# The Durham Chronicle

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

Thursday, September 12, 1929.

### THE DANGER FROM FIRE

The conflagration at Listowel on Sunday after noon when several places of business and one residence fell a prey to the flames should be a warning to other towns that fire is a good servant but a hard master. Of course we all know this without being told, but how many of us, speaking collectively of course, take the precautions we should? We would venture the statement that there is not a town in the country, Durham included, where all the citizens exercise the proper care in the disposal of waste matter. In shops and offices where oil and rags are used it is usually the common practise to drop them when we are through with them and then, when a fire starts in the middle of the night, wonder how it happened. We do not know what was the cause of the fire at Listowel, but like nearly every other fire it is quite saft to say it was the result of careless-

There are people in every town who dispose of their ashes in a careless and haphazard manner, apparently never thinking that it is the ashes that are "out" that usually start a fire. It would be next thing to lese majeste to call their attention to these things, but at the same time the disposal of ashes carelessly, or the leaving of oily rags and other refuse in or about the building has been the cause of more fires than any other agency. No intentional harm is intended, but once the fire starts it is too late to mend matters.

The smaller towns of the country can ill afford to lose any of their business places or factories and we have long been of the opinion that a strict, periodical inspection by a competent official is the proper thing. Some there are who might think this was altogether too great an infringement on their personal liberty, a slap at democracy and an interference with their privileges, never thinking that in community life the other fellow has also a right to live and is entitled to some protection from the carelessness of his neighbors.

### KEATING'S BLUNDER

There is little doubt that Eddle Keating, the twenty-five-year-old swimming marvel from New York City and the winner of the 1929 Wrigley marathon at the Toronto Exhibition with its twenty-fivethousand-dollar prize, pulled a "boner" at the finish of the race last Friday when, on being asked to speak through the microphone said: "Maybe Vierkotter will apologize now for what he said about me at Lake George." It was an uncalled-for remark, especially from a winner, but at that we are not prepared to fault him so much as members of the Toronto press and those of the Queen City who witnessed the finish of the big event.

Keating was not himself when he made the statement. Tired out after his long grind of fifteen miles, and smarting under an alleged remark made two years ago that he had been towed on the end of a rope when he won the Lake George swim, he had swum a "grudge" race to prove that the charge was not true and it may be that the remark was not made in the vindictive spirit attributed. Keating was expected to have been good sport enough to forget what happened two years back, and we, as the interested public, should be good enough sports to that if it is to keep up more damage is to result. pass over a remark made under these conditions.

There is little doubt that the remark was made. but Vierkotter's statement that it was not made by him, but by a former manager, has been accepted by Keating and a reconciliation was effected between the two swimmers on Saturday. It was also established that Vierkotter some months ago had denied making the statement but Keating had not been informer of this and naturally nursed his grudge, his only ambition being to beat the German "Black Shark last Friday. Knowing nothing different than that the remark had been made by his opponent, it was but human that Keating should nurse the

should be taken into consideration. Marathon commercial class and in some cases we have noticed swimming, especially the Wrigley contest, has gone it looked as if someone was going to be fined anyway into the "big money" class. Is it possible that Keating and Vierkotter are ballyhooing for the swim was to be the lucky one and escape. next year? Already we have seen in the Toronto Globe's Monday issue that "if the Wrigley classic is held here next year Vierkotter will receive a tremendous ovation. He was defeated fairly and decisively and he knew it-but it is strongly suspected that when he opposes Keating again, if ever, it will be the swimming 'battle of the century'. Keating's attitude has paved the way for a grudge affair that may not end happily for himself."

