

The 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, December 19, 1929

ONTARIO'S PROSPERITY

The annual statement of Provincial Treasurer, Hon. J. D. Monteith, made public on Monday, should effectively silence those who look on Ontario's future with misgiving. The cry raised last October that the only reason for an early election was because the government was facing a deficit, has faded into thin air. The much spoken of deficit has blossomed into a surplus of \$2,567,000, the largest surplus in the history of the province, and made possible only because the business of the province has been conducted along strictly business lines.

If any proof is needed that Ontario's future is not in the hands of the most competent government Canada's Banner Province ever placed in office it can be found in the high prices obtained for bond issues during the tight money period. This may not prove much to those who wish to discredit the government, but it surely does prove that the monied interests of the world have confidence in Ontario's future, this confidence having been established by the business methods employed by Hon. G. Howard Ferguson and his associates.

The record surplus this year has been gained with no additional tax excepting the two cents on gasoline and of the whole amount less than four per cent has been derived from general taxation.

Ontario steps out into the new financial year full of confidence in herself and at peace with the world. The reduction in the cost of auto markers for 1930 will reduce the revenue by about two millions. This will be a real benefit to the man with the small car who does little motoring, or who uses his car for business purposes only.

The increased revenue for the year amounts to \$5,776,000 and was derived from public services and natural resources, while a further increase of \$346,000 comes from interest on investment. In increased expenditure over 1928 this was as follows: On public services, \$1,951,000; on debt charges, \$1,832,000.

Say what they will and think what they like, one admission must be made. The Ferguson Government has once more come through with colors flying and in so doing have demonstrated that they are business men as well as politicians, and in piling up an additional surplus, instead of increased taxation, we find it lowered.

THE PRICE OF HUMILIATION

A Kitchener man recently collected \$217.50 from the Ford hotel in Toronto for alleged "humiliation, threats and unlawful expulsion" from that institution. He stated that he had written the hotel for Exhibition accommodation and had been given a quotation of \$1.50 per day. When he arrived he was given a room and told it was two dollars a day, and that they would give him a lower priced room the next day. He received no notice from the management and was billed at two dollars a day. He disputed the bill, refused to pay it, offered the \$1.50 per day he had been quoted, but this was refused by the management. He claimed he was put out of the hotel, treated slanderously by the management, and that one of his club bags had been seized and held. The jury gave the plaintiff judgment for \$217.50 and ordered the hotel company to return his club bag.

We cannot quite follow the case from the information at hand, but to us it seems a most peculiar one. We would take it from the finding that an hotel is stepping on thin ice when it quotes a price for rooms. Unless something else was proven when the case was before the court, we would naturally think that it was possible at the time of the quotation the hotel might have had the \$1.50 rooms and if the plaintiff had been there at the time he would have been given one. On the other hand it is quite as possible that in the interval between the quotation and the actual taking of the room the \$1.50 rooms in the hotel might have been disposed of and the management would have nothing left but do the next best thing.

The law is often funny. In this case the plaintiff had engaged a cheaper room. He was given a dearer one, but according to our information, he was told what the price would be before he occupied it. Naturally one would think he could then either take it or leave it. There is the possibility of course that he may have engaged the room at the price stated, paying for same from the time of his acceptance. But if not, what guarantee had the hotel company that he would turn up and take the room. Something might have happened to prevent him going to the hotel at all, and in the meantime the room was being held.

The chances are there is more to the case than was told in the newspapers, but from what we read we can't for the life of us see where the hotel company was at fault. Surely, and especially at Exhibition time, the Toronto hotels cannot be expected to hold

accommodation open for out of town patrons unless they receive their money in advance and the room is paid for from the time the reservation is made.

GIVE US SUMMER SCENES

If there are those in more southern climes, and especially in the mid-southern States, who think Canada is a land of perpetual snow, we have ourselves to blame for it to a very large extent. No Canadian scene seems complete without a snow picture, and while we Canadians may glory in the fall of the beautiful that visits us each winter there may be others who will not see it that way.

