

# The News Record

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### FIRE PREVENTION EXPEDIENTS

Several years ago a movement was launched in this city to reduce the fire losses of Canada by preventive methods. The filip then given led to the Commission of Conservation making an investigation and recommendations concerning the best way to prevent their occurrence.

In its general report in 1917, the Commission of Conservation stated that it has been shown that public efforts and propaganda without compulsion will not bring about any substantial improvement. Municipalities organized and maintain fire departments and incur large expenditures for water supplies, but the results of these activities are disappointing. Fire waste not only continues but increases.

It realizes that the provision of adequate water supplies and fire fighting facilities are prime necessities; that proper planning of cities and its buildings are necessary and that hazards should be controlled and nuisances should be suppressed but that unless fire regulations are enforced and penalties inflicted where negligence is proven, fire losses cannot in general be reduced.

Compared to European countries, Canada is in this respect profligate. There the annual loss is 20 or 30 cents. The Dominion's fire loss has, over a long period of years, averaged \$3.00 per capita.

In 1917, Mr. J. Grove Smith, of the Commission of Conservation made a special report upon conditions appertaining to fire losses in this community. Whilst he found room for improvement, he was delighted with the comparatively low fire loss. He found that for the eight next preceding years the average per capita loss had been \$1.08 per annum as compared with an average of \$2.98 for the whole of Canada. He gave as the chief reasons for this excellent showing, the careful habits of the people and the good general construction of buildings. Thus in moving to bring about better preventive fire methods, it is not a case of this city's kettles calling the pot black.

Last year was a particularly heavy one in fire losses in Ontario. There were 9,588 fires, causing a direct material loss of \$14,856,329. This does not take into account loss of trade through interruptions to business and higher replacement costs. The total fire loss represents \$6.00 per head of Ontario's population. In 1918, the fire loss in this city was also unusually heavy, having totalled \$52,293, and being 48 in number. The per capita loss was slightly more than \$2.00. Much less than the average but excessive.

An examination of the causes of these, shows that the majority were occasioned by simple things. The largest single number was 5, and caused by matches; 4 fires originated in clogged chimneys; 4 from defective wiring; 3 from stoves; 2 from smoking; 2 from sparks; 2 from spontaneous combustion, and 1 from hot ashes. A glance shows that these were preventable.

Fire Marshal Lewis rightly emphasized the value and necessity of inspection, coupled with authority to enforce regulations. The fire laws of Canada are, in this respect, inadequate. As already pointed out this city owes its comparatively low fire losses to the moral standard of its people rather than to adequate water pressure and fire-fighting appliances.

Mr. J. Bruce Smith also made the statement in his report that the estimated total property insurance carried in this municipality was \$10,000,000, costing the insured about \$76,000 annually. The average fire loss from 1910-1917 inclusive was \$19,371 per annum. While our citizens are obviously helping to pay the losses occasioned by fire in other Canadian towns, it nevertheless pays them to be enaral.

The total insurance premiums during the 1910-17 period were estimated at \$450,000; and the cost of fire protection was during the eight years, \$162,000. The combined cost of insurance was \$612,000 or \$4.25 per capita. A similar average for 56 cities of Canada amounted almost to \$7.00 per head, so that while our fire losses have been much lower than in other places, the amount expended upon fire protection has been less.

Believing that no mechanical apparatus nor high water pressure can ever be a substitute for carefulness in guarding against fire on the part of property owners, the record has never seen the advisability of adopting the plethora of recommendations made from time to time by the Firewriters Association. The Commission of Conservation seems to view it similarly, since it states that notwithstanding the increase in fire-fighting facilities in Canada the number of fires and consequent losses is steadily increasing. Prevention is always better than cure.

Order and cleanliness in premises, periodical inspections by one authority, having the power to enforce its recommendations, are the main things in fire prevention. Given these fires can be maintained at a minimum.

While maintaining this, we are ready to admit that accidents will happen and that it is advisable, and indeed necessary, to have an efficient fire brigade and good water pressure. We would go as far as to say that were one dollar expended on prevention for every dollar expended on what is included in the term "fire protection," there would be fewer fires.

With the continued growth of the city, the time is approaching when larger water mains will require to be laid. Mr. Lewis pointed out that we have 67,613 feet of four-inch mains. Upwards of 12 miles, out of a total of 35. He averred that water from a 4-inch main has not sufficient force to extinguish a fire. Instead the oxygen in the water is released by the heat and feeds the fire, which depends for its life on oxygen. Larger mains have become necessary.