We haven't forgotten the Dempsey-Tunney ballyhoo, nor that for "Strangler" Lewis in wrestling. There may be nothing in it and there may be With twenty-five-thousand-dollar stakes, marathon swimming may get into the same class as a good many of the other sports. So we are not throwing any fits over what Keating said about Vierkotter. His "grudge" race may be genuine and it may not. To spring from ninth place around shortly after noon and distance the field by six o'clock, passing Vierkotter and the two Ross entries but in these days of promotion, propaganda and ballyhoo we must plead guilty to being a little suspicious when the leading contenders in any sport commence talking in a nasty manner. In the meantime Keating has the swimming championship of the world, the twenty-five-thousand-dollar cheque and the reputation of being a poor sport. What matters our opinion? If we had that much money we would lose but little sleep worrying over what the fickle sporting public thought of us.

MORE COMBINES This week's press reports "get-together" meet-

ings of at least two of the larger business interests of the country, showing that even in the apparently more successful firms it is considered to their interests to couple up their resources rather than carry on the battle as separate companies. The business firms in these latest combines are as far apart as the poles and this will make the comparison interesting.

First came the announcement that the E. W. Gillett Company at Toronto, and the Kraft Phoenix Cheese corporation were to sell out to Standard Brands, the business to be carried on in both Canada and the United States by the Standard Brands corporation.

On the heels of the first announcement comes well-known circus man, had announced the purchase cipalities would welcome the idea of the one from New York saying that John Ringling, the of five circuses and that they would pass under the control of the Ringling interests. The Ringling Brothers, seven of them, started out in the circus business in a modest way upwards of 50 years ago. They were unique business men. At that time the circus business was rather a questionable one and when the late Charles Ringling some years later tiring of the graft and the crooked work announced that he was going to run a "clean" circus he was laughed at by many of his confreres. But Charley was not to be daunted and kept his word, until today the Ringling show is run on just as honorable principles as any other business in the country. The result of this hewing to the line and treating the public right is to be seen in its present success.

The Ringlings first secured control of the old Buffalo Bill show, buying it from the late James A. Bailey. Later they purchased the Adam Forepaugh and Sells Bros. show. Both these shows have been merchants have been deterred from town for a distance of six or seven pearance of rain, the weather man off the road for a good many years. Somewhere about fifteen years ago the Ringlings got the controlling interest in the Barnum and Bailey show, which now runs under the combined titles. Last week they purchased the three shows of their nearest competitor, the American Circus Corporation, when they acquired the John Robinson, the Hagenbeck-Wallace and the Sells Floto shows, and cinched their position at the head of the American circus ladder by acquiring the well-known Charles Sparks show and the Al. G. Barnes Wild Animal Show.

The outcome of the circus merger especially will be watched with interest. It has been long known on the inside by those who take an interest in the tented cities that the Ringlings have had an interest in practically every circus in the United States, but the public generally have not been aware of this. What will the harvest be? Will the Ringlings close up these other shows and take them off the road, or will they keep them on the trail?

With the exception of the Barnum show, no circus ever acknowledged as the property of the Ringlings has been kept on the road, though a couple of years ago it was mooted that it was their intention to bring out the Forepaugh outfit and put it on tour. With the purchase of the Barnum & Bailey show, about all the Ringlings took was the name, as it was then and still is a name to reckon with in the show business, and since its acquisition have toured the country under the title of Ringling Bros. and Bark num & Bailey Combined Shows. Whatever they do, the public need not worry. If the Ringlings decide to take their recent purchases off the road they will more than make up for it by additions to their ow'n show; if they decide to run them all, then the public may well depend on it that these latter, many of which have not had too good a reputation, will be cleaned up and the performance so improved that their old friends will not recognize them.

## TOO MUCH SPEEDING

Since our new pavement has been opened up there has been altogether too much fast driving and the motor accident of last week should be warning to motorists and a signal to the authorities Spectators at the wreck referred to say that the accident was not the result of fast driving, but it is may well be glad of the style of pubhard to believe that a car being driven only twenty miles an hour could turn over and go through the that the whole territory of Labrador stunts performed. It may not have been speeding that caused the accident, but it certainly was not slow driving.

