

The 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, May 30, 1929

THE HYDRO QUESTION AGAIN

In reporting the last meeting of the Varney U. F. O. Club, the Blyth's Corners correspondent of the Durham Review says:

"Three notable visitors were present, viz.: Mr. Farquhar Oliver, M.P.P. and his mother and sister. At the close of the program or rather before it was closed, Mr. Oliver was called upon and for nearly an hour, spoke on Hydro power as it affects the farmers and what little benefit they are deriving from it as at present. That the clever young farmer member has a very thorough grasp of the whole situation is far beyond the conjecture stage. In opening his address the speaker said he would not advise any farmer to invest in Hydro at the present rates as it was too expensive and present conditions on the majority of farms would warrant it. Only 3 per cent of the farmers of Ontario have Hydro, according to the official statement and the reason is obvious when the farmer has to pay \$6 for every \$ the urban citizen has to pay. While the farmer has been getting rather a raw deal all along a new day seems to be dawning and the past session in the House heard one of the best and most interesting debates on the reason why farmers are not getting a square deal on the benefits of Hydro."

Surely South Grey's member has been misquoted by the Blyth's Corners scribe! So far as Mr. Oliver's remarks about the farmers generally not yet receiving very much benefit from Hydro, he is quite correct. They are not. But that is not the fault of Hydro. So far as his advising the farmers that Hydro is "too expensive and present conditions on the majority of farms would warrant it", that, too, is all right. We do not ourselves believe that farmers generally can afford to take Hydro current if they are considering using it as power. Neither can the people in the towns.

THE CHRONICLE does not pose as a modern Moses who can lead the farmers out of the Hydro wilderness; neither are we the mouthpiece of Hydro. We are merely reviewing the situation as we see it.

We would like to see the Hydro used on every farm in Ontario and we believe it can be made use of providing the farmers themselves will take it on the same basis as it is used in the towns. The average town citizen uses Hydro current for house lighting only. This includes not only the lighting service, but the use of electric washers, irons, toasters, and the like. We can see no good reason why the majority of the farms of the province cannot be so served and when this is done the average farmer will enjoy the Hydro in the same manner as the average resident of the towns.

We are firmly convinced that the farmers are being led along the wrong pathway in Hydro discussion. Unless he has work for the Hydro to do, it most certainly will not pay him to install it for power purposes. But we do believe he can enjoy the same privileges as the urban resident if he cares to take it on the same basis. At the commencement it may be that it will cost him more, but as his township's debentures are paid off and the overhead drops it will get cheaper. Take Durham for instance. Hydro current at one time cost us ten cents a kilowatt hour. This was when we owed for practically our whole transmission system. Now, with fourteen-twentieths of our twenty-year debentures paid off, we have whittled it down to three cents.

Had the residents of the towns demanded the same service as the farmers, there is no telling how far the Hydro system would have gone. It is possible it would have died in its infancy. No average town resident could afford, even at our present low rates, to install even a three-horse-power motor for power purposes, and it is a rather unfair criticism for our South Grey representative to say (if he did say it) that "the farmer has to pay \$6 for every \$ that the urban citizen has to pay."

It is unfortunate that a good many people regard the Hydro as a political football. The Hydro is a strictly business proposition amongst those of the municipalities of Ontario who are served by it, and as we have frequently pointed out, even in Durham a citizen who does not use Hydro pays not one cent towards its upkeep, excepting only that small amount which goes into his taxes for street lighting. It is true that the Ontario Government has guaranteed the Hydro debentures, but the Government has seen to it that every municipality which enters into the agreement is mortgaged to the extent of its indebtedness.

Let the farmers of Ontario enter the Hydro family on the same terms as the urban centres and we can see no difficulties in the path for every farm home to be electrically lighted, and the farmers' wives enjoying the same labor-saving devices as her urban neighbor. To our mind it is unreasonable for farmers to expect all the domestic conveniences now enjoyed by dwellers in the towns, with the addition of motors for running cutting-boxes, filing silos and other farm work thrown in free. Like the town dweller, he can have these if he pays for them; like the town dweller, he cannot have them if he does not.

