

THE STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE

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Editorials

A Job Well Done

The satisfaction of a job well done was felt on Monday night by members of Stouffville Lions Club when they entertained players from the Peewee Hockey teams whom they have fostered again throughout the winter.

Special appreciation goes to several members of the club who have taken an active part in organizing and coaching the young lads throughout the season, and their work was recognized at the annual dinner on Monday night.

United Church Paper "The Observer" Has Healthy Growth Across Canada

The circulation of "The Observer," bi-monthly magazine published by The United Church of Canada, has just reached an all-time high of 162,800 copies, it was announced recently by United Church headquarters.

Ontario is the largest subscriber to the church paper, with over 88,000 homes receiving the publication each issue. Toronto has a circulation of 16,771 with another 10,000 subscribers in the immediate vicinity of Toronto.

Saskatchewan has 16,660, Alberta 15,000, British Columbia 12,000, Manitoba 10,000, and Quebec 9,000. The Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland have a combined circulation of about 8,000.

Looney As It May Sound

An Ontario magistrate thinks that the next logical step to the baby bonus and the universal old age pension is a marriage bonus. He thinks it would curb juvenile delinquency and family delinquency if young couples were given a low-interest government loan of \$3000 to \$5000, to be repaid when the man's earning power has been fully established.

He also suggests that people should not be allowed to get married unless some state official approves the union. Young people, he says, may be physically attracted and still not know what they are getting into in marriage. "All couples," he suggests, "should appear before a registrar or somebody and prove they are ready to wed. If they can't show they fully appreciate their responsibilities a marriage license should be denied. They should not be permitted to marry until they can satisfy the registrar that they are fit."

Looney as this may sound to most, says an Exchange, it has more than a touch of the frighteningly mad logic that has infested many minds in this modern world. The thought process is that if the state is going to provide a bonus to children and a bonus to oldsters, money mailed every month and no questions asked other than to see a birth certificate — on top of all this to provide newlyweds with a generous low-interest loan of un-fixed term — the state should have authority to say who gets married and who doesn't get married.

What should frighten Canadians is that some of the above-mentioned things have happened, and the remainder are proposed with a straight face. The terror in the whole process comes from the fact that every step taken in building up the state as a giant welfare agency subtracts just that much from the personal freedom of the individual citizen.

That Canadians would ever require permission to marry may seem impossible. It may not be impossible. —Truro Daily News.

WORLD HEALTH DAY

"World Health Day is celebrated internationally in order to call to public attention everywhere the significance of health all over the world," said Dr. Gordon Bates, General Director of the Health League of Canada today in a statement especially prepared for World Health Day.

"This year the purpose of World Health Day is to destroy disease-carrying insects, and the Health League of Canada, acting as a national citizens' committee for the World Health Organization in Canada is trying to call to public attention the importance of international health in general, and of the specific objectives of World Health Day in 1956."

"The role played by insects in carrying disease cannot be over-emphasized," he continued. "Their specific role should be understood in order to realize the part they play in spreading diseases which cause sickness and death in many countries. In Canada, insects play their part as well as rodents and animals which may spread disease."

It is hoped that World Health Day will stimulate our citizens to study on this occasion the significance of world health as well as insect borne diseases. World Health Day gives to our citizens the opportunity to study the ravages which result from insect borne diseases and to realize again the importance of health in the development of civilization," he concluded.

Position Available

for Reporting and Advertising Work

A position is open on this newspaper for a young man or one of mature years, as full-time reporter. Previous experience in advertising not necessary. Writing ability essential, typing preferred. Young man applying should have at least Junior Matriculation. Good working conditions, hospitalization provided and contributory pension fund. Chance for advancement.

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Stouffville

WEEKLY EDITORS HOLD CONVENTION



Arthur Carr, right, who became editor of a weekly publication 50 years ago, is still Mr. Weekly Editor to the Western Ontario Weekly Newspaper Association, celebrating its 50th anniversary in Kitchener. J. C. Noel and G. Ellis, Goderich, welcomed Mr. Carr, now editor of the Palmerston Observer, with placards.

