

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, March 17, 1932

TRAVELLING ACCOMMODATION

"On your next overnight rail journey, take advantage of a Single Occupancy Section and assure yourself of a restful night's sleep. Under this arrangement, you can have the exclusive use of a sleeping car section (consisting of one lower berth—with upper berth closed) at a reduction of 22 per cent. under regular sleeping car section rate, when occupied by one person."

This is an advertisement of a well-known Canadian railway and it just about follows along the lines of the majority of our hotels and other accommodations for travellers, which for the past couple of years have complained of the falling off in patronage. How can they expect anything else?

A well-known hostelry we have in mind has one standard of rooms for which it charges \$2.50 per day single, or \$4.00 double. Taken by one person there is the same service, such as towels and other accommodations as for two; yet they ask \$1.50 extra for that extra person. It isn't our intention to argue that two should occupy a hotel room at the same price as one, but we do contend that, when the room is to be occupied by two persons, especially man and wife, there would be an increase in the demand for accommodation if the "double" rate were reduced. Oftentimes a man, who usually goes to the city alone, might take his family were it not for the extra expense.

In the case of the railway advertisement quoted above, a person with the money to spend can occupy a whole section on a single ticket with the resultant increase in comfort, cheaper than a man and members of his family travelling on perhaps three or four tickets. The result is the man with the family, not able to afford it, sleeps in the day coach, the sleeping berths remain empty and the railways complain of lack of patronage. The same might be said of the hotels. The man goes to the city alone a good many times when, with an adjusted rate, the hotel would pick up an additional dollar a day, or perhaps more, if he took his wife and family along. So far as the hotel is concerned, this would be "found" money which would cost them nothing, and would amount to a considerable sum in the course of a year.

KEEP ON THE SUNNY SIDE

The words of the song, popular thirty-odd years ago, might well be an incentive to many of us to stop our wailing and look on the brighter side of life:

Keep on the sunny side,
And let dull care pass you by;
Just figure out you're a long time dead,
No need to worry or sigh.
Weep, and you weep alone,
Don't give up hope till you've tried;
Don't join the crowds
That sail under dark clouds,
But keep on the sunny side.

Far too many of us magnify our troubles. We spend too much time sitting around sympathizing with ourselves and bewailing our hard luck, and, as has been said on a good many former occasions, the man who sits down to sympathize with himself is in the worst possible position in which he can find himself. There are too many of us who think we are placed on this earth to have a good time instead of being here to put up a fight from the day we are born until the time comes when we are escorted to the burying ground.

For some time now we have been receiving a copy of the Canadian, the official organ of the Ontario School for the Deaf at Belleville, and, presumably, published by the pupils. From cover to cover it is a great lesson in optimism. It overflows with articles telling how fortunate these deaf pupils are that there is nothing worse wrong with them. To most of us, deafness would be nothing short of a calamity and we would, like as not, spend our time sympathizing with ourselves in our hard luck. Not so the pupils at Belleville. The last issue shows that those afflicted with deafness are to be congratulated that they are not blind, because Dr. Metfessel of the University of Southern California has discovered after a series of scientific tests that 65 per cent. of the knowledge of the normal human is assimilated through the eyes.

Ordinarily built humans can learn a great

lesson from those who live under afflictions. We have never yet met a blind man or a deaf mute who had any complaints. All of the belly-aching about conditions comes from those who have little or nothing the matter with them, except that they lack the ambition to get out and conquer the few handicaps under which they labor.

MARITIME COAL

We trust the newly-launched idea of distributing Nova Scotia coal in Ontario is successful. Together with the Empire trade idea, the citizens of Canada should also consider the advisability of closer trade relations between the provinces. Perhaps this matter has been overlooked heretofore, but with Canadian industry cut off from the rest of North America we are faced more and more with the necessity of recognizing the good sense of the old battle-cry, "Canada for the Canadians." It looks as if Canada will have to do more thinking about herself rather than trying to argue the question as to whether protection or low tariff is the better policy. No matter what our individual ideas, our hand has been forced, and the various provinces of the Dominion are faced with the solving of transportation troubles and the linking of the people of this great country in closer trade relationships.

