

THE DURHAM CHRONICLE

Circulation for 12 months, 1,400
 Subscription Price—Five cents per single copy; by mail in
 Canada \$2.00 per year; to the United States, \$2.50.
 Office Hours—9 to 12 M., 1 to 5:30 P.M.

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, December 4, 1930

EYES THAT WILL NOT SEE

The Mount Forest *Confederate* of two weeks ago referred editorially to a report in the *Chronicle*, stating that "Some people here rather rubbed their eyes when they saw in the Durham Chronicle last week that the town of Durham had been allowed a grant of \$25,000 from the unemployment fund, on condition that Durham should expend \$50,000 on the extension and improvement of its waterworks system."

Continuing, the *Confederate* said: "We learn from the Review and other sources, however, that the offer to Durham is only \$12,500 and that the amount to be expended is only \$25,000. If this be so it is the turn of the *Chronicle* to rub its eyes and find out just what is what. We rather fancy the *Chronicle* has misinterpreted the somewhat ambiguous phrasing of the letter from the Commission and appraised the offer at twice its real value."

The *Confederate* is wrong in all conjectures. The *Chronicle* did not say that Durham had been granted \$25,000, it did not misinterpret the so-called "ambiguous" letter from the Commission (which was quite plain to any who took the time to read it), and we did not appraise the grant at twice its real value.

What the *Chronicle* did say, as taken from our file of November 13, was: "The estimated cost of the whole work, including the purchase of the interests of Mr. H. J. Snell, is approximately \$50,000. Of this, the Government pays half of \$25,000 for the laying of the water mains." The italics are ours.

Evidently there are some other newspapers in this section which should rub their eyes.

Of course, the *Confederate* sees politics in the Durham grant, especially when Mount Forest was only allotted \$5,000, and asks: "Is Mount Forest, as has been suggested to us, working against a political undercurrent, while Durham has a strong undercurrent in its favor?"

There are none so blind as those who will not see. The *Confederate*, another of those politically "independent" newspapers, sees politics in nearly every move of the Ferguson Government, but its sight is poor. Any journal whose eyesight is so defective it cannot interpret simple English any better than the *Confederate* deciphered the news columns of the *Chronicle* should not undertake to inform its readers on so complicated a subject as politics.

There is a very good reason for the granting of \$12,500 to Durham and \$5,000 to Mount Forest, and it is not politics. A little study of the ordinary labor conditions in the two towns would explain everything, if one is not too biased to look into it impartially. Durham industries easily employ more than double the number of Mount Forest, with the consequent result that in times of stress unemployment is that much greater. In view of the vast amount of unemployment in the larger centres we think either Durham or Mount Forest have little to complain of in the administration of the Unemployment Fund.

If Mount Forest did not take advantage of the Government's offer, that is their business. But the fact that they were not willing to put up an additional \$5,000 of their own money must leave an outsider to believe that the unemployment situation could not have been very bad. In a season like this the spending of \$10,000 in wages and material is quite a boon to the laboring man, especially those who have had little better than hit-and-miss work all summer. If Durham did get \$12,500 from the Government, she is putting up \$37,500 of her own money to secure it, and for no other reason than to supply winter employment to some hundred-odd men who otherwise would have had a harder time getting along during the months when employment is scarce.

THE LIBERALS AND PROHIBITION

Rev. A. J. Irwin, through the Ontario Prohibition Union, has delivered to the Hon. W. E. N. Sinclair, Liberal leader of the Opposition in the Ontario Legislature, what is in effect an ultimatum. Mr. Sinclair and the Liberal party are to adopt the prohibition plank in the party platform, otherwise Mr. Irwin and the Union will launch a new political party and contest the election at the next elections to the Legislature.

We do not think Mr. Irwin has correctly judged Mr. Sinclair. The latter, as proved at the recent convention, is not a man to be led around by the nose by anyone, and while we do not profess to know what Mr. Sinclair will do we think we can make a very good guess. If he has any hesitancy he can look back to 1919 and see what the prohibition party did to Sir William Hearst. Like Sir William, he will find himself "out" and without even the customary vote of thanks from the Prohibition Union.

