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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1925.

The Greatest Thing In the World.

The pastor of a Detroit church, a man between 60 and 70, is in his bed from shock received when he plunged into the ice-cold waters of the Detroit river in an attempt to rescue his son.

The son, a man of 38, had been in a sanatorium for some time, but was allowed home. Shortly after he was missed and his father found him on a dock at the edge of the river, preparing to jump in. As his strength would permit he matched it with that of the younger man in an effort to hold him back.

The son threw him off and plunged in, seeking beneath the waters the asylum for which his demerol mind called. The father, with no hesitation, went after him, and did what he could to bring him back, but it was only through the efforts of others that he himself was saved from the fate of his son who was swept away.

Of course there will be the usual criticism of an institution allowing freedom to one who was so strongly obsessed with suicidal tendencies. That is about the first thing that comes to the mind in thinking of such a case, and criticism of that sort is no doubt deserved and well directed.

But when that is through there is something that still rises like a rugged mountain—the love and devotion of a father and his willingness to go step by step in any direction to save the life of his son. Mental incapacity of the son had not dimmed the love of the father, neither had his violence made the paternal sense of protection less keen.

Love is the greatest thing in the world, and a love that is willing to lay down life in order that the object on which it is centered may be protected can be likened only unto the divine.

It was love that caused the father in the Bible story to welcome back the prodigal son. When he left the old home the father loved him; when the son was away wasting his substance and blasting his character the father loved him more than ever. It was that same love, longing and yearning for the sight of the boy to come back along the old road where he had departed months before, that caused the father to be on the lookout for him, because on his return he saw him when he was yet a great way off. He didn't need anyone to tell him who that ragged figure was; he didn't wait for the boy to come home; no, he ran to meet him. The Detroit pastor has written another chapter in the book of love.

The story of the prodigal son was told to show the love of the Heavenly Father for His lost and erring children; that eastern father was merely a type to teach a great lesson of Divine longing for the home-coming of lost souls. Love is greater than justice, it outruns discipline and circumstances; love begins when argument and logic have run their course, it is greater than hate and more wonderful than prejudice. Love is the one thing that makes it possible for us to understand God.

Sentence Was Justified.

Magistrate Graydon probably echoed public opinion when he voiced regret that he had no power to order the use of the lash on a wife deserter whom he sentenced to a term which is hoped will materialize in two years' very hard labor in the penitentiary.

This man had a wife and ten children in this country. For two years he has made no provision for them, although eight of them are under sixteen years of age. As though to aggravate the situation, if such could be done, he left for Detroit, where he married again. The fact that he was shipped out of United States and apprehended as soon as he landed on this side is a healthy sign showing that the international boundary is not necessarily a line of safety for those who have committed an offence.

Canada has had a surfeit of wife desertion cases; Toronto has as many deserted wives as it has widows, and London has its full quota. We are not particularly interested in all the details that surround these cases. The outstanding fact is that men have voluntarily married, taken to themselves family obligations and become responsible for the maintenance and upbringing of children. These are sacred obligations upon which our whole system of society depends, and they cannot be dismissed by such light action as simply getting on a train and leaving the responsibility for charity or the state to discharge.

In this case the wife and family will not have their sufferings enlarged by the husband being in jail, for he was contributing nothing to their support. The magistrate was right when he refused to temper justice with mercy in dealing with this case.

More Than a Question of Fares.

The question of fares is not the only one that must engage the attention of the council in considering an agreement with the street railway. There are nearly four miles of paving that has been held up because no working basis could be arrived at for doing the street railway's section of the construction.

The method for doing this has all been provided for in the bylaw 916 which gave the company the right to operate in the first place. It is set forth there that when the city decides to pave or repave a street, the street railway shall attend to its portion at the same time,

using the same class of material as that used in the city's share of the work.

The street railway's claim is that it has not been able to do this work because there has been no money available. So important a thoroughfare as Richmond street remained little better than a corduroy road until the city undertook to provide the finances and complete one of the best sections of paving and roadbed in the city. This action cannot be repeated in other sections because the legislature stopped it. It was a good move at the time, but if the same plan were used many times the city might find itself guaranteeing an amount that the company could not meet.

Looking over the city there are these sections where paving has not been done because the street railway cannot finance its share:

Oxford street, from the bridge to Wharncliffe. Wharncliffe, from the highway to Dundas. Dundas, from the bridge to Wharncliffe. Oxford, from Richmond to Adelaide. Central avenue, from Wellington to Adelaide. Edward street, from Elmwood to Briscoe. High street, from Front to Tecumseh. South street, from Waterloo to Colborne.

