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The O. T. A. Plebiscite Ballot

- 1 Are you in favor of the continuance of The Ontario Temperance Act? **X**
- 2 Are you in favour of the sale as a beverage of beer and spirituous liquor in sealed packages under Government control? **X**

MARK YOUR BALLOT AS ABOVE

This is a copy of the ballot. A valid ballot and one that will count for the "Drys" will be marked with an X after the first question. Marking X after both questions spoils the ballot.

Women and Home

PROPER CARE OF THE INFANT

The infant is a delicate organism and answers readily to any adverse influence exerted upon it; therefore, it is necessary to ensure a high standard of health by removing such adverse influence. Poverty of parents is a most important factor for evil in this connection. In all our large cities at the present time, the nurses and workers in Child Welfare are handicapped by the shortage of houses, the overcrowded state of those that exist, and, in many cases, the unsanitary dwellings that are necessarily allowed to be inhabited because there is no accommodation for their inhabitants if these dwellings were closed. The provision of additional housing accommodation is most urgent, but this problem in too many instances is not tackled with the vigor which its urgency demands.

Among the causes of infantile deaths, the following are the most important:—climate, season, housing, alcohol, venereal disease, diet, poverty and unemployment. From these primary causes, two others stand out forcibly:—

1. Want of knowledge.
2. Want of character.

Infants die from lack of knowledge on the part of the mother or father or of others who have personal supervision of them, but they also die from the ignorance of the statesman, legislator and the municipal councillor. Infants, however, die from the selfishness of the same individuals, both in their private and in their public capacities. It is much easier to acquire and disseminate that knowledge of mothercraft which is necessary for the saving of infant life, than to impart that spirit of self-sacrifice and unselfishness which is necessary if this knowledge is to be put into operation. It is, for instance, far easier to make a mother understand that breast-feeding affords her infant the best chance of survival than it is to induce her to make the necessary sacrifice of pleasure or remunerative employment which are often involved in this maternal duty is attended to. Again, it may be quite easy to make our municipal authorities understand that bad housing conditions, overcrowding, tuberculosis inmates, an impure water supply, and bad scavenging of the streets are never associated with a low infant mortality and a high standard of health, but it is quite another thing to induce them to incur the risks and unpopularity which the carrying out of the indicated reforms would entail. A want of appreciation of these essentially human elements in the problems explains many of the failures of otherwise admirably designed schemes of Welfare Work. In some cases, efforts of reform have unexpectedly met with most encouraging success, owing again to the magnetic influence of some commanding personality who has succeeded in compelling society to make the necessary sacrifice, whether personal or communal, for attaining the desired end.

Hardy flowering perennials for permanent beds and borders, with dates for fall transplanting:

Achillea	Sept. 10-25
Anchusa	Sept. 10-25
Aquilegia	Sept. 5-120
Aster (Hardy)	Oct. 10-25
Boltonia	Oct. 15-Nov. 1
Campanula	Sept. 10-25
Candytuft (Hardy)	Sept. 15-30
Cantabury Bells	Sept. 5-25
Carnation	Sept. 5-15
Coreopsis	Sept. 5-Oct. 10
Delphinium	September
Dianthus	September
Gaillardia (Hardy)	September
Gysophylla	Sept. 15-Oct. 1
Hibiscus	September
Hollyhock	September
Lupinus	Sept. 1-25
Lycnis	September
Myosotis	September
Pansies	September
Phlox	Sept. 25-Oct. 10
Pinks	September
Poppy (Hardy)	Sept. 1-15
Pyrethrum	September
Scabiosa (Hardy)	September
Stokasia	September
Sweet William	Sept. 1-Oct. 10
Viola	September
Valerian	September
Veronica (Hardy)	September

THE WOMAN LOSES

If women stopped carrying purses and if they would make use of their umbrellas, wrist straps, lost and found departments could be discontinued, says "The New York Sun." The one or two which might remain open under these conditions would be really curiosity exhibits where the odd things that people lose could be shown. But there would be little work to do in these departments because the chief "losers" and the chief lost articles would be eliminated.