Only yesterday a representative of the Salvation Army was in town selling the Christmas number of the War Cry. Of course we bought one, and of course we looked it over. There is some very excellent Christmas material in it, but we were rather disappointed when we looked over the section devoted to showing us the scene "When it is Christmas in our Canadian homeland."

First, there was a photo of the prospectors' Christmas dinner. Two old hardheads were squatting beside a fire in the snow broiling some moose meat, while as far as one could see about them were trees and snow. The next depicted a snowshoe hike through the woods, and following were pictures of the children enjoying skiing, Christmas visitors arriving by dog team, another scene of a trail to the lumber camp, and still another of a dog team mushing across a frozen lake. Then there came a fair-land of Christmas trees, all covered with snow, of course, and alongside a photo of three men planning the day's work, one of them knee-deep in snow and the other two wearing snowshoes. The ground and the woods is fairly inundated with snow and the picture itself is enough to make one pull up his coat collar and look for his gloves. Another illustration shows a company of young people enjoying an outdoor lunch—in the snow, of course, and with snowshoes, sweater coats and toques gives one the impression that it is somewhere near forty degrees below zero. The illustrations are all Canadian National Railways photos and are very fine, but why dwell so much on the snow scenes?

No wonder outsiders think Canada a land of perpetual snow. We seldom show them anything else, and then criticize some United States picture company for filming a Canadian picture with snow for a background.

We have seen innumerable pictures of various points in the United States, but very few in which the blizzards of the Dakotas or the snows of Michigan are so prominently displayed that they push everything else into the background. There are points in the United States that are just as cold as the majority of places in Canada but they don't blow about it. Most scenes from this country tell you about the balmy, cooling zephyrs of some particular summer resort, while in the winter scenes of Florida or California come to the front.

We hear them sing of the green fields of Virginia, but we have never yet seen them photograph and broadcast any pictures of that country in winter when one can put on his rubber boots in late October and keep them on until the middle of March, spending the interval wallowing around in half snow, half rain, and mud. We have never seen any photos of parts of Pennsylvania with its clay and muck made almost impassable with the winter's combination of frost, snow, rain and thaw.

We are prepared to admit that this section of Canada in the winter is no place for those of thin blood or faint heart, but at that we prefer our snow and winter weather to that which they get down around the Virginias, in Pennsylvania, Kentucky, or other States in that latitude. Even as far south as Georgia we have seen it below zero, and with the houses up on stilts, no cellars, and built for summer, not one Canadian in a hundred would change places with our so-called "southerners". When it's zero weather in Georgia you feel it.

So we would say to our illustrators—take a leaf from our neighbor's book. Send them the winter pictures when it's one hundred and some in the shade in Louisiana and the swamps of Mississippi, Alabama and Florida are hatching mosquitoes by the millions and the water moccasins and other snakes are on the move. If we must pictorialize our country in the winter time, give us some summer scenes.

This continual advertising of Canada pictorially by using scenes of winter gives those who do not know our country a wrong impression, and if there is some poor boob arrives here in July from Alabama looking for glaciers, toboggan slides and snowshoeing parties, it might be well to remember that this is all he has ever been taught of this great country by those agencies who issue the greater part of our tourist literature.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

We wish the Christmas spirit would take a firm hold on some of those to whom we owe money.

It takes a good watch these days to be always "on time", if one is in the habit of setting it from the times given by radio announcers.

We have received an invitation to attend quite a social event in Toronto during the New Year's season. The fact that we have no Hereford suit is one, and the fact that we can't get the gravy from the last one off our Sunday vest is another reason why we must decline to be present.

CAMPER'S COLUMN

CHRISTMAS TIME

Little John and His sister Sue
 Are now so good,
 They don't ring true.

No quarrelling now
 No grumbling tone
 No hurt now brings
 A cry or moan.

Without a call
 Each morn they rise—
 No yawn or stretch,
 No blinking eyes.