The Chronicle is not now, nor never has been in favor of too much law. Law is intended as a safeguard and there are innumerable instances where statutes or bylaws are broken unknowingly and where the calling of the attention of the guilty one to the discrepancy would serve the purpose fully as well as the imposition of a fine. Too many magis-There is another angle to the affair, too, that | trates nowadays have placed their courts in the and it was a matter of conjecture as to just who

There is absolutely no excuse for any motorist driving through town at an exhorbitant speed. The law says twenty miles an hour, and fifteen miles at | rent despatches look small.-Alliston intersections, but there are many who breeze through at thirty or forty and never seem to notice the intersections at all. These same people are highly insulted if their attention is called to it and start to tell us how much easier it is to drive in Toronto or faithfu! enough when given a task some other large centre than it is in the smaller places. Here the traffic is heavy and pedestrians must learn to cross only at the proper crossings. All and no particular skill, are often withcities nowadays are equipped with stop and go signs at all important intersections and these, to a great extent minimize accidents.

The rate of speed allowed in cities, however, is not so great as many motorists drive through Durham and if they attempted the same thing in the larger centres they would be speedily picked up. We tial application of the iniquitous dol do not advocate a wholesale "slaughter of the innocents" by our traffic officials, but we do think they is a feat that stamps Keating a swimmer of merit, | would be perfectly within their rights in insisting | gether different situation in Eastern that cars passing through town would keep somewhere near the thirty or thirty-five mile mark between crossings and use judgment when approaching all intersections. This in view of the fact that it seems impossible to keep them down to the legal twenty and fifteen mile limit.

Traffic laws are made for the proteition of th motorists themselves and we fail to see why a few irresponsibles should be allowed to get away with nearly anything, to the danger of themselves and the careful motorists. At the same time we rather favor the system of issuing a warning or two rather than pick them up indiscriminately and have them fined.

municipalities should begin to check up and prevent the unnecessary unemployment that occurs every winter and the abuses of the relief and charity that are so abundantly provided.

There are enough government officials, Provincial and Dominion, along

the present time the efficient policing province taking over the job.

Revise the Hymn

It has been suggested that the old ONTARIO'S RURAL ROADS familiar hymn "For those in peril on the sea", should be revised and made to The suggestion is a good one, as today travelling on the sea is much safer than travelling on the roads and streets. All modern inventions for creasonable time, said Mr. Henry, Durreasonable time, said Mr. Henr read, "For those in peril on the road". to greater safety, while nearly all inventions for ocean and lake traffic have tended to make such traffic more than tended to make such traffic more than ever dangerous to both life and property. Every day brings its terrible lists of fatal accidents on city streets and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such on the laid about three miles of pavement evaluated and country roads while such and country roads sea are of rare occurrence. By all ery working day. Two hundred and of checking up on this and we can find means revise the hymn.—Forest Free fifty miles had been built in 1929, and no fault with any who may disagree

### In Debt For a Car

general practice. And once in the pos- townships. session of a car, the average owner will deprive himself of almost anything else, rather than give up his car. It great reason why the automobile inrecent years—its lavish extension merchandise is to give more credit themselves. But that is a very quoious solution.—Walkerton Telescope.

Small Place Has Advantages who has been motoring through some roads in the Townships. He referred of the small towns of Western Ontar- to the old walks and roads in Di ham io, made an interesting comment the when he first took up residence here other day. He pointed out that though and of the difficulties he had experienmany town homes lack modern ad- ced as a physician in getting from vantages, their surroundings are much place to place in the early days by superior to those of the average city horse and saddle. "There were home. He saw everywhere on his trip roads then," he said, "just paths.' He spacious lawns with lovely flower-gar- referred to the great trade Ontario was dens and well-developed strubs. It building up in entertaining the Amertakes many years to develop a fine ican tourists in the summer months looking property. A city man may and thought this trade should be lookhave ambitions that way, but before ed after. They spent a great deal of he has his beautification scheme well money in the Province and in touring crowded, or infested with factories or through the imposition of the five-cent foreigners, and he moves on to another tax on gasoline. Many European counpart of the city. Small twn folks tries such as Switzerland. France, Belshould take full advantage of the op- gium and others, practically made portunity which is theirs to have well their living out of the tourists and he kept lawns and flower beds which en- saw no reason why Ontario should hance the beauty and comfort of the not play a like role. It was up to home and make the whole rural com- us to do everything to foster this trade munity a delight to the eye of the and we could do so in no better way isitor.—Walkerton Herald-Times.

