

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, February 25, 1932

JAPAN—CHINA WAR NOT SERIOUS

Despite the alarming headlines in some of the daily papers, we do not believe the so-called war at present being waged by Japan against China will involve any of the world powers in the trouble. There is not sufficient at stake. That the boycott of the Chinese against Japanese goods caused the trouble is not generally believed. The real fact is that Japan, a country of approximately 85 millions, is too small for her population. She wants more territory, and Manchuria appeals to her. While a great deal has been said by the leading powers, and the League of Nations has attempted to deal with the situation, it is problematical if either Britain or the United States are sufficiently interested to go to war with the Japanese to end the trouble.

The Yellow Peril is something that has loomed in the East for the past three or four decades. It has spread to British Columbia and the Western United States, neither of which wants the Japanese as citizens. Asiatics are not popular in either place. The question now arises if it is not better to allow Japan to expand in Manchuria than to have the continued immigration squabbles of the past 25 years.

International affairs have many angles, and while the United States may have the idea that Japan has an eye on the Philippines she may also consider that if she gets control of Manchuria she will be kept busy for a good many years in colonizing plans for her new possession. There is no doubt that the Japanese have for years had the idea they are the logical custodians of the East, but this present trouble may allay rather than foment further anti-white agitation—providing Japan gets Manchuria.

The statement of the United States that she stands for the open door in China does not mean very much from a nation that has slammed her own, so she cannot very well expect the world to rush to her aid in demanding something which she will not concede herself. In the 1904 Russian-Japanese war eighty per cent. of the population of the States were rooting for Japan to win, and the writer can very well remember the arguments when he insinuated to some that the day might come when they might rue their choice. Apparently it is here now.

No, we do not look for many complications in the present war, or whatever it is one may call it. It is a strictly local affair.

SHIFTS THE RESPONSIBILITY

The last issue of the Fergus News-Record does not agree with the Chronicle that it is the people who are really to blame for so many uncalled-for pensions being granted because they fail to report the matter to their central committee, and suggests that perhaps one good way would be to have the county board publish a full list of the pensioners and then ask for information. A little publicity, it contends, would stop a lot of applications.

Well, we are not concerned just how the end is to be accomplished so long as we can hold this admirable scheme down to where it belongs and weed out the grafters. We might agree with the News-Record for one thing. Who will pay for the publication of these lists of names? The newspaper, of course. The office will be visited by members of the county board who will proceed to tell us that the publication of the pension list is a matter of public interest, that it has a news value, the paper has to be filled up anyway, and "isn't this list a whole lot more interesting than a lot of the stuff you print, anyway?" The scheme will develop arguments and there will be no end of trouble.

We think, too, that it might not be wise to publish the names of those who are really entitled to the pension, as we do not believe it is the intention to humiliate anyone. If one knew which names to publish, what a boon it would be! But in the interests of the Act, perhaps we might have to sacrifice the feelings of the deserving to mete out justice to those who apply for the pension because they think they can get away with it.

Sometimes drastic methods, while not strictly ethical, are highly effective.

We may have been wrong when we said the responsibility was on the voters, but we still

stick to our contention that when it comes time to foot the bill, "the responsibility is on the voters".

POWER AT COST

"It does seem hard to understand, remarks the Midland Free Press, how the Ontario Hydro can heap up large sums and continue to preach "power and light at cost." Most people understand "cost" means the amount actually required for the production of an article, but the Ontario Hydro must have a more advanced method of calculating. Just as heretofore said by the Bulletin."—Collingwood Bulletin.

We do not know if the Midland or Collingwood papers would advocate that the hydro pay back to the users each year all money collected above the actual running of the service, but we do not think they would entertain such an idea. Without the "large sums" referred to by the Midland paper, we are afraid the patrons of hydro would never know what their next month's rate would be. There simply must be a sinking fund to take care of storm damages and any extraordinary expenditure that may arise, or, if not, a continuous fluctuation in rates to users, which would not be satisfactory. This is the reason why the Durham Hydro Commission is not allowed to reduce the rates, but, rather, rebates two months' bills occasionally. It is easy to lower the rates, but most unpopular to have to raise them.