At least that is the opinion of Henry H. Raitt, who has been head of the lost and found department of the Fifth Avenue Coach Company for fourteen years.

"I hear a lot of women talking about the way they have to take care of their husband's belongings. Maybe they can take care of these kind of things, but they certainly forget to

be careful when it comes to thinking about their own," Mr. Raitt said. "Ninety-nine per cent. of the articles lost during the year are owned by women."

"But isn't entirely the women's fault. They are at a disadvantage from the beginning," Mr. Raitt smiled apologetically as though he did not want to have to say such things about women. Only he has figured the whole thing out, and one can't get around statistics.

"Most women carry purses, and they are about the easiest things in the world to forget. The women lay them down, and somehow when they are in a great hurry they forget all about picking them up again."

"Then, more women carry umbrellas than men. If it looks like rain a woman plays safe and takes her umbrella. You don't find many men who do. All the time women have extra articles with them. It is mighty easy to lose extra articles. And the women lose them, all right. Some days when it looks as though it might rain and instead the sun comes out, we get as many as 150 umbrellas turned in."

"There isn't any special kind of a day when purses are lost. We get anywhere from ten to fifty of those a day."

In the company's lost and found room, there were hundreds of umbrellas; blues and greens, purples and reds and just plain blacks. Most of them have hooked handles or rings that could have been slipped on the wrist. And at least 99 per cent. of them belonged to women. The staid, black, men's umbrellas were very much in the minority.

"It is a certain type of woman who inevitably are the 'losers'; women of leisure and the afternoon shoppers. Very few things are lost during the rush hour, when business people are going to and from business. The best time for losing things seems to be in the middle of the day."

"The funniest part about it all is that those who lose so often do not inquire until weeks have passed to find out whether or not the articles have been found. Just this morning a woman called up and asked if I had her muff that she had left on a bus a year ago last November. She wanted to put it into storage to-day; that was how she happened to remember that she had been intending to call up for over a year. That sounds ridiculous, but it's true."

"People have a habit of forgetting pets in the bus. It is quite ordinary for us to have one or two canaries' cages hanging in the lost and found room until their owners come in to claim them. The last parrot forsaken made so much noise we were glad to get rid of it. But of all the animals that we have taken care of, the most unwelcome were two snakes that an actor lost. We kept the snakes for two days, experimenting with all sorts of diets, and we couldn't seem to hit on the right one. We simply could not please those snakes."

"Size doesn't make any difference to the 'losers,' who can forget big things quite as easily as little ones. And the worth of a thing doesn't make any difference either."

"It isn't a rarity at all for a purse containing hundreds of dollars to be picked up. One's faith in one's fellow men is given new impetus in this position. Nine out of ten of the riding public are strictly honest, and the other generally withholds temptation."

PREMIER FERGUSON SHOWS ALARMING INCREASE IN COST OF EDUCATION

Describing as "somewhat alarming" the steady increase in the number of very small schools in rural Ontario, Premier Ferguson, as Minister of Education, in a personal note in the annual report of the Department of Education, just issued, goes on to give details of the situation over which he expresses concern.

Small Attendances

"There are one-teacher schools in the most flourishing counties," he says, "where the average attendance is from 1 to 5 pupils. This is the case in 117 schools, and there are 365 schools with an average attendance of from 6 to 9 pupils, and no less than 824 schools where the average attendance is between 10 and 14 pupils. Thirteen per cent. of the rural schools have an average attendance of less than 10 pupils; 33 per cent. an average of less than 15, and 55 per cent. an average of less than 20."