## Selling Labrador

Judging by the propaganda used in so many other cases, it would seem that there must be somebody with an interest in getting Labrador into the daily news columns. The suggestion that a man is coming to Ottawa to sell Labrador to Canada is followed by the announcement that a claim part of the territory is put in clerical gentleman of Montreal. The foramount of money to be demanded for Labrador is put at \$110,000,000, while the claim of the Montreal gentleman is said to be for property worth

stories as true, for the moment, people licity gained. There are many in Can- and expressed their satisfaction. ada who cling to the childhood belief

It is not necessary to believe that Labrador is a land of genial climate and fertile soil to realize that it may be a source of great wealth. The known forests of that country are of mimense value. So are its fisheries. And the mineral possibilities are only now beginning to come within the view of farsighted operators.

Like Canada's northland, Labrador has been misunderstood. It is a territory which, some day, will yield wealth which will make the figures in the cur-

Unemployment Should be Forestalled A small element in every urban community revels in unemployment. There s another class willing to work and but absolutely without initiative in finding employment. The ordinary pick out work when winter sets in and freuently become a charge on the municipality. A considerable number embraced by these classes are likely to be unemployed this coming winter, and he governments and municipalities should take steps at once to provide as much work as possible in order to forestall misplaced charity and a par-

The abandonment of the annual harvest excursions will create an alto-Canada during the fall months: the excellent harvest weather has also slowed up the demand for help in the fields, and the usual pilgrimage to the town and city will, no doubt, begin

earlier than usual. The reports of lessened grain crops in the West will have a psychological effect on trade that to say the least will not stimulate employment. When all factors are analyzed one can come to no other conclusion than that the municipalities should begin to check up

every man and family; and these aided by the multiplicity of organizations that delight in "slumming" should be previous to the citizens a first-class pavement and he was sure they had received all that he had promised and more.

Previous to the citizens a first-class pavement and he was sure they had received all that he had promised and more.

wages.—Farmer's Advocate.

(Continued from page 1.)

the work was now being gone ahead, with us, but that is the way it looked with south of Mount Forest and on the to us. The evening was a most pleahighway betwen Shelburne and Or- sant one, everyone esemd happy, and A business writer says that retail angeville as well as south of the latter while for a time there was every apg up as usual "by their know- miles. The Province would soon de- was kind and caused no inconvenience ledge of the obligations that many of velop a network of pavement between or cessation of the enjoyment their best customers have assumed in its principal urban centres and the order to buy the automobile that they time was now here when more attenuse. Buying cars on time has been en- tion was to be given to the construccouraged so much that it has become a tion and improvement of roads in the Dr. Jamieson Reviewed Roads

The address of Hon. Dr. Jamieson is a curious situation. Here is one was reminiscent of the condition of the roads in this section 50 years ago when dustry has made so fine a record in he first came to Durham and now. of He caused a laugh when he referred to the Hon. Mr. Henry as "the greatest highmakers and sellers of other forms of wayman that ever came down the pike." He referred to the policy of the Government in first taking care of the Provincial highways as trunk lines. then branching out into the County-Provincial roads, and now committing A city man with an observant eye themselves to the improvement of the too the country left considerable money than by being courteous giving them good roads to travel on and provide ther with tourist camps. He referred to the happy position of Durham in having four Provincial Highways passing through the town and congratulated his fellow citizens on the excellent pavement built this summer. The programme was in charge o

Mayor Murdock and on the platform. besides Hon. Mr. Henry and Hon. Dr Jamieson were representatives of many of the surrounding cunicipalities. Short addresses were given by Reeve Bell of town who was pleased that the highway was opened and who spoke of the general satisfaction of the citizens now that the work was nearing completion. At first there had been considerposed the work had since come to him