We believe, also, the Ontario Commission is wise in making municipalities carry an adequate sinking fund. They can then make necessary extensions from time to time with no increase in cost to users. We have every hope that in time the Ontario hydro will be the whole property of the people, and that some years hence there will be no government-guaranteed bonds. When this time comes it is not unreasonable to expect each municipality to have sufficient sinking fund to finance its own extensions and in case of serious mishap have the funds to go ahead with repairs without having again to call on the government for a guarantee of debentures.

Although there seems to be dissatisfaction with the hydro in some quarters, we have every confidence that it is being run on a sound financial basis, and while there are many things about it we do not understand, we do not feel that we are sufficiently acquainted with matters of this kind to offer too strict a criticism.

For one thing, we cannot see how the price of "power at cost" is less for a house lighting service than for commercial use, but take it that in the case of the former the house lighting is considered a convenience and an expense, while in the case of business there is the hope of making money out of it. In the former, the poorer householder receives his lighting a little cheaper, and the man who uses it in his business pays the difference. We don't know, but we have always taken it that way.

Anyway, we have never had the idea we could make a better job of running the hydro than either the present or past officials, even if they were contented to resign and let us do it. The big thing with us is that the hydro has given us something we could never have had under any other arrangement. It has equipped our office with labor-saving equipment we could never have otherwise enjoyed, and at a price far below. This is the main thing, and we have never had the time, inclination, or the brains to argue about the finer points of the business.

In the Chronicle office we have motors totalling nearly seven horsepower. This does not include our lighting service for the office or for the house. But for all this, the two months' bill never goes above thirty to thirty-five dollars. When one considers that for this he can run his whole machinery, have plenty of lights, with washing machine, iron, toaster, and other conveniences in his home, he should have little complaint, and this office, with the general public, is more concerned with the dollars and cents expenditure than with the intricate management of so vast a system about which it knows nothing, and of which, we doubt, we have the ability to learn.

THE SKATING CARNIVAL

Ye Editor and wife were in attendance at the annual skating carnival of the Toronto Skating Club on Monday evening, the function this year being held for the first time in the new Maple Leaf Gardens. Frankly, we never saw anything like it before, and in watching the skaters, many of them just returned from the competitions at Lake Placid, N.Y., we were forced to the opinion that few, very few, people in either city or country are good skaters, or get the enjoyment out of this pastime that they should. Exhibitions were given by various champions in singles and doubles, with the addition of several feature numbers by the members of the club, large and small. Among those present were Karl Schafer, Austria; Fritz Burger, Austria; Mrs. Norman Samuel, To-

ronto; Vivi-Anne Hulten, Sweden; Montgomery Wilson, Toronto; Ernest Baier, Germany; Magdalen Colledge, England; Laszlo Szolla and Emilia Rotter, Hungary, as well as exhibitions by other prominent Toronto skaters.

It was a wonderful exhibition, worth going miles to see, and a perfect demonstration of what can be done on skates. We are glad we were there, and among the 15,000 patrons who thronged the new Gardens, one of the best on the North American continent.

With Germany, Italy, France and possibly Russia in the market for wheat, the prospects for Canada's wheat farmers grow brighter.

A cable from China says she may yet accept Canada airmen's plan. Well she might. There's nothing like them.

A greater Canadian National Exhibition is prophesied. Must be going to add another swim entry to the prize list!

Not only the Yanks and the Canadians sympathize with China. Now comes word that the Germans, too, are boosting for China.

A Toronto pastor believes it is right for a hungry man to steal. Perhaps the pastor is hungry.

Ontario hockey teams have been having a hard time getting ice, but conditions seem improved. We have had four days this winter without a thaw, and it all happened this week.

A cable dispatch tells us that "Waterloo Bridge is Doomed". How sad! But how much sadder if it were: "Contract Bridge is Doomed"?

Scientists are said to be constructing a seven-foot rocket to be shot off in the direction of the moon. This, we suppose, is what is known as scientific moonshine.

