

## London Advertiser

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1924.

### The Course That Is Needed.

Mrs. T. W. Dykes, of Crinan, in a letter to this paper offers some rather pungent criticism of the intention of the provincial government to teach more agriculture in the rural schools with the idea of causing the boys to stay on the farms rather than to rush off to the cities as soon as they are old enough.

Mrs. Dykes holds that the average boy on the farm, who has to do chores before and after school, and help with the work all through vacation periods as a general thing, has about as much agricultural instruction as he can stand now.

Furthermore, she contends that it is very difficult to teach the economic advantage of farming when the parents of these boys are growing crops that they are forced to sell for less than it costs them to produce the same.

Our Crinan correspondent presents, especially in the latter argument, a point that is hard to answer. It suggests that wider markets and better methods of selling to improve the returns from agriculture would be the greatest course of instruction possible to impress the rising generation with the desirability of staying on the farm.

### He Got One Answer.

Col. J. A. Currie, M.P.P. for S. E. Toronto, has a notice in the papers of the legislature of a move for another plebiscite on the liquor law of Ontario.

This is the same gentleman who ran for the position of mayor of Toronto, and at that time he stated that his election would be taken as a verdict of the people that they wanted the O. T. A. smashed.

Well, Col. Currie got his answer in the way of a mere handful of votes compared to those registered for his two opponents.

In all the municipal elections in Ontario this year it is doubtful if there was a candidate for any office who got such a trouncing as Col. Currie in Toronto.

Toronto furnishes several members who are anxious to get their hands on the O. T. A., but they do not represent the feeling of Toronto on that matter, nor do they represent the feeling of people all over the province.

Especially is this the case in the smaller centers and in the rural districts, where sentiment is solidly behind advanced temperance legislation.

It might be a good thing for Col. Currie to travel around a little in these districts and get a whiff of good wholesome atmosphere and sentiment. He is talking without a knowledge of the facts of the case.

### Exemption for Children.

The financial committee of London City Council recommends that the exemption for children in income taxation shall be placed at \$500 instead of \$200 as has been the practice.

There is common sense behind the move for two reasons:

(1) The old figure of \$200 did not nearly represent the amount necessary to clothe and feed a child and arrange for education, to say nothing of all the incidental expenses of sickness and other necessary considerations.

(2) Families where there are children are of necessity large purchasers of supplies, clothing, produce, etc., and there are sales taxes and revenue taxes on most of these things that the family pays in an indirect way.

The finance committee's action might well be followed by the finance department of the Dominion government which at present allows only \$300 exemption for each child.

### Working On Estimates.

Estimates and the cutting of estimates occupies the center of the civic arena at present, and it is not likely that the tax rate will be struck any earlier than last year. Tentative estimates were called for in November of 1923, and most of them were put in, but it has since been shown that these can not be used for striking a tax rate or anything approaching it.

This much is known—if the expenditure in 1924 is equal to the expenditure in 1923 the tax rate will be 33.48 as against 34.70 in 1923. That is made possible largely from the tax on new property. It includes also the taxation on the business in the annexed area, on the basis of the city winning its case. That, of

course, is problematical. It is hard to understand why the decision in the case should be further delayed, as it is of importance to the financiers here to know how to reckon on the income from that section. In 1923 \$15,000 was spent on the assumption that it could be collected. If the decision goes against the city another \$15,000 will have to be raised to cover that shortage.

The expenditure for general city purposes, in 1923, exclusive of schools and special rates, was \$1,279,737.32. A mill for general city purposes on the 1924 valuation amounts to \$64,888.10. This yields, on last year's expenditure at this year's mill value, a rate of 19.72 as against 20.44 in 1923.

School expenditure in 1923 was \$938,146.33. A mill on the school rate, on the 1924 assessment, is worth \$68,157.55. This equals a rate of 13.76 against 14.26 last year.

Adding these together, and on the assumption that we spent no more in 1923 than in 1924, there would be a tax rate of 33.48 in 1924 as against 34.70 in 1923, or a reduction of 1.22 mills.

Or, if the rate were kept the same as last year, the council could spend \$75,000 more without increasing the tax rate.

It would be well if all other matters were left in abeyance in order that the aldermen could give all their time to estimates. It is by far the most important matter they have to deal with now, and no alderman can afford to give time to the city at the expense of his own business. There have been other matters brought up that could very well wait until the estimates are through. Let there be as much time as possible for an intelligent scaling down, minus hasty or rash decisions to cut simply for the sake of cutting.

