

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 United States \$2.50. Office Hours—9 to 12 M., 1 to 5.30 P.M. except Thursdays, when Office closes at 12 o'clock Noon.

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, September 29, 1932

AN INHUMAN PRACTICE

We agree heartily with the *Milverton Sun* when it suggests that the public should refuse to patronize horse shows where horses with "set up" tails are allowed to be exhibited. What beauty horsemen can see that this practice adds to the horse is not shared by the general public, who love the animals as they were created, and not as some of these so-called horsemen would have them. The trouble is the general public does not know what horses with "set" tails have to suffer or they would rise in their might and by public opinion force a discontinuance of the practice. Even in dogdom the senselessness and cruelty of clipping the ears of show animals has been recognized, the result being that this practice is being gradually done away with. The clipping of a dog's ears is nothing to the torture undergone by the horse whose tail has been "set."

In the September issue of *Animal Life*, the official organ of the Toronto Humane Society, is an interesting article by Lieut.-Col. R. S. Timmis, D.S.O., who says:

"Let all those who visit horse shows or horse parades give a thought to the horse's caudal appendage, that God gave for many uses and also for beauty, balance and symmetry. Just think what those poor horses with their tails docked, and those with their tails 'set', have had to bear and will have to bear in the future, just to comply with men's barbarous fashions."

"A wisely written article by Mary L. Olcott, in the last issue of the *New York Rider and Driver*, concluded with these paragraphs: 'Last but not least, real tails—honest-to-goodness, glorious, floating, sinned-against horses' tails!'"

"In this day of higher education, of civic and social development, why should we tolerate a practice strongly suggestive of the dark ages? 'What possible excuse can we offer for our senseless mutilation of saddle horses?'"

"Recalling the many benefits unquestionably derived from tails it would seem that, for the sake of sentiment, if for no better reason, we humans might quit defying nature and allow the horse to possess in undisturbed peace and comfort, his God-given rudder, the lovely, useful and honourable tail."

"Had the writer of these words lived in Canada, she might well have included remarks on the docking of so many of our heavy draught horses. These horses in the States are never docked. The beautiful, natural tail of the heavy work horse is much admired. Contrast the many ridiculous short stumps representing tails in the Open Air Horse Parade in Toronto on Dominion Day. Watch these wretched horses endeavouring to drive the irritating fly off their quarters and flanks in the summer. Men who dock these beautiful animals merit similar torture and worry. Horse lovers should patronize firms that do not use docked horses."

"Sir Claude Alexander, Bt., well-known-hackney breeder in England, writes us that the Hackney Horse Society in their catalogue at the London Show had printed on every page, 'Horses may be shown undocked.'"

"Mrs. Dibble, the well-known harness horse exhibitor in New York, etc., has refused to have her ponies docked."

"Let us Canadians 'Be British' and help to stamp out these abominable fashions that mean so much torture and discomfort to the horse, who works so truly and willingly for us and who surely deserves a square deal."

An interesting letter from the Secretary of the New York Jockey Club will show that the outcry against abuse of the horse is not confined to "sentimentalists," but has the support of the better class of horsemen as well. Referring to the "setting up" of horses' tails, John E. Cowdin says:

"Tail setting is one of the greatest frauds being perpetrated today on the horse-loving public of America. It should be banned, if for no other reason than that it produces an unnatural, artificial appearance, which robs our show-rings of their greatest value. Horsemen should seek to produce by natural breeding the qualities and characteristics they wish to perpetuate. To resort to the knife, bandages and the bustle is to acknowledge their failure as breeders and exhibitors."

"But I am also opposed to the practice because it is cruel and entirely needless. The suffering is not really confined to the cutting, the strapping and the wearing of the bustle. The suffering continues, more or less, as long as the horse lives. Only recently I saw a man, just before he entered the show ring, pull his horse's tail back almost to a point where it touched its back. I remonstrated with him and was told he was treating the horse in that manner because it did not hold its tail straight. There is no sympathy from me for those who insist on having the operation performed, but I am very sorry for the poor horse that must undergo the operation, and perhaps, in the end, have a crooked tail that unfits it for the show ring. The set tail becomes practically useless as a means of protecting the horse from flies. This last is not particularly serious, as long as the horse remains in the hands of the exhibitor, where it is well cared for, but the animal's lot becomes almost unbearable when its usefulness as a show animal has passed and it has fallen into the hands of the junk dealer or pedlar."

