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Notes and Comments

Thinking Without Partyism

We cannot recall an election in which the spirit of partyism was so noticeably absent as it is at the present time. Excepting for a few of the older "died in the wool" followers of one or other of the parties, people are doing their own thinking this time, and that is what will make it hard to determine in advance the final outcome of the provincial contest that will be decided at the polls on August the 4th.

Men gather around and discuss matters or platforms of the parties, and their past records, quite independent of party and that is a fine thing. There is a total absence of the heat of other campaigns and we doubt that the old rivalry will be worked up before election day. The crowd discounts the known party man and is not impressed with his biased views any more. The day is gone for the politician who sees everything that is right in his party and all that is wrong in the opposing parties.

Candidates will be judged on their records and their efforts in the past to better our conditions. Those who have the responsibility of office should be given consideration. It is easy to sit on the sidelines and criticize, but not nearly so easy to govern.

Where Is Hitler?

Has anyone been wondering what has become of Hitler? It is a long time since the great and only Adolph appeared before a concourse of his worshipping people to assure them that victory was in sight, that all they had to do was to hang on and trust in him to bring them through to the goal of their desires. We do not even hear from him indirectly. It was the practice, when he was unavoidably absent on some festive occasion, for one of his stooges to explain that he was too busy at his "headquarters", wherever that might be; but lately he seems to have just dropped out and his Propoganda Minister performs in his place.

Strange that Der Fuehrer is missing when he is so badly needed!

Control of Public Health

The application of Dr. F. J. Rundle, M. O. H. for the Township of East Whitby, for fixation of salary which was recently heard by His Honor Judge Coleman, raises an important question as to the authority under which our local health officers operate, the Whitby Gazette wisely points out.

It must be obvious to any thoughtful person, as apparently it is to Judge Coleman, as indicated by his remarks, that there are at present too many jurisdictions having to do with the public health service of a municipality.

The municipal council is required to pay the salary but cannot dismiss an officer or enforce its wishes in matters of public health; the Provincial Board of Health says who shall and who shall not be employed as M. O. H., and the County Judge is empowered to fix the salary; The legislation should most certainly be amended to centre authority in either the municipal council or local board of health, or the Provincial Board should be required to assume full, not partial, responsibility for the maintenance of a proper health service in every municipality in the province. There is much room for improvement in the present unsatisfactory system.

Juvenile Delinquency

A great many editorials have been written about juvenile delinquency, but we hesitate to admit there is any delinquency since we are so impressed with the many fine young people confronting us almost daily. There never was a finer lot of young people attending school at Stouffville than the students of last term. Who could say there is any child delinquency here?

However, there are certain changes taking place, due to the war if you wish to blame it on the war, that are alarming to say the least. For instance, the Sunday School in so many denominations is falling apart, since attendance is steadily but surely dwindling. Then, locally within the past week we are confronted with such instances as two youths from Toronto under 17, being picked up in this district with a stolen car, and still another pair not much older being found drunk by the police within five miles of town accompanied by two women in the same condition. This sort of thing is all too common, but what are we to do about it?

Look about for the cause and you are bound to come to the conclusion that most of the trouble is due to bad home training, or no home training at all. Too many mothers in the larger centres are off to war plants, whereas their real duty is to look after their small family.

We can't blame the dwindling Sunday Schools on the war, because the canker was evident before war started. Perhaps it is the root of the dwindling church attendance. Parents not interested in the church, can hardly rear a family that is interested in the Sunday School.

There are plenty of people who think the present trend of society and juvenile delinquency is due to a lack of interest in the church and they place this as a primary factor, with the war a close second as a menace to proper home life.

There is nothing that will revive the church like the old-time revival. It gives you something that will stick. It makes the believer self-conscious of his personal responsibility to God, as nothing else will do. Yet many people laugh at the memory of revival meetings.



A WEEKLY EDITOR LOOKS AT Ottawa

Written specially for the weekly newspapers of Canada

By Jim Greenblatt

Night of July 9th. While Brooke Claxton, parliamentary assistant addressed a sparse somnambulant House on External Affairs, I had the feeling somehow that momentous things were in the making. The Prime Minister and Defence Minister Ralston, only two cabinet members present were close in huddle adjoining front benches. The P.M. looked grave and pre-occupied. He was making a pencilled draft. Correcting, leaning over to check with Mr. Ralston, pencilling some more. At 8 o'clock next morning I heard his radio announcement to the nation that Canadians were fighting on the beach heads of Sicily. He may have been drafting that important speech as I watched, even while all of Canada was unaware of history-making events taking shape thousands of miles away. Surely they knew. What a secret to carry.