### What's the Difference?

United States government has just completed a two-ton aerial bomb.

It is a remarkable sort of thing, and when dropped from a plane it can make a hole 150 feet wide.

All of which is very interesting in view of the fact that Washington was the seat of the world's greatest disarmament conference a couple of years ago.

Of what use is it that nations have scrapped certain types of war ships, only to turn their ingenuity to bombs that weigh two tons and makes holes 150 feet across when dropped?

### "Poplarism" in Britain.

"Poplarism" is a queer phrase that does not sound like anything worse than a harmless plank in a political platform. Yet it is very much of an issue in the ranks of the Labor party in Britain.

The phrase means the recognition of every man to remunerative employment, or, failing this, the duty of the government must be to provide him with the means of subsistence. The sobriquet "Poplarism" comes from the fact that the metaphor of adoption in this age. It oversteps the mark of what any country is able to do. It means that if a man cannot find work he falls back at once on the country for support. The danger is as much to the individual as to the state, because it removes the necessity for thrift in order to stand a period of adversity. In a time of depression it would put too great a strain on the national treasury at a time when it would be necessary, and vitally so, to husband national resources.

It surpasses in its aim any scheme for unemployment insurance, to which those participating would be expected to contribute during their periods of employment.

Part of the MacDonald ministry is committed to the idea, but it has not the support of many of the moderates in the Labor party. The Liberals and Conservatives will be solidly against it.

It would be unfortunate were the question to be pressed at the moment. The MacDonald ministry, in its short career, has shown a tendency to work constructively, to broaden trade opportunities and to legislate that unemployment would be relieved by the resumption of world-wide business. "Poplarism" could very well be allowed to stand to one side.

### Note and Comment.

While all this talk is on regarding allowing prisoners to smoke in jail, it might not be well for prospective fumates to overlook the fact that they can smoke outside the walls.

A young man elected president of Ward 8 Conservative Association in Hamilton is soloist in one of the city churches. The wonder is that after being identified with such excellent forces on Sunday he should run off and get into such mischief during the week.

## Rarebits By Rex

### VALENTINES.

(To a Former Love)  
From you who once enamored me,  
I got a valentine that carried  
Sweet words of love—apparently,  
You haven't heard that I am married.  
You said your heart would still be true,  
And spoke of love on green park benches;  
Say, if my wife sees that note, you  
Must shoulder all the consequences.

### The Coal Man.

The coal you sell is good enough  
For throwing at a squirrel or rabbit,  
But when I try to burn the stuff,  
I find it's lost the burning habit,  
I hope you'll come around and see  
How gracefully I can return it;  
For selling it as you won't be  
One half so hard as trying to burn it.

### The Flapper.

Your lisping voice and shingled hair  
Are saucy, winning and provoking;  
Although you're only seventeen,  
A cigarette you're always smoking.  
You love to talk a lippy line,  
Which often makes me wish to bang you.

So don't give me your "valentine,"  
Or I might use it, dear, to hang you.

### The Smoker.

Your hands much nicotine do show,  
You shake worse than a ballroom shimmy,  
Yet every place I come and go,  
You're always near to whisper "Gimmie."  
You'll borrow anything at all;  
Your nerves are gone, you're growing leaner,  
And yet for pure, unvarnished gain  
You win the nickel-plated waiter!

Some people think that when St. Valentine drove the snakes out of Ireland, he put them into Irish whiskey.

Since the United States oil scandal has been smeared over the papers we must suggest that a certain gentleman spell his name McAdieu.

### PAINFUL PATHOS.

"It must be great, Susie, to be so famous an actor that everybody celebrates and calls it Valentino's day."

Since the groundhog set the example, every morning now we get up and if we see our shadow we go back to bed for six minutes.

After all, a groundhog, when you think about it, is really a hot dog.

### MODERN VERSION.

Little Jack Horner  
Stood in a corner,  
Uncorking a flask of rum;  
Along came his bride,  
Who indignantly cried:  
"C'mon, Jack, give us girls some!"

Prince Erik is going to California to raise oranges. And, we presume, his Hollywood neighbors will continue raising the dickens.

## School Days In Williams

By J. B. McLAHLAN.

IT WAS to Lachlan Galbraith that the happy impulse came that the diamond jubilee of School Section, No. 7, Williams, should be celebrated by a reunion, and which resulted in one of the most remarkable and successful gatherings (at Springbank on the 1st July, 1910), that ever took place in Western Ontario.

