

Guide-Advocate

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1924

"SQUIBS" BY "DAD"

(Reprinted by permission from The Vancouver "Province.")

1924 being divisible by four, heavy casualties are predicted in the ranks of the bachelors.

Man jong players agree with the popular belief that "east winds" are the coldest.

The "open door" policy was never more unpopular than it is at present. Please shut it when you go out.

Motorists are convinced that nothing is more calculated to develop the language than a frozen radiator.

In the diplomatic poker game now in progress in Greece a king has been discarded with the possibility of drawing a deuce.

War veterans may be reminded of the "zero hour" where they have to get up at 5 a. m. to replenish the furnace.

On view of his being a confirmed smoker, Premier Baldwin may regret his tempestuous political expenditure as a pipe dream.

A seat on the New York Stock Exchange sold the other day for \$83,000. A second-hand throne could be purchased in Europe for less.

The fastest sprinter on the New York police force has resigned, and is following a professional singing career. His speed ought to be of service in running the scale.

A stingless bee is reported to have been developed in Panama. Hereafter the business end of a bee has been approached with the same caution as the rear battery of a mule.

While antiquarians are excited over the discoveries made by the Luxor excavations the Sphinx views the operations with stony indifference.

While astronomers are studying the movements of the planets the average person is more concerned about the fluctuation of mercury in the thermometer bulbs.

When the natives in the Arctic see Uncle Sam's big dirigible balloon floating over their heads on its way to the North Pole they may wonder who taught whales how to fly.

A Philadelphia dentist has been appointed surgeon-dentist to the Prince of Wales. H. R. H. may experience the sensation of being "crowned" long before his coronation.

A Toronto weather expert predicts that we are due for fifteen years of cold and damp weather. Many complaints are made about the weather, but as Mark Twain remarked: "Nothing is ever done about it."

A lone woman juror in a Portland court is accused of swearing at her male colleagues when they failed to agree on a verdict. Eleven stubborn men on a jury are enough to make any woman use strong language.

How to estimate the number of grasshoppers in a field in harvest time was one of the questions discussed at a recent meeting of American entomologists. One way would be to attach an adding machine to a hopper and run the grasshoppers through the hopper.

An optimistic eastern engineer has a scheme for keeping the St. Lawrence route open all the year round by preventing the shore ice from forming. This might be accomplished by building bonfires along the banks, but it would take a heap of fuel.

French epicures are alarmed over the shortage of snails which they regard as a choice delicacy. To increase the supply it is proposed to establish a close season prohibiting them from being gathered between April 15 and July 15. Snails are naturally slow and it may take them a long time to reach peak production.

NOTE & COMMENT

There is likely to be a big residential growth on Canadian prairies this year from the United States.

After we have paid from \$14 or up for a license plate in Ontario it is interesting to learn that California issues them for \$3.

If there is no prospect of an early abolition of the level crossing, why not replace the old cowcatcher with a new automobile catcher?—Acton Free Press.

Hundreds of his fellow-newspaper publishers all over the Dominion sympathize with Mr. Keefer, proprietor of the Norwood Register, in the loss he sustained when his office building and plant were totally destroyed by fire a few days ago.

Western Ontario grows the best apples in the world and eat the worst. This, in effect, is what an expert horticulturist told an audience of growers at Ingersoll the other day. He advocated the use of boxes for dessert varieties of apples instead of the barrels now used, and stated that Ontario apples were already losing out in the wider markets because of failure of growers to adapt themselves to the demand.

The other day the Town of Clinton formally opened what is described as one of the best of the smaller hospitals in Ontario. The building was formerly the residence of a public spirited citizen who turned it over to the town for hospital purposes in memory of his parents. The town guaranteed the bonds necessary in connection with the enterprise and the women of the town have assumed the responsibility for maintenance. Is Watford too small as yet for a community effort of this nature?

Why some people go to church is shown by the questionnaire filled out by the attendants at an Allston (Mass.) church, 30 per cent. of them say they go from a sense of religious duty; 25 per cent. because of the music and 22 per cent. because of the fellowship in church attendance; while four parishioners say they go from habit, one to get food for thought, one because he likes the organist, and one because he likes the pastor. How would these percentages apply to Watford church-goers?

