

"The Jarvis Record"

TELEPHONE 37, JARVIS, ONTARIO
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A. L. MILLER, Editor

RING IN THE NEW

THIS IS THE TIME that we get a ringing in the ears recognized as an echo of the bells that ushered in the New Year. For the New Year halleluiah serves as an alarm clock to arouse that sleeping giant, conscience, who at this period usually arises to club the unsuspecting citizen over the head.

Though grumpy from the blow we meet the situation with resolution—in fact, many resolutions. For it is one of the quirks of the human mind that the more resolutions you make to do better, the better you feel—for the time being, at least.

This New Year feeling might be compared with one of the reported sensations of drowning in that your mind flashes back over your life. However, it is not as uncomfortable as drowning because you review only a year's lapses rather than those of your whole life.

But what a change we see when we turn from our dark past to the bright future of the coming year, gilded with the glitter of our resolutions.

For many people these resolutions are merely mental—quickly made, and as quickly forgotten. These people fail to capture the true benefit of the New Year. For them a resolution is a fleeting illusion—a momentary glow that warms quickly and then dies for lack of fuel. There is more satisfaction in recorded resolutions consulted periodically.

Privately, we dislike those individuals who boast of keeping New Year's resolutions throughout the year. We suspect that infrequently they are guilty of procrastination. Anyway, how can you recapture that magic glow of the New Year unless your resolve to do better springs from an uneasy knowledge of one or two broken resolutions behind you?

NEW RINK FOR SIMCOE

SIMCOE came very close to being visited with a major disaster on Monday when the roof and sides of the skating arena collapsed with tons of snow which had accumulated on the roof over the past two weeks. Had the collapse occurred a few minutes later many homes in Simcoe would have been mourning the loss of a child.

The significance of the affair rests in the fact that a few short years ago Simcoe ratepayers turned down a by-law for the erection of a modern artificial ice arena. Turned it down no doubt because of the monetary cost. The insignificance of that angle should now be apparent. Within five minutes the case when the by-law was turned down a few years ago. In the meantime the progressive Norfolk County Town will be without the facilities of an indoor skating and hockey emporium.

Now a new modern artificial ice arena will be built in Simcoe, and no doubt at greater cost than would have been the case when the by-law was turned down a few years ago. In the meantime the progressive Norfolk County Town will be without the facilities of an indoor skating and hockey emporium.

THANKS TO THE R.C.A.F.

THE R.C.A.F. snow removal equipment has proved particularly valuable to the district residents in keeping the roads leading to the Airport cleared. Due to their operations many people now able to get out, would be absolutely snowbound. The equipment which is heavier than any used by the County or the nearby Townships, has relieved the situation many times in the past few weeks, and we are no doubt expressing the feelings of many when we say "Thanks to the R.C.A.F."

POLITICIANS—the rats—

WE FIND it most grievous at times to hear people berate the Politicians. There have been cases of misguided representatives of the people who have lived up to the general definition of a politician, but by and large, we feel, the politicians stand just a little higher in character than the person who can never find a good word for them.

Take the case for example, of the little politician. We mean the Citizens who assume responsibilities in Municipal Government. A check-up of the recent nomination meetings in the various nearby municipalities reveals an absolute lack of interest in the selection of the body of men who will conduct the affairs of the municipality. Why? We have never been able to arrive at any reasonable explanation, except an absolute lethargy on the part of the people who should be concerned.

Toronto for example, even with the assistance of a Voter's league, designed to get out the votes found only one in four of the eligible voters taking the trouble to mark their ballot. And this in a City whose business is greater than in some of the Provinces of Canada. Port Dover, a Village with fifteen hundred voters, actually had two dozen voters at the nomination meeting; this number included the old council, and most of the retiring school board.

Hagersville was much the same with only two Councilors qualifying for office.

We are not trying to ridicule other municipalities by the example of Jarvis. In this Village the retiring council in 1944, due to respect for one another saw to it that each member of the old Council was given a nomination. It was fortunate that that respect existed between the members of the retiring council, otherwise another nomination would have been necessary.

When a situation such as this is apparent all over it is very definite that the value of the voting franchise has been lost sight of. It should be taught in our schools and the time may come when it will no longer be felt necessary to establish third and fourth parties in our National Affairs to ensure sound government under a system which has given more freedom and progress than any other system yet devised.

THE SWINGING PENDULUM

—By Lewis Milligan—
IT IS a common saying that "there are always two sides to every question," and if that dictum were generally accepted there would be less bitterness in political and religious controversy, and fanaticism, revolution and war would be outlawed.

There is more truth than poetry in those lines of W. S. Gilbert which observe that—
"Every boy and every girl,
That's born into this world alive,
Is either a little Liberal,
Or else a little Conservative."

But in these days of political confusion it appears that boys and girls are being born alive with a variety of political views. Some years ago five Canadian professors drew up a symposium of "Five Political Creeds," in which they explained the meanings of Fascism, Socialism, Communism, Conservatism and Liberalism. The first three of these, however, are more than creeds, they are political systems—although Socialism and Communism are in reality one and the same, the only difference being one of degree. The whole three are basically similar, in that they are one-party systems.

Conservatism and Liberalism are not two separate systems; they are two sides of one system which we call Democracy. In fact, Democracy could not exist without these two opposing parties.

Under Fascism and State Socialism there can be only one political party, the State, or, as the capitalists like to call it, the "People," which in effect means the same thing. The Communists call it the "Proletariat." The fallacy of this is that there is no such thing as the "People," so far as an actual governing body is concerned. What we call "Government by the People" is entrusted to a comparatively few individuals elected periodically by a majority of the people and subject to criticism by representatives of the minority and public opinion generally.