Some of these roads are in sections forming an entrance to the city and it is a matter of serious concern that they should be left in their present condition. In nearly every case bylaws have been passed sanctioning the work, yet that is as far as progress has gone.

No agreement between the city and company will be sufficient that fails to make provision for removing the deadlock that has existed over street paving.

In Towns and In the Country.

East Lambton U. F. O. has been quick to give active sanction to the resolution carried at the Toronto convention to press for political action. At their Alvinston meeting they renominated Leslie W. Oke, the present member, for the legislature, and B. W. Fansher, ex-M.P., for the federal house.

The addresses given at Alvinston very properly had an important bearing on the "broadening-out" policy, a move fostered in the first place by Hon. E. C. Drury in order to secure numerical strength to make effective the political program of the U. F. O. It has ever since been a keenly debated point in the U. F. O. gatherings. Mrs. Darville, who presented the amending resolution that resulted in the Toronto convention favoring political action on the basis of a straight U. F. O. following, presented the case again at Alvinston. Her explanation of the situation is interesting:

"There is nothing in the constitution or platform that prevents sympathizers with our movement in the villages and towns voting with us, but it does prevent us going to the towns and villages and picking up professional men to to our interests must be to theirs. We have no quarrel with our friends in the towns. What is to our interests must be to theirs. We have no animosity toward them, but some of them have toward us. They don't all come with us, as the returns for the last federal election show."

There is undoubtedly a very close community of interest between people in rural sections and those in the city, and it is more real than is often openly admitted. But it is not exactly true to fact to interpret a desire of towns or villages to vote either Liberal or Conservative instead of U. F. O. as expressing animosity toward people in the country.

No one can call into question the sincerity that prompted the coming into existence of the U. F. O. or that has sought to maintain it as a political entity. There are many things they believe to be right in legislation that find approval with a large number of residents in cities, as well as in villages and towns. Many of the tenets of the U. F. O. are Liberal doctrines, and we use the word "Liberal" in the larger sense, and not simply as applied to a political party. The real problem, then, becomes one of giving the most effective voice to these opinions that are held in common by members of the U. F. O. and residents of the larger and smaller centers of population. There are a large number of people in urban and rural sections who have the same ideas, and it was on this basis that Mr. Drury planned to work. The sticking point was that the U. F. O. refused to be called Liberals, and Liberals refused to be called U. F. O., and the result has been to bring no small measure of comfort to the reactionary forces in the province.

Note and Comment.

New taxes in France raised the price of imported cigars 100 per cent. So that is what comes of putting the ban in the cigar band.

Robbers locked a Chicago butcher in an ice-box and looted the store. The butcher got out and shot them, with cold lead we presume.

St. Catharines Standard notes that the Christmas season is becoming a very popular one for weddings. Sort of a Merry Christmas affair.

Merchants say that hundreds of handkerchiefs are being sold for Christmas presents. So apparently something besides the north wind is going to blow.

Chinese have been ordered to cut off their pigtails, and this the Hamilton Herald regards as a sign of progress—"forgetting those things which are behind."

Montreal board of trade wants more vigorous dealing with those who come under the bankruptcy act. Have the Montreal people come in contact with men who fail with one hand in their pocket?

The Free Press, speaking of Quebec, says "The Conservatives have been without an influential paper in the province." Has the Free Press never heard of the Montreal Gazette, and does it not regard it as being influential?

Mrs. Marr of Los Angeles left \$1,000 in her will to care for her pet canary. Considering that a package of bird seed and a bit of chick weed looks like a banquet to a canary this bird ought to be able to struggle along for a ripe old age.

Sweet Caroline

By ARK.

When Caroline was young she lived upon a farm ten miles from here, where there was room to move about and where the atmosphere was clear.

"Twice in a kitchen on the farm she watched the happy weeks go by, 'twas there she learned to bake a cake and shape the toothsome apple pie. 'Twice there that came a lad to court, 'twas there they spooned and cooed and sat, 'twas in that house they wed one day, then moved into a city flat.

Now Caroline is not a nymph, in fact she's rather large in size, and modelled somewhat on the style they fashion those deep apple pies. The place she lives is up-to-date, it's modern like, it is, you bet, instead of spacious kitchen room it boasts a dinky kitchenette. That kitchenette is six by three, it has a stove that's two by four, when Caroline gets into there why there's no room for any more.

And when she starts to fly around like what she used to do at home, she bumps her shins upon the stove and on the shelf she dints her dome.

She cannot wield the rolling pin that made her elbows dimpled pink, for when she does she cracks 'em hard and skins them on the kitchen sink.