Another factor enters into the case. Again looking back to 1919 the people of Ontario can still remember quite plainly what happened when another

"third" party came into power. Like Poe's raven, the people of Ontario may well say, "Nevermore."

Mr. Sinclair as the leader of the Liberal party may go to the country on a prohibition platform, but he will do it on his own say-so. We fancy we know him well enough to predict that so long as he is the leader, he and the party will outline the destiny of the party without any advice from the outside.

Except in a few cases, we hear nothing but praise for the present Liquor Control Act. Prominent men throughout the country approve of it as compared with the old Ontario Temperance Act, and while nobody is foolish enough to think it one hundred per cent perfect, it has eliminated the big bootlegger.

This newspaper, however, has never come to the time when it did not champion the right of every man to think for himself and form his own opinions, but after an analysis of the situation from every angle we can think of, we are of the opinion that the present Liquor Control Act is about the best and sanest temperance legislation on the North American continent. It is not perfect by any means, but as the defects are found out, the Act is being changed from time to time with the idea of cutting down the consumption of liquor through education rather than by coercion.

This country at the present time is full of problems, and not the smallest by any means is the liquor question. It will take a lot of education, diplomacy and tact to stamp out the evil, which, in our opinion is only augmented by coercive legislation.

RAILWAYS VS TRUCKS

There has been considerable controversy of late years as to how the railroads were going to come out financially after the various trucking companies get through with them. There is little doubt these motor transports have been the cause of vanishing dividends in railroad circles, but it is our humble opinion the railroads themselves have not been altogether blameless. Railroads have too many officials who can look at things from only one angle—their own. One of the big enemies of railroad shipments today is the various classifications into which merchandise is classed. Take, for example, something that came under our notice the other day. A local dealer in feeds and the like received a shipment of oil cake meal and flaxseed. The oil cake meal is a flaxseed by-product. The freight rate on the oil cake was 20 1/2¢; on the flaxseed 41 1/2¢. This is caused by the so-called "Classification" system adopted by the railroads. Why should it cost 21¢ per hundredweight more to ship flaxseed than oil cake? No one but the "classification" men on the railroad can tell, and they cannot explain it convincingly to the general public.

The introduction of the motor truck into the transportation business has changed all this. The motor trucking companies do not care whether it is oil cake or flaxseed, pig iron or crushed stone. It is so much per hundred. One can understand the difference in classification between furniture, which is light and bulky, and lumber, which is compact, but some of the other classifications are not understandable.

Why should it cost more to ship printed paper by freight than paper that is plain? Someone may answer that the risk on the printed product is greater. Supposing it is? Then, tell us why one can ship flour from Durham to Priceville for 11 1/2¢ a hundred, while the price for oyster shell is 18¢? Surely the flour is more valuable than the oyster shell!

We are not writing this with the intention of getting into any argument. We don't know anything about it. Perhaps the railroads are right, but the general public does not think so, and is turning to trucks as a part solution of the high overhead in business.

From this distance it looks as if the railroads will have to readjust their business programmes. The trucking companies are cutting into their transportation business and will continue to do so under present conditions. The trucking service brings your goods from the wholesale warehouse to your door. You have no cartage charges to pay. And what cartage charges those city draymen charge, with neither the wholesalers nor the railways caring a hoot! Shipping from Durham to Toronto the other day, freight prepaid, it cost us 40 cents to have a certain piece of freight delivered. The same paper, in the same box, shipped to us in Durham from a Toronto wholesale house, cost us 75 cents cartage charges in Toronto. Why the difference?