For some months back we have been told of the increase in our exports; for the next few months let us hear about the increase in our interprovincial trade. We want all the export business we can get, but we want, first of all, to deal with ourselves. We can see no reason why Nova Scotia coal cannot replace the United States variety in this province, other than certain large importing companies linked up with the United States interests have been successful in persuading us otherwise. If we really wish to do it, the difference in mileage between most Ontario points and Pennsylvania and the Maritimes is no deterrent. Harder problems than this have been solved.

If necessary, why not subsidize our railways for this purpose. Give western grain a special rate, and western coal, too; give coal from the Maritimes and the West a rate that will enable it to compete in price with the United States variety. It may be argued that the rail haul is too great. What harm could result if the difference were made up in subsidies? In the case of the Canadian National Railway; then let them do the people's business. It seems there is to be a deficit anyway, and a little more, when it means that Canadians will eat Canadian wheat, and burn Canadian coal, should not hurt much. A good many of this country's dollars have been spent much more foolishly.

Subsidizing our railways in the hauling of coal would not only save the \$16,000,000 spent annually in the United States for soft coal, but would provide work for our Canadian coal miners and keep the money thus earned in circulation in Canada.

THE "WHY" OF THINGS

We picked up the poem which appears below in some of our reading the other day, and while no great claims can be set forth for it as a poem, the sentiments expressed will at least make one think and wonder why there are any humans in this world who do not believe in a supreme being, or who think this old universe is run by chance. Try and answer the questions asked in the poem. They will start you thinking. With the exception of the one line: "What makes the trains and autos go?" which is entirely foreign to the subject and grates on the rest of it, the poem asks some remarkable questions. Read it over.

"Why are the white clouds in the sky
Sailing and piling up so high?
What makes the blue up there so deep?
It almost puts my eyes to sleep.

"Why does the hot sun melt the snow?
What makes the trains and autos go?
Where does the sun go out of sight?
What makes the white moon shine at night?"

"Why do the trees and flowers grow?
Why are all things, I'd like to know?
Why can't the grown-ups answer me?
I wonder how this all can be?"

After reading the above, we cannot conceive of anyone imagining that this old universe is just a chance affair, or that it continues its journey through space on the hit-and-miss principle.

HARD TIMES HELPS COMMUNISM

Toronto Communists are sowing unrest among the workless. This is the only class in which this organization could hope for success. A steady job, a full dinner pail, and a happy home makes happiness, and happiness has no place in Communism. The return of better times will spell the downfall of this "ism"—until the next slump.

The Lindbergh baby has not yet been found and the United States police force is working away with its usual efficient blundering.

There may be some criticism of the rise in the radio license fee from one to two dollars, but we have to admit it is about the cheapest sport we get nowadays.

Fifty thousand Canadians have unclaimed bank accounts. The Chronicle editor is not one of them. We never forget ours. The local bank managers won't let us.

It has been ruled that Roman Catholics must not marry in the air. But why not? Are not the principals in all marriages rather up in the air on the day of the ceremony?

It is rumored that the size of Dominion bank notes is to be reduced. Any we have seen the past two or three years are plenty small enough now.

A Winnipeg court has ruled that it is not an offence to be drunk in a dentist's chair. A fellow in Winnipeg, therefore, who gets lit up is perfectly safe to hike for the dentist's.

A United States wolf is reported to have killed a Canadian deer at the Sault and then dragged the carcass back to the United States. United States customs authorities will please note.

Laughter is help to good digestion, says an authority. From the roars some people let out of them when their risibilities are aroused, it might not be out of place to say they are in a "perfect physicked-ical condition."