The Collingwood Bulletin remarks upon the fact that none of the Toronto dailies thought it worth while to mention the fact that some four hundred citizens of Simcoe and Dufferin were entertained at Government House. Such would not have been the case had a gang of thieves and blackguards arrived in the city. The latter are the kind that get front page position in the evening papers.—Barrie Examiner.

In denouncing the modern dance an Ottawa preacher referred to some of the scantily clad lady dancers as not wearing sufficient cloth to make an apron for a mosquito. Though in favor with having the ladies cover up a little more, Editor William McDonald, of the Chesley Enterprise cautions against ministers resorting too freely to the use of hyperbole. Pointing to the danger of this practice, Editor McDonald refers to Rev. Eugene Stoffer, who, in one of his addresses, told the story of a man whose boots were so long that he had to go to the forks of the road to take them off. An old Pennsylvania Dutchman, who heard the story, said he didn't think it was a joke at all but a damned big lie.

We now have four kinds of roads: provincial roads, provincial county roads, county roads and township roads. On provincial roads the Government now pays eighty per cent. of the cost of construction and maintenance; on provincial county roads sixty per cent., on county roads forty per cent. and on township roads twenty per cent. The difference between a provincial road and a provincial county road, we are informed, is that the former is thirty feet wide from shoulder to shoulder, with a twenty-foot width of metalling; while the latter is 28 feet wide from shoulder to shoulder, with a metalled surface 18 feet in width.

HASTINGS WAR TRIBUTE

25 trees, ten feet apart, on Hastings' main street, bear the names of the boys of that place who fell in the Great War. The trees were planted three years ago under I. O. D. E. auspices and on Saturday arrangements were made for the unveiling of a monument which with the trees will complete Hastings tribute to its sons.

An American scientific expedition purposes visiting Palestine to locate the sites of the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, now believed to be covered by the shallow waters of the Red Sea. Zoar, the city toward which Lot and his wife were fleeing when the wife disregarded the command and not to look back and was turned into a pillar of salt, is believed to be located in the same region. There is a high rock there now which Arabs point out as "Lot's Wife." It is heavily encrusted with salt, as is practically everything in that region. "The Biblical version of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah was literally true," according to Dr. Kyle, who has explored the scene.

Elmira Council entertained their ratepayers recently at a banquet after which speeches and games were in order. The members stated they were open for suggestions to improve the town during 1924 and received the following: Sewage disposal, re-organize the band, appoint a night watchman, pave other streets and change the crossings, procure a high school site in hopes of having a school some day, advertise the town, have a camping ground for motorists, swimming pool, form an athletic association, council entertain the ratepayers every month. The Guide-Advocate offers the last named suggestion to Reeve Connolly and his Council for whatever it may be worth. In the meantime we shall all look forward to the first monthly banquet that they may tender us.

WHY TAXES ARE HIGH

The rapid increase in the number of persons in Canada who are kept by the efforts of others, is one of the reasons why taxes are higher. The Dominion government employs approximately 160,000 people. Allowing five persons to a family would mean that 800,000 persons are directly or indirectly dependent on the Dominion government alone, and as practically none of the government services are operated at a profit, it means that this large body of persons is being maintained chiefly through the efforts of those who are in gainful occupations. If those employed by the province and municipalities were added to the above it would be found that about one fifth of the total population is being taken care of by the other four-fifths. From this it does not look as the war was the only cause of the heavy taxation. Taxes are getting heavier because in proportion to the population there is a smaller percentage of persons in gainful occupations than there were in years past. The situation is growing worse for if an enterprise does not pay the natural thing to do is to work it off on the government. Canada is now one of the leading socialist states in the world.

THE FABULOUS GOOD OLD DAYS

How often we hear that sentiment. The fact is, however, there never were any good old days. These days were always better than those days. Somebody made a remark about the good old days to Squire Chittick at the court house in London last week, and for answer he took from his desk a court decision of over a century ago.

Here's what it says:—

"George Windecker, of township of Salford, in the District of Niagara laborer, for stealing one heifer, of the value of two pounds, ten shillings, of goods and chattels of John Petneff, was sentenced to be hanged by the neck until he be dead."

A foot note follows: "Pardoned, 6th November, by Isaac Brock, president, administering the Government of Upper Canada, on condition that he leave Canada and all her dominions for the period of his natural life, if he ever returned the sentence to be fulfilled."