For Parents Only

Parents and Exams

By Nancy Cleaver

"Exam time is very hard on parents, especially mother!" Mrs. Black said vehemently.

"House cleaning in the Spring is bad enough, but when several children in the family are preparing for their final tests too, life is hardly worth living."

Most fathers and mothers would agree that exam time can be pretty grim. If even one member of the family is worrying, studying, late and getting too little sleep, the fatigue and irritation which are almost unavoidable can certainly ruffle the home atmosphere.

What are some practical suggestions which can make these days easier for the student and everyone else under the same roof? Both parents and boys and girls should accept the fact that there are poor, medium and brilliant members of every class. Naturally, their standing in their examinations will depend in part on their mental equipment with which they are endowed. But it will also be determined by the amount of work they have done faithfully throughout the term.

There are all kinds of diversions such as TV, the radio, movies, comic books, etc., which lure many youngsters in their evenings, away from their studies. But parents help their children if homework and extra preparation for exams are accepted as a regular part of the evening routine, free from the other attractions.

They can also assist by providing a well-lighted table or desk and a comfortable chair in a quiet corner away from distractions. They can see that the pupil has the necessary tools for work — pencils, rubber, ink, ruler, etc. Thus they "set the stage" for exam time.

A child's studies are his own responsibility, and parents only harm him when they get under his load. But mother or dad can "hear spelling" or memory work, or ask the questions given at the end of a chapter. They can encourage a child to plan his time and work first and hardest at the subjects he finds most difficult.

The teacher will usually be only too willing to suggest definite ways in which parents can encourage the scholar who is having a hard time at school in certain subjects. At the same time, mothers and fathers do well not to be too anxious about marks. Worry is very contagious. One reason a child often enters an examination room in a state of nervous "jitters" is that he feels unable to measure up to the home expectations of high standing.

Mother should send her child to an exam in as confident a state as possible. Perhaps he has had some special little treat for breakfast, but if his appetite has vanished, he hasn't been forced to eat up his food. It doesn't hurt to remind a youngster to "Read over" the examination paper quickly. Make a rough plan as to how much time should be spent on each question. Do them in any order you wish. But it might be best to tackle the easiest ones first. Don't worry about how the other pupils are getting along, or anything else. Con-

centrate on the exam and keep slugging away. Last but not least, before answering a question, read it over slowly and carefully to find out exactly what is being asked!

If a pupil has kept up with his work, reviewed each subject, and doesn't get flustered when he writes his examination paper, he can hope to make a reasonably good showing. Indeed, he may even get a pleasant surprise when his results come out! And so may his parents!

(Copyright)

Methuselah

There was a man in olden times Of prestige and renown; He lived so long, those years ago, He surely handed down

Some object lesson for us all, Who follow in his wake And wish to live out longish lives.

If just for living's sake, There must have been some things about This man we ought to know; Some things pertaining to that age

That he'er in print did show. We wonder if he brushed his teeth Through all those weary years, Or wore a tie, and combed his hair —

And washed behind his ears? What did he do in wintertime, To keep from getting cold? What did he do or leave undone That he should grow so old?

For near a thousand years, you see, To be all on-one's own! Imagine that — and then just think

Of some guys you have known! He must have been some lad, this man, So constant on the go, That none have equalled through the years,

For either weal or woe. So we take off our hat to him, And quietly Hurrah! He stands alone 'midst human kind —

The great Methuselah! —W.F.R.

VICTORY OVER SLEEPING SICKNESS

A vast two million pounds sterling programme initiated in Zululand by the South African Government to eradicate sleeping sickness, has scored a complete victory against this deadly and age-old illness. Sleeping sickness is transmitted by the tsetse fly to animals and man alike. The programme used insecticides to wipe out the insect throughout Zululand. Now South Africa health authorities are confident that the whole continent can be freed of this disease before the end of the century. They have drafted a detailed plan calling for spreading insecticide against the tsetse fly over ten thousand square kilometres of tropical Africa.