"Congress Wets Want Beer" says a newspaper headline. We suppose the Congress dries want everybody to quite drinking. Right here, may we suggest that the editor of the Chronicle wants a million dollars.

Playing hockey from school, is due to a mental ailment, according to scientists. The same ailment, probably, which makes the tired business man sneak off from his duties for an afternoon at golf.

The Woodstock Sentinel-Review says it might be news if Tommy Church, ex-M.P., would say a good word for any man still alive. Well, what about Tommy Church? He doesn't pan him very much.

Paper collars in use in Japan are said to be so perfect that it is impossible to tell them from the finest linen. They must be a big improvement on those the writer had to put up with over 30 years ago, and which could be "spotted" across one concession.

The suicide of Ivar Kreuger, the Swedish match king, and George Eastman, the United States kodak manufacturer, once more shows that happiness does not go hand in hand with money. Both men were worth millions, but both wrecked their constitutions in the acquisition of their fortunes.

The Canadian National Railways Magazine tells us that the shuffleboard champions on the C. N. S. Lady Rodney of the West Indies service "proudly wear on their breasts tin medals made from pop bottle caps." Now, what in the world would they be doing with pop bottles on a West Indies cruise?"

Certain theatre owners in Ontario are reported to have stated their intention of refusing to collect the amusement tax for the Government in future. If they so decide it will be interesting to note the result, as we cannot see how the Government can consistently stand for this and still require business houses to collect sales taxes.

For a time a few days ago, with Toronto's mayor and member of the civic administration receiving threatening notes, it looked like the "gangster" element had entered Canada. It now turns out the writer of the note to Mayor Stewart was a widow woman not too strong mentally, and it is supposed the letter to Mr. Ramsden came from a similar source. Death threats against public men in Canada will not prove popular, but in the present cases no prosecutions will follow.

Yes, Buy 'em Off

Rudy Valec is advocating a federal tax on radio receiving sets. The money thus collected, he claims, can be used to give unknown song writers more remuneration than they now receive. Wouldn't it be better to use the money to buy them off?—Detroit Saturday Night.

A Bit Too Much

Nothing but the metal framework was left of a car which was attacked by famished rats in a French garage. When some rats attacked a car in America there was nothing left but the Ford story. The animals couldn't swallow that.—London Humorist.

Not Too Hard Times

Application made from Stratford on February 26 for seats at Toronto arena for a hockey game on March 5 brought the answer that no seats were available. This doesn't sound like hard times—except for those who are late in applying for seats.—Chatham News.

According to some speakers, the modern version is: "Let's eat, drink, and spend all our money, for next year we'll be seventy and eligible for Old Age Pensions.—Fergus News-Record.

OTHER PAPERS' OPINIONS

Should Prohibit Crooners

The increase in the license fee on a radio receiving set should be followed by a prohibitive license fee on all crooners.—Meaford Mirror.

Safety Pins Gave

We haven't seen anything about Ghandi in the dailies for some time. His campaign against the British Government must be petering out or else he has run out of safety pins to support his loin cloth.—Chesley Enterprise.

A Different Story

Seizure of American bootleg liquor at Kirkland Lake recalls the horror some people expressed when Canadian liquor was being allowed to go into the United States and Canada stopped the export with a loss of revenue of a couple of million dollars. We should like to read what American politicians would say were they asked to assist in keeping illicit Yankee liquor out of Canada.—Midland Argus Press.

\$2 for a Radio License

There are many commodities which show a drop in price, but we are told that the radio license will be \$2 per year. Very well, then, we will not object:

- (1) If Amos 'n' Andy are kept off the air.
- (2) If that thing called static stops.
- (3) If other stations can be stopped from butting in.
- (4) If the Old Singing Master will do more singing and less talking.

There are many other objections, just like you read about on an auction sale bill, "too numerous to mention," but these will do just now.—Walkerton Herald-Times.

Liar!

