

THE DURHAM CHRONICLE

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Whosoever 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 1, 1932

FALSE PRICES IMPOSSIBLE

The issuing of some 35 millions of currency by the Ottawa Government is being criticised because the issue is not large enough, and the statement has been made that while it will help the banks, and possibly ease credit, it is too small to improve prices.

Canada is not short on money. There is plenty of money when a government loan is to be financed. The trouble is that the money is not evenly distributed. The demand for things that are manufactured has fallen off, and as a result the working man's earning power is crippled and his buying power gone.

There is a market today for all the food-stuffs grown, but those who want it cannot pay. We cannot see that the issuing of "money" by any government can take the place of the natural "demand" for produce and manufactures.

The only hope we can see for the situation is to get the business life of this country back to as near normal as possible. How to do it we must frankly confess we do not know, but we are firmly convinced that we can never become prosperous by any act of Government which resorts to the printing press.

It is a most complicated position we find ourselves in today in Canada, and one that will require a lot of study to correct. We believe the final analysis rests with the people of the country. We shall have to scrap our orgy of pleasure for one of labor, and the nation, like the individual, will find that the road to affluence is a hard trail, beset with many pitfalls, and at times discouraging.

Naturally the banks receive something for their work in connection with the issuing of the 35 millions, the newspapers most assuredly were paid for the advertising connected with the last Dominion Government Loan, but we have no doubt, like the latter, the banks earned whatever they were paid.

GIVING UP THE GHOST

The Palmerston Spectator has quit publication. Lack of patronage by the business men is the cause. Some months ago the Spectator plant was moved from Palmerston to Guelph, with a business office in Palmerston. Like other things, and people, the Spectator was thought more of when it moved out of town and immediate steps were taken by Palmerstonians to secure another newspaper.

streets all the time, neither can he have a whole-time news reporter on his staff. There isn't that much money in the business.

There is no reason in the world why Palmerston should not have a newspaper, but if current reports are true, the citizens of that place will have to show more interest than in the past if they wish one to continue.

REDISTRIBUTION IN GREY AND BRUCE

It is rumored that the counties of Grey and Bruce will have only three federal seats instead of four in the redistribution which will naturally follow the taking of the decennial census. Already speculation is rife as to what course will be pursued by the Conservatives, the party in power.

According to population, Grey and Bruce are only entitled to three ridings. The population being smaller than at the time of the last census, and the basis of representation being based on the population of Quebec, which always has 65 members, it is not within the power of any government to do otherwise.

Reading some of the comments, one would think it was something that had never been done before, but so long as Canadians demand representation by population it cannot be helped. Exceptions are in the case of the larger cities, Toronto, for instance, which, according to her population could demand more representation.

CURIOSITY OR BUSINESS?

A writer in the Guelph Mercury asks: "Is it curiosity over the tea cups?" because the Mount Forest town council passed a resolution instructing the clerk to obtain a list of those in that town who were on the old age pensions list.

We would be more interested in knowing why a town council should not ask for this information. We are further of the opinion that if a good many councils, town and township, were better acquainted with this list, it would be much smaller. It would be voluntarily smaller if some of the pensioners knew the members of their council and the municipality's officials were to be made aware of the personnel of these pensioners.

We have also the idea that such a widespread idea would be received with open arms by the Pensions Commission, which is trying in every legitimate manner to keep the pensions within bounds, but which is receiving little or no assistance from the municipalities that have to foot the bill.

The fact that the governments, provincial and federal, pay the greater part of the costs matters not one iota. Government officials may sign the cheques, but the people pay. The people should know (through their representatives, the councils) what they are paying and to whom it is being paid.

UNNECESSARY DISCUSSION

The Walkerton Telescope thinks town councils waste too much time in discussing matters that should be handled by the standing committees. Agreed. And another thing that might be noticed is that the committee which has investigated a certain thing and made recommendations hasn't as much to say about the question as some other members of the council who know nothing about it.

CANADA WINS AGAIN

With Herman Trelle in front, Canada's farmers have led all competitors in the spring wheat showing at the International Hay and Grain Show, Chicago. Seven Alberta exhibitors were in the first ten, with Trelle of Wembley first, and Frelan Wilford, of Stavely, second.

Not only in wheat, but in beans and peas, was Canada a winner, and of interest locally is the winning of the first grand championship by R. S. Lee of Holland township with his entry of field peas of the small yellow variety. The second grand championship went to Mrs. Mary E. Maycock of Milford, with an entry of navy field beans, and J. H. Lampman of Ridgetown was awarded the reserve championship with his sample of field beans of any other variety.