BETWEEN OURSELVES BY Archer Wallace

FRIENDS IN DISGUISE FEW ENJOY CRITICISM: most dislike it. Even intelligent and otherwise well-balanced people can be depressed or exasperated by it. The poet Tennyson could be made ill by unfavourable reviews of his poetry and the early death of Keates has been attributed to a bitter attack on his poetry. The Danish artist Dore was another genius who resented censure of any kind.

THOSE OF US who are ordinary folk often act in much the same way. We become suspicious of the critics and feel like telling them to mind their own business. We think the criticism is personal and wonder why we have been singled out for attacks.

THIS ISN'T TRUE; everybody has critics and a realization of this fact ought to make us feel a little — a good deal — more comfortable. The person who doesn't get some criticism hasn't been born. So, cheer up, you're in good company.

THE APOSTLE PAUL was loved by the Galatian Christians; as we would say: "They would give their eye teeth for him." But he felt it his duty to correct some abuses among them and instantly they showed resentment. He wrote probably more in sorrow than in anger: "Am I your enemy because I tell you the truth?"

IN LOUIS FISHER'S "Life of Mahatma Gandhi," he says that one source of Gandhi's strength was he did not resent criticism, indeed he welcomed it. He used to say: "My critics are friends in disguise. They do me a service for they force me to examine myself."

HE KNEW IT WAS UTTERLY FOOLISH to fly into a fit of temper when he was criticised. Repeatedly this little man — who was a very big man — thanked others for calling attention to his weaknesses. He examined carefully what they said, then asked himself how much of it was true. Few of us are big enough to do that. Giving advice, they say, is an art. So is taking advice and it is more difficult.

MANY YEARS AGO there was a boy named William Paley studying at Cambridge University in England. He had a lot of natural ability; it was fairly easy for him to master even difficult subjects; but with it all he seemed indifferent, almost lazy. He spent most of his time in idleness and seemed to be out for a good time and nothing more. He was wasting his time.

ONE DAY AFTER BEING AT A PARTY the previous evening, he was tired and listless. He didn't want to open a book or apply himself to anything. A friend of his saw how weary he was and knew the reason. He said to Paley: "William, you are a fool to waste your time like this. There isn't a smarter boy in the college, but you are not trying to do anything worthwhile. I wish I had half your ability; I would go places. Although I am your friend, I shall renounce your friendship unless you stop this idleness and do something."

THE WORDS SANK DEEP into Paley's mind. He knew they were true. He could think of weeks of sheer idleness while he spent his evenings at parties which left him sick and tired. The next day he began to apply himself to his studies. From that time he never wavered in his resolution to work. He rose every morning at five and often worked till nine at night. His industry was unconquerable; and although there was a good deal of competition in that college, at the end of the year he stood first.

MANY YEARS AFTERWARDS, he wrote many important books. He was one of the most distinguished scholars of his day and had great influence throughout the world. Some of his writings became text-books in Cambridge — the very place where once he had wasted so much time. He said that he owed nearly everything to the good friend who had had the courage to give him a scolding, otherwise he might never have wakened up.

PALEY AND GANDHI lived in different countries and different centuries but they had this in common — they could take advice and profit by it. Where smaller men would have "frown off the handle," they looked on criticism as a stepping-stone to character.

OUR QUOTATION TODAY is by W. L. Watkinson: "Precious is the discipline of the disagreeable."

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

THE COURAGE OF THE EARLY CHRISTIANS Acts 3 to 5 (Lesson for April 15) Golden Text—Lord... grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word. Acts 4:29

THE LESSON AS A WHOLE Approach to the Lesson In last week's lesson I suggested that chapter one, verse eight, constitutes the text of the Book of Acts. This verse indicated the divine program of expansion, and Luke goes on to record how that program was put into effect. As we read through these chapters it is noticeable that the expansion did not take place easily, nor even voluntarily, so far as the human agents were concerned.

