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# Editorials

## Signs of Autumn

Tree foliage has almost completed its mission and, in some instances, the leaves are becoming rusty. Fruit grows large on the pear tree. Apple trees are so heavy that the orchardist is propping boughs against breakage. The zinnia border is losing color. The sun which set far toward the north has come almost halfway on the horizon span it will cover by late December. In less than one week day and night will be equal. After that autumn will be here by the calendar.

## Glass On The Streets

Although tires are tougher than they used to be, broken glass can still ruin them, cause punctures and even blowouts. Judging from the amount of broken glass strewn Peterborough streets, one would think that a national safety council had given its approval to this sort of road surfacing. The fact is that it is still an offence — a crime — to leave splinters of glass on the streets and highways. The Highway Traffic Act specifically requires that a person who has had an accident in which windshields, bottles or any other form of glass litter the road shall ensure that it is cleaned up as soon as possible. It is the responsibility of the person who has had the mishap, not the job of the city, to sweep up the glass. If a case of milk or pop bottles crashes, the truck driver should have a broom to sweep up the litter, and he should use it. If an individual shopper drops a bottle, he can surely borrow a broom nearby. If there is a car crash, the tow-truck should automatically include in its assignment the job of cleaning up the glass. It is due to heedlessness, not lack of means, that broken glass is left on the roads. People say: "Oh well, somebody soon the city sweepers will be around." That is not good enough. Perhaps if some examples were made in magistrate's court the neglect of this minor obligation would be arrested. To find the culprit might, in some cases, take the police an hour or two, but the time would be well spent if a charge resulted and the public generally got the idea that broken glass is legally offensive. —Peterborough Examiner.

## Excellent Idea

The decision by provincial authorities to give a red badge of dishonour in the form of a distinguishing license reinstatement form to drivers who are convicted of drunk driving is a good one. It might have been wise to have presented these drivers with an additional memento of their drunken driving spree which would have identified them more readily to the general public. Such a distinguishing mark could have taken the form of a windshield sticker or some such marking which would be easy to discern. However, we believe the present ruling is in good taste and will go a long way towards having a sobering effect on drivers. It isn't likely that many drivers will relish having on their person even such a normally well concealed form of identity which can be demanded at any time by the law and which would immediately reveal a drunk driving conviction. Authorities might now consider a multi-colour system of license reinstatement forms thus associating the possessor with his (or her) particular driving conviction. The red is quite suitable for drunk driving, blue would serve for criminal negligence and so forth. At the same time our lawmakers could give some thought to suspending licenses for more minor offences which, while the immediate consequences were not grave, might well have been under slightly different circumstances. There cannot be too much stress placed on the need for finding ways and means of reducing highway tragedies. One of the best ways seems to be to give proven negligent drivers a nice long rest from behind the wheel. —Lindsay Post.

## Dairymen Are Now Asking Lower Prices For Butter

The leaders of Canada's dairy industry have changed their tune from that which we have heard for some years past. The Dairy Council of Canada heard its leaders make a plea to the government to lower butter prices so that it could compete more effectively with margarine. For years the dairy industry carried on a battle to have the former ban on margarine continued. Failing in that, they asked for, and in some provinces, secured restrictions on margarine, particularly with respect to its color. At the same time they demanded and secured a floor price on butter, by which the government at Ottawa purchases all supplies of butter at 58 cents a pound. This kept up the returns to the producer, and at the same time the retail price to the consumer. As a result of this floor price arrangement, the government now has on its hands 115 million pounds of butter for which it has no market. Some quantities have been sold to European countries, at prices much lower than the floor price, involving the government in heavy losses. There is merit in the argument that if the prices paid by other countries. Going further than the theme of last week's editorial which supported the idea of a government floor price for butter, it would seem most just that those who provide the funds to pay the floor price should reap the benefit of a lower retail rate. But the dairy farmers are going a little too far in asking the government, as a matter of fixed policy, to continue paying the floor price of 58 cents a pound to the producer, re-sell it at a price competitive with margarine and absorb the loss. We doubt if any government would adopt such a policy. As we have said before, it would be much better for the government to get out of the butter business and let the law of supply and demand operate to let the price find its own proper level.

## LAFF OF THE WEEK



"Rather disconcerting isn't she... say, I think she gave you somebody else's hat!"



**THEY ALSO RAN**  
 I KNOW LITTLE about horse-racing — practically nothing — but I know there is a much used expression which has to do with horses that have not distinguished themselves and they are referred to as "also rans." It is not a complimentary term. In any walk of life the number of distinguished persons is not large, at best about one or two percent, the rest are ordinary, mundane individuals who also ran. LATE IN LIFE that giant in heart and mind, Phillips Brooks, said: "I would like to have been captain of a great ocean liner." That is not hard to believe. He was a born leader of men and it is difficult to imagine him in any other role. In most people there is a desire to know the direction in which one is going and, if possible, to know what the outcome of life's experiences will be. They like to stand upon the captain's bridge. YET IN THE GREATEST CONCERN of all — matters of the soul — complete knowledge is denied. There is continual need for faith and the best and wisest feel it. A beautiful poem by John T. McFarland expresses this truth.

