regulations they have about all the government interference the traffic will stand.

KEEP TO THE LEFT

We are not exactly sure that we are in favor of the advice given pedestrians on the highways to keep to the left side of the road and meet the approaching traffic as a matter of safety. The question of the safety of pedestrians is a big one, and with the increasing number of cars the only really practical solution that appeals to us is for the construction of pathways on the side of the road for the use of those who must travel on foot. We are not, however, without an open mind on the matter.

The advice to keep to the left and meet the approaching traffic is given so that the pedestrian may see the cars coming his way and not be run down from behind. With nothing else to be considered, this would be good advice, but in heavy traffic, a pedestrian going against the traffic would be out on the side of the road all the time or over in the ditch entirely, and would not make much headway.

If motorists could be taught, and had enough sense of justice, to give the pedestrian going in the same direction as himself the same privilege as a horse and buggy or others slower moving vehicle, they would turn out to pass him on the left and the opposite traffic on his left could then go on as in the case of other vehicles. Pedestrians have, and should be given the same privileges as other users of the highway, and a courteous and careful motorist will see that they receive it. Up in this part of the province where the traffic is not congested this walking on the left side of the road will work out all right, but down near the cities or along some heavily travelled highway, any pedestrian going against the traffic would spend a merry afternoon getting out of the way of approaching motor cars.

The question is a big one and will become more complicated as the cars increase. If the safety of the pedestrian is to be made a part of our traffic laws, we see nothing for it but to provide side-paths, which would be used wholly by those on foot.

There is little doubt that the Government is anxious to solve this important traffic requirement, but we do not think that advising those on foot to walk against the traffic is a cure.

For one thing, in the case of a fatality on the highway, there has so far been too much tendency on the part of juries to absolve the motorist from all blame. No motorist will deliberately run down a pedestrian, but we feel that in the great majority of cases had the motorist been more careful a fatality would have been averted. It is a peculiar truth that the pedestrian is run over or into much more frequently than a truck or some heavy road machinery. The reason for this can be easily solved by our readers. In the former case, there is a coroner's jury and an acquittal; in the latter case the motorist himself is the one injured or killed.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

The town of Simcoe is to set apart and improve a piece of vacant land which will be dedicated to "the good old days" when

taxes were not high. The formal dedication is to be marked, if we are to believe a newspaper report: "Dedicated to the memory of the days when Simcoe's tax rate was 20 mills, when we had mud roads, wooden sidewalks, planked bridges and one school; no county roads system, no waterworks, no sewers, no electric lights, and no nothin'."

The idea is a good one, if the intention is genuine. There are today people who find fault with the high taxes, the high cost of living, and the high everything else except wages and what they have to sell. They remind us of the farmer who, when he was on the farm, said that eggs were too cheap, but when he retired and came to town to live, refused to buy and eat them because they cost too much.

Talk of the good old days all you like, there are few who would care to go back to them. We may not be able to put by very much money, but we don't have to take a day off to go to Owen Sound or Walkerton, or quit work at four o'clock so that we can be ready on the ground when the Zion garden party, eight miles out, rings the bell for the first call for supper around half-past seven. In the good old days with eggs at fifteen cents a dozen, it took an hour and a half's labor to acquire them; today they are being sold at thirty-five cents or thereabouts and the average trained mechanic is receiving between forty and forty-five cents an hour. In the olden days the farmer had plenty of help and got around four or five dollars a hundred for his beef cattle; today with less help (for, like the rest of us, he cannot afford to have all he needs) he is getting double that and with the help of labor-saving machinery is getting as much or more off his land with less mouths to feed.

We don't for a moment think that conditions are ideal for any of us, but a look around will convince anyone that we are having a whole lot better time than our forefathers ever enjoyed, and we are not working one whit harder. The whole matter in a nutshell seems to be that we are making more, spending more, enjoying ourselves more, and doing as much kicking about conditions in a week as our fathers and our grandfathers did in a lifetime. We may be wrong, but we are of the opinion that one month of "the good old days" some of us sigh for would cure more chronic grouches than any other prescription, and we would be perfectly happy to be returned to our present life of toil, our labor-saving machinery and our new 1928 model automobiles.

LOST INFANT CHILD

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Totten (nee Sarah Clark), of Kincardine, are mourning the death of their infant son, about two months old, who passed away in the lakeside town. The body was brought to Durham by motor hearse last Sunday and interment made in Durham cemetery. Friends of the young couple will join us in extending sympathy.

Mrs. L. D. Snow, of Tampico, Mexico, is visiting her father, J. W. Ewen, and brother, D. Ewen, here.

Misses Grace and Mary Hopkins of Durham were visitors over the week-end with Miss Maxine Lyons.—Markdale Standard.

Mr. Hugh Bride of Durham visited in town for a few days last week.—Palmerston Spectator.