Many Reeves Present Warden Moody of Dundalk also adis not worth fifteen cents. It is good dressed the gathering. He congratulatfor such people to see Labrador and ed the town on its fine pavement and these dazzling sums bracketed in the paid a tribute to Durham's reeve as a day's despatches. For these millions representative of the town at the are much more correct as a representa- County Council. Mr. E. M. Proctor of ion of the value of Newfoundland's the firm of James, Proctor and Redcontinental terirtory than are the stor- fern, was also present and told the ies of hopeless cold and desolation gathering he thought the town had which the ordinary person depends done the right thing in falling in line upon for his geographical information with other important towns in the paying programme. He said that when he

PAPERS' OPINIONS with municipal officers, to keep an active came to town he had promised the citizens a first-class pavement and

Policing of Towns

that delight in "slumming" should be the speaking and during the proing of Ontario towns and villages be taken over by provincial police and the local constabulary abolished was ployment. There is always work to be several selections and, with their Piers the local constabulary abolished was very widely discussed in the press and widely commented. In talking to a widely commented. In talking to a British Columbia friend lately we and insist that the work must come to There is no need of unemployment tion to "jazz" are capable of render-in Canada. All jobs in the winter will ing the best of music. There were law is enforced much better, according not permit an employer to pay a only about ten of them present but to our informant, than it was under the old system of local constables. At union plumber or a bank manager; but complement of brass instruments, and on the farm, in the woods, in the town from the time they landed in town and in the city there is work to til about 7 o'clock until after 9 they gave done and no effort should be spared the big crowd an abundance of music

The programme over the "real" part of the evening for the younger people TO BE IMPROVED commenced. This was the street dance arranged for by the Council. The Walkerton orchestra had been engaged for tinued without interruption until 1 o'-

### Large Crowd Present

"Do you sell anti-knock gas?" "Yes, sir."

"Let me have a pint. I want to :ub some on my girl's knees.

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Ladies' Chamoisette Gloves fancy cuffs, per pair 10 qt. galvanized pails Plain White Cups, each or 6 for

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The Chronicle Printing House Phone 37

SOCIAL AND PE

Mrs. William Davidson! ters and son, and Mr. M towel, Mr. and Mrs. Wi den. Gladys and Raymon spent Sunday with Mr. a ald Watson of Egremont, Mrs. L. Mackenzie. and Mr. George Hahn

Thursday, September

spent the week-end at th and Mrs. Oscar Hahn. Miss Bessie Smith left Elgin House, Muskoka, lady representatives from ege, Toronto, at the cor held there this week. Miss Blanche Kearney Western Hospital staff

of days this week at her Mr. and Mrs. Austin Odessa. Ont., announce ment of their only da Grace Fraser, B.A., William Carr, Oshawa, of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. C. Ont... the marriage to Odessa the latter part of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Sto ed last week from a two t Woodlawn Park, twe Port Dover on Lake Eric was their daughter. Stonecuse, R.N., Toront was motored home by Sparrow of the Mail an Toronto, who spent over the guests of Mr. and 1 Miss Christena McLes her home at St. Catha

day after visiting her si McLean, at the home of J. Morrison. Mr. and Mrs. John S announce the engager daughter, Elvin, to Mr. son of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. ham. The marriage wi quietly in September. Mr. Oliver Hunter rel

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. G day or a short holiday Mrs. Walter Nichol a visit with her sister if Mr. John Mather, Wi Saturday night for a l parents, Mr. and Mrs. J Mr. Russell Currie. over the week-end with

He gave inspiring addr

on Sunday morning Hanover, who have om a European trip Mrs. Engel's sister. Mrs They left on Monday take at Oliphant, Mrs.

Mrs. Monkman and t Owen Sound, and Mr. a Mrs. Thos. McGirr r day from a visit with