In the central or congested district the hydrants are in numerous instances too far apart, running from 200 to 450 feet. The number might well be increased. In passing, it will be of interest to point out that the hydrants in use have 6-inch barrels but are fed by 4-inch branches from the street mains. Much pressure is thus lost.

Steps are being taken to have the lane in rear of the business blocks between Queen and Gange streets paved with concrete. Would it not be advisable to install a number of hydrants along its course before a permanent pavement is laid?

There are two suggested improvements which strongly appeal. The first to encourage housing of business blocks from a central point. Were it impractical to get all them from one source then to apply a

block system of heating. Were this adopted, it would make business premises safer.

The second suggestion is to encourage the adoption of sprinkler systems in the mercantile section. These are automatic fire extinguishers, always on the job. They prevent conflagrations and reduce fire insurance premiums from \$1.50 or more to 20 or 30 cents per thousand.

In the interval, the city will no doubt help the movement it started, to promote fire preventive work.

### MUNICIPAL RIGHTS GET SETBACK

In the government bill, introduced in the closing hours of the session, to amend the Municipal Act, there is a clause which will deprive municipalities of a right in connection with the taxation of electric railways.

This amendment reads: Notwithstanding anything contained in this section or any other section of this Act the structures, substations, superstructures, rails, ties, poles and wires of any electric railway, shall be liable to assessment and taxation in the same manner and to the same extent as those of a steam railway are under the provisions of section 47 and not otherwise.

For years municipalities have had the power to assess all of the physical property belonging to electric railways. This amendment will take from them the right, excepting the levying of taxation on stations, freight sheds, offices and shops which is, as far as the city is concerned, a bagatelle.

By way of illustration, take the Grand Valley Railway. It is presently assessed about \$40,000 and pays between \$1800 and \$2000 in taxes to the city. Were the government to pass its amendment, it may have done so before this appears in print, this city will only be able to assess the Grand Valley's freightshed and office, say on \$6000 or \$8000, and will probably only receive from \$180 to \$200 in taxes or one-tenth of the amount now obtained.

This amendment is unfair to the municipality. A steam railway owns its right of way and usually has a pretentious station and sheds, which can be taxed and return something worth while for the privileges it enjoys. Not so in the case of an electric railway. It uses the streets; has no passenger station nor shops. Its freight shed is of little taxable value. The Herst government proposes to or has already deprived municipalities of the power to get some recompense for the special advantages electric railways obtain from them.

The provincial government has shown poor judgment in this matter and equally bad in bringing down such a measure in the closing hours of the session, before the municipalities were aware of what was being done and had time to protest.

### BY THE WAY

Coincidentally with the amendment permitting motorists to run their cars at as much as 29 miles an hour on city streets, comes one ordering every car to be equipped with a mirror. Is this to enable speed kings to escape pursuing policemen?

Great commotion in Galt. The Hydro-Electric Commission has not granted its Commissioner's right to reduce Hydro rates. A postcard will, regardless of expense, be dispatched to headquarters to learn the whyfore of the accident.

### Extracts of Exchange

#### A SIMPLE WORD

"A word spoken in due season, how good it is."—Proverbs 15:23.

A word,  
A simple word,  
But carried true  
To one whose need  
By it was met,  
So little thought  
The one who spoke,  
That when the word returned,  
Its errand done,  
He was amazed  
That fruitage such  
Should be the yield  
Of word so simply said.  
—Fred Scott Shepard.

### WAIT A MINUTE

#### "IN THE DAY'S NEWS"

Hjalmar Branting, who is urging the Allies to feed the larger cities of Russia as the most effective means of combating the spread of Bolshevism has long been famous as the leader of the Swedish Socialists. From the beginning of the war his sympathies have been on the side of the Entente and from the outset he insisted that the defeat of the Kaiser was essential to a lasting peace. Mr. Branting was swept into politics in the great Radical Socialist movement in Sweden in the eighties. Up till that time he had devoted himself principally to the study of mathematics and astronomy, but he gave up the prospects of a successful career in this direction and threw himself into a new political movement. Under his able leadership the Swedish Social Democratic party has become a real power in the State. Mr. Branting is a brilliant writer and a speaker of rare eloquence.