"The financial loss in maintaining many of these schools is startling. The following table shows the average cost per pupil of average attendance in the groups indicated:

Cost per pupil in schools with average attendance, 1 to 5	\$150.70
Cost per pupil in schools with average attendance, 6 to 10	\$2.42
Cost per pupil in schools with average attendance, 10 or less	\$9.46
Cost per pupil in all rural public schools	\$13.31

By adding the amounts collected locally as given above to the legislative grants, the total cost is found to be as follows:

Total cost per pupil in schools with average, 1 to 5	\$243.32
Total cost per pupil in schools with average 6 to 10	138.99
Total cost per pupil in schools with average 10 or less	151.31
Total cost per pupil in all the schools	\$80.26

To Abolish Section System?

In further discussion of days and means to meet the problem, the Premier intimates a possibility of a township system of school administration succeeding the present policy of governing schools by sections. Several of the big States across the line, he says, have adopted this township plan.

"The Inspector of the Province," he adds, "who have excellent opportunities for observing rural education conditions at first hand, unanimously favor the creation of larger administration areas, and support their opinions with arguments which would appear to have much weight."

"The majority, I understand, would select the township as the unit. The section method of administration owes its origin to pioneer conditions which almost dictated the creation of a small local unit, and this form of management doubtless worked well in early times. The Province was then incompletely settled; communities were often isolated; roads were bad, communication was difficult. The plan was the natural one to be adopted in a sparsely settled country with many widely separated communities, just as it had been adopted in the New England States before that time."

Relic of Pioneer Days

"But it has been pointed out that the conditions which made the plan a necessity in Upper Canada eighty years ago have practically disappeared to-day; that the arable portions of the Province are completely

settled; that isolated communities no longer exist, that a network of good roads penetrates all parts of the Province; and that the telephone and the automobile have brought the people of a whole township as closely together for practical purposes as the people of a school section were formerly."

"The great changes which have taken place in economical, industrial, and social conditions at least suggest possibilities of improvement in rural school administration. At any rate, I am assured that the reforms most urgently needed in rural elementary and secondary schools can be brought about only through the attainment of a much greater measure of co-operative action. My hope is that this question will receive most serious attention from all persons who are concerned with the support and administration of schools. I shall welcome all constructive suggestions for increasing efficiency or for equalizing and, if possible, reducing expenditure."

MY WISH

If a little word of mine
May make a life the brighter,
If any little song of mine
May make a heart the lighter,
God help me speak the little word
And take my bit of singing
And drop it in some lonely vale,
To set the echoes ringing!
If any little love of mine
May make a life the sweeter,
If any little care of mine
May make a friend's the deeter,
If any lift of mine may ease
The burden of another,
God give me love, and care, and strength,
To help my toiling brother!

IN AN EMERGENCY

Remember that if you pull up the emergency brake and catch it, thus locking the front wheels, you might as well take your foot off the service brake. If the wheels are locked the best thing you can do is to unlock them and apply the brakes so as to keep from sliding.

NORTH AUGUSTA

North Augusta, Sept. 24.—The annual grandmothers' meeting of the North Augusta Women's Institute was held in the Institute rooms on Tuesday afternoon last and was well attended, about 35 grandmothers being present as well as a large attendance of members who could not qualify. The day being bright and sunny, door photographs were taken. The prize for being the oldest grandmother present was awarded to Mrs. Jane Totten, who is 86 years old, and the youngest grandmothers' prize to Mrs. Robert Hough.

An excellent paper on the "Dangers of Luxuries in Present Day Life" was read by Mrs. L. M. Galbraith, after which Mrs. A. E. Warren gave a short talk on "Mothers."

Mrs. Galbraith, the president, cordially welcomed the guests of the day, and after the serving of delightful refreshments an hour of social intercourse was much enjoyed by all present. Not the least interesting part of the entertainment was an exhibition of some very old relics belonging to Mrs. Albert Manhard and Mrs. Chapman Dales.

The members decided to bring their contributions of fruit and jam for the Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto to the next meeting on October 28, at which time they also hope to entertain the district president and the members of the South Augusta branch.

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