No one has any fault to find with the railway freight rates. It is the charges at both ends of the point of shipment that cause the trouble. We had a shipment delivered to us the other day for \$1.25 by truck that would, with the cartage charges at both ends, have cost us slightly over \$3.00 by freight. Would it not be well for the railroads to get after some of this stuff? Why not have both our railway systems put a transfer company, cartage agent, or whatever you may want to call it, in some of the larger wholesale centres, and thus compete with the motor trucks by seeing that the rural business men get a square deal in cartage charges? We understand this system is followed by some railroads in the States, and with good success. This plan might not be ethical, but who pays any attention to this kind of thing nowadays?

Since the above was written we have learned from a railroad official that some such scheme is being given consideration at the present time, and that it is possible a solution may be forthcoming in the very near future.

OTHER PAPERS' OPINIONS

High Taxes Worth While?

Taxes are immensely high in most towns today in comparison with 25 years ago. But what did the ratepayer get a generation ago for his taxes? Those were the days of plank sidewalks, when the streets were paved with sticky mud. In many towns we had the family well with its periodic epidemic of typhoid. There was no electric power lighting streets or homes, no water-works, no cement sidewalks, no paved streets. Who would care to revert to the low taxes of those days, and the service that went with it? Any town that tried it in these days of modern competition would soon have moss growing on its main streets.—St. Mary's Journal Argus.

Unightly Signs

In spite of the widely advertised "code of ety" adopted some time ago by the billboard promoters, their habit of defacing the landscape and encroaching upon residential sections has by no means been abandoned.

Public sentiment has been so aroused in opposition to the billboard nuisance that a national committee has been appointed in the United States for restriction of outdoor advertising and is making a vigorous campaign against the unsightly sign-boards which glare at one on every hand.

Appeals are being made to advertisers direct, it being pointed out that an offensive advertising sign makes ill-will for the advertiser and tends to hurt rather than help his business.

Roger Babson, noted economist, is convinced that advertising is a cure for many of the business ills affecting the country today. He says: "As one who has studied business depression in life rather than in libraries, I see in current conditions the need for advertising. There's nothing wrong with the patient but poor circulation. Money is being held instead of circulated. Advertising is ideally fitted and competent to accelerate the situation. It is the most effective known force for accomplishing the speeding up of money and thereby giving us more business at times when more business is the nation's greatest need."—Walker-Ton Telescope.

What About Moscow?

Hon. Harry Cockshutt, a former Lieut.-Governor of Ontario, in a recent address in Windsor, said there should be one more war for the purpose of cleaning up Moscow. Involving other nations in more war debt to suppress communism in Russia would, temporarily at least, crush the spirit of the Russian Reds but it would encourage communism in the debt-ridden countries that undertook by force of arms to squelch the Soviet government of Moscow.

With all due respect to Harry Cockshutt's opinion we think he is on the wrong track. For foreign nations to intervene in Russian affairs would only unite the people of that country in a war of patriots against invasion. Russian freedom must come by revolution from within as history shows other nations have secured freedom. It will require longer by the revolutionary process but it is the surer way toward responsible government and in the meantime the people of Russia will have to pass through the fire of persecution and injustice as did the people of England nearly 250 years ago as citizens of many another country have done since that time.

In these days of so many peace conferences we are surprised that any one who was once the King's representative in Ontario should advocate another war in order to settle the domestic affairs of Red Russia.—Chesley Enterprise.

Ontario Without Ferguson

All signs point to a sweeping change in the public life of Ontario as Premier Ferguson departs to the High Commissioner's office in London. A powerful personality disappears from Provincial politics after years of domination. A "dictator" leaves the scene on his own decision.

The *Globe* has differed from Mr. Ferguson's policies and methods on many occasions, but it recognizes his force of will, his shrewdness, earnestness of purpose and political capacity. It recognizes also his zeal in administration and his devotion to the Empire, and looks for years of stimulating service in his widened sphere.

The Premier in youth was likened to "Peck's Bad Boy" by "old Fred" the pensioned family horse at Kemptville, in the racy interview written the other day by a staff correspondent of The *Globe*. Some of the same qualities must have continued in modification, for the Ferguson of later years loved a "scrap" defied his opponents, and once boasted that as Minister he was superior to Government regulations.

