

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, January 7, 1932

FRIENDSHIP, WHAT IS IT?

What a foolish question. Anyone knows what friendship means. If they do not, it is an easy thing to turn to a dictionary. Here they will find that friendship is "a friendly relation, or attachment, to a person, or between persons." So far, so good, but we feel that if this is the correct definition it is not quite enough.

There is quite a difference between having a friendship with a person and merely being friendly with him. Friendship means much more. A person can be friendly with another man and not have very much interest in him. He may feel sorry for some misfortune, but further than that, there is nothing between them that calls for more than a mere expression of sympathy.

Hardly so with friendship. True friendship demands there be something more than a mere shake of the hand and an "I'm sorry". If you are truly possessed of a "friendship" for someone you will not stop at words of sympathy.

So, we believe, it should be. There are far too many people who are willing to be friendly, providing they can use it to their own advantage. We have all met this class. They are what are known as fair weather friends. So long as the sea is calm and the sun shining they will bask with you; but let a storm cloud appear and the waves begin to roll and they scamper for cover.

We believe this line of thought could be continued indefinitely. We can have a real friendship for others than people. We should have a friendship for our public institutions. Like humans, they are liable to slip occasionally. Why then condemn them? Would you cast aside and criticize a friend who wavered for an instant? Not if you were his true friend, you wouldn't. Neither should you condemn a society, a church, a hotel, a hospital, or a thousand and one other things because on some occasion they may have wavered in the path of duty. This is the time they want and need your sympathy. True friendship never wavers except under exceptional circumstances or conditions. The friends in prosperity are not worth so much as the friends of adversity. It takes a little hard luck to cause a fellow to find out who his real friends are. Probably they are the ones who refused to make a fuss over him when the sledding was good, but they are there on the job when the butterfly variety have taken their departure.

We have often heard it said that a man can get along without his relatives, but he simply cannot go far without good neighbors—and friends.

A real friend is worth more than words can tell, so if you have been particularly friendly with some one in the past, don't reveal that you are little more than a cad by turning your back when he meets with some adversity.

We have little sympathy for those fellows who want to hang around you when your money is flush, and then take to the tall timbers when it is all spent and they think you'll soon be needing a hand-out.

True friendship is not weakened by adversity, and the man whose friendship is worth anything is the fellow who stands with you, right or wrong. If you have a friend like this, value him; don't let idle rumor or temporary backsliding allow you to desert him.

HARD DAYS ON BUSINESS

Manufacturing establishments employing labor are having rather hard sledding these days. When times are good one gets an earful of the immense profits some concerns are making, but when they are poor and market conditions almost unbelievable, about the only thing the employer of labor hears is his duty to his employees, and the furnishing of as much work as possible that conditions may not get worse.

The general run of employers have been having a merry time of it these past three or four years. The scarcity of money has in part curtailed the buying power of the general public, and production must be cut down if the market is not to be flooded. Still the factory must be kept working, as much employment furnished as possible, and this whether or not the business will warrant it. There are today many factories in North America running for no other reason than their duty to employees. It is

a disastrous condition when manufactured goods cannot be sold; it is more disastrous when those who depend upon their daily toil for the furnishing of their daily bread are thrown out on the street. Generally speaking, manufacturers are doing all in their power to keep their plants running, the most of them expressing satisfaction if they break even. All hope of profits has been abandoned.

While prices may not be down where they fit in with the spending power of the people, they are down quite a lot as compared with 1920. To bring them any lower in a good many instances would mean ultimate insolvency, a condition worse by far than part time labor.

THE PRICE OF FURNITURE

There are few of us who have not heard the statement that the prices of manufactured products have not come down in the same ratio as other things but this is not so with furniture. We have before us a copy of the Furniture Journal for January, and there is an interesting comparison there of the prices of today compared with those of 1917, when they were normal, and 1920, when they were at their "peak".

A survey of the furniture situation reveals that prices are now 20 per cent below the 1917 level, and 65 per cent below the 1920 level. This drop does not seem to be in any particular line, but all lines have fallen. Plain oak dressers sell for 73 per cent less than in 1920, arm chairs 53 per cent, office chairs 36 per cent, and other articles of furniture at a similar discount.