Yet Caroline's a dandy though, a sweeter girl you never met, but Caroline was never meant to caper in a kitchenette.

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The Once-Over

"Without sarcasm or flippant remarks, I say it truthfully," writes a correspondent. "It's always best, when speaking truth, to leave out flippant remarks."

YOU JUST KNOW SHE WEARS THEM.

"Jingle, jingle, go the bells—they are the bells on her pretty silken garters. They are very fashionable."—Ad. in Omaha World-Herald.

HOW EDITORS GET THAT WAY.

A fair correspondent sends a carbon copy of an exciting story which at first glance seemed to be written in Sanskrit. A note at the bottom read: "Hold to mirror. Copy is reversed."

A headline, "Dorchester Peat Believed Useful," provoked an inquiry from the office boy as to who the fellow was, anyway.

OPINIONS DIVERGE.

"The more violently the cigarette is attacked the more popular it has become. Optimistic manufacturers now look forward to an annual production of 100,000,000,000."—Carl Avery Werner in the American Mercury.

"I believe that in a hundred years no one moving about in the industrial and social world will know any smokers to speak of."—Gerald Stanley Lee in "Rest Workings."

New York police arrested a negro six feet tall and weighing 210 pounds. According to the World, he was hiding behind a bush in Battery park.

Which moves a Chicago paper to remark that those concerned about the conservation of our forests may take cheer.

A court decision which would have delighted Pooch-Bah himself has been unearthed from the records of a Massachusetts court. The case, in the judge's written opinion, involved a petition for a writ of mandamus, brought by a disbursing officer directed to himself to prevent himself from deducting from his own salary a sum which he had been ordered to deduct for other purposes. He had to pay the amount which he himself considers to be due himself." He got the writ. E. J. P.

Isn't It the Truth?

Simple statement of fact: "A day came." Literature: "Came a day."

About the only habits developed since the war are lemonade and bribery.

It's the same after college days. Most of us are doomed to sit in the cheering section.

Prosperous times are those in which white-collar men can enjoy watchmen's get rich.

It is easy to find opportunity. Just turn your back on soft snaps and there you are.

There's one nice thing about the school of experience. You can think forty times and still make the grade.

Another very good intelligence test is the effort to entertain yourself.

Blessed are the poor; they needn't go in debt trying to keep up with the neighbors.

Those who have least faith in government demand the most from it.

Old-timers were queer. They wasted liquor in mince-meat and fruit cake.

The easy way to reconcile yourself to censors is to have two or three small daughters.

People are much alike, and do a great deal of gadding at times he looks distinguished.

It is a queer world, and the few men who have the true look of greatness don't amount to much. The belief that pipe smokers are wiser than others merely signifies that the believer smokes a pipe.

It may be that responsibility for the crime wave rests with those who urged people to be natural. The reason women's shoes are high is because those that don't sell have value only as antiques next month.

R. Q.

Editorial Opinion

SEVENTY MILLION FOR ACCIDENTS.

From the New York Sun.

IN more eloquently or more persistently preached than in New York, no state has more elaborate laws to safeguard workers; yet in spite of all precautions last year there were \$74,000,000 industrial accidents of sufficient severity to require reporting to the state department of labor, and they cost industry \$70,000,000. They impose a heavy tax on humanity, a tax paid in suffering, in the disruption of families, in death; and they impose a not negligible increase in the cost of living.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

From the Vancouver Province.
THE fact that the head of many a proud gobbler will fall in the basket before the year is out should remind Turkey of the danger of strutting around Europe with a chip on her shoulder.

LYNCH LAW IN CANADA.

From the Bradford Express.
HENRY LYNCH of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America, has broken away from that organization in order to start a union on Canadian National lines. The next thing he knows his opponents will charge him with endeavoring to introduce Lynch law into Canada.

To the Editor

Pension Case.

Editor of The Advertiser:

Sir,—I read in your paper some time ago an article concerning the widows' pension, and if I remember right, read like this: "The widow remarries, her pension will be cut off, but the children's pension continues." Will you kindly answer in your paper? I would like to know if the children's pension continues. Yours, M. L. S.

Answer.—In case of remarriage after pension is cut off, the assumption being that the husband and stepfather should become responsible for the upkeep of the home.—Editor Advertiser.

Pie Crust Is Grateful.

Editor of The Advertiser:

Sir,—I read in the paper today where one of the trustees in Woodstock wanted to have domestic science taken out of the collegiate because girls were going home to show their mothers how it should be done. I think that's about as fine a compliment as could be paid to the course. There are girls right in this city who are married and keeping house today, and making a pretty fair job of it, who learned domestic science. Many of them couldn't learn how to cook at home because a good deal of the cooking is done at school. I don't know if a girl learns how to be a good housekeeper at school she finds out after she has got married that it was about the best part of her education. Just sign this.
LONDON, DEC. 18. P. E. CRUST.

