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Editorials

Thanksgiving Before Meals

The Ontario Hotel Association is to be commended for a movement to induce people to indulge in "thanksgiving before meals" served in hotels.

In this age of materialism, when leaders of all religious faiths are urging more attention to spiritual matters and the use of family prayers, the placing of these cards on hotel dining tables is a step that is bound to meet with public approval.

For Roman Catholics: "Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Christ our Lord, Amen."

For Protestants: "Bless, O Lord, this food to our use and us to Thy service and make us ever mindful of the needs of others, in Jesus' name. Amen."

For Hebrews: "Lift up your hands toward the sanctuary and bless the Lord. Blessed art thou, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who bringest forth bread from the earth. Amen."

Only a brief inscription, "Ontario Hotel Association" appears at the bottom of the card. Already hotel keepers are commenting on the fact that frequent use is being made of the card by their patrons.

The Ontario Hotel Association is certainly to be commended for this recognition of spiritual things, and its action is sure to meet with public favor.

News of Court Activities Must Be Given To Public

We wholeheartedly agree with the comment of the Exeter Times-Advocate in last week's issue which contends that the public must be informed of activities in our courts.

The Exeter paper in commenting had this to say: Reporting of court news has always been a subject of controversy, even among newspaper editors.

The Times-Advocate's policy has not been popular with some readers. They feel that members of the convicted person's family suffer unjustly when the name appears in the paper.

Our reply to those who criticize our policy is that the system of justice in this country is a democratic institution and that it must be jealously guarded by a well-informed public in order to operate efficiently and fairly.

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In The Editor's Mail

Toronto, Oct. 26 Editor, The Tribune.

Your editorial showing that there are more than two and one-half times as many motor vehicles on the highways of Canada today than there were when automotive production was resumed after World War II made interesting reading.

Somehow, the fact that annual sales of new motor vehicles rose from 120,000 in 1946 to 466,000 in 1955, reminded this reader of the link between purchasing power of the masses and prosperity in town and countryside.

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LAFF OF THE WEEK



"Which category would you like for your quiz— wine, women or song?"



They Seldom Happen

IT IS AN OLD SAYING that the worst troubles are baseless and seldom happen. Most of us can remember things about which we fretted and perhaps lost sleep but we have lived long enough to laugh at ourselves for our folly.

YEARS AGO I knew a lad in the north of England who had to journey to London for an exam. He worried so much that when he entered the testing room, he became ill and after a few minutes had to leave and was not allowed to return.

IT IS OFTEN SAID that, next to the Bible, Pilgrim's Progress is the most widely read book in the world. Anyone who has read it will remember such interesting places as the City of Destruction, the Slough of Despond, the Hill Difficulty, the Valley of Humiliation, Doubting Castle, and many other places which Christian saw in his pilgrimage.

SOME OF THESE were beautiful; others were ugly and dangerous. One of the Loveliest of them all was the Palace Beautiful. On his way there Christian saw two men running to meet him, and they were terribly afraid. One man was named Timorous and the other Mistrust. Christian could not understand why anyone should be running back on the way he had come, so he said to them, "What is the matter? You are running the wrong way!"

TIMOROUS TOLD HIM that they were pilgrims to the City of Zion but that they were constantly meeting great dangers. Then Mistrust said, "And just before us lie a couple of lions, and we could not think but that, if we came within reach, they would presently pull us to pieces."

CHRISTIAN WAS HIMSELF ALARMED at this news and for a minute was disposed to join them in their flight, but he reflected upon all the perils he had met and overcome, and he decided to press on to the Celestial City. He too saw the lions before the Palace Beautiful, and they roared savagely, but the porter told him that they were chained and could not do him any harm. He clasped his hands and went on until he stood before the gate where the porter was, and he was soon admitted.

THUS HE KNEW, as many others have learned, that for many people the greatest troubles never happen. The savage-looking lions are harmless.

IN ACTS 13, there is a story of the deliverance of Peter from prison. As he and his angelic deliverer hurried through the city, Peter remembered the iron gates that led into the city and was concerned about them, but here is what happened. "When they approached the iron gates, they opened of their own accord." There is truth in that story for us all. There are many iron gates about which we worry but they open of their own accord when we come to them.

OUR QUOTATION TODAY is by President F. D. Roosevelt. "The thing we have most to fear is fear itself."

For Parents Only

Learning Truthfulness

By Nancy Cleaver

All good parents are eager to bring up honest children and teachers too wish to encourage truthfulness. Recently it was our privilege to discuss the problem of lying with a psychiatrist who is employed by the Board of Education in one of our largest Canadian cities.