The Chesley Enterprise, with a bill of \$25.34 for two months' house lighting and office power, declares itself as not in favor of the proposed new power plant tax. Now we can ask how in time can the Enterprise keep its hydro expense bill down so low?

Ice conditions in Thunder Bay indicate an early break-up and opening of navigation for 1932. Ice is 14 inches thick this year, as compared with 26 to 30 inches in normal years. Ice in this part of Ontario will be the poorest crop in years.

Sir Malcolm Campbell made a new motor car record yesterday when he drove his machine something over 253 miles an hour on the beach at Daytona, Florida. It will take the world quite a time to reach the British yet for speed.

Chinese parents in Toronto are protesting against their sons training in a Toronto airport, going to take part in the war in China. China, too, must be changing. Only a few short years ago it was considered an honor to die for the honor of one's ancestors in the Celestial Kingdom.

Eamonn de Valera, leader of the Republican forces in Ireland, defeated the Government of W. T. Cosgrave, for the past nine years the president. We shall now see what is in the fiery Republican who heads the government. De Valera will find that as leader he cannot give voice to some of the opinions expressed while in opposition.

Ontario leads all other provinces in population. The Dominion population is given at 10,374,196, an increase of 18.4 per cent since 1921. Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and the Northwest Territories decreased in population, 65, 2.09 and 10.07 per cent, respectively, while the increases are as follows: New Brunswick 5.25, Quebec 21.72, Ontario 16.98, Manitoba 14.75, Saskatchewan 21.68, Alberta 24.35, British Columbia 32.34, and the Yukon 1.76.

Japan has protested the presence in the Chinese air forces of an American citizen. We do not know the ethics of internationalism well enough to voice an opinion, but cannot see the point. Why should not an American or any other private citizen offer his services? So long as he was not sent there by his government we cannot see where his country of origin is responsible. To us, this sort of thing seems a man's personal affairs.

The Orangeville Banner says that the growing frequency of interruptions in the hydro service in that town are creating considerable irritation, says that they are caused by breaks in the high tension lines between that town and Eugenia, and advocates as a cure that there should be a line from the south that would not be subject to the same violent weather. We doubt if this would be an improvement, if some of our friends on the Niagara system are correct. We have been told that we on the Eugenia circuit do not know what hydro "lay-outs" are. It might be better to repair the line from Eugenia. Over in this section hydro interruptions are few and far between.

Knox Corners

(Our Own Correspondent)

Mr. Seim, of Mount Forest, took the service again on Sunday, and also led the singing very acceptably in the absence of choir and organist.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Marshall and children, of Mount Forest, and Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Ferguson were visitors on Sunday at Mr. David Marshall's.

Mr. Harry Caldwell had his hand quite badly hurt on Monday while loading logs in the bush. We are glad to say it is improving nicely.

Miss T. E. Byers and Mr. and Mrs. A. Bell of town visited on Sunday at the home of the former's cousin, Miss Jessie Dougan near Paisley, whose brother, Mr. Arthur Dougan, died at his home there on Friday. The funeral was on Monday.

Traverston

(Our Own Correspondent)

Farmers are more than pleased with the recent flurries of snow.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Cook attended the funeral of the late Mr. Honess, of Crawford, Bentinck, on Friday of last week.

Mr. Joe Quillinan has regained his old vigor, after a recent severe attack of pleurisy.

Citizens of Markdale are busy this week reaping an ice harvest off the Irish Lake. Good ice is at a premium this year.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Ivan Edwards, of Shelburne, were guests of the Edwards homestead on Sunday.

Miss Ethel Anderson, of Edge Hill, spent the week-end with her cousin, Mrs. Joe R. Edwards.

Mr. Albert McNally has been kept specially busy at the mill the past few weeks and now the farmers are running down the sawlogs, making a greater hum in the hamlet.

Mr. Fred Cook is getting a big run of buzz-sawing jobs and giving good satisfaction. The outfit belongs to Messrs. Arch. and Jas. McArthur.