The comparisons, so far, between Hydro service for farmers' requirements and the Hydro service as enjoyed by town dwellers is hardly fair.

We admit that this argument does not meet the farmer's demand for power, but in this he is on the same footing as the rest of us. The individual farmer on a small farm has only a limited demand for power and we cannot see that it will pay him to have anywhere from five to fifteen horsepower at his command if he is not prepared to use it steadily any more than it will the average urban dweller or small business man.

THE CHANGING WORLD

We were rather taken the other day with a small item in a newspaper which said "Filipino business men have offered to pay the City of Manila \$25,000 a year for the privilege of operating three cockpits within the municipal limits."

We could scarcely believe it and read it again. Pay for the privilege of conducting a cocking main in Manila? We could not get it through our head, and our mind ran back to the days thirty years ago when we first saw that city—one of the largest cities of the East.

Somebody must have been doing some cleaning up in that town since we knew it. In those "good old days" cockpits were scattered all over the city and cocking mains were the principal recreation of the inhabitants. One could see them in the side streets, on the city squares, in fact, anywhere where there was sufficient room for the birds to perform.

And now? Manila business men are offering the city twenty-five thousand dollars annually to operate three cockpits!

It is thirty years since the writer first went to the Philippines. We spent the better part of three years, thirty-three months to be exact, in sauntering around these volcanic islands. Manila, Iloilo, Oslob, Dumanjug, Zamboanga, Tacloban, and other places, situated all over the islands from north to south and from east to west were visited, not once but several times. And besides, there were many of the smaller places, some of them inland, at which we put up for different periods. And there is not a single one of the towns we visited that we can think of at which cockfighting was not the principal amusement.

Times must certainly have changed since we first visited that country which at that time might very aptly have been the section described by Kipling when he said, "it was somewhere East of Suez where the best is like the worst; where there are no ten commandments and a man can raise a thirst." But the Filipinos, like ourselves, have gone ahead. Manila in those days was a sea of mud in the rainy season, now it is a thoroughly modern city with street cars, waterworks and sewerage system, one of the finest docks and the largest cold storage plant in the world.

The small newspaper item quoted above may not appeal to our general readers, but it certainly set us thinking. If one had predicted thirty years ago that cockfighting would ever be made illegal in the Philippines he would have been regarded as fit for examination as to his sanity.

VICTORIA DAY

It is ninety-two years since the twenty-fourth of May became a national holiday of the British Empire, and, on the death of Queen Victoria in 1901 it was changed in name from the Queen's birthday to Victoria Day in honor of our much beloved monarch. How many years more will it be celebrated as such? is a question we have heard asked on many occasions.

Victoria Day was inaugurated for two very good reasons. The principal reason we recall, was that the late King Edward's birthday occurred on the ninth of November and this time of the year was most unseasonable for a national holiday. We believe it was King Edward himself who suggested that the twenty-fourth of May be continued in memory of his mother and so it has remained ever since.

King George's birthday falls on the third of June, which is now also a national holiday. In many quarters it is felt that these two days fall too close together, and while both are regarded as national holidays, very few business places observe both days. As the years pass it is quite within reason to suppose that Victoria Day will ultimately have to give way to some other date, but until the older generation, those who lived during the reign of "Good Queen Vic.", pass over the great divide, any movement to do away with the twenty-fourth of May will not likely receive much support. Amongst the older residents of the Empire, Victoria holds their hearts today, twenty-eight years after her death, as solidly as when she was on the throne.

OUR "BUY-AT-HOME" COLUMN

Sponsored by the merchants of the town, THE CHRONICLE is running a "Buy-at-Home" Column. We are thoroughly in sympathy with the sentiments expressed therein and have never to our knowledge ever purchased anything outside of Durham that we could obtain from our local merchants. We have used all the arguments we could think of to induce others to do the same, and have conscientiously lived up to our oft-made statements that "it pays to patronize your home-town merchants."