"I have never talked with a breeder who has not voiced his disapproval of the practice. The invariable excuses advanced for it are that they cannot sell three and five gaited saddle horses with a natural tail."

"I fondly hope that a resolution passed at a recent meeting of the executive of the Association of American Horse Show Prevalis."

"A united front on the part of horse show

people in this country would end the whole wicked business within a very brief time."

The whole world, where the public knows the facts, is against the mutilation for show purposes of any animal, and we must admit with shame that Canada apparently is farthest down in the line of those supposedly civilized countries which have legislated against the practice. The trend of world opinion is for a square deal for our dumb friends who, perhaps, are no more dumb than a lot of humans who sit disinterestedly by and allow the practice to go on. It is this very disinterestedness which allows the uncalled-for cruelty to go on, and it is to be hoped that portion of our population who patronize various animal exhibitions voice their displeasure in no uncertain terms. We have heard a lot of the cruelty practised in the training of wild animal acts, but if it is nothing when compared with that practised on many of our domestic animals. It is time action was taken to protect those who cannot protect themselves.

SHOULD CHECK UP ON EVERYBODY

A dispatch from Ottawa says that persons who suffer losses either in gambling or by speculating in stocks can not deduct them from their income tax returns in Canada. "Our income tax law does not tax profits from gambling or speculation in stocks, and likewise our law makes no allowance for losses in the same connection," says an official of the National Revenue Department.

It would be most difficult, perhaps impossible, to keep a check on gambling and stock market profits, but if there were a way of doing so, it should be done. Why gamblers and stock market speculators should escape liability for income tax, and those who conduct the legitimate business of the country be penalized for their success, is hard to fathom. The former might correctly be defined as parasites and the latter the real earners in the country.

Another thing we never liked about this income tax business is the failure of the Department to take into consideration any sickness that may overtake a man's family. A man may make \$5,000 a year and have to pay out \$6,000 for hospital bills. This makes no difference, he will be liable for his full income tax anyway. We have often wondered what action would be taken by the Department in the case of a man who was eligible for income tax on his year's business and went broke through unwise investments on the stock market. Perhaps they could in some manner prove to us that the old saw, "You can't take blood from a stone" is, like Mark Twain's death, "greatly exaggerated." Death and taxes. They're great pals!

MISLEADING ADVERTISING

The following from the last issue of the *Kincardine Review-Reporter* is of special interest to the *Chronicle*, and should be a warning to any of our readers who may be thinking of buying:

"Advertising has been running in the *Review-Reporter* for the past two or three weeks for 'Titus-Pearls' and 'Hollandia Nurseries'. Subscribers of this paper are advised not to send any orders or any money to these firms."

We do not know what the *Kincardine* newspaper has found out, but from the warning it can't be very good news. The *Chronicle* received this advertising about the same time as the other papers in this vicinity, many of which are carrying the advertising, but we did not insert it. Instead, we wrote both firms, asking them to furnish recommendations and bank references. This information has not arrived, and we suppose it never will. Anyway, it seems we guessed correctly when we decided to have nothing to do with these advertisers until a proper and satisfactory check-up could be made. Newspapers cannot be too careful in accepting advertising from strange firms. First, they must think of their readers that they will not be victimized, and secondly of themselves, that the newspaper itself receives payment for the services rendered.

The *Chronicle* made a ruling several years ago that it would accept no advertising which it did not understand, or from firms which it did not know. We have turned down quite a lot of business by sticking to this rule, but perhaps we have not lost so much after all.

CEMENT TILE FOR SEWERS

The *Simcoe Reformer* tells of the trouble caused by the cement joints in some of the sewer connections in that town which have been laid now about ten years. The concrete has a tendency to develop minute cracks through which a certain amount of seepage occurs and attracts the underground roots. These roots, says the *Reformer*, enter the sewers and develop rapidly until they form a barrier and must be removed.

Readers of the *Chronicle* will remember

the controversy that arose when the sewers were being laid in Durham three years ago, when some of the ratepayers objected to cement tile being used, and thought they should be replaced by the glazed tile. From the article in the *Reformer* it would appear they were right in their contentions, although the information was passed out by the engineers that it was merely a matter of opinion and non-important whether the sewer tile were of the cement or glazed kind. It is to be hoped there will be no similar trouble with the Durham tile. Neither have we any assurance the glazed tile would act differently.