Parents must also be careful that their standards of behavior are within the reach of the child at each stage of his growth and then he will not be tempted to lie from fear of punishment, or fear of disappointing his parents. Too high standards in honesty lead to difficulties.

One outstanding illustration of this was the case history of a little boy who was the only child of strict parents. They loved him but never showed him any signs of warm affection. His father was the caretaker of a large apartment house and often came into conflict with the children of the district. The boy was very unhappy because these youngsters called his father "an old crab" and often ridiculed his parent in front of him.

When this situation became unbearable, Tom reacted by searching for some way to get his companions' favor. He knew his popularity as "the old crab's son" was at a low ebb. Most of his chums had spending money, but Tom's allowance was equally divided into one half for Sunday School collection and one half which must be saved. Unlike his friends, he had no money to buy "treats" but he knew there was money from the milk fund in the teacher's desk. By

stealing he made a desperate bid to get money to buy candy for his chums.

The teacher came back to the room for a book she had forgotten and caught Tom red-handed. He denied that he was really stealing, but insisted he was looking for the drawing he had made that day. In spite of cross-examination in front of the class next morning he stuck to his story.

Poor little boy! Already insecure and unhappy in his family life, and unable to hold his own in his play group, he was now marked by the other children as "thief" and "liar!" It was a long time before Tom recovered from this bitter experience. It hindered rather than helped his progress toward truthfulness.

Teachers and parents often fail to realize that humiliation and hopeless failure are bad medicine for normal children. They are absolutely poisonous for the unhappy child who is falling to solve his problems in a wholesome way! Parents want their child to learn to tell the truth, but they should make this learning as easy and as satisfying as possible. If a child is encouraged to love and respect truth, he will in all probability grow into a trustworthy adult whose word is as good as his bond.

Set Up Mutual Aid Plan For County Firefighters

Local fire brigades and municipal officials were represented at the meeting called by the Ontario Fire Marshall in regard to the establishment of Mutual Aid held in the Aurora Fire Hall on Wednesday evening, October 17.

The purpose of the meeting was for the presentation of tentative plans for the establishment of an organized Mutual Aid system for the County of York outside the Metro Area and the opportunity for the brigades concerned to discuss together the pros and cons of such an arrangement.

The Fire Marshall in addressing the gathering stated that many Ontario Counties are now highly organized under Mutual Aid, whereby all Fire Brigades, while retaining their own individuality and control under normal conditions can, if assistance be required, call on neighboring fire departments through a chief co-ordinator.

Under an organized system, King City or Fire Area No. 2 would receive assistance from 1st Maple, 2nd Aurora, and 3rd Richmond Hill. The situation of the fire occurring in the King City Area would determine the first department to be called. Remaining brigades would automatically cover up for the assisting department.

Fire Departments represented were Woodbridge, Maple, Richmond Hill, Schomberg, King City, Aurora, Newmarket, Queensville, Mt. Albert, Holland Landing, and Stouffville. Co-ordinating Fire Chief James Davidson of Vaughan was present with a crest by the fire Marshall and appointed as co-ordinator.

Fire Chiefs were asked to report to their municipal councils and they will assemble at a later date to present their discussions.

Neighborhood Community

By F. H. Brennan

The demand for houses directly affects everyone even if he already owns a house. It cannot be ignored because a shortage of housing not only affects industry, but forces up rents and real estate values.

If for no better reason than its cost, the proper use of land lies in getting the most from it. The developer is inclined to interpret this as meaning solely that house frontages and road widths be no larger than is necessary, whereas the Planning Board hopes to protect natural views; carefully site buildings of communal interest, such as libraries, churches and schools,

Good housing makes for health, personal self-respect and civic pride. Marginal housing encourages 'blight' and may be occupied by irresponsible citizens within a few years. However, houses by themselves are incomplete and do not solve the 'home' problem. Cultural, recreational, educational and religious pursuits are natural requirements for a well-balanced family, and provision for them must be incorporated in any housing scheme.

The Neighbourhood Units contemplated in the Official Plan will be designed on an economic communal unit, with a positive identity, and will be capable of local control by unit residents working together to gain the maximum benefit from their association. There is a greater field for collective action in a clearly defined neighbourhood unit than there is in politically defined units of administration.

A Neighbourhood Unit must not be merely a collection of houses holding nothing more in common with their neighbours than their water and sewerage systems.

By the careful planning of Neighbourhood Units, each with distinctive natural or man-made boundaries, economies can be made, which would not be possible were speculative building allowed to proceed without an over-all plan. For example, the permissible density of housing as established by the Planning Board enables school authorities to determine with a fair degree of accuracy the ultimate requirements for school buildings there.

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