Now that the campaign is on we would like to draw to the attention of the merchants of Durham that they should practise what they preach. If they expect the rest of us to confine our patronage to local business houses, then they should be willing to reciprocate.

It may not be business etiquette to refer to such things in an editorial column, but we would respectfully submit to the approval of the local merchants and others that THE CHRONICLE is fully equipped to take care of their requirements in anything in the printing line. There is no more need for a Durham merchant to purchase his printed supplies from some of these tramp printers from Toronto than there is for us to buy our groceries and wearing apparel in that same city.

The average business man requires nothing more elaborate in the printing line than letter heads, envelopes, statements, bill heads and bookkeeping systems. These can be procured right here in Durham direct from THE CHRONICLE office and at prices no higher than will be paid to other houses, quality considered.

We mention this merely to call attention to the fact that there are obligations on both sides and that if a local merchant purchases his printing supplies out of town he has little cause for grief if some one else also buys his requirements elsewhere.

"Lots of Charges Against O. Shaw" says last week's Fergus News-Record. And now we wonder why the editor did not spell it "O Pshaw."

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Mr. Archie King of Toronto visited friends in town over the week-end. Mr. Edgar Brown motored home from Florida, arriving Wednesday morning.

Capt. J.F. Wright spent a few days at this home last week.

Mr. George Hahn was home from Toronto over the holiday.

Mr. Archie Robertson of Toronto is spending a few days in town.

Mrs. Arthur Wells and two children visited with Milverton friends last week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Welsh and Mr. and Mrs. Hemstock, Hamilton, were week-end guests of Mayor and Mrs. Mirdock.

Miss Olive Heath, R. N., of Toronto is visiting with her sister, Mrs. J. C. Henderson for a couple of weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Kinnee spent from Thursday until Tuesday with friends at Lion's Head.

Miss Bea Kearney, nurse-in-training at Western Hospital, Toronto, is spending three weeks at her home here.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Musgrove, Meaford, spent the holiday with Mr. and Mrs. George Jacksch.

Mr. and Mrs. Secord Switzer of Toronto were visitors with Mr. and Mrs. David Acland last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Fisher spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. G. Campbell in town.

Dr. Cecil Wolfe of Toronto is visiting with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Wolfe, here.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson of Niagara Falls were guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. Henderson on Sunday.

Messrs. Ted and Bert Middleton and friend of Buffalo are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. A. Middleton, in town.

Mr. Thos. Binnie of Toronto visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Binnie, Glenelg, over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Fulton and daughter, Ruth of Harrison, visited with Mrs. John Bell.

Miss Muriel Lane and Mr. Melville Boyd of Parry Sound visited recently with Miss Mary Bell at her home in Glenelg.

Mr. William Mountain of Hamilton visited relatives in town and vicinity over the week-end.

Mrs. W. J. Morrow, Mrs. Jack Ray and three children spent the holiday with Mr. and Mrs. William Johnston of St. Marys.

Miss Ada McLean of Toronto was a visitor at the home of Mrs. N. McCannell last week.

Mr. William Whitmore of Hespeler visited friends in town and vicinity over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Herrington of Toronto spent a few days with her sister, Mrs. Howard McDonald.

Miss V. Aljoe of Toronto visited with her brother, Mr. Alex. Aljoe, last week.

Miss Margaret Weir, Cleveland, is the guest of her uncle, Mr. William Weir, Glenelg.

Mrs. W. Williams, son Harry, and daughter Rita, Mimico, visited her mother, Mrs. E. Bell.

Mr. Cecil McLean of Camp Borden has been holidaying the past week with his parents Mr. and Mrs. D. McLean.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Laidlaw and two sons, Toronto, spent the 24th with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. Laidlaw.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Pattulo, Toronto, visited the former's aunt, Mrs. A. C. Wolfe, last week.

Mrs. Ben. E. Wood and family of Toronto visited one afternoon at her sister's, Mrs. Johnny Long, of town.