Not only wood furniture has dropped in price, but metal as well. Metal beds have dropped 59 per cent in one style and 64 per cent in another. Every room in the house is represented in the reduction in price, while chests, tables and every other kind of furniture is down from 35 to 60 per cent. You may believe it or not, but this is true.

THOSE CHAIN LETTERS

We notice that Sir Robert Baden-Powell, head of the Boy Scouts, has advised all Scouts to throw any "chain" letters received, into the waste basket. A good suggestion. If there was ever a fool idea originated, the chain letter is one of them. While we live in an age of enlightenment, there are still people sufficiently superstitious to carry out the requests of these nonsensical communications under fear of the consequences. Take it from us, there is nothing in it.

We were in the Durham post office the other day when a man lifted one for his young daughter. Upon being asked what we would do with it we had no hesitancy in replying the waste basket was the proper place for it. The young woman in the case was just at that age when she might answer it if delivered, but she never got it.

Chain letters are foolish things which only give unnecessary work to those inclined to answer them, and accomplish nothing.

ABOLISHING MIDWAYS

One of our exchanges asks if midway shows should be abolished in these times of tight money, and says legislation of this kind is being considered by Kitchener and Stratford. The old argument that they take too much money out of town is used.

The midway business, like any other, is an established one, and it is a question if the prohibiting of them showing their wares is a sporting one. While they are a travelling organization, they pay a provincial license, are also assessed for a fee by the towns in which they exhibit, and are, we suppose, entitled to make a living provided they do it honestly. If they take too much money out of town now, what must they do when times are normal?

The same might be said of travelling concert troops, or movie films, or legitimate stage actors. They are all in the "amusement" class, and to us it seems narrow to pick the midway out of the lot.

With money as scarce as it is, it might be further argued that all towns should live within themselves. A business man in one town should not be allowed to ship his goods into another town—because he takes too much money out for what he spends.

To our mind the municipality might better increase the license fee. Even in times of depression, prohibition methods can not make a man spend his money other than he desires, and if he has no more brains than to spend in amusements that which should go to his family for necessities, we cannot see that municipal prohibition enactments can help much.

ONLY ONE WAY TO MAKE A LIVING

Joie Ray, thrice Olympic hero for the United States, is at present in a dancing marathon to earn enough money to eat. He says the butcher and the baker would not take his trophies, and that "You can't keep the wolf from your door

with medals." No doubt there are many who will think United States ungrateful in allowing one of her Olympic heroes to come to such condition as to have to dance for a living, but why blame the U. S. A.? Joie should have learned to do something useful in his youth so that now, in his 37th year, he would be able to make his living the same as a lot of the rest of us—by hard work.

There are altogether too many people in the public eye who think winning two or three medals at the Olympiad, or elsewhere, should entitle them to bask in the sunshine of laziness. They should blame themselves rather than their country.

A baker at Hawkesbury, near Ottawa, cast his vote on Monday and then went home and shot himself. The candidate must have been worse than useless to make a man do that.

The week-end snowfall in Montreal cost the city \$78,000. It's an all snow that doesn't blow somebody some good, was no doubt the song of the unemployed in the Quebec city.

And now investigators tell us that sweeping the ice in front of a curling stone does not increase the distance travelled. What of it? Curling, without the sweeping and roaring, would not be curling.

Two noted members of the fourth estate passed away this week in the persons of Irving E. Robertson, editor-in-chief of the Toronto Telegram, and J. K. Munro, Ottawa correspondent of the same newspaper. Both men were high in the esteem of the newspaper fraternity, and the Telegram has suffered a heavy loss in their deaths.

We received our annual Christmas box from the church last week—the little fellow with the duplex envelopes labelled "The Lord's Treasury"—you know the kind. One envelope is "For the Support of the church", the other "for the Extension of the Kingdom". Our linotype operator says this latter is wrong. From the contributions of some people it should read "extinction" instead of "extension".

Those in Ontario who think their motor license plates are too dear will be surprised to learn we in this province have the cheapest in Canada. In Prince Edward Island, the next lowest, licenses that cost \$12 in Ontario cost \$18.40; in Nova Scotia, the highest, the cost is \$43.70. With her hundreds of miles of improved and paved highways, Ontario motorists have the advantage.