Saving His Dollars.

Editor of The Advertiser:

Sir,—This week a young man came to me with an assortment of circulars from a distant correspondence school, offering to train him for some more remunerative position. The fees were \$80, and the young man was just on the verge of sending his money when I dissuaded him with this line of argument:

"Why should you send your good money to the other side when right here in the public library you can get fully three-fourths of the reading matter which the school can offer you?"

"Oh, but the school will get me a position and I can finish their course and secure a diploma."

"How? The school has no control over the labor market. Even if they were to send you to a distant country, it would be for some time before you could find a position. The school has no control over the labor market. Even if they were to send you to a distant country, it would be for some time before you could find a position."

"Try this, make an appointment with Mr. Crouch or some other well-informed man, and ask him for advice. See what he can do for you in mapping out a course of reading and directing your energies toward your objective. Keep him posted for other purposes; they will give you about all the help you need if you show yourself a worker."

"That's what I'll do," and he did, and saved his money. LONDONER.

A Fair Bargain.

Editor of The Advertiser:

Sir,—I am going on about the street railway situation there is one point I have failed to mention, and that is the matter of deciding who should pay for the new cars. As it was set before the council very plainly last Tuesday evening.

As I understand it the company went to the council and stated their case very frankly. They showed where they were losing money at present, and where, for a number of years, they had been making a profit. They asked the council to make a dividend. How can anyone expect a business on that basis to show any improvement? How would it be possible to get new cars to put on new cars or anything else?

Every time any person says anything that looks rather favorable to the Hamilton street railway, they are looking after the interests of the company. As I see it, the interests of the company and the interests of the city are very closely tied up in this situation.

When a bargain is made between two parties it must be a good bargain for each party to it. If it is not done on that basis then it is not a good bargain for anyone. When a man takes a position at a good salary and gives good service for what he receives, then that is a good working arrangement, and every person knows that this holds good in almost everything we do.

Right now I would favor seeing an arrangement whereby the street railway company would be a paying concern, and where the city would get good service for its money. I don't think there would be any chance of the city taking over the road because we've got enough on our hands now. The best way to make a fair bargain with the company, and let us put it up to them to make good on their end of the bargain. I can't see any sense or reason in a policy that seems to have for its aim the keeping of the company at a point where it is just about ready to close up business. No city ever got good service from a company that was not paying its way. D.A.

LONDON, DEC. 18.

Re Transportation.

Editor of The Advertiser:

Sir,—May I ask the use of your columns to point out the working people's views with regard to above subject.

Allow me first of all to point out that the street railway has been a source of annoyance for the last eight or ten years by not living up to the franchise by virtue of which they are allowed the use of the city streets, during which time it has cost the citizens a lot of money for legal work, besides delaying improvements.

A few years ago, when the various factories in the city were running on daylight-saving time the employees of the street railway refused to put their watches ahead, with the result that a large number of laborers had to get up early because they had to walk to work. Might I ask where were the president and secretary of the chamber of commerce at that time, were they so anxious just now that the people be provided with transportation?

The city has just finished a long legal battle to compel the street railway to give the seven and nine tickets for 25 cents, as called for in the original charter, and the Ontario railway board has decided in favor of the wishes of the people of the city; and at the last meeting of the city council (under pressure from a number of people who drive their own cars, and consequently do not have to pay the higher fares of the street railway) have given way once more like a lot of conscientious objectors who would surrender to anything rather than fight to maintain the law as laid down.

A year or two ago a large bus was on its way from the Stacks to go to the citizens that buses would solve our

Europe Points the Way

By HENRY SOMERVILLE

tiser's resident correspondent in London, presents an interesting study of the economic forces that are drawing European nations together. He also gives an intimate view of how Europe regards the United States policy of isolation from the League of Nations.

LONDON—A newspaperman has his finger always on the pulse of public interest. In 1919 nothing European was too small to write about for readers across the Atlantic. They would read anything and everything about international affairs. Editors sent correspondents to France and Germany, Poland and Russia, Greece and Czechoslovakia. There was a large public in the United States and Canada interested in what was happening in Europe. Their interest persisted till about the time of the abortive Genoa conference and then it died away.

What was the reason for transatlantic interest in Europe? It was partly that the war had shown that the United States could keep itself out of war when Europe was at war. It was partly that the war had shown that the United States could keep itself out of war when Europe was at war.

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