His Department was investigated and criticized during the Drury regime, but he emerged triumphant at the next election. He supported the Ontario Temperance Act of war days, only to recast the social life of the Province by a policy of easy liquor sale under Government auspices after he assumed power. He upheld a great Hydro organization under Sir Adam Beck, and since Beck's death has made himself the chief mouthpiece for the municipalities' Commission.

Mr. Ferguson has been turbulent in Opposition, aggressive as Leader, ever ready to "carry the war into Africa". So complete was his domination that a hard-pressed Toronto Mayor would pass a by-law on a telephone promise from Mr. Ferguson that it would be confirmed at the next Legislature session.

The Premier has enjoyed power without pomp, and imposed iron rule without mutiny. While dominating his followers, he unhorsed a Federal Leader of his own party whose policy he disapproved, and then refused the chance to succeed him. Yet he was resisted and foiled by a little body of rural Trustees, who refused to accept Township School Boards. Village Hampden's succeeded where the nation's great have failed to balk his will.

One of Mr. Ferguson's Ministers has gleefully declared that "We Tories like to be ordered around by a strong Leader." What becomes of a party



MERRILL DENISON

Noted Canadian playwright who advises budding genius to look to the radio and the "talkies" rather than the legitimate stage, for financial return for dramatic effort. Mr. Denison practices what he preaches. He is the author of the popular, "Maple Centre, Riding, Driving and Free-sliding Association" radio skits, and one of the foremost Canadians in the new profession of radio writing.

when its strong Leader departs? Will there be quiet, inertia, internal strife? Or will new leadership qualities hitherto undiscovered emerge under "this new freedom"? Is there a Crown Prince in training ready to maintain Ferguson traditions and methods? Party loyalty has been as unquestioned as its servility. Can the machine survive the withdrawal of its controlling personality? Can the chain be as strong without its strongest link?

Opposing parties may rejoice at Mr. Ferguson's departure as an opponent, but they will lament his absence as a colorful, dynamic personality. On the face of it, Ontario politics will lack strife, snap and verve, and the Legislature may be expected to drop in public interest.

Yes; it will be different.—Toronto *Globe*.

UNLUCKY FRIDAY?

There is an old superstition that Friday is an unlucky day. Many persons will not begin a new piece of work on Friday, or get married on Friday. No, contrary to the rule of this superstition, Friday has always been an unusually lucky day in the history of the new world. Here are just some of the events that occurred on Friday:

Friday, August 3rd, 1492, Columbus set sail from Palos, Spain.

Friday, October 12, 1492, Columbus discovered land.

Friday, January 4, 1493, Columbus sailed on return.

Friday, November 22, 1493, Columbus landed at Espanola on second voyage to America.

Friday, June 12th, 1494, Columbus discovered mainland of South America.

Friday, November 10, 1620 the Mayflower reached the harbor of Provincetown.

Friday, December 22, 1620 the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock.

CANADIAN LAWS BANISH "REDS"

So Said Noted Priest, Rev. Father McGrath, in Sermon Last Sunday Evening.—Toronto Police Action is Upheld.—No More Propaganda For Canada From Moscow.

"Is Revolution Coming?" was the subject of the first of a series of Catholic Truth sermons by Rev. William C. McGrath, in St. Francis Church, Grace and Mansfield Streets, Toronto, last Sunday evening.

As far as Canada is concerned the subject of revolution is hardly worthy of serious consideration, in the opinion of the speaker. "The Communists know they are licked, as they have stopped sending money to Canada for purposes of propaganda," said Father McGrath. They are beginning to find out what Chicago gangsters have long since realized—that Canada is an unhealthy place for those whose object is the overthrow of everything that is sacred in our civilization.

