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NOTES and COMMENTS

Cattle Cash Greater

It is rather interesting to note that the greatest source of income to Canadian farmers in 1948 was not wheat. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics gives figures showing that cattle and calves took over top position. Largely because of the removal of the export embargo and higher prices cattle and calves brought farmers more cash than anything else. In 1947 income from this source was \$235,300,000 and in 1948 this jumped to \$433,700,000. Sale of wheat grown in 1948 brought only \$401,700,000.

Dresden Community Action Deplored

Canadians everywhere must have been amazed last week to read in the press that the town of Dresden in the county of Kent, is about to take a vote on whether colored people would be allowed to be served in restaurants in Dresden. Aside from the fact that a vote on such a question would have no legal effect on whether or not a restaurant owner served colored people, the moral issue involved is to our mind deplorable.

We are sure that the village of Stouffville would be ashamed to raise such an issue in this place. If we had a settlement of Negroes nearby like they have at Dresden, one would think they should be entitled to the same treatment as any other human beings. That is, provided, the colored folk, conducted themselves like good Canadians, were clean, and decent, and law abiding. This, we demand of all Canadians. The Kent county town has not added anything to its laurels, by showing such animosity to a people of another race as to permit a vote to be taken in such a manner.

The Vanished Button Hook

A contemporary remarks that few people in their twenties have seen a button hook. Perhaps so. What would they want with a button hook? On women's clothes buttons except for ornament, have been supplanted by zippers, and women were the great users of button hooks. They used them to button their high boots — strange affairs which reached halfway up the calf and were considered the only proper wear for walking. Standing with one foot on a chair, a woman deftly slipped the button hook through the button hole, hooked the button around its shank, and pulled it through, with a quick twist.

Men used button hooks, too, for men's boots used to button. And not only did they button up the front; patent leather shoes with light cloth tops buttoned up the side. And when men wore spats with buttons, instead of dome fasteners, they sometimes used button hooks to do them up.

There were button hooks of all sorts. Common ones, with advertising matter stamped into their steel handles, were given away in shoe shops. For men of fashion, button hooks with leather handles were sold; and sometimes also these handles were of staghorn. No lady's toilet set was complete without a button hook with an ivory handle. As well as hooking buttons, these instruments were used for picking locks, recovering lost dentures from drains, and children used them when playing dentist. The button hook lies derelict beside the path of human progress, along with the skirt hook and the carpet stretcher.

Should The Pains of Childbirth Be Relieved?

The nationalization of medicine in Great Britain has shifted many problems to the shoulders of the state which were formerly left to the private discretion and professional code of doctors. One of the most important and vexing of these is the problem of relieving the pain of childbirth with partial or complete anaesthesia. As the state now pays the bill the state must make the rules, and an act has been before the British Commons called the Analgesia in Childbirth Bill. The difficulty which lies in the way of the bill is this: are midwives to be permitted to give

anaesthetics to women in labour? Thousands of women are delivered every year with midwives, and not physicians in attendance; are the midwives to be allowed to ease their pain with drugs? The doctors point out that giving anaesthetics is a complicated and potentially dangerous business and they do not think that midwives can be trusted with it. But as every woman in England is taxed for medical treatment, it is obviously unfair that some should have this form of assistance whereas others, who are attended by midwives, should not. It appears that there are not enough doctors to ensure every woman a doctor's care when she is in labour.

Somewhat to our surprise this debate has revived the old quarrel as to whether anaesthetics during childbirth are ethically defensible, or medically advisable. People who consider the Bible to be, among other things, a medical textbook, refer to Genesis III, 16: "Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children." To ease a woman's birth-pangs, they say, is to go against the will of God. And there are several doctors who say (apparently expecting to be taken seriously) that if the birth of a child does not cause a woman pain, she will be less likely to love and care for her child. This dispute is a very old one, and it may be noted that the advocates of pain in childbirth are, as usual, men, who need never expect to feel them. None of these gentlemen, we observe, suggest that anaesthetics should not be used in surgical operations.