Verse 14—"And beholding the man... healed... they could say nothing." The presence of the formerly lame man, so instantly healed in the name of Jesus, certainly embarrassed the position of the Sanhedrin and enhanced the case for the apostles.

Verse 15—"They conferred among themselves." In face of the embarrassment, it was deemed wise to confer before making a pronouncement.

Verse 16—"What shall we do... a notable miracle hath been done... we cannot deny it." Among themselves they freely admit their embarrassment. Moulton and Milligan suggest that Saul of Tarsus (later Paul) may have been present and in later years reported the conference scene to Luke.

Verse 17—"Let us straitly threaten them." "Straitly threaten" is a Hebrewism, literally, "let us threaten with threat," very emphatic. The whole situation made punishment inexpedient, but they must try to make their authority felt.

Verse 18—"And they commanded them, not to speak in the name of Jesus." They had to be content with a command to the apostles to desist from any form of promotion of the name of Jesus.

Verse 19—"Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye." If they expected their prohibition to be obeyed, they were soon disillusioned. Theoretically they would have agreed thoroughly with the principle enunciated by the apostles, but the application of it was a different matter.

Verse 20—"For we cannot but speak... The divine compulsion which moved the apostles was something foreign to their judges. What they had seen and heard of Jesus laid an obligation upon them, from which they could not escape.

Verse 21-23 record the dismissal of the apostles and the reaction of the church to the threatenings of the Sanhedrin.

LAFF OF THE WEEK



"I'd like to try this thing if you think it wouldn't strain the family resources this month."

They gave themselves unto prayer. Verse 29—"Behold their threatenings... all boldness they may speak thy word." The threatenings did not bring forth a cry for safety, but for new boldness in proclaiming the message! That is the spirit of the martyr.

Verse 30—"... signs and wonders to give added force to the message of the risen Christ. The word "child" here signifies also "servant."

Verse 31—"The place was shaken... they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness." It was appropriate that in the early days of the faith, such signs should be given. This was not a second Pentecost. Such "fallings" of the Spirit should be the experience of all believers in view of the particular tasks to be performed.

The reaction of the church to all this was prayer, and this is what strikes me about their prayer: that in the face of these threatenings from the rulers, they did not pray for the safety of the apostles, but for new boldness to go right on with the work, and for new evidences in signs and wonders for the confirmation of the message concerning the risen Saviour.

The power of Pentecost soon manifested itself in ministry, both the ministry of teaching and the ministry of healing. The clash with the Sanhedrin was inevitable. The council which had secured the death of Jesus could hardly be expected to sit still while the apostles preached His resurrection and wrought miracles in His name. We see Peter and John then, hailed before the Jewish Sanhedrin to answer for their offense of propagating the faith of Jesus of Nazareth as the risen, living Christ of God. They took their evidence with them in the person of the man who had been born lame, and who when over forty years of age had been instantly healed by the power of the name of Jesus. Two circumstances utterly confused the Jewish leaders. One was the fact that while Peter and John manifestly lacked rabbinical training, they had an amazing facility in handling the Scriptures, which they did without any embarrassment or hesitation. The other was the presence of this man, healed so instantaneously that after more than forty years of helplessness he was immediately able to stand, and walk, and leap. It really looked like Jesus of Nazareth back again, and so it was, for this same Jesus risen and glorified poured forth His Holy Spirit upon these apostles, so that they were teaching and healing in His name with that same authority and power which had characterized Him.

It is interesting to notice how the members of the Sanhedrin frankly confessed their dilemma when they got Peter and John and the healed man out of the council chamber. "What shall we do?" they said to each other. There was no just reason for punishing Peter and

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