No stove league raised more fuss than sugar for canning. Housewives were definitely annoyed at the arbitrary allotment after counting cans in the basement. The Opposition started a warm but informative debate in the House on this matter and Finance Minister Isley said knowledge of available supplies was not known at the time. It was estimated 30 to 40 per cent of the population did their own canning. Lo and behold, actually 84% applied. Now, in Germany and the U.S.A., a flat allocation is made to each ration book holder, whether for canning or not. Canadians asked for 200 million lbs.; only half that amount available approach to the problem next year. Certainly there will be a different Who'd ever thought it. Research experts of the Department of Agriculture, although mum on the subject yet, are working on the production of rubber, resins and a superior kapok from species of the lowly milk weed. A group have returned here from the U.S.A. where they conferred with experts on progress made there along the same line. It appears it's getting into the post-experimental stage because I hear they are even working on harvesting methods and machinery to make the once-pest get to work for the war effort.

Members tell us the present long-

drawn out session, which started in January, will probably wind up by the end of this month. The closely-printed official report of the House of Commons already runs well, over 4000 pages. Which brings up press comment that the four federal bye-elections will be a serious test of public opinion; may influence the government's decision re a general election, though there is no official peep about such a possibility. Ontario election: editors in the province showing definite party tendencies, but all agreeing there should be no apathy by the voters.

"T-1-General 1942" income tax form was a national headache. C. Fraser Elliott, commissioner for income tax told a newsman here, at the height of the mob scene, he had high hopes for simplified income tax legislation in 1944 and with it a form that doesn't take a hopped-on chartered accountant to solve.

Probably more CWAAC's, etc. in Ottawa than any other single place. My observation here is that Canada can be proud of them. From what I've seen in the nation's capital their bearing, conduct and deportment on the whole is excellent. It could be that some civilian women do not set the same standard.

Come prepared. Probably tradition, but lady visitors to the House of Commons galleries without a hat have to spread a kerchief or piece of Kleenex over their heads before entering the august presence. Men, of course, uncover. Seems—and sometimes look—a little silly.

Directed toward greater efficiency in manpower allocation it is announced here that a representative of National Selective services will be located at army reception centres to interview applicants rejected for enlistment. If sympathetically handled, in my opinion this should help to put more round pegs in round holes of the agricultural and industrial war effort.

The Prices Board has granted an increase of 2-3 of a cent a dozen on clothes pins. Doesn't seem much, but what does it mean to Canadian housewives? Curious I checked, found they use annually around one million 320 thousand gross or over 190 million pins to hang out the wash.

1941 census figures show that 82.5 per cent of the population was born in this country, as against 77.9 in 1931. Of the 11,506,655 total about 8.7% were from British countries, mainly the British Isles; European 3.7 per cent; United States 2.7 per cent; Asia born only 0.4 per cent.

Farmerettes by Gardiner (Agriculture): Movement of coarse grains to eastern provinces for feeding will double 1942 figures and probably reach 100 million bushels. Government pays cost of freight from Fort William east, thus they buy at Fort William prices. He also said the reason there will be no subsidy on corn this year is because fertilizer is short and has to be distributed largely in connection with grass and other

RESERVES VOTE AT CAMP

Other Vacationists Cast Ballots in Home Riding

Hours of voting in the provincial election, Aug. 4, will be from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., the chief election officer, has announced. These hours are fixed by statute and are the same in all provincial elections.

A plan is being worked out, to take the vote of members of the reserve army who on election day are in summer military camps, such as Niagara.

Those on summer holidays must vote wherever their permanent residence is. They cannot vote as summer residents in another riding.

Proxy forms to overseas voters have all been distributed and it is expected the first consignment will arrive back within a few days, by bomber. They will be picked up by postal service where the bomber lands and sent by mail to the proxy voter. The proxy holder then appear before revising officers to have the overseas voter placed on the voters list.

CHURCH MISSION AT MUSSELMAN'S LAKE

Services at St. Peter's Mission, Musselman's Lake have begun for the summer. This is the third year in which the stately services of the Church of England have been held for the spiritual benefit of the holidayers at the Lake.

Mattins is said each Sunday at 11 o'clock in the Mission which is on Appleton's drive. One Sunday at least, there will be a celebration of the Holy Eucharist. The missioner in charge is Mr. John Gillett, a church student of the University of Toronto.

THE COUNTRY STORE

I used to like the country store, But tis no place for me no more, Mirandy's full of pep and vim, A'waitin on she and him.

The Wartime Prices & Trade Board, They can't stop the ones that hoard One takes cans of vegetables three So there isn't any left for me.

I stop and fill my car with gas, And watch the eye of the smiling lass, They take your unit and your money, Now maybe this to you sounds funny.

So when snow is piled up deep, I'd sooner go to bed and sleep, Than hang around the country store, Cause 'tis no place for me no more.

Goodwood

grain crops.

Widely quoted in the press was an article on political union with the U.S.A., appearing in London Free Press. In brief it opposed union because "the British system is best; there is greater respect for law and order under it; there is a greater future under the British Commonwealth of Nations than becoming the 49th state in the Union."

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at 8:30 p.m.

PROF. GEORGE GRUBE OF THE UNIVERSITY TORONTO, WILL ALSO SPEAK

Markham Town Hall
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