Misses Clara Aljoe, Margaret McKenzie and May McClocklin of Toronto, visited at their homes here last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Stedman and family of Simcoe visited with Mr. and Mrs. George Gagnon and Mr. and Mrs. Seth Trafford over the holiday.

Mr. Harold Sharpe and friend, Miss Richardson, both of Toronto, spent the holiday with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Benj. Sharpe.

Mr. and Mrs. Simon Gingrich and daughter of Hanover spent the holiday with her sister, Mrs. Howard McDonald.

Miss Elybeth Livingstone of Hamilton, spent the week-end with her sister, Mrs. W. Snell, and with her friend, Miss Vera Mountain.

Mrs. Alex. Firth left last week for her home at Brampton after spending the past few months with Mrs. J. P. Wright, here.

Mr. R. B. Burns of Kingston was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kress and family over the holiday and week-end.

Miss Grace Baird of the Westinghouse Co., Hamilton, visited over the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arch. Baird.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Cushnie of Toronto were visitors with her sisters, Messdames N. McKechnie and A. Rutherford.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Temple and son, Jimmie, Hamilton, spent the 24th with the latter's sister, Mr. and Mrs. Willett Snell, Mrs. Temple remaining for a week's holidays.

Mr. Royden and Miss Eula Burnett are home from London. Mr. Burnett went to Hamilton Monday where he intends spending the summer in St. Joseph's hospital there.

Misses Alice and Edith Grant of Toronto, and Mr. Brock Grant of Welland, were visitors last week with Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Grant and attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Arch. Davidson.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Pender were in Palmerston over Sunday attending the golden wedding of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Pender. Mr. and Mrs. Pender were married at London in 1879 and have lived at London, Wingham and Komoka. Four years ago Mr. Pender retired from the service of the C. N. R. after 50 years' service.

Mrs. (Dr.) Lorne Robertson, and Mrs. Robertson Sr., Stratford, spent Sunday in town with Mrs. M. Knight. Dr. and Mrs. Robertson have just returned from a trip to Germany and Austria. We regret to learn that ow-

ing to an accident on the boat during a severe storm Dr. Robertson fell and dislocated his elbow, which will lay him off strenuous exercise for a time.

ABERDEEN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Aberdeen branch of the Women's Institute held their annual meeting at the home of Mrs. Fred Cuff with an attendance of 17. The Cuff with an attendance of 17. The meeting opened in the usual manner by the singing of the Ode after which Mrs. D. Lamb read the scripture, which was followed by the Lord's Prayer.

After the opening exercises, discussions and business were finished Mrs. D. Stewart gave an excellent paper on "Life", and Mrs. D. McLean gave the re-impresing one on "Doing One's Best". The Secretary-Treasurer gave the report for the year, the various committees also presenting their statements, after which came the elections of officers. Following are the officers elected:

President, Miss Charlotte Fletcher; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. John Grierson; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Her. Hopkings; Secretary, Miss Anna Smith; Treasurer, Mrs. D. Lamb; Directors, Mrs. Dan McLean, Mrs. Herb Hopkings and Mrs. J. S. Davey; Auditors, Mrs. D. Stewart and Mrs. Margaret Fletcher; Organist, Mrs. W. Noble; Fruit and Visiting Committee, Mrs. J. Ewen, Mrs. Heslit and Mrs. Cuff; Program-me, Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Hopkings. Mrs. J. S. Davey was appointed Director to District.

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ALMOST FRANTIC WITH HEADACHE

Kidney Trouble and Weakness Relieved by "Fruit-a-lives"



"I was very weak because of Kidney Trouble and suffered with terrible Headaches," says Mrs. Romulus TESSIER, St. Jean de Matha, P.Q. "I was treated for a long time and was just about discouraged when I learned of 'Fruit-a-lives.' Improvement came with the first few doses, and in six months the kidney trouble, weakness and headaches were gone." "Fruit-a-lives" regulates the bowels, kidneys and skin—purifies the blood—and brings sound, vigorous health. Try this wonderful medicine made of fruit juices combined with the finest medicinal ingredients. 25c. and 50c. a box—at dealers everywhere.