#### TODAY'S ANNIVERSARIES

- 1672—Sir John Yeamans became governor of South Carolina.
- 1775—Battle of Lexington, the first engagement of the American Revolution.
- 1824—Lord Byron, the famous poet, died at Missolonghi Greece. Born in London, Jan. 22, 1788.
- 1839—Treaty of peace between Holland and Belgium signed in London.
- 1864—Federal troops attacked while marching through Baltimore—first blood shed in the civil war.
- 1894—The Dispensary Liquor Law was declared unconstitutional by the South Carolina supreme court.
- 1915—British captured Hill 6, an important strategic position southeast of Ypres.
- 1916—President Wilson addressed Congress on the subject of submarine warfare.
- 1917—Gen. Nivelle's army crushed 200,000 enemy reserves and continued its victorious advance.
- Foe resumed the long-range bombardment of Paris.
- First announcement that Italian army was fighting in France.
- United States and French troops raided line on the Meuse.

#### She Knew Him

"There's one thing I'm thankful for," said Mr. Crossroads. "My John is never goin' to be one of them bolshivers."  
"How do you know?"  
"Well, of course, I'm not sure how people go about it to bolshiv. But I understand it's largely done by spreadin' flames, an' I don't believe there's a man on earth that hates the idea of gettin' 'up an' startin' a fire worse than John."—Washington Star.

### SEE, BUT IT'S GOOD FOR A BAD GOLD

Nothing Can Touch Catarrh-ore in Curing Quickly

You may dislike taking medicine—but you can't find a cure without medicine. The modern treatment is "Catarrhore"—it isn't a drug—it's a healing vapor full of pine essence and healing balsams. It spreads over the surfaces that are weak and sore from coughing. Every spot that is congested and inflamed is soothed away, phlegm and secretions are cleaned out, and all symptoms of cold and catarrh are cured. Nothing so quick nothing so sure, so pleasant. Catarrhore. Beware of dangerous substitutes meant to deceive you for genuine Catarrhore. Large size which lasts two months, price \$1.00 small size 50c; sample size 25c, at all dealers.

### You Can't Find Any Dandruff, And Hair Stops Coming Out

Try this! Your Hair gets Wavy glossy and abundant at once

To be possessed of a head of heavy, beautiful hair, soft, lustrous, fluffy wavy and free from dandruff is merely a matter of using a little Danderine. It is easy and inexpensive to have nice hair and free of it. Just get a small bottle of Knowlton's Danderine now for a few cents—all drug stores recommend it—apply a little as directed and within ten minutes there will be an appearance of abundance, freshness, fluffiness and an incomparable gloss and lustre and try as you will you cannot find a trace of dandruff or falling hair; but your real surprise will be after about two weeks' use, when you will see new hair—fine and downy at first—growing really new hair—sprouting out over your scalp. Danderine is, we believe the only pure hair grower, destroyer of dandruff and draw it through your hair—taking one small strand at a time. Your hair will be soft, glossy and beautiful in just a few minutes—a delightful surprise awaits everyone who tries this.

### Women Everywhere Use Lemon Juice To Beautify Skin

The beauty lotion which is becoming so popular throughout the country is easily prepared by anyone, and a whole quarter pint of it doesn't cost any more than a small jar of common, ordinary cold cream.

Ad the juice of two fresh lemons to three ounces of orchard white and shake well in a bottle. Strain the lemon juice two or three times through a fine cloth so no pulp gets into the lotion, then it will keep fresh for months. Regardless of what price you pay or how highly advertised there is nothing else really more meritorious in beautifying, softening and clearing the skin. As a tanning and blemish remover, also to remove oiliness and sallowness, lemon juice has no rival. Massage it into the face, neck, and arms once or twice each day and just see if it doesn't bring out the roses and hidden beauty.

Lemons have always been used to bleach the skin, but pure lemon juice is too highly acid, therefore should never be used except in this manner. If properly prepared, this sweetly fragrant lotion will speak for itself. Any drug store will supply the three ounces of orchard white at very little cost, and the grocer will supply the lemons.

### Britain Will Lead in Coming Century

Helping Address before Canadian Club

The day of the lord and slave and mastery and servitude, have passed, and will be replaced by the multitalented of Socialist servitude but by leadership and followers' was the prediction of ex-Controller K.O. McCarthy of Toronto, who delivered a masterly address on "The Lesson of the War" at the Canadian Club luncheon Thursday evening.

He maintained that Great Britain provided the leadership throughout the war, and would continue to do so for the century to come, so long as she adheres to the teachings of Christ, as she has done in the past few centuries.