The engagement is announced of Gladys Irene, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Ferguson, Dundalk, Ont., to Mr. N. Gordon McLeod, son of Mr. and Mrs. Neil McLeod, Swinton Park, the marriage to take place the latter part of August.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Catton, Toronto, visited with Mr. and Mrs. R. Catton for a day or two last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Cheyne of Hamilton, and son Donald, visited with her mother, Mrs. Neal, at the home of Mrs. G. Hepburn, for a few days last week.

Miss Norine Shipley of Sudbury is visiting with her aunt, Mrs. C. J. McLachlan and family.

Mrs. J. H. Harding and daughter Elizabeth, are in Orangeville this week, with the former's aunt, who is seriously ill.

Miss Eunice Burnett of Burlington is the guest of Miss Norma Gagnon.

Miss H. Firth of Toronto visited during the past week with her cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Firth, and with other relatives in town and country. It is nineteen years since Miss Firth, who is a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Firth of Glenelg, visited relatives and friends in Durham.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Firth of Guelph spent Sunday last week in town visiting relatives.

Family pride may adore a great grandfather but never goes so far as to concede that dad amounts to much.—Brandon Sun.

Things printed can never be stopped; they are like babies baptised, they have a soul from that moment, and go on forever.—Meredith.

SOCIETY

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Davis and family left Tuesday for their home at Edmonton after a visit with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Davis, and the former's parental home, Mr. and Mrs. H. Allen.

Mrs. M. Murdock and daughter, Miss Elizabeth of Ayton, are visiting their sons and brothers, Messrs. Frank and Herb. Murdock, for a few days.

Mr. John A. McKinnon, B. A., of Saskatoon, accompanied by his brother, Mr. Arch. McKinnon of Priceville, spent Saturday with their cousin, Mrs. William Smith.

Mr. William Firth has returned to the home of his sister, Mrs. J. F. Wright, after spending two weeks camping at Sundridge, Parry Sound District, with his brothers, Chris. and wife, Niagara Falls, N.Y., and Major Alex. Firth and wife, of Brampton. This is the first time in over 45 years that these three brothers have spent a holiday together.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Runciman and daughter, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Runciman, are spending their annual holiday with friends at Priceville and vicinity.

Mrs. J. N. Murdock and daughter Jean are holidaying with relatives at Burlington and Hamilton.

Rev. Hugh Stewart, grandson of the late Rev. Alex. Stewart, the first pastor of Durham Baptist church, of the Ontario street Baptist church, Stratford, will be the preacher at the 75th anniversary services of the local Baptist church being held here next month.

Mr. Arden Whittaker, Toronto, and his boy friend, Mr. Howard Lott, were visiting his cousin, Mr. Mel Ryan for a couple of days.

Miss Isley McLarty of Vancouver spent a few days with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ledingham.

Miss Elsie Boyce of Crawford spent a few days with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ledingham.

Miss Elsie Ledingham is spending a few days at her uncle's, Ed. Boyce's.

Miss McConkey of Toronto visited the Misses McFadden, Bruce street, last week.

Misses Mary and Myrtle Jackson of Greensboro', North Carolina, are visiting their uncle, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Jackson.

Mrs. John Bailey and two daughters, Misses Reta and Florence, her granddaughter, Grace Reay, and sister, Miss Martha McFadden spent a week at Iverhuron Beach.

Mr. Harry Brigham of Toronto spent the holiday with them.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Vollett Sr. of Durham, Mr. and Mrs. W. Nelson of Orchard, and Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Vollett and family of Durham, spent Sunday at Owen Sound and were joined by Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Ard of Allenford in a pleasant afternoon.

Miss Tressa Atkinson of Toronto visited with her brother, Mr. Arthur Atkinson, here, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Currie and son of Toronto are visiting with Miss Tena Rose and other friends in town.

Mr. and Mrs. McDonnell of Dundalk visited with their son, Mr. W. McDonnell and family, on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Pettigrew of Detroit visited last week with her mother, Mrs. Arrowsmith.

Here is a List of Real Bargains for This Week

- China Tea Sets, 23 pieces, in pretty patterns, special per set \$2.50
Water Sets, a fine light cut Pitcher and six tumblers 1.00
Cotton pillow cases 42" width, each .25
Ladies' Holeproof Silk Hose, in all the new shades 1.00
Ladies' Holeproof silk plaited Hose pair .75
Special White Cups 4 for .25
Fine Glass Tumblers, 4 for .19

The Variety Store Phone 4 R. L. SAUNDERS, Prop.

Mrs. A. W. H. Lauder is spending a few days at Windsor. Mr. and Mrs. French, Toronto, and Miss June Moorhead, Palmerston, visited with Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Moorhead over the week-end. Mrs. R. J. Moorhead attended the funeral in Toronto of her cousin, Miss Hayes, yesterday. Miss Clara Aljoe, after six weeks spent in the west, returned to her home here last week, and will spend the remainder of her holidays with her parents here. Rev. and Mrs. Smith and son Donald are visiting with friends in Toronto for two weeks. Miss Bessie Smith is visiting with Owen Sound friends.