How D'ye Feel?

"Corking" said the bottle. "Rotten," said the apple. "Punk," said the fire-cracker. "Fine," said the judge. "First class," said the postmaster. "Grand," said the piano. "Keen," said the knife. "Ripping," said the trousers. "Juicy," said the orange. "All done up," said the shirt.

New One on Dad

He: "Well, my father has another wife to support now." She: "How's that, is he a bigamist?" He: "No, I just got married."

HELD REGULAR MEETING

Canadian Greys Chapter I. O. D. E. held their monthly meeting in their rooms on Tuesday, May 28th, with the Regent, Mrs. R. Sparling in the chair. The Chapter intend holding their annual birthday tea in the Town Hall on Friday, June 7th, when Miss Anne Sutherland of Guelph will be the entertainer. In the fall the Chapter hopes to have a play under the direction of Mrs. Farewell, Warkenton.

SOME HALF-HOLIDAYS

- Chesley—Wednesday.
- Hanover—Wednesday.
- Shelburne—Thursday.
- Arthur—Wednesday.
- Alliston—Thursday.
- Beeton—Wednesday.
- Brampton—Wednesday.
- Bolton—Thursday.
- Creemore—Wednesday.
- DURHAM—Thursday.
- Drayton—Thursday.
- Dundalk—Wednesday.
- Erin—Wednesday.
- Flesherton—Thursday.
- Grand Valley—Wednesday.
- Mount Forest—Friday.
- Meaford—Wednesday.
- Owen Sound—Wednesday.
- Orangeville—Wednesday.
- Port Elgin—Thursday.
- Palmerston—Wednesday.
- Tara—Wednesday.
- Wingham—Wednesday.
- Walkerton—Thursday.
- Teeswater—Thursday.
- Kincardine—Thursday.
- Mildmay—Thursday.
- Elmwood—Thursday.
- Paisley—Thursday.
- Ripley—Thursday.
- Brussels—Thursday.

Saturday Morning Special

Every purchaser gets a Rexoleum Mat 14x28 ins. for 5c.

The Variety Store

R. L. Saunders, Prop. PHONE 4 DURHAM

Who will pay? YOU?

EVEN the most careful driver may some time find himself involved in a serious accident, with consequent liability to heavy damages. Better take no chances. Instead, take out one of our low-cost Auto Insurance policies and go completely covered.

FRANK IRWIN

Insurance Agent
PHONES 37 and 81 DURHAM

Calderwood

(Our Own Correspondent)
We had a most refreshing rain morning. The heat was intense. Mrs. J. McNicol, who has spent two months with her brother Harry McKinnon, returned to her in Toronto last week. Misses Luella and Edna spent Sunday afternoon with friend, Louise Drier. Mr. and Mrs. Clarke and Guelph, spent the week-end at Walter Hermon's. Miss Edna Holliday spent with her aunt, Mrs. William Messrs. Ed. Maes and Jacob have both invested in new sedan cars. Miss Mary Dillon spent at her home in Mount Forest.

SPECIAL For This Week

This week we have a beautiful range of FUGI and RAYON SILK at very low prices. It will you to see these before you TENSIS SHOES for Men, Women and Children. Bring in the kiddies and them fitted. We only carry best and the prices are reasonable. CHILDREN'S OXFORD in Black and Tan. Just the thing for school. Men's fine and Work Shoes. Men's Work Shirts from 95c.

A. A. ALJO

Phone 47 DURHAM ONTARIO

THE PE Western

We have three cars in stock. Leave your car load of Bran \$34.00; SH We expect Monday, April 2 custom chopping HIGHEST JOHN Phone 8, Day or

S P E

24 pairs Me sole, rubb \$5.00 val 25 pairs Me fords, ru Regular \$ J. S.