We thought that the debate as to whether a woman should have anaesthetics during childbirth had been won a hundred years ago, when Queen Victoria decided to have them at the birth of Prince Arthur in 1850. She and the Prince Consort thrashed the matter out thoroughly, and consulted clergymen and physicians before they made up their minds. The clincher was the argument of the Queen's personal physician, Sir James Simpson, who pointed out that when God created Eve "the Lord caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh instead thereof." In this way God sanctified the use of anaesthetics when a new life was to be created. The Queen was given chloroform at Prince Arthur's birth, and women everywhere acclaimed her and followed her example when they could.

"Teachers' Tactics Questionable"

Under the above heading the Whitby Times-Gazette strikes out against the High School teachers of the province and especially against the high school teachers in Whitby for staging what the paper terms may be an unwise course in forcing salaries above what the board is prepared to pay. This is coupled with questionable "union" action by the Teachers' Federation.

The Tribune published the comment of the Oshawa paper because the boards in this part of York County are encountering similar demands from the new school areas, and members of the boards claim they are forced to bolster salaries when they are opposed to the increases they make.

The daily Times-Gazette views the situation thus: "Whitby High School teachers won a point last night in salary negotiations with the District High School Board. It was achieved by pressure methods not common to professions but usually employed by national unions in labor disputes. Whether or not the financial advance presently gained will be offset by other considerations in a matter for conjecture. Certainly a definite feeling of bitterness has been created between teachers and board, a condition which will not assist the school and may in the long run be anything but helpful to the teachers. Virtually all members of the board, including those voting for the increase, expressed opinions to this effect and some pointed out that in harder times when salary cuts become common, teachers cannot expect consideration such as they were shown in Whitby during the last depression when such cuts amounted to only about five percent.

It has been apparent that secondary school teachers' salary demands are being made on a province-wide basis backed by their federation with its control over its members and the positions which they may accept. The result is that boards are being forced to grant demands of which they do not approve and which they feel that their taxpayers will resent. Records of the past five years of the Whitby Board show conclusively that the local board has been considerate of its teachers in the matter of salaries which have risen sharply.

In view of the record in Whitby and other places like Whitby, one may wonder whether or not the teachers and their federation have pursued the wisest course during the past few months."

Ottawa Letter

Queen's Park
 Dear People of York East:

This week I have been catching up on my volumes of correspondence. Mr. Speaker, the Honourable, the Rev. M. Cooke Davies, very kindly arranged to have a skeleton staff of stenographers remain this week. I was so glad for it would have taken me all summer by my two-finger method of typing.

The most interesting event of the week was the opening of the new Municipal Building in Leaside. The opening took the form of a Council meeting, with the Mayor in the Chair and the Councillors sitting around the table. The Mayor called on the Clerk, Mr. Burgess, to give a resume of his 20 years of service as Clerk of the Municipality. I found his story fascinating: he told of the development of the town from the farm of the Lea family to its present city size. Mr. Burgess was presented with a watch and Mrs. Burgess with a beautiful bouquet by the Members of the present Council and past Councils of the Town. Mr. Burgess was taken quite by surprise and undoubtedly deeply touched by the tributes paid to him.

The Honourable Leslie Frost, Provincial Treasurer, was the guest speaker, but before he spoke various other people took part. Mr. Frost made the sort of speech that delighted everyone; it was folksy and friendly and was just the sort of thing which show off to the very best advantage his urbanity and distinguished personality. He told of his father, who had been active for many years in the municipal life of the Town of Orillia, and had been the first one to initiate daylight saving, which gave him the nickname of "Daylight Bill". At

the time he was not very keen on the nickname, but as daylight saving became widespread he took a good deal of pride in the fact that he thought of it first, so his son, The Honourable Mr. Frost says. Mr. Frost used to go around with his father in those days, and probably his interest in public business and affairs dates from that time.