It need only be said that all concerned entered heartily into the movement, and that over three thousand and five hundred people answered to the roll call, with sufficient evidence of its success. The residents of the section and their friends did their duty, and did it well, so that from Michigan, Ohio, from sunny Alberta, from the winding banks of the Saskatchewan, from the prairies of Manitoba, and all parts of New and Old Ontario they came flocking back to the banks of the Classic Sauble in submission, response, to the bugle call of the old home guard.

The official seal was attached to the action when at the annual school meeting in December, 1909, it was on motion by Mr. Lachlan Galbraith, duly seconded, and resolved that the diamond jubilee be celebrated by a reunion, 1850-1910, on the 1st day of July following.

The committee to whom was assigned the task of carrying out the details deserved and received great praise for the success which attended their efforts. It was a great day. Many hailed the other for the last time on earth, but that true hand clasp that look into the eyes of an old friend; that renewal of old ties; who could go away from that old school ground and fail to be stronger and better men and women? The afternoon was devoted to games and contests of various kinds, and which prizes were awarded. The several events were keenly contested and well conducted. At 3:30 a game of baseball was played between the Alisa Craig and Parkhill teams, which resulted in an easy victory for the former. Those who witnessed the game, and were competent judges, pronounced it good playing.

### The Old School Bell.

"At 5 o'clock," reads one old report, "the school bell rang, and at the familiar sound, old girls and old boys stopped talking, and for a moment imagined that school was called again as in the long ago. But it was only an invitation to supper, and from then until nine the tables were far more popular than the multiplication table or the tables of weights and measures ever were. Still it was a table of weight and good measure, and the ladies of the section deserved volumes of praise for the manner in which the immense crowds were served, and the excellence and quality of good things provided."

In the evening, Reeve J. C. McDonald, chairman of the committee, ascended the platform and introduced the chairman, J. B. McLachlan, chief clerk in the provincial secretary's department, one of the oldest of the Springbank old boys. The chairman, who wears a very patriarchal appearance, with his long flowing white beard, looked indeed like the father of the assembly. He made an ideal chairman, keeping the audience in

## The Guide Post—By Henry van Dyke

### GOD'S IMPARTIALITY.

He maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.—Matthew v., 45.

This is a simple statement of a familiar fact. A little experience is enough to convince us that what we call the processes of nature are thoroughly impartial.

The corn and pumpkins in the stinging farmer's fields ripen just as surely and just as abundantly as those which have been planted and hood by the most generous of men.

All you have to do is to sow the seed and till the soil, and nature will do the rest without asking what manner of man you are.

Familiar as this is, when we stop to look at it more closely does it not puzzle and confound us?

If we regarded nature as impersonal, and the universe as a material mechanism, we should find no difficulty in it.

But the moment we see God behind the face of nature—the moment we believe that this vast and marvellous procession of causes and changes is directed and controlled by a Supreme Omniscient, Holy Spirit—this apparent indifference becomes incomprehensible and impossible.

It cannot be that God is indifferent. It cannot be that he looks down with the same feelings upon all who move below him, and has an equal approbation for the toll of the honest laborer and the crafty schemes of the thief.

You tell me nature is indifferent.

I say, not if God is behind nature. Evermore he loves the good; evermore he hates the evil.

Why, then, does he not always discriminate in all his dealings? I think it is evident that he would teach us to believe in his fatherhood in its widest aspect of benignity.

He would manifest his abounding kindness to all the children of men.

Are we not the offspring of God? Yes, every one of us, the lowest as well as the highest.

He is the father of us all.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Advertiser welcomes letters discussing matters of public interest. It is necessary, that the name of the writer be sent as an evidence of good faith, but not necessarily for publication.

### Approves of Editorials.

Blyth Reader Claims That He Likes the Spirit of Opinions Expressed in The Advertiser.

Editor of The Advertiser:

Sir,—Will you allow me to congratulate you on the spirit of your editorials?

There are two in today's issue (Feb. 12) which are especially good, and worthy of commendation. One on "The Work of Mr. Rigney" and the other, "She Stopped the Meeting."

W. B. HAWKINS.

Blyth, Ont.

### Petrolia Oil Situation.

Petrolia Producer Gives Figures To Show the Need for Assistance at This Time.

Editor of The Advertiser:

Sir,—I can assure you that every person in the oil industry was interested in the article in Monday's Advertiser about the oil business in Petrolia and Oil Springs. It is a fact that the removal of the bounty comes at the one time when it is needed the most and when it is costing the government the least. Your article gave some figures showing production, but here is a table going back over a number of years, showing the way in which oil is falling off, and it is easy to understand that it costs a great deal more now to recover the small production than it did to get the large output of some years back:

Year. Barrels. Year. Barrels.

