

The Stouffville Tribune

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A. V. Nolan, J.P., Editor and Publisher

Notes and Comments

Like a snowball rolling down a hill, Geo. McCullagh's Leadership League gains in momentum and force each day and there is no telling what will be the ultimate outcome. At least the blizzards of ballots descending upon Ottawa should make some little impression upon the politicians and bring them to realize that the people are looking for action to solve Canada's pressing problems. The League is also performing the very useful service of arousing public opinion, which in the final instrument for inciting Parliament analysis will be the most effective to action.

Ontario's Well Run Counties

(Financial Post)

There is one bright spot in the municipal picture in Canada that is commonly overlooked.

That is the sound spending policies of a number of smaller governing bodies and their relative freedom from debt.

Typical of a group in Ontario is the case of Elgin County, says the Aylmer Express:

"For years Elgin County has been financed on a pay-as-you-go plan. Like Nebraskans, the citizens of Elgin are proud of their enviable position, and intend to stay that way. We, in Elgin, are debt conscious and no elected councillor would think of recommending any change in the policy."

Elgin's record is one of which its citizens may be proud. It has no debenture debt. In 1937 and 1938 it had a perfect record of tax collections. There were no tax arrears.

Other Ontario counties have cut their coats according to their cloth. The counties of Kent, Lambton, Perth, Simcoe and Wellington also had no debenture debt at the end of 1937. Thirty counties showed a decrease in debenture debt, as against one increase.

While the progress made by counties may be more gratifying than that of municipalities generally, it should be remembered that a number of factors make the problems of the latter more difficult to solve.

Greater concentration of population causes higher costs of social services and relief. Municipal facilities are much more costly.

The majority of Ontario counties have preponderantly rural populations. In the case of Elgin, of a population of approximately 26,000 less than 6,000 are inhabitants of towns and villages.

In 1936, \$55,904 was spent on social services out of total expenditures of \$234,691. This is proportionately greater than the majority of counties.

The greatest burdens assumed by the counties are those of education, administration of justice and construction and maintenance of roads.

The county councillor is inherently a sound individual, believing that the government of the county should be conducted on the same lines as his business or farm. While this view prevails the county is likely to be run on a common sense basis.

What's Wrong With Our Country ?

Speaking in the House of Commons the other day, Hon. R. J. Manion made a rather sensational comparison when he said that Germany, Italy and Japan, taken all together, were only just a little greater in area than the Province of Ontario, and that in those three countries there are "cooped up," so to speak, 200,000,000 people, while in Ontario there are less than 4,000,000 people.

Seizing upon these figures, Mr. J. H. Blackmore, M.P., quotes the Minister of Public Welfare as saying that unless there is a pronounced improvement in business conditions during the current year, Ontario's relief bill for 1939 will be well above the 1938 figure. He estimates that by the end of this month about 283,000 Ontario citizens will be receiving aid, as against 253,430 during the same month last year, and says that during the fiscal year ending March 31 the Ontario Government will have spent one million dollars more on relief than during the previous year.

While not agreeing with Mr. Blackmore's Social Credit theories, editorially comments the Hanover Post, many people will agree with him that if Ontario cannot support four million people with a reasonable standard of well-being, while Germany, Italy and Japan, with a similar area, are struggling to keep 200 million people "the evidence seems conclusive that something is radically wrong with the type of democracy we are trying to apply to the Dominion," and further, "The simple fact remains that when in a country as rich as Canada, with such a small population, conditions are so contemptibly and shamefully bad, the people will realize that certainly there must be something wrong somewhere."

Hook-And-Eye Days

Other things besides times march on. To most of the zipper women of today the death of the inventor of the hook-an-eye fastener may mean little or nothing. But there will be greyheads to recall the wasp-waist era that gave this form of hold-together its greatest vogue.

Many a smile will break at the recollection of heavy strings anchored to a bedpost or some other convenient piece of furniture, and drawn almost to breaking point, while a perspiring female at the other end struggled to compress herself into a corset.

With that acrobatic achievement successfully attended to, there was still the gown, usually brought together under one arm as the most inaccessible as well as the most inconspicuous place of meeting, that called for hooks and eyes sewed together as closely as possible.

Often the enveloping process enlisted the unwilling services of the nominal head of the household, who probably was having troubles of his own chasing an elusive collar button under the furniture or into a dark corner.

STANLEY

THEATRE
Phone Stouffville 100

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
March—23—24—25
Shirley Temple

"LITTLE MISS BROADWAY"

Geo. Murphy Jim Durante

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
March 27—28—29

Edward G. Robinson
in

"I AM THE LAW"

Wendy Barrie Barbara O'Neil
Andy Clyde, Comedy & Shorts

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
March 30—31; April—1

Big Double Bill

"TENTH AVENUE KID"
"BLONDE TROUBLE"

TREASURER STILL ON BAIL

T. J. Sager, clerk and treasurer of Reach Township is still on a \$5,000 bail after his arrest at Port Perry on charges of embezzling \$3,000 of township funds from 1934 to 1938, inclusive.

Sager had been township tax collector from 1931 to April, 1938, when he received the appointment of clerk and treasurer.

Sager, a married man, aged 56, had been a resident of Prince Albert for some years. He was arrested in Port Perry by Provincial Constable W. H. Clark and brought to the county jail.

It is alleged Sager issued receipts for tax collections but did not return all the money to the township. The alleged defalcations came to light last week.

On Thursday last he was up for hearing when given a further remand.