At the conclusion of his speech, a presentation was made by the O'Keefe Foundation, whatever that may be, of a painting to be hung in the new Council Chamber. That was the only part of the proceedings I did not enjoy. Afterwards a very delectable lunch was served.

The new building in Leaside is really very fine and it houses the Police Force and the Fire Department, as well as containing the offices of the Municipality and Council Chamber. It is beautiful and very modern in design and I noticed that the furnishings were in light woods, as is the modern trend. The chairs that the councillors sat in, I was very glad to see, were much more comfortable and beautiful than the ones we sit in in Queen's Park. It is amazing that a municipality, a club, a college can do much better for its members than can the Province of Ontario, of which they are all a part. I thought the whole was greater than its parts, but apparently not.

The municipalities of York East are getting fine structures built. East York was the first of the new municipal buildings to be opened, Leaside the second, and Scarborough opens its new municipal buildings on April 21st. We are going to have a dinner at it I notice by the invitation. They must be wealthy in Scarborough: dinners cost something these days. The coming convention of the

Conservative Party for the choosing of a new leader, who will automatically become the Premier, is of general interest, and of those in view my choice for Ontario would be the Honourable Leslie Frost, but my choice for the C.C.F. would be the Honourable Dana Porter. We are such a clear contrast that it would make things easy for us. But I do not suppose the Convention will take that into account!

Agnes Macphail, M.P.P.,
 York East.

LINDSAYITE JUST TWO BEANS OUT

Talking about being a good guesser, no one has it over Mrs. James Meikle of Lindsay, who while she was attending the Sport-Company.

men's Show recently, took a guess as to how many beans were in a jar on display there. Her guess was 10,300.

After the answers of 15,000 people had been tabulated it was found that Mrs. Meikle was by far the superior guesser, being only two beans out, for there were actually 10,298 beans in the jar.

For 1st prize she received a tableload of goodies such as jams, jellies, pickles, canned goods, chickens, etc., all the finest of foods.

A self-puncture-sealing auto tire that needs no inner tube, goal of the tire and auto industries for more than 50 years, has been introduced by the B. F. Goodrich

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY



See Your Favorite Picture First at the STANLEY THEATRE

Friday and Saturday, April 22, 23
 "GALLANT LEGION"—Wm. Elliot
 "DANGEROUS YEARS"—Ann Todd

Monday and Tuesday, April 25, 26
"TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS"
 (Technicolor)
 Dennis Morgan
 Jack Carson

Thursday!
"LULU BELLE"
 (adult entertainment)
 Dorothy Lamour

"Second Chance"
 Kent Taylor - L. Currie
 Wednesday & Thurs.
 April 27, 28

\$335.00 OFFER!

Friday and Saturday, April 29, 30
"THAT HAGEN GIRL"
 Shirley Temple & Ronald Reagan
"Wild Horse Mesa"
 Tim Holt & Nan Leslie

STOUFFVILLE STANLEY Theatre of the Stars!

Monday and Tuesday, May 2, 3
"THREE MUSKETEERS"
 Lana Turner & Gene Kelly

Coming!

Editor's Mail

Bellingham, Wash.
 April 8, 1949

The Stouffville Tribune,
 Dear Sirs,

Was very pleased to get your paper with the nice write-up of Mr. and Mrs. Goudie's wedding anniversary. I have known them for over 50 years and very few couples are as fine as they.

I drove an oil tank out of Markham to Stouffville and surrounding towns 45 years ago and hope you do not have as much snow as you had that winter. You couldn't see any fences even!

Your town must have changed since then. My home was at Vine-land where my sisters still have the Post Office.

Hope you get the new ice arena. Markham used to have a good hockey team but I still listen to the games in Toronto. Well, thanks

again for your paper and let's see you put 3000 up in the corner.

Sincerely,
 Allen R. Moyer,
 1460 Iron St., Bellingham.



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