An Akron, Ohio, photographer, three times married, and a lady pastor of a religious cult, seven times married, were married in that city the other day. Some people are bears for punishment.

A Toronto school inspector says that too much time is spent in our public schools teaching arithmetic. No doubt he considers that "8 times 8 is 88" is not so important as "If he hadn't of came I would of went after him."

An exchange advertises a theatrical production to appear shortly as a "heart-gripping" drama. No thanks, we don't want those things. We have gripes enough in another portion of our anatomy without contracting gripes of the heart.

A newspaper heading says that Mitchell F. Hepburn, M.P., Ontario Liberal leader, has "challenged the Ontario Government to go to the country." Nothing new under the sun, said Solomon. With nothing to lose and everything to gain, an Opposition leader can challenge a Government to do most anything.

L. F. Loree is a member of the Duff Royal Commission, we are told, and is also president of the Delaware & Hudson Railway. He blames the high wage scale for a lot of the troubles of the Canadian National. No doubt he means the high wages paid employees. What does he think of some of the high salaries paid some of the office officials, and a lot of the created offices that are about as much use to a railway as a ticket punch nowadays to a railway conductor?

In a recent pleasure trip through this section, Hugh Templin of the Fergus News-Record says he called at Mount Forest and the editor was at the bank. He called on the Chronicle and the editor was also at the bank. Arranging loans or explaining overdrafts? asks Hugh. Both, dear fellow. The Chronicle man, to keep down the drafts of winter was trying to work up an overdraft at the bank so that he could pay the coal man. It is significant that our coal bill is not yet paid. More significant to us is we saw the coal dealer and the bailiff sizing up our car the other day. It's a tough life.

The low price of farm products is a matter of concern to every resident of a small town. The towns, being dependent upon the farm trade for business, suffer proportionately with the producers, and are a unit in backing any movement that will raise the prices of these products. Not so with the politicians who take advantage of these conditions to politically capitalize themselves, and spend their time causing unrest and dissatisfaction by advocating unenforceable cures.

The Fergus News-Record boasts that it sells nothing but Made-in-Canada Christmas cards. That's better than the Chronicle can say. We don't sell any. We used to, but the competition got so keen that we gracefully retired two or three years ago. Up here in Durham the drug, jewellery and other stores, the church societies, and numerous house-to-house canvassers are all at it. Next year the blacksmiths, milk vendors, butchers and banks might also do well to run them as a sideline.

The Hydro-Electric Power Commission and its critics are so far apart on a solution of their alleged differences that they may never be united. The charge that the Commission is high-handed and autocratic is true, but where will the Hydro System land if the critics gain control? Personally, we would much rather have an autocratic Hydro Commission and three-cent hydro, than a Commission of critics and a five-cent hydro. The critics may complain of high-handedness, but our personal concern is "How much does it cost?" No one has yet made the charge that the Commission is incompetent, or complained of its inability to supply the Province of Ontario with the cheapest electric power in the world.

The London Free Press points out the fallacy of anyone attempting to win the \$5,000 reward offered by the Canadian Bankers Association, notice of which is posted in all banks, for the capture of bank robbers. As the Free Press says: "The Association, faced with the necessity of granting a reward, will argue for months about the amount, about the risk involved, about the percentage of responsibility of the claimant. The result is that a man who risks his life to effect a robber's undoing finds that instead of the advertised \$5,000, he probably gets \$752.98 or a similar and, possibly smaller amount." This \$752.98 the Free Press talks about is approximately 15 per cent. on the \$5000 and our humble opinion is that anyone who can get 15 per cent. out of a bank nowadays is either a miracle worker or awfully darn lucky.

OTHER PAPERS' OPINIONS

Discovering New Values
Money restriction has stimulated inventiveness in the way of social activities in every community. Amateur talent, that lay unappreciated in good courage. And best of all, with more times, is being developed and simple living, a new neighborliness is springing up. There are many real values which have no connection with money or hard times.—High River Alta. Times.

Watch Out Dirstein!
Maybe we had better borrow Walkerton's Chief of Police for a few days. On Friday, at one o'clock a truck and trailer belonging to the Chesley Company which aroused the Walkerton Chief's ire, parked in the middle of the Fergus main street for about ten minutes, while the drivers unloaded some goods for Carroll's store. There was plenty of space at the curb one car length farther ahead, but the driver would have to carry his bundles about fifteen feet farther. There is also a lane behind this same store, which other truck companies use when they want to make deliveries. We see the trucks belonging to the Goodale Company of Hamilton using this lane, and showing some consideration for Fergus motorists.—Fergus News-Record.