I go not where I will but must;  
 This planet-ship on which I ride  
 Is drawn by a resistless tide:  
 I touch no pilot wheel but trust  
 That One who holds the chart of stars,  
 Whose fathom-lines touch lowest deeps  
 Whose eye the boundless spaces sweeps,  
 Will guide the ship through cosmic bars.  
 My soul goes not a chosen way:  
 A current undercuts my life.  
 That moves alike in peace or strife,  
 And turns not for my yea or nay.  
 Not on the bridge, but at the mast,  
 I sail o'er this far-streaming sea;  
 I will arrive; enough for me  
 My Captain's smile and words at las.

THE WIDOW of a really great man confessed about her husband: "He wasn't easy to live with." The lot of the gifted is not easy, too many of them are, as Carlyle said: "Like ships on fire at sea for the benefit of spectators on shore." From the beginning of time there have been men and women, weighted down with responsibilities and they need our sympathy and prayers. Elijah once cried in self-trueh — "I am not better than my fathers." That was not quite true for he was a great man, but for those of us who are among the "also rans," we can but humbly and reverently, do our best. JULIA WARD HOWE once invited Charles Sumner to meet a distinguished guest at her home but he said scornfully: "I do not know that I wish to meet your friend. I have outlived my interest in individuals." In contrast to that surly and ungracious attitude Paul stresses the truth — as did his Master before him — that God is tremendously interested in individuals. Indeed it has been said that the three classes of people Jesus had most frequently in mind were the last, the least and the lost.

THE WRITER ONCE had conversation with an old superannuated minister who had outlived by twenty years the Psalmist's span of three-score and ten. The aged man told of days when travelling was exceedingly difficult and hardships a daily lot. With perfect frankness he told of what he considered had been his own limitations as a minister. He summed it up by saying: "I did not always get on well and I made some serious mistakes, but I did the best I could. OUR QUOTATION TODAY is by Browning: "All service ranks the same with God."

**SHOVELLING GRAVEL**  
 Watching modern equipment load and then spread gravel doesn't make one think about the "good old days." It only reminds one of some of the back-breaking jobs then, and how they have been eliminated. Shovelling gravel, for road work or other purposes, was one of the toughest. The township and county roads were maintained by gravel shovelled by hand. The first of our provincial highways also were surfaced by the same process. It was hard work, shovelling gravel all day in a pit located on a hill. It also was hot work on a summer day, with the sun beating down on the back. It was a steady job, as a succession of teams and wagons drew up to be filled. The standard, on provincial roadwork was 1 1/2 yards to the load. When one load drew away, another wagon replaced it. As the load weighed about a ton, it likewise was heavy work for a team. One needed tough hands and strong muscles. One also required the knack of it. A handy man with a shovel, who knew how to use it properly, could shovel all day without wearing himself out, though he would be tired. A greenhorn would have blistered his hands and a sore back before noon of the first day. Though a heavy job, it was not unpleasant. There would be good company in the rest of the gang, with homespun philosophy and earthy humor always prevailing.

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## For Parents Only

**"I'M SORRY"**  
 By Nancy Cleaver

**In the Editor's Mail**  
 Editor, The Tribune,  
 Dear Sir:  
 Although it will be October or even later before we can give the final result of the National Red Shield Appeal, we are confident that when all the delayed Campaigns are completed the objective will be reached. Our press clipping service shows that once again Canadian newspapers have been behind the Salvation Army in its appeal for funds. The generous coverage and sympathetic support given have been very encouraging to this Headquarters. We should, therefore, like to express to you and your staff the very warm thanks and appreciation of The Salvation Army for your understanding and co-operation. Yours sincerely,  
 L. Bursey, Brigadier,  
 National Campaign Director

**Value of Dissent**  
 To the Editor: One of the serious weaknesses of present-day society is a tendency to conform to current practices, whether they are good or bad. And so I admire those who do not hesitate to speak their convictions, irrespective of whether it is conducive to popularity or not. To "lack brave dissent" is a sign of weakness; and to be "neutral on a moral issue" breeds flabbiness of character and makes no contribution to the welfare of society. —OBSERVER

**SPENDTHRIFT:** A person who gets his exercise running up bills.

**PHILANTHROPIST:** An employer who pays low wages so he can make enough money to provide charity for needy workmen.

**LAWYER:** A man who's always making whys at you.

**CHICKEN:** The only animal you can eat before it's born.

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