The war has taught him, Mr. McCarthy declared that there is a world of true religion that has never been found with church conventions. There is no antagonism to the spirit of Christ, but there is a great deal of opposition, to the petty doctrinal creeds that prevent the Church from performing the work for which she was instituted. Mr. McCarthy asserted that religion is, for the red-blooded man to live in the open, and not within church walls. The world will be reconstructed along one of two lines; revolution or the revivification of the Church of God. He saw many signs of the reconstruction along the lines of the latter.

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. McCarthy who was also unanimously made an honorary member of the club.

Col. R.W. Leonard of St. Catharines has contributed \$5,000 to the Queen's University endowment fund, which has about reached its first objective of half a million.

Principal Allen tendered his resignation to the Durham High School Board. For thirty-one years continuously he has been principal of the Public and Model Schools and atterly of the High School.

# NEW EASTER WEARABLES

Ladies Ready-to-Wear Garments such as Suits, Coats and Dresses as well as Ladies Furnishings have occupied our attention for the past few weeks and we are well prepared still for the next few days for the demand for New Easter things to wear.

SMART STYLES IN SUITS AND SEPARATE COATS.

Ladies' and Misses' Suits, representing all the newest and most useful styles are represented in our showing. The smart back, the semi-fitting and the more fancy and tailored styles are found here and at prices ranging from \$22.50, \$25.00, \$30.00, \$35.00, \$40.00, \$50.00 to \$60.00.

Ladies' Handsome Coats, Capes and Dolmans designed in line with the season's fashions, a choice lot of garments, shown in sizes for ladies and misses, and ran ge in prices from \$17.50, \$20.00, \$22.50, \$25.00, \$30.00, \$40.00, \$50.00 to \$60.00.

EASTER NOVELTIES. GLOVES. Ladies' Kayser Silk Gloves, good quality, 2 domes in shades white, pongee, grey, mastic black, with white embroidered points, double finger tips, sizes 5 to 8. Prices \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 \$1.50 and \$1.75.

Ladies' Fine French Kid gloves, pique and oversewn seams, 2 dome fasteners in shades, white, champagne, grey, tan, brown and black, also white with black, grey with black, tan with black and black with white embroidered points, sizes 5 to 7. Prices pair \$1.75, \$2.00, \$2.25 to \$2.75.

Children's silk gloves, one dome in shades of white and drab, sizes 1 to 6. Price pair 75c. Children's fine kid gloves in tan and brown, 2 domes, pique sewn seams, well made, sizes 1 to 7. Price pair \$1.00.

COLLARS. Ladies' Collars, made of fine organdy, georgette crepe, satin, pique and net, plain, hemstitch, embroidered and lace trimmed, a variety of new designs. Prices 75c, 85c, \$1.00, \$1.50 to \$2.50.

FRILLING. Fine white frilling suitable for collars on blouses, dresses and suits made of georgette crepe, net and organdy with plain hemstitch and lace edges. Price yd. 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.50.

Ladies' Silk Lisle Hose, seamless, Penman's make, double heel and sole, wide garter top, all sizes 8 to 10, special at 50c, 65c and 75c.

Ladies' colored silk Lisle hose, full fashioned, seamless, widened top, reinforced heel and soles, colors, African brown, taupe, sand, beige, tan and beaver, sizes 8 to 9, prices 60c, 75c and 85c.

### At Roma Wednesday and Thursday



### FRECKLES

Don't Hide Them With a Veil! Remove them With Hithine—Double Strength. This preparation for the removal of freckles is usually so successful in removing freckles and giving a clear beautiful complexion that it is sold under guarantee to refund the money if it fails.

Be sure to ask the druggist for the double strength Hithine; it is this that is sold on the money-back guarantee.

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## SPECIAL NOV REA

Spring Coats, Suit Waists, Silk Come and see.

SILK Messaline silk Dress green, self sleeves, no special at.....

SILK I Messaline Silk Dress braid trimmings, rous Misses Silk Mess special sleeves, colour special at.....

SILK POP Silk Poplin Dress grey, taupe, copen \$1

UNDER Silk Underskirts Shot Silks, priced to to.....

1ertas Cash One Price

Or

GEORGINA

When MUST see that and thru Th The F.F.D

Women's Distinctive Apparel

We are now showing the very latest Spring models in SUITS, COATS, DRESSES and BLOUSES, all specially designed and moderately priced for the Easter holiday. Both the New York and Parisian atmosphere radiate from every nook and corner of our establishment. Every woman in these cities will therefore enjoy her visit to us at this particular time.

Feldman

21 West King St. Exclusive Ladies' Ready-to-Wear.

Read