1907 ..... 800,000 1914 ..... 135,900

1908 ..... 600,000 1915 ..... 203,000

1909 ..... 420,000 1916 ..... 288,760

1910 ..... 314,410 1917 ..... 220,100

1911 ..... 288,633 1918 ..... 181,749

1912 ..... 240,960 1919 ..... 172,558

1913 ..... 226,164 1920 ..... 164,731

1914 ..... 212,496 1923 ..... 158,551

1915 ..... 214,410

The value of the product recovered in Canada is now around half a million dollars a year, and if the wells close here it will mean that much of our money going to the United States.

Petrolia, Feb. 12. PRODUCER.

### That Trial Report.

East Ender Thinks It Would Be Quite In Order To Nudge the Judge on the Elbow.

Editor of The Advertiser:

Sir,—I saw some reference in your paper a few days ago to the fact that the judge who heard the appeal of the McCormick Company against the city's new way of assessing them had not sent in his finding yet. I think you were right in saying that he should have sent in his report before. It is an interesting case, and London wants to get the answer. It ought to be sent along, too, before they strike the tax rate for this year, as if they don't get it they may make a mistake in counting for two years on money they may not be able to get. I don't think any judge is so high and mighty that we couldn't jog his elbow and tell him to hurry up a bit.

EAST ENDER.

## Press Notes

### Has Its Ups and Downs.

In some respects Britain's latest submarine fails to come up to expectations. But if it comes up at all, it cannot be wholly a failure.—Hamilton Herald.

### Ours Is a Great Language.

Home stills still because fools fool fools.—Lake County (Ind.) Times.

### So He Was Let Out.

Gandhi, one of the Indian leaders who wants to get the British out of India, has been released from jail. Gandhi out of jail may be less trouble to the authorities than Gandhi in jail.—Winnipeg Free Press.

### A Six-Day Race.

An Ottawa man who has collected 1,200 gramophone records, promises to invite his friends to a complete recital. The exodus from Egypt will have nothing on this.—Ottawa Journal.

### No Dull Evenings Now.

Movie picture titles of plays presented in Kitchener during last fortnight: "Slaves of Desire," "Jealous Husbands," "The World of Passion." Nice quiet topics for an evening's entertainment.—Kitchener Record.

### Mills That Grind Mills.

Though the mills of the gods grind slowly, yet they grind exceedingly sure. The mills in Brantford tax rate may not grind slowly, but they certainly grind sure.—Brantford Expositor.

## THREE CHILDREN PERISH WHEN HOME IS BURNED

Winnipeg, Feb. 13.—In a fire which followed an explosion of coal oil, which was being used to light a kitchen range, three daughters of Karl Rickseidler, a farmer in the Dewet district of Southern Manitoba, were burned to death and five other children severely injured, according to meagre reports reaching here last night. The names of the victims are not known.

good humor by relating many witty stories. His address was in a reminiscence strain. He said in part: "Words cannot well express the pleasure I have in being here today to meet so many on these historic grounds, to recall the days of sixty years ago, and to turn back those pages one by one, and read their history. The weather is just what we prayed for. The country is attired in its summer garments, and the good people of the good old township are here to bid us welcome to the place where we 'learned to read our Bibles and to write our names,' and we wish to assure them that we are 'seven times glad to be back.'"

## Tavish Mactavish

To His People At Home

Dear Sister:

What do you think of Henry Ford's latest idea of peace suggestions? He believes the solution of all the growing pains of this old earth is to make the English language compulsory. It is certainly more likely of success than the cruise of the famous Peace Ark, but I imagine the world needs more than this to set her on the right tack.

I intend writing Bob on this matter and see what his legally trained mind thinks of it. When one considers the enormous amount of litigation our courts occupy their time with any suggestion of a universal language seems null and void, unless a rider is added to the effect that the laws must be rewritten and lawyers taught a new lip-cum-sign manual.

Whenever any deed or document is drawn up in a correct way by competent lawyers, it invariably has two or more translations and every judge sees something in it that no one else has ever thought of before. And this, mind you, is all in the English language that Henry of Detroit wants to impose on the world in general for the sake of peace.

Oh, intrigue, thy name is language. Oh, law suit, thy family tree is traced to every word in the English which permits of two meanings.