TROUT FROM LAKE SIMCOE PROFITABLE FOR FISHERMEN

Fishing on Lake Simcoe in the Sutton, Keswick and Port Bolster area is the best in three years. That's what the fishermen themselves report, and they should know, if anybody does.

But—they qualify their report by saying it concerns only trout. Whitefish are another matter.

The whitefish catches have been few and far between. In fact the fishermen are so disgusted that they have long since given up hope of catching any. Their lack, though, is more than made up by the over-abundance of trout. Several large catches have been recorded. And, what is better still, the price is higher—Buyers are paying a top price of 15 cents a pound without argument.

Stewart Noble and David Sedore both secured record catches for one day. Noble got \$12 for his load, while Mr. Sedore received \$15 for his 23 trout. Both reside in Sutton and depend on fishing for their livelihood during the winter.

Lack of whitefish, fishermen explain, is due to the fact that they have moved into trout fish grounds, five miles off shore. Here they seem almost immune to fishing hooks.

The average whitefish caught average one to four pounds, but so few have been caught of late that fishermen are working on nearby farms, cutting and hauling wood or helping to fill ice company warehouses.

Ernest Prosser, district game warden, says trolling during the spring and summer should be the best in many years. It was good last year, but it is expected to be even better this year. He bases his prediction on the scarcity of whitefish and the over-abundance of trout.

"This state of affairs augurs well for a good open season of fishing. Let's hope I am not wrong in my predictions," he said.

The largest trout taken out of the lake was caught by Howard Woods, well known Sutton resident. Caught by spear, the trout weighed 17 pounds even.

John Urquhart a Popular, and Friendly Man

In reference to the life and final passing of John E. Urquhart of Ayr, as reported in this paper last week, the Galt Reporter which circulates the Ayr district says:

"Ayr lost a well-known citizen over the weekend in the death of John E. Urquhart.

Although he had not been enjoying the best of health this winter, Mr. Urquhart had been able to continue his usual work and it was only two weeks ago that he was forced to his bed with a chill. Complications set in which proved fatal. He was in his 63rd year.

Mr. Urquhart was born in Stouffville, son of the late John Urquhart and Margaret Jane Leany. He received his education at Stouffville schools. A moulder by trade, he served his apprenticeship with the Gurney Company in Toronto. He was married in Toronto on March 3, 1904, continued to work for the Gurney Company for a year after his marriage, and then went to Sarnia for a year where he worked for the Dougherty Company.

He came to Ayr 33 years ago and since then had worked as a moulder for the John Watson Company. In his younger days he was a lacrosse player. For years he was a member of the Ayr Bowling Club. He was a member of the Canadian Order of Foresters and an adherent of Knox United Church. In politics he was a staunch Liberal. A well-tempered, friendly man, Mr. Urquhart had many friends who always found him the same."

NEW SYSTEM FOR ISSUING LICENSES

Beginning the first of April a complete new system for issuing radio licenses will be inaugurated all over the country. All licenses will henceforth be issued by returned soldiers with active overseas service.

A supervisor in each federal riding will be appointed who will in turn appoint vendors of licenses. These vendors, all of whom must also be returned soldiers, go to the homes of all the people in the territory and if the home has a radio their instructions are to call the owner's attention to the fact that a license is necessary to operate a radio set and offer to sell one. Should the owner of the set decline to buy a license a note of the fact is made and at a later date a second call is made. If on the occasion of this call the license is not taken out no threat is to be made or any measure taken to make the sale high pressure. The vendor has a report he fills out giving considerable information regarding the party declining to take out the license and this is forwarded to the department of transport and further action comes from them.

As all the licenses will have to be purchased by the vendors before they make their canvass.

Postmaster and radio dealers will continue to issue radio licenses this year, but when the new system is working smoothly the sale of radio licenses will probably be made wholly through the men appointed to handle them.

"THE WORLD OWES ME A LIVING."

Failure of many to find employment is due to lack of interest, Dr. G. I. Christie told an audience at Milton on Thursday. The president of the Ontario Agricultural college spoke at the annual ladies' night of St. Clair Masonic lodge.

"A large part of our unemployment is the result of too many thinking the world owes them a living, so they sit down and wait for it," Dr. Christie declared. "I can place dozens of men if they really know how to do something and sincerely want to do it."

Dr. Christie ridiculed the suggestion that "the church has failed."

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MARKHAM MAN CHARGED WITH RECEIVING

"This receiving business has got to a point where the man who receives is worse than the thief," declared Magistrate Keith. James Rennie of Markham Village appeared for sentence on a charge of receiving a fog light.

"Two village boys have been convicted of stealing the light and one was given a jail sentence," said the court. "The evidence in this case shows an offer of 50 cents was made to the boys to secure the fog lamp and was paid. He was more to blame than the thieves."

Rennie was sentenced to 30 days in jail.

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The proposed increase of 2 cents a gallon tax on gasoline would bring increased revenue of five million dollars.

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Completing the Picture of a GOLDEN WEDDING

Mrs. Allen Quickfall, of Bridgeport, Ont., had just arranged a huge bouquet of Chrysanthemums, their Golden Wedding Remembrance from assembled children and grandchildren, when the telephone rang. It was a call from Kindersley, Sask., and the voice of Roy, her son, greeted her. What a surprise on such a day! Mrs. Quickfall writes: "We like to pass on to other sons and mothers the value and satisfaction to be obtained through the medium of telephone contacts, particularly so when the dear ones are scattered over the country."

Why wait for a Golden Wedding? Next time there is a family celebration call up by Long Distance. Make it a real surprise. And remember this, it costs so little, you too, will be surprised!