The scandal-monger is evidently at work in and about Kincardine, and so serious has the situation become that the editor of the Review-Reporter has risen in his wrath and issued a public denouncement of the hes and shes who are engaged in the nefarious practice of whispering stories. "We wonder," the writer says, "if the person who either starts a scandal or repeats it with variations, which are not based on fact, ever stopped to think of the appellation that could be fittingly tacked to their own name. That appellation is "liar." The term "liar" is the most degrading and debasing term that can be applied to an individual, and yet the person who maliciously attacks the character of another, without absolute proof of the case, is a simon-pure liar. In fact, he or she, as the case may be, is four different kinds of a liar—a public liar, a deliberate liar, a heartless liar and apparently a malicious liar!" All of which is quite true.—Mitchell Advocate.

Miss Macphall Called to Book

Speaking at a public meeting in Guelph, Miss Agnes Macphall, M.P., referred to the Canadian banking system as "a nice little racket." It may be that when Miss Macphall makes an address she feels that it is necessary to say something with a harpoon in it; she may think it gives her an air of fearlessness, or will cause the audience to conclude that she knows something which is being concealed from the general public.

We do not like that word "racket" applied to any legitimate business in Canada. It is an Americanism, and its meaning tells of the work of underworld forces which prey upon any who may be drawn into their grip.

Banking in this country has not developed into a "racket." It is well to remember that banks operate under the sanction of a charter issued by the government; they are regulated by the Banking Act, and they are subject to supervision. The word "racket" should never have been applied by Miss Mac-

phall. There is no more "racket" in banking than there is in Miss Macphall drawing about three times as much as Ottawa as she could have earned as a school teacher.—Stratford Beacon-Herald).

Consistency Not a Jewel in Miss Agnes Macphall's Crown

Consistency is a jewel which the people of Southeast Grey will have difficulty in discovering in their member of Parliament when they try to trace her stand on the ten per cent. reduction in civil service salaries. Miss Agnes Macphall, representative of the constituency, pretty well boxed the compass on this occasion.

If a son of the soil rises in her constituency and asks: "Did you support salary reductions for civil servants?" Miss Macphall may turn to Hansard and quote from her own speech: "I will support it."

But should Miss Macphall happen to appear in labor circles and should they ask her what her attitude on the salary reduction was, she can likewise truthfully quote from her own speech: "I am opposed to the policy."

When Miss Macphall is in "mixed" society—agricultural as well as labor—and when she must please both, she can likewise truthfully quote from her own speech: "While I am opposed to this policy I will support it.... acting as a true representative of my constituency."

In this manner Miss Macphall may hope to satisfy all her constituents, if they are not too inquisitive. But the truth is that Miss Macphall did not vote upon the question at all. When the vote was called Miss Macphall was not in her seat in the House. Observant members noted that the lady slipped into her seat after the result of the vote was announced.—Toronto Evening Telegram.

"I simply cannot stand the sound of an automobile horn."

"Why not?"

"Some months ago my chauffeur stole my car and eloped with my wife and every time I hear a horn toot I think he is bringing her back."

This Week's Bargain List

SILK HOSIERY

See our new shades in Full Fashioned Silk Hose. The new shades are:

Morning
Afternoon
Evening
Pleasant
Per pair\$1.00

NEW 15c STAMPED GOODS

Buffet Sets Vanity Sets
Centre Pieces
Any piece15c

BOWL SETS

3 Bowls to a Set
Reg. price for25c

15c GREEN GLASSWARE

Large Jugs, Bowls, Sherbets,
Goblets, etc.
Special each15c

DUST FANS

Japanned covered15c

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

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

FORD HOTELS

TORONTO
Bay at Dundas Sts.
750 ROOMS
GADIO IN EVERY ROOM

BUFFALO
Delaware Ave. near Chippewa St.
750 ROOMS

ROCHESTER
Elm and Chestnut Sts.
350 ROOMS

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

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