They scrub their hands
 And ears and necks
 Without Ma's help;
 It's queer—by heck!

They eat whatever's
 Before them set;
 They hasten then
 School books to get.

And off they go,
 So full of glee,
 It fills one's heart
 Their joy to see.

Returned from school,
 They seem so glad,
 They both kiss Ma
 And both hug Dad.

On Sunday, too,
 They're not remiss—
 Seem think it sin
 Their class to miss.

Life is happy,
 Home is bright
 When children do
 Not quarrel or fight.

Ma thinks that it's
 Her influence;
 Dad's suspicious—
 He's not so dense.

"What comfort are
 Our little dears!"
 Says Ma, her eyes
 Quite moist with tears.

Dad gazes up
 At kitchen wall
 On calendar
 His eyes do fall;

Sees Christmas marked
 Thereon in red,
 Gives one large grunt
 And nods his head.

"Our little dears
 Who act so sweet,
 Are full of guile
 As egg of meat."

To Ma, he said:
 I'll not deny
 You've trained them well,
 But, tell me why

The training shows
 This time of year
 So much beyond
 Its former sphere."

Ma shakes her head;
 Says Dad, "Because
 Next week they look
 For Santa Claus."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Information Wanted

Editor Chronicle:
 Dear Sir,—Nominations for the Town Council will be in order shortly and very little is heard about prospective candidates. I have heard it said that the present Council has unqualified as well as disqualified membership. Is this true? Do members have to be ratepayers and are all the present members ratepayers? I, myself, think the present membership very satisfactory but feel that property owners only should be elected. We surely can select candidates of this standing. We should also be able to select members who will regularly attend meetings. I would like your opinion, Mr. Editor, on this matter. Thanking you for your expected answer, I remain,
 Yours truly,
 —Voter.

Editor's Note.—In answer to the above we might say that it is quite lawful for non-property owners to occupy a seat on the Town Council. This amendment to the Ontario Statutes was put through under the Drury Government and is still in force. Regarding the law disqualifying members of Council for non-attendance we are not so sure as to the time but believe that any member of a Council who misses attendance at three consecutive meetings of that body automatically suspends himself. We believe this law also governs other bodies such as Trustee Boards and the like. These opinions are given without prejudice and must not be taken as absolutely final, though The Chronicle is reasonably sure it is correct in this interpretation of the law.

The Timber Deal

To the Editor of The Chronicle.
 Dear Sir,—In your last week's issue was a letter signed by D. J. McDonald stating that he wants to explain the whole deal and correct some of the statements that I made. In the first place, Mr. McDonald wants to explain the whole deal in connection with this timber affair. Now what did he explain? He says that Mr. Ledingham stated upon oath that Mr. Shewell sold him timber on side line 30 but why did he stop at that and not tell the rest of what Mr. Ledingham had said about Mr. Shewell? In the second place he says that Mr. Ledingham produced a receipt showing payment for timber on side line 30, Concession 14. Here again I will state that he did not explain the full facts as Mr. Ledingham had cut this timber on Concession 13. Now about the timber that Fred Haug cut on the base line and which Mr. McDonald stated had been cut three or four years previous to the above affair. Mr. Ledingham was the very party that persuaded him to do so, as the trees were an injury to Mr. Haug's crop. And as the neighbors all know, Mr. Ledingham did the same along his own farm. Mr. McDonald further states that Haug's chief grievance was that he was asked to pay for the timber he cut and that Fred Haug made the statement that he should not

be called upon to pay for the same. In this very statement there is not a word of truth. The committee appointed by the Council to get a settlement from Ledingham and Haug will know it to be a fact that Fred Haug told them he was willing to pay for the timber he took providing Ledingham did the same for the timber he took along the side of his farm. The committee said there and then that they could not take action until a complaint was laid. We then went over to Mr. McDonald and lodged the second complaint and this is what happened: They let Ledingham free on this charge because it was not in writing. But I am informed from good authority that Ledingham's complaint was not in writing either as the minutes of the Council will show.