MORE ABOUT WELSH COAL

Here is some further information about Welsh coal from last week's issue of the *Alliston Herald*:

"The *Durham Chronicle*, commenting on The *Herald's* intimation that Allistonians might use Welsh coal this coming winter, states that Welsh anthracite has never been used in the editor's home. We would advise him to try it. One week of burning Welsh coal will forever banish all other kinds. The heat from it seems to be more intense and certainly the labour of carrying out ashes is cut by two-thirds of that entailed when burning Pennsylvania coal. Should the Welsh coal become slack, and it does break up easily, wet it thoroughly before stoking the furnace. There will be no explosion or disagreeable odor."

Very well, Brer. Elliott, we'll have to try some Welsh coal. In fact, we would have before, but none has yet been offered for sale in this town. With better shipping facilities and a wider demand, the local dealers will in all probability handle this British product.

Calves, says the *Alliston Herald*, in reporting their Fall Fair, "made a great hit." For a real "hit" we would advise a class in goats.

Canada's dollar bills will stay at their present size. More important than the size of the paper is to make them worth more in international trade, and less in the purchase of farm products in Canada.

A newspaper story from Ottawa forecasts a rise in the duty on United States anthracite from 40 to 60 cents a ton. This will give British anthracite an additional advantage and be another step forward in Empire preference—and Empire Trade.

Readers will remember the article, "I like the depression—No more prosperity for me," published in the *Chronicle* some weeks ago. We credited it to the *Dunnville Chronicle*. Now we find out it was from the pen of Henry Ashley of the Amarillo, Texas, *News-Globe*.

We have heard a good deal lately about improving the technique of radio announcers, but the editor of the *Orangeville Sun* suggests putting on his winter boots and giving them "an electric kick in the seat of their pants." He also suggests a most effective, but cruel cure. "Why not kill them?" he asks.

One of our exchanges says: "The town of Harriston boasts of having five bridges right in the town, and two very close." We feel that word "boast" is ill advised. Bridges are an expensive luxury for any town or township, and we doubt if any of them "boast" about it, especially when they have to be replaced.

The *Aylmer Express* strikes a popular note when it complains of the habit of penalizing a citizen for making improvements to his property. If a citizen builds a new porch or a verandah the assessor raises his assessment, and in permitting this, the *Express* believes town councils are doing their towns and the citizens—an injustice.

The directors of the Listowel Fall Fair turned down an offer of a Toronto man to bring his "Indians" to the fair and play a game with the Listowel team, as an added attraction. All he asked was the price of gas and oil from Toronto and return. With the *Listowel Standard*, we feel the directors were short-sighted in not accepting the offer.

The weather prophets are here again, and down around Kingston are predicting a heavy winter owing to the unusually heavy crop of beech nuts, and because the squirrels are laying in large stores. Weather prophets go hand in hand with the Candlemas Day legend, in which if the sun shines and the groundhog sees his shadow, another six weeks of winter may be expected. What happens if he sees his shadow in Durham and it is cloudy at Dornoch, ten miles away?

Operating a wheel of chance at the Fergus Fair, two men were arrested and heavily fined, and their "wheel" confiscated, because it was equipped with a brake and could be stopped anywhere. The *Chronicle* has never been very hard on the amusement devices at the fall fairs so long as they were run honestly, but there is always someone to spoil things. These Fergus fakirs belong to the class known to showmen as "grifters" and are as unpopular with the true showman as with the public.

OTHER PAPERS' OPINIONS

Arthur Farmers Show the Way
 "The farmer who finds the first sow-thistle on his farm and doesn't bother doing anything about it," says the *Fergus News-Record*, "should be warned and probably frightened." This is very good advice but we know where the farmer is who has not long ago seen that first sow-thistle and a multitude of others on his farm and who has not long ago learned all about what sow-thistles will do to perfectly good crops. Certainly, he is not to be found in Wellington or adjacent counties. The reference to sow-thistles in the *News Record* was prompted by a spectacle, shown at the C.N.E. in one of the Ontario Government exhibits, which showed a farmer standing terrified while a huge sow-thistle reaches out its arms to grab him.

While it is true that Wellington County has become pretty generally infested with this modern weed pest, it is also true that Wellington County farmers more particularly those in the Arthur district have worked out the most effective way of combatting the spread of sow-thistle, early summer cultivation. Summer fallowing is probably as old as farming, but the plan of pasturing the land for a month or so, or of even taking a crop of hay form it, before ploughing it up for fallow is not so old. Farmers in this district proved the success that might in this way be obtained in fighting sow-thistle, and then reports of the success they had attained spread to all parts of the province, and their example is now being widely followed.