Will They Try, Try Again?
Over in Grey County through a meeting held at Clarksburg a move was made to organize a county municipal association. In Simcoe a somewhat similar suggestion was put forward last year. Both failed to receive support and that in Simcoe, at least, faded out of sight. In the Grey county council when the matter was introduced, recently, there appeared to be fear that in time the county body might be a side line and that the newly created body would be telling the members how to run the council. It was a foolish argument inasmuch as the county council would still be the elected body and at the same time a reflection on the body itself, a depreciation by itself of itself. One reasonable line of reasoning was that the provincial body is dominated by the large centres, hence the smaller centres receive little, or no consideration. Through an organization, such as proposed, their voice might possibly be heard. But the Grey county councillors would have none of it. Will their opposition mean the death of the movement or will those behind it persist and—finally succeed.—Collingwood Enterprise-Bulletin.

Old Age Pensions in Bruce
The fact that there are 413 active pensioners in Bruce, as reported recently, which compared with 210 on the roll at the end of 1929, shows that in three years the list has practically doubled and this in spite of the 153 cancellations by death and otherwise since the Act came into force in the year of 1929. The 413 pensioners in Bruce cost the county approximately \$700 per month but as \$17.50 is collected from each pensioner in the House of Refuge, the sum of \$350 thus being added to the treasury monthly, the ratepayers pay directly \$350 per month on this account. This reduction was made possible by the Dominion and Provincial Governments paying during the past year 90 per cent. of the levy instead of 80 per cent. and the county 20 per cent. as formerly. The amount of money paid this year to pensioners in Bruce amounted to \$85,966.08, of which the county contributed \$9,198.01. Last month the 52 drawing Mothers' Allowance in Bruce County received approximately \$1400, of which the county contributed \$700, or 50 per cent.—Paisley Advocate.

The earth's circumference is said to be shrinking. Perhaps in keeping with its inhabitants who have been forced to tighten their belts.

When Is A Man Really "Clever"?
Discussing a man in public life with one of his colleagues the other day, the conferee said: "I will say this for him; he's clever."

The quick reply may have surprised the speaker, for the statement was a repetition of what others had said, and had given rise to a parallel: "So was Kreuger clever. So was Machray, of Winnipeg; so, too, were the Insull brothers. But these four men brought themselves to the lowest levels and massacred all those who were associated with them."

A man must be upright, open, and square to be really clever. He must never be deceptive or Janus-faced. The mere accumulation of money does not mean that a man is clever.—Sherbrooke Record.

Highways Committee's Pay Same As In 1905

The Telescope was surprised to learn that the pay and allowances of the members of the Bruce Highways Committee last year were \$2.49 less than the money drawn by the members of the County Road and Bridge Committee in 1905.

The sum of \$716.69 was paid out 27 years ago for the services of those who administered road and bridge matters.

The three members of the committee in charge of the present County Highway System—slightly over 300 miles of roads, with oversight of bridges which the old Road and Bridge Committee formerly looked after, and, in addition, all bridges on municipal boundaries which, in 1905 and later, were under the supervision of local municipal councils—drew in pay last year \$714.20, and in 1932 their services will not cost the County a greater amount.

It would appear that the people of Bruce, with a capable and most conscientious engineer and road superintendent and a supervising committee composed of able men, have reason for satisfaction.—Walkerton Telescope.

While it is too much to expect a return to the "good old days" completely, we may yet see the time when the butcher, wrapping up the order of liver, will throw in a piece of round steak.—Los Angeles Times.

What are you going to give this Christmas?

That's an easy problem if you just take a look at our display. We have a gift for everybody, and no matter what you want to spend you will find something to suit you.

Ladies' Boxed Handkerchiefs at 15c, 25c and 39c per box.

See our Hand Embroidered Handkerchiefs at 5c each

Boxed Christmas Cards 10 in a box, with envelopes to match 25c box

Give Stationary fancy boxes at 25c, 39c and 50c

Ladies' Scarves, something new, hand painted at \$1.00 each

This Week's Big Special P & G SOAP cakes 9c

OUR TOYLAND IS NOW OPEN Toys and dolls are cheaper. Come in and see our display.

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