Now, Mr. Editor, all this could have been avoided had Mr. Ledingham only taken the timber the receipt called for which he got from Mr. Shewell. In conclusion let me say a few words about Mr. McDonald's statement of what No. 1 poll did for him on December 2. Let me remind Mr. McDonald of the year 1927, the year this timber deal was on and was going strong in No. 1 poll where the voters knew the full facts and where there was a turnover of between 30 and 40 votes, and not only in No. 1 poll but all over the Township which should be ample proof of what was thought of this timber deal. I shall now close this timber discussion as far as I am concerned by saying the half has never yet been told.
 Yours truly,
 I. E. HAUG.

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT AT KNOX UNITED CHURCH

Tuesday evening of this week the big event of the season so far as the scholars of Knox United Sunday School were concerned, took place. It was the night of their annual Christmas tree and entertainment. A good crowd attended and enjoyed the varied and well prepared program provided by the scholars, which consisted of choruses by the children, dialogues, recitations and a Christmas cantata. The excellence of the program reflected great credit upon those who trained the children. The visit of Santa Claus with his gifts for the children was the climax of the entertainment.

YOU
 DON'T NEED TO BE WITHOUT A GOOD RADIO NOW
 Call in and see our stock of used Radios with new batteries installed.
 Atwater Kent
 De Forest Crosley
 Westinghouse
 Kolster
THE PRICE WILL ASTOUND YOU!
 These sets must be sold before Christmas.
Smith Bros.
 Ford Sales and Service
 Durham

READ
 our list of Christmas Goods
 Electric Lamps on display.
 Washable Kid Gloves, all colors.
 Neck Scarfs, new modernistic designs.
 Hosiery, any kind, any color.
LOCK-STITCH LINGERIE
 (will not run)
 Ensemble suits
 Pyjama Suits
 Dance Sets
 Separate Garments
 Specially priced Velvet Dresses at \$6.75.
A. B. Nichol

Bargains Galore For the Christmas Shopper

A SLAUGHTER SALE OF TOYS AND DOLLS
 Everything must go at some price.
 Dolls at half price. Toys from 5c. to \$1.00.

— SPECIAL —

To every purchaser Saturday, December 21st we will give a good four-string broom for 25c.

To every Boy or Girl buying a toy or doll Saturday, December 21, valued at 25c. or over, we will give a self-filling Fountain Pen FREE.

Ladies' Boxed Handkerchiefs 25c., 29c., 39c., 49c.	Fancy Gift China and Glassware at Special Prices
Ladies' Silk Bloomers, lace trimmed \$1.00	China Cups and Saucers 15c.
Ladies' Silk Scarves, at \$1.00 \$1.25, \$1.50	China Cake Plates, regular \$1.00 for 59c.
Ladies' Gloves 49c. and \$1.00	Fancy colored Glass Salad Bowls and Cake Plates to match. The two for \$1.00
Ladies' Silk Hose \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00	Rancy serving trays, special \$1.29
Boxed Paperies, reg. 75c. for 49c.	A new assortment of beautiful framed pictures for 15c.
Guaranteed Fountain Pens, \$1.00 and \$1.50	Bridge Lamps with parchment shades, special \$3.49
See our Necklaces, Watches, Clocks Brooches and Costume Jewellery	Mixed Candy, per lb. 17c.
	Fresh Roasted Peanuts, lb. 20c.

Then there is the sweetest gift of all—A box of "Smiles 'n Chuckles" or "Neilson's Chocolates" priced from 60c. to \$4.50.

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Scarfs	Sweaters
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Sweaters	Table Runners
Cap	Gloves
Arm Bands	Hose
Garters	Umbrella
FOR BOYS AND GIRLS	
Galoshes	Bender Slippers
Hose	Aviation Caps
Toques	Sweaters
Mixed Candy, per lb. 17c., or 3 lbs. for 50c.	
Mixed Nuts	Creams
	Chocolates

Shop where your money buys the most.

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 Phone 47. Durham.