"Many cities condemned the Toronto police force," the speaker continued, "for their way of dealing with the Toronto Communists. But those cities have long since adopted the same methods and have found from their own experience that it is dangerous to compromise with a rattlesnake."

The ghastly example of the Russian experiment and the fact that Canada is a Christian country, both made revolution impossible, he said. "The spirit of Canada is still the hale and vigorous spirit of the pioneer which does not tear down, but builds up."

Father McGrath referred to the abuses of capitalism which the Catholic church loudly condemned and deplored the fact that charity meant nothing in a world which had rejected Christianity. "I see no hope for a permanent solution of our troubles until mankind is again led back to God, and the only path is the pathway of world disaster," he said. Referring to the fact that there were more men under arms today than before the last war, he stated that disaster in the shape of another war may not be so far away.

The speaker outlined the Catholic principles in regard to the right to private property and the obligations of the rich to support the needy out of the superabundance of their wealth. The obligation, the speaker said, was an obligation of charity and was for the most part universally ignored, the whole object of many wealthy concerns being to increase the wealth of a few individuals without regard for the welfare of the poor.

He Won

Two tramps, walking along the railroad, found a bottle of high-powered moonshine. One took a drink and passed it to the other. And so forth, until the bottle was empty.

After a while one puffed out his chest and said: "You know, Bill, tomorrow I'm going to buy this railroad. I'm going to buy all the railroads in the country, all the automobiles, all the steamships, everything. What do you think of that?"

Bill looked at his companion disparagingly and replied:

"Impossible; can't do it."

"Why not?"

"I won't sell."

PLAY SAFE--Insure

THERE are many risks when motoring on our Provincial Highways today. You are wholly responsible for any damage your car may do, whether driven by yourself or not. Why not let us, through a good Insurance Company, carry your risk?

We carry nothing but the best insurance. We do not sell any of the "how cheap" kind. But we do guarantee that our insurance policy relieves you of any financial risk without quibbling or side-stepping.

There may be insurance as good as ours, but there is nothing sold that is any better.

FRANK IRWIN, Durham FIRE and CASUALTY INSURANCE



ON THE SPOT

Doctor! Doctor! I was playing de mouth organ an' swallowed it!" "Keep calm, sir, and be thankful you were not playing the piano!" —The London Opinion

HARD TIMES PREVALE IN UNITED ST

Miss Macphail Gives Experience Detroit, St. Louis and Centres.—Returned to Her Ceylon Last Week.

Detroit is largely a one industry—automobiles and still more bills form its principal export. Hard times people do not change cars, nor is it a time when they never owned a motor purchase. All this results in great unemployment. Every one was talking hard times. I saw long queues of men at relief employment agency and Relief Unemployment is an unhappy in all American cities this winter estimated that in Philadelphia 125,000 bread winners will be unemployed. In New York the unemployment selling apples at five cents a peck, familiar sight at almost every place. In the great metropolis, part of the white collared worker is the ranks of the jobless. Poor fine academic training for a time find themselves destitute.

People everywhere are seeking cause of the general distress caused by the tariffs, they ask are not as sure as they were years ago that buying the home product is the whole solution, do that always who is to buy exportable surpluses? Too, people have never been socialistic—thought are questioning whether super-machine age we can control to rest in the hands of bringing them great wealth. The masses uncertainty and unemployment result. I heard several question also, the wisdom of being to stick to the gold standard basis for money. I am inclined with Richard De Brissay who very excellent editorials in the *Forum*. "The new industrialism has brought us to a point there is no longer enough credit in the world to enable us to consume the products of our equipped labor."

War debts are by many people admitted to be a cause of the depression but United States is goodish way from being willing to cancel war debts. When M. C. L.

It is n think

CHR C

Our sto we have to offer Greeting

THE

McFADDE Chr

Our large sto makes our for CHE

Puret

One teaspoonful is equi of whole milk, or nine e

NEW

COLORED IVORY, CHINA

Pepper Marasc

Buy your C.P.

Mc

The Rexall Drug