Miss Irene Knox returned to her home in Guelph Tuesday after visiting for a week with Mrs. D. Leith. The Misses Scarf are this week taking in the Owen Sound-Mackinac boat trip. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Jones and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith, all of Grand Rapids, spent the past week with Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Dean and family, returning home last Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. James Atkinson and family moved to Chesley yesterday, where Mr. Atkinson has been for some two or three weeks conducting his new delivery business.

Advertisement for J.S. McIlraith shoes. Features an image of a shoe and text: 'Fall's First! Step Out With The New Season MAN here's Footwear that'll put "pep" in your stride. Built for endurance, but styled to give you the better ideas of the topnoch designers. Yes sir, one great value group at \$7 SHOWN above is one of our leaders; offered in black or tan calf; semi-balloon toe; rubber top lift. J. S. McIlraith The Cash Shoe Store Durham'

Advertisement for Friday and Saturday Specials. Text: 'Friday and Saturday Specials Saturday final day of our Great Summer Clearance Sale. Do not miss these big values: PURE SILK HOSE First quality, popular light shades, regular price, \$1.00 for .69c. Extra Special Values in SUMMER DRESSES Becoming styles suitable for wear any time. Direct from our factory at real low prices. Regular Sizes .69c. to \$2.98 Extra Large Sizes \$1.79 FINE COTTON HOSE For Women and Children. 2 pairs .45c. WORK SHIRTS Sturdy and roomy, blue or khaki, a real Shirt for hard wear \$1.00 MEN'S MERINO WORK SOCKS Wool and cotton, very serviceable, per pair 29c. Men's Police Braces 39c. GROCERY SAVINGS PEAS, new pack, No. 4 size .10c. P and G SOAP, 5 bars .19c. SUGAR, pure granulated, 10 lbs. .63c. PRESERVING SUPPLIES Wine Jars .pints, 98c.; quarts, \$1.10 Zinc Jar Rings, 2 dozen .35c. Jar Rubbers, 2 dozen .15c. Certo sure Jell .29c. VINEGAR, blended and spirit, per gal. .40c. CAIRNS LIMITED DURHAM'

Mulock (Our Own Correspondent) Recent guests of Mr and Mrs. G. Brown and family were Mr. and Mrs. James Sharman, Buffalo, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Fort Erie, Mrs. Jacklin and son, Hanover. Mr. and Mrs. A. C. McDonald, Mrs. John and Miss Tiva McDonald, accompanied by Mr. Donald McDonald, motored to Tiverton and Inverhuron and spent the day with friends there. Mr. Sandie Brown and sister, Miss Katie Brown, accompanied by Mr. Donald McKeelnie and daughter, Miss Mary, spent Sunday at the home of Mr. Colin McIntyre Dornoch. Master James and Miss Edna Porter spent a pleasant two weeks holidays with Durham friends. Mr. and Mrs. William Fulton were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Fulton and also visited at the home of Mr. Alex. Sharpe, Hampden. Miss Islay McLarty, Vancouver, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James McLarty, was a welcome guest of this vicinity last week. Rev. H. Crickington, accompanied by Mr. Reid, London, motored from London Wednesday to perform the marriage ceremony of Mr. Laverne McCallum to Miss Maud Boyd of Glenora. On Wednesday evening last week about 100 friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nell McCallum, in honor of their son, Laverne McCallum, whose marriage to Miss Maud Boyd, Glenora, took place Wednesday afternoon. The honored guests were given a very liberal shower of gifts accompanied by best wishes. Mr. and Mrs. McCallum intend leaving for the West on Monday, the 20th. Heartiest congratulations are extended to this young couple as they embark on the sea of matrimony. Mrs. Arnold and nephew, Johnny Skene of Warton are spending a pleasant holiday at the home of Mr. A. C. McDonald. The Aberdeen Branch of the W. I. met at the home of Mrs. Philip McDonald on Friday, August 17, with a fair attendance of members and quite a number of visitors. Mr. and Mrs. Barber and Mrs. Harvey of Chesley and Miss Mary McIntosh, Saskatchewan, were Sunday guests with Mr. and Mrs. A. McDougall. Rev. Farmer of Owen Sound took the service here Sunday morning in the absence of Rev. H.

Advertisement for Enrichment and Offer Greater Performance. Text: 'ENRICHMENT Enhance and Offer Greater Performance BEAUTIFUL as they have been in the past—performance has proved in the... today's Pontiac Six is even more thrilling to drive with General Motors' engineering practice, this Motors' Six has been enriched in style and equipped for... To the beauty of style of Fisher, have been added smaller, smarter wheels new and harmonious colors have been created... power than Pontiac ever... along with its more effective throttle, it continues to provide long life for which it is famous. Until you have seen and realize what style, what performance today's Pontiac Six beauty and snap you never buy at so low a price. Ask your dealer about the G Plan which makes M.GREIG Durham PONTIAC PRODUCT OF GENERAL MOTORS'