The Liquor Control Board has ruled wisely that it is not a breach of the Act to make wines in the home for home consumption. As far back as the writer can remember, and even in the pre-prohibition days, it was the custom in many families to make their supply of light wines. It would indeed seem like a most arbitrary law that would now take this privilege from them. No prosecutions will follow unless there is a suspicion of sale.

Some day we expect there will arise in this land a historian who will complete a book on Canadian history and include among Canada's immortals the greatest of Ontario's women heroes, Laura Secord. These "eminent" historians who attempt to upset what all Canada has known up to a few months ago, that Laura Secord did make the trip to Beaver Dam, remind one of the "expert" who came up from the city to repair the farmer's binder. After watching him work for a time the tiller of the soil decided that an expert was "a very ordinary man a long way from home." Dr. Wallace is a long way from home, so far as the Ontario public is concerned, and the memory of Laura Secord will linger in Canadian history long years after some of those who deny her are forgotten.

Toronto the Good

There were no bank robberies in Toronto last year, thus emphasizing the fact that it becomes harder and harder to get any money out of banks.—Toronto Mail and Empire.

Curdled by Crooners

Scientists declare milk can be pasteurized with sound waves. There would, however, be the risk that it would curdle if present-day crooners were employed to do the job.—Hamilton Spectator

Obtained Results

John D. Rockefeller received a refund of \$31,324 from the United States treasury on his income taxes. It would be worth something to know how John D. worded his letter.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

An Amusing Debate

The debate in the United States Senate as to whether Germany will be granted a further debt moratorium is amusing. The moratorium is in effect, anyway, for the very good reason that Germany couldn't pay if she were asked to.—London Free Press

Coming to Canada

Something like 200 United States industries have established branch factories in Canada during the past year. They came here because of the Canadian tariff against United States goods, and they brought with them work and wages and purchasing power for Canadians.—Ottawa Journal.

U. S. Railways Seek Aid

Canada is not alone in having a railway problem. While a Royal Commission on Railways has been travelling from West to East holding hearings on Canadian railway problems, a committee of the United States Senate has been listening to the testimony of United States railway heads in favor of advances from public funds to United States railways to tide them over a difficult period.—Kingston Whig

OTHER PAPERS' OPINIONS

What is to Become of the C.N.R.?
One of the troubles with the C. N. R. managers is that they are becoming fossilized. They got so dignified because of people always having to go to them that now when they have a new kind of competition they do not know what to do. No doubt Canada is going to grow and develop and we need railways if they can be of service to the people. But to remain in existence they have to realize conditions have changed for them. They have to get into the transportation business. Coal oil manufacturers started making gasoline when internal combustion engines came—carriage and wagon makers turned to making automobiles. Dozens of other instances can be given where the manufacturing companies changed their products to meet new conditions. Those that didn't failed. If the railways will get into the transportation business, give the public the service required, reorganize their methods and abolish a lot of the heavy cumbersome officials and rolling stock and put in their places producers that do not eat their heads off, there may be hope for the C.N.R. yet.—Kincairdine News.

Merchants Becoming National Advertising Conscious

The time was, not so many years ago, that the only outside advertising appearing in local newspapers was patent medicine advertising. But all that has changed. Many great national advertisers have awakened to the fact that the metropolitan newspapers are not alone sufficient to carry their message to the people of the towns and rural field. They realize that such remote publicity should be supplemented by the close-up contact of the home town weekly. Many automobile and radio manufacturers have adopted the plan of spending a fixed sum for advertising in the local dealer's community for every machine sold by the dealer. Plans of this character have worked well for the dealer. He has been encouraged by the fact that the sinew provided by his sales has been used to stimulate further sales in his own district. He also appreciated the fact that a manufacturer's ad with the dealer's name attached made a valuable tie-up to a campaign in the metropolitan papers and national magazines. It shows the prospective customer there the goods are to be had and is a real stimulant to actual sales. Incidentally the local dealer has become sensitive about having the proceeds of his sales used to pay for advertising in the large centres. When a district salesman tells him that the company is backing up the dealer with a campaign in the metropolitan papers and national magazines, the local man is pt to come back: "That's all very well, but if you want me to handle your line you must advertise in our local newspaper."