The young people of Zion are getting up a play entitled, "Trusty Jim."

The Women's Institute of Zion are giving a concert on Friday evening of this week.

More than glad to report Mr. Colin McArthur so far recovered as to be able to be around and take an active interest in farm and social life.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Twamley and Master Murray, of Welbeck visited the McClocklin home on Monday. Roy McClocklin is gradually recovering from his recent illness.

February has slipped away so swiftly 'tis almost unbelievable. However, the crows are back and signs of spring are everywhere evident. So far fall wheat has wintered splendidly.

THE ROYAL BANK MEN'S CHOIR

The Royal Bank Men's Choir of Montreal will be the feature of the Canadian National Railways broadcast of fine music Sunday evening at 9 p.m., over Stations CFCF, CKNC and CNRO. This choir, which is in its fourth year under the direction of Walter Clapper-ton, Hon. A. R. C. M., of the Faculty of Music of McGill University, is composed entirely of members of the bank's staff.

CARD OF THANKS

We desire to extend our sincere thanks to friends, neighbors and acquaintances for their many acts of kindness, and expressions of sympathy during the illness and subsequent death of our dear mother, the late Mrs. William Torry. We can assure them that we appreciate very deeply the kindly interest taken and the assistance rendered in our time of bereavement.

The Family 1p

CARD OF THANKS

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Murdock wish to thank the fire brigade and citizens of Durham for help given during the fire in their home Tuesday morning.

TRUCK WENT OVER HILL

The big Bell Telephone truck came to grief yesterday morning while on its way back to the second of Bentinck on repair work. When ascending the steep hill west of the Rocky, with trailer attached, it failed to make the grade, backed down the hill and turned over in the ditch. At this point there is quite a deep ditch and considerable difficulty was experienced in getting the truck right side up again.

MEDICINAL PLANTS IN CANADA

While the production of medicinal plants has not attained the proportions of a farm industry in Canada still the market for some of the more common Canadian species would provide an attraction which many people living on farms will find at once interesting and profitable.

The Division of Botany of the Dominion Experimental Farm has provided a guide to the identification, cultivation, treatment and sale of a wide range of medicinal plants which can be grown in Canada. This information is made available in Bulletin 36-N.S. "Medicinal Plants" which will be supplied free of charge on application to the Publications Branch of the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa.

BORN

Barber.—In Petrolia Hospital, February 17th, 1932, to Mr. and Mrs. Percy A. Barber (nee Edith Worts, Inwood), Alvinston, twin sons.

DIED

Barber.—In Petrolia Hospital, February 17th, 1932, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Percy A. Barber, Alvinston.

MARRIED

Dack—Darling.—At Brantford, Ontario, on Thursday, February 18, 1932, Norma May, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Darling, Durham, to John Oldham Dack, son of Robert Dack and the late Mrs. Robert Dack, San Marino, California.

CARD OF THANKS

J. A. Browne, Mrs. H. Ball and Mrs. Geo. Stinson wish to thank friends and neighbors for kindness shown in the recent death of their mother, Mrs. Sarah Browne. 1pd

Bargains Galore for this week

A Great Clearance of LADIES' and CHILDREN'S WINTER HOSE Some at Half Price.

Ladies' Sweater Coats, reg. \$5.00 for \$3.98
Ladies' Pull Over Sweaters Regular \$3.00 for \$2.19
Victrol Records, reg. 65c. 2 for 79c
Large size earthen mixing bowls 59c
Get one of our good brooms—25c
Sweater Yarn, all colors, ball 10c

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

Featuring Economy

FORD

3000 ROOMS IN FIVE CITIES

SINGLE \$1.50 to \$2.50 NO HIGHER MONEY SAVING RATES POSTED IN EVERY ROOM

FOR AN ECONOMICAL TRIP PLAN TO STOP AT

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 of Dundas St.
750 ROOMS
RADIO IN EVERY ROOM

MONTREAL
Dorchester St. at Bishop
750 ROOMS
RADIO IN EVERY ROOM

FORD HOTELS