Eradication of sow-thistle completely will be a long and tedious process, but North Wellington farmers have at least reached the point where they can hold it in check and they are now slowly getting rid of it. A more vigorous enforcement of the act regulating the control of noxious weeds would help a great deal as one careless farmer can in one season allow enough sow-thistle seed to ripen and be scattered far and wide by the wind to pollute half a township.—*Arthur Enterprise*.

For Those Who Feel Dissatisfied

When you become "Fed up" with making a living for yourself and family on the farms of old Ontario—yes, and on the majority of the farms in Quebec and the Maritimes—just take a jaunt, as we did recently through the scenic sections of the Northern New England States. Not that we want to make any invidious comparisons—they have their beautiful mountain scenery, their tourist resorts and their industries—but when it comes to farms of broad acres and productive soils, well, you realize the tremendous natural advantages of the valleys of the old St. Lawrence, the Ottawa, the St. Francis and the St. John offer to the farmers of Eastern Canada. The climate too, extended favors to Canada this year. For while farmers in parts of Ontario and Quebec had a difficult time saving their hay between the showers they at least have their barns full of feed. In one section of New Hampshire farmers were running mowers over nearly bare, brown hillsides that we mistook for pasture areas until informed that this was all the hay crop they had in this particular season. Other places had received plenty of moisture of course and we saw magnificent crops of cherries, peaches and pears around Ithica and Geneva in New York State. But nowhere in the thousand odd miles covered could one see the level fields of grain, and second growth of alfalfa that will feed the dairy cows of Ontario this winter. When you see the food producing capacity of the two areas you no longer wonder why so many Canadian farm boys who left the old home to find work in New England factories have drifted back again, the boys who, when the factories closed returned to the land that for a very moderate outlay of labor yields foods in wonderful abundance and variety.—*Ontario Farmer*.

Lawyers and Parliament

A learned judge has figured out for us that there is one lawyer in the house of commons to every four of all other callings. He told the Canadian Bar Association also that the proportion is slightly higher in the Senate. At the same time he indicated that one lawyer for every 1,600 persons in Canada had proven sufficient. The judge urged aspiring young lawyers to consider whether, beyond a brief hour of glory, the reward was worth the sacrifice. It is not the first time the question has been raised as to whether lawyers are a success in politics.

Striking examples of success and failure, could be cited it is true. Sir John A. McDonald, Sir Wilfred Laurier, and Sir Robert Borden were all lawyers. They were outstanding successes in politics, but not because they were great lawyers. Their human qualities had much to do with their political achievements. And that is where many lawyers fail.

The same test could be applied to the house of commons at Westminster. Not a few legal luminaries have proved almost complete failures in politics there. And as regards Britain's prime ministers, in recent years at any rate, lawyers have been the exception rather than the rule.

The learned judge remarked that in Britain, parliament was "strewn with the reputations of great lawyers." Perhaps for the reason indicated. And it may be that in Canada the suffering has not been all borne by the lawyers as the learned judge seemed to suggest.

It has been remarked that lawyers are not usually constructive, but interpretative. As such, of course, they have a place in public affairs, but other qualities are demanded in public life. A good politician must have drive, business acumen, and the "human touch." Devotion to law, as such, hardly conduces to these.

One other consideration occurs. Reading debates of the house of commons in Ottawa one is struck with the frequent use of the phrase: "My honorable friend is a lawyer and will understand." "As if, of course, poor ordinary mortals were incapable of doing so.—*Alliston Herald*."

List of SPECIALS for this week

- GLOVES
Ladies' Suede Gloves for Fall
Fancy cuffs pr. 29c
- Ladies' Kid Gloves, pull on style, in black and brown shades pr. \$1.00
- HOSE
Ladies' Silk and Wool Hose a real bargain pr. 39c
- UNDERWEAR
Ladies' Fall weight Underwear per garment 39c
- SHAVING CREAM
"Speeder" Shaving Cream—no brushing or rubbing, large size tube each 15c
- PAISLS
Galvanized Paisls, Special 19c
- BROOMS
5-string Brooms, this week only each 26c
- SOAP
Castile Soap, large bar 5c
Castile Soap, long bars 10c

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

Counter Check Books

We have them in all styles and sizes

Let Us Quote On Your Next Order

Quality and Workmanship Guaranteed.

The Chronicle

DURHAM

ONT.