The manufacturer on his side is coming to realize that the local dealer appreciates very much this form of co-operation. He further realizes that it is not necessary to take a full page spread to attract attention because of the nature of the local newspaper, which is not merely glanced through and tossed aside like the huge city editions, but is read with close personal interest by every member of the family.

INVESTMENT

A New York man made an investment of \$300. He has nothing to show for it. He will receive no interest. He knows he will never see the \$300 again—and yet he considers it an exceptionally satisfactory investment!

This is the story: Some years ago a talented student of sculpture was down to her last cent and was about to give up her studies. The New York man offered to advance her \$300 with the understanding that when she "got on her feet" she was to pass that amount on to someone in need.

That woman, now well known in her field, handed \$300 to an art student who finished school and became established. She, in turn, hearing of a business woman who had been offered a good position on the Pacific coast, but did not have the money to go to it, handed her the \$300.

The business woman made good and in a short time handed the \$300 to another woman whose need was great.

Three women well established and a fourth given a start! It looks as if the \$300 would continue through the years as an investment in the gold bonds of friendship.

Mid-Summer Madness

"Mummy, why did you marry Daddy?"
"Oh so you've begun to wonder, too."

BERMUDA REMAINS AUTOLESS

Hypersensitive pedestrians who visit, or hope to some day visit Bermuda, rejoice in an item of news from the lovely tropical colony, the oldest of all British colonies.

Bermuda has just completed a fine railway to carry passengers back and forth across its fair domain; but Bermuda will not weaken in its determination to bar automobiles from desecrating the charms of nature. Horses and carriages and bicycles and human foot remain the only forms of transportation in Bermuda, apart from the silent, smooth and smokeless railway.

OLD MONEY

Although various sovereign states have been bringing out coins for the past 2,000 years or so, no coinage has enjoyed the continuity given to coins issued by the popes. The first papal coins are said to have been struck during the reign of Pope Hadrian, about 791 A.D., circulating not only in the papal states but beyond, due to the temporal power by the popes from time of Hadrian down to the end of their temporal power, far longer than the coinage of any other state authority.

A WORD FOR THE DOG

I've never known a dog to fake Affection for a present gain. A false display of love to make Some little favor to attain. I've never known a Prince or Spot That seemed to be what he was not.

But I have known a dog to fight With all his strength to shield his friend.

And whether wrong or whether right To stick with him unto the end, And I have known a dog to lick The hand of him that men would kick.

And I have known a dog to bear Starvation's pangs from day to day, With him who had been glad to share His bread and meat along the way. No dog, however mean or rude, Is guilty of ingratitude.

The dog is listed with the dumb No voice has he to speak his creed His messages to humans come By faithful conduct and by deed. He shows as seldom mortals do, A high ideal of being true.

—Edward A. Guest.

POTATO ALCOHOL

In an effort to promote the production of alcohol from potatoes in Germany, thereby effectively helping the farmer, the German government has decreed that all gasoline sold as fuel must contain 6 per cent of pure alcohol.

January Clearing Bargains

- Sweater Wool, all shades, 10c
- 1 oz. ball
- Wheeling Yarn, lb. 59c
- 15c Stamped Goods
- Buffet Sets
- Centre Pieces
- Table Runners
- Cushion Tops
- 15c each
- Stationery Specials
- Fold over table 35c
- 2 pkgs. Envelopes to match at 15c—30c
- 65c
- All for 36c
- Wood Clothes Pins, 5 doz. 15c
- See our special 97 piece dinner sets at \$17.50
- Special—23-piece Tea Set at \$1.98
- Infant's Delight, 4 cakes 25c

The Variety Store
R. L. Saunders, Prop.
PHONE 4 DURHAM

Featuring Economy

FORD

3000 ROOMS IN FIVE SINGLE

\$1.50 to NO HI MONEY SA POSTED IN

FOR AN ECON PLAN TO

BUFFALO
Delaware Ave. near Chippewa St.
750 ROOMS

ROCHESTER
Elm and Chestnut Sts.
350 ROOMS

ERIE, PENN.
State St. at Perry Square
400 ROOMS

TORONTO
Bay at Dundas St.
750 ROOMS
DAILY IN EVERY ROOM

MONTREAL
Dufferin St. at Beaudry
750 ROOMS
DAILY IN EVERY ROOM

TELS