"This decision was handed down in the court of Oyer and Terminer," so the document states, "and general goal delivery for the District of Niagara, Province of Upper Canada, 16th of September, 1811, in the fifty-first year of our reign, before the Hon. William Dunsmore Powell."

There are many others of the same kind. Another we have seen tells of an unfortunate who was to be whipped "at the cart's tail" from the court house to St. John's gate in Quebec city. Still another, Quebec again, tells of a soldier who was to be "burnt in the hand for stealing a pair of plush breeches." No penalty is mentioned for owning a pair of plush breeches, but it ought to have been an offence.

Worms in children, if they be not attended to, cause convulsions, and often death. Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator will protect the children from these distressing afflictions.

THE STERLING BANK OF CANADA

SAVE, Because---

Thrift begets independence.



The Dominion's FAVORITE HEALER

Soothing and Reliable in all Emergencies of SKIN TROUBLE.

Get a box from nearest dealer or send 50c. to Zam-Buk Co., Toronto, 3 for \$1.25.

Robert's Syrup

of the Extract of Cod Liver & Tar for COUGHS, COLDS and BRONCHITIS

FARMER'S AUTO JUSTIFIED

A same and well-put plea for the farmer's right to the convenience comfort and advantage of an automobile is contained in the "Farm Topics" column of the Toronto Globe. "The average Ontario farmer lives three to five miles from town and has no street car to take him to that town for the purchase of supplies for his family and business. Furthermore, he must make a trip there about once a week with milk, cream, eggs or some other small amount of perishable produce, which can be more rapidly and economically conveyed in a car than in any other vehicle. The cost of the light car, and there are few others owned along the concession lines, is but slightly higher than that of a democrat with horse and harness, and there is no comparison in speed. With the possible exception of the country physician, no person has more need of a car for business purposes than the farmer. To use this machine as an indication of the agriculturist's prosperity, however, is almost as absurd as to argue that the average laborer in the city must be making big wages because he uses a street car in going to and from his work."

Many farmers are twice or three times five miles from their nearest market, and must often make more than one trip a week to secure the best returns for produce. Another argument for the auto is that perishable produce reaches the market in better condition and sells better. Still another is that the work on the farm can often go without interruption while the auto is on the way to market and back.

The social and recreational advantages of it would justify the investment involved. Possibly in some cases for a while too much time is spent in this way. But the novelty soon wears off and the auto is used quite as sensibly as the horse and buggy or democrat of the past.—Hanover Post.

"WATFORD'S OLD HOME WEEK" August 3rd, 4th and 5th, 1924



COUNTRY NEWSPAPERS

Slowly but surely the newspapers of the country are passing. Scarcely a week but sees one or more cease publication especially in the smaller towns and villages. This is due largely to the very high cost of production both in the matter of wages and material which are continually on the increase. Last month the new sales tax by the Federal Government, added still another 4 per cent. to the cost of material such as paper, ink, and other supplies. On top of this is the great decline in local advertising in the smaller local newspapers by the mercantile community whose enterprise and activities have been greatly reduced by the operations of the big city mail order houses whose baneful influence is rapidly killing the small commercial centres of the country by absorbing the business which has sustained them. It will be a bad day for Canada when the only mouthpieces of its people are the subsidized or controlled daily newspapers and it appears this is what is in prospect.

RED TAPE WEARISOME

Blenheim Tribune.—At this time of the year the average business man is convinced that there are too many persons holding jobs created for the sake of keeping them employed at white collar positions. About the time he has his own year's computations made, with an effort to keep a profitable showing, along comes say a wearisome set of Government forms for the "Bureau of Industry" at Ottawa requiring knowledge say in our own case of the amount of paper ink, cardboard, etc., we have consumed; the cords of wood and thousands of gas we have burned; the number of kilowatt hours of current we have required and so on. Before that is off our hands the Workmen's Compensation Board wants a detailed statement concerning our staff, the hours, employed wages paid and intended to be paid. Then the local assessor becomes our guest, to be followed by the most onerous of all, the filling in of multitudinous details of the Federal income tax papers. It is not many years since we had none of these troubles; now the business man's life is just one troublesome nuisance and expense after another. No one who suffers knows how it can be done, but there is certainly a universal impression that official red tape is being altogether overdone, and there should be relief for a burdened public.

Many have been relieved of corns by Holloway's Corn Remover. It has a power of its own that will be found effective.

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