Who said "words are given to man in order that he may conceal his thoughts?" I forget now, but he and Henry had different views.

My own idea to achieve world peace, and I am thinking of entering this suggestion in the next Bok contest—that is if Bok finds his present prize peace plan won't work, which is possible—is to inaugurate a sys-

tem of speech which will allow but one meaning per word. So that if a chap says "yes," he has got to admit that he meant "yes" and not "no," when he is asked a civil question.

Jimmy is sitting beside me as I write, and he says that if that was the case we would have a world of dumb creatures, and that we would get back to barking and growling. But he's a cynic; I rebut his accusation. Besides, even if he was right, it wouldn't be so bad. Only lawyers

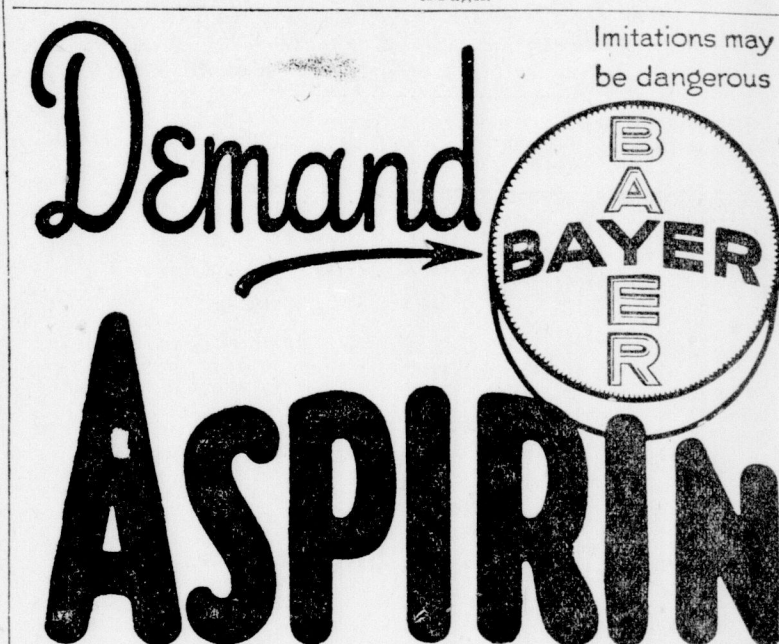
and nerve specialists would stand to lose.—Selah.

TAVISH.

## WHITE LEAD POISONING CAUSES COWS' DEATH

Special to The Advertiser.

Ingersoll, Feb. 13.—Two cows of the herd of Levi Wilsie, in the Dorchester district, have died from the effects of white lead poisoning and others are seriously affected. The cattle were poisoned through drinking water from a freshly painted trough.



Demands Demand ASPIRIN SAY "BAYER" when you buy—Genuine

Unless you see the "Bayer Cross" on tablets you are not getting the genuine Bayer Aspirin proved safe by millions and prescribed by physicians 23 years for

Colds Headache Neuralgia Lumbago Pain Toothache Neuritis Rheumatism

Genuine Accept only "Bayer" package which contains proven directions. Handy "Bayer" boxes of 12 tablets. Also bottles of 24 and 100—Druggists.

Aspirin is the trade mark (registered in Canada) of Bayer Manufacture of Monoaceticacid of Salicylicacid. While it is well known that Aspirin means Bayer manufacture, to assist the public against imitations, the Tablets of Bayer Company will be stamped with their general trade mark, the "Bayer Cross."

## AN INVESTMENT PAYING 100%

Hundreds of men have bought here lately for next winter's use, for they plainly saw dividends of 100 per cent when they could buy at these prices.

\$20.00

BUYS \$30 — \$32 — \$35

## FINE OVERCOATS

Every garment this season's make, in stylish ulsters and three-piece belters; Raglan and set-in sleeves; new sand and tan shades; Lovatts and browns; nearly all rug-back fabrics; splendid weights. Positively no antiques or slow sellers.

\$15.00

BUYS \$25 AND \$28 MEN'S OVERCOATS, ULSTERS AND ULSTERETTES.

\$15.00

BUYS MEN'S \$25 SCOTCH BANNOCKBURN TWEED SUITS. SIZES 36 TO 42.

\$25.00

BUYS MEN'S \$35, \$38, \$40 FINE WORSTED SUITS AND MAN-TAILORED OVERCOATS.

\$8.98

BUYS BOYS AND YOUTHS' \$13, \$15, \$16.50 WINTER OVERCOATS. SIZES 31 TO 35.

\$3.98