Democracy is not a perfect system, but that is because men are not perfect, and it therefore fits them. The minds and emotions of a free people are in a constant state of flux—of ebb and flow. In politics we call it the "swing of the pendulum," and this makes for steady and ordered progress. If you stop the swing, you stop the clock. This is a law of life and of the universe, like birth and death, night and day, summer and winter.

Democracy recognizes this law of change and endeavors to control it by the free press, freedom of speech and the two-party system. Under that system great changes and radical reforms have been brought about by free public opinion. Within living memory we have seen the old order changing, yielding place to a new way to the new—"lest one good custom should corrupt the world."

Speaking in the House of Commons some years ago, before the war, Winston Churchill said that if he had to choose between Fascism and Communism he would choose Communism, but that it would be a desperate choice. A very good case could be made out for State Socialism, and if human nature were not so complex and compression, either Fascism or Communism would be very good systems of government. But history has repeatedly shown that such systems can only be established by revolution and maintained by regimentation and suppression of freedom. State Socialism is a static system, like that of the bee hive—and one can well imagine what would happen in a bee hive if the bees were to split up into political parties.

Socialists scoff at the idea of maintaining what they call the "status quo," but under a democracy there is no such thing as a fixed state of things. It is the State Socialist who is seeking to establish a status quo, he would swing the political pendulum over to the extreme left and hold it there.

THE EDITOR of the Swift Current Sun scores a bulls-eye with this one: "We as individuals haven't got such an awful lot to crow about! When is the time coming when people who believe in the Christmas Spirit act it in the other fifty-one weeks of the year? If our statesmen, would-be statesmen, local big shots and small fry would all "count ten" before lashing out at somebody else, this world would be a better place to live in."

ANYONE who accepts public office is to be commended. It is thankless job. He must, however, forget his own private interests and assume the responsibility of his position, and work for the betterment of the community. He should at all times be not only willing but anxious to accept criticism, especially from those who share his responsibility. Every citizen should be public-spirited enough to assume his share. Those who do not have no right to criticize.

—Altona Echo

"HERE IS THE NEWS"



When the stirring theme of "Empire Echoes" is heard over the air, then it's time for the BBC Radio Newsweek, heard nightly over CBC network at 11:00 P.M. And as often as not it is the voice of young Whitlock which follows that theme, bringing the latest news and sound pictures from London to Canadian listeners across the Dominion. Seconded to BBC by the CBC a year ago last summer, Byng rates as tops at home both as swing authority and announcer.

The Weeklies Say...

IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION

Recent disbanding of Canada's volunteer Air Defence Corps, numbering some 23,000 members, terminated a work of paramount importance that went on so quietly that few realized the unstinting service contributed by a handful of citizens. The corps was a very vital and necessary part of our hastily mobilized defence.

—The Powell River (B.C.) News—

A PRESSING NEED
"One of Kamloops most pressing needs is the construction of a number of moderate-sized homes. Any official, agency or organization which can make any progress toward alleviating the situation will earn heartfelt thanks of those unfortunate without homes."

—The Kamloops (B.C.) Sentinel—

CONFIDENCE-BUILDING
Indication was given at the recent ceremony when certificates in music were presented to Film Film pupils that some change is being contemplated in this annual affair. The suggestion made that a majority of the people and subject to criticism by representatives of the minority and public opinion generally.

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EARNS HIGH POST

Haldimand folks are more or less tied up. Many of them now call on their neighbors or visit not at all. Why not write to the Farm Radio Forum office, 71 King Street West, Toronto, ask for the Forum Guide, and go to visit the neighbors Monday evening. Use this traffic tie-up to start or revive some worthwhile discussion and neighborhood interest in your area. It costs nothing to start and may pay large dividends in sense of achievement.

—Pembroke (Ont.) Standard Observer—

TRY COURTESY
Why not try courtesy as a New Year's resolution? It will be found effortless, and the effort becomes the thing because contagious. Dine pictures in it in his story of Scrooge and in practice it will be found to be no mere fiction but a living reality in these matters.

—Bowmanville (Ont.) Canadian Statesman

At The Churches

UNITED CHURCH
JARVIS PASTORAL CHARGE
Rev. Samuel B. East, Minister
JARVIS-WESLEY CHURCH
Sundays—

Public Worship—11 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Church School—10 a.m.
Third Monday—Mission Band
Tuesdays—T.P.S. 8 p.m.
First Tuesday—W.M.S. 2:30 p.m.
Third Tuesday—W.M.S. 2:30 p.m.
Thursdays—C.E.T. 7:30 p.m.
Sundays—Fireside Group 8 p.m.
Fridays—Choir Practice, 8 p.m.
Public Worship 2:30 p.m.
Sunday School 10 a.m.
First Thursday—W.M.S. 2:30 p.m.
Fridays—Family Gatherings, 8 p.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. W. D. Bauer, Pastor
FISHERVILLE
Sundays—
10:00 A.M.—Sunday School and
11:00 A.M.—The Divine Service
12:30 P.M.—The Lutheran Hour
over CKLW. Dr. Walter A. Males speaker.

—ANGLO-CAN—
REV. J. M. CAMERON, Rector
Epiphany Sunday
Nanticoke, Christ Church:
Holy Communion 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
Jarvis, St. Paul's Church:
Holy Communion 11:30 A.M.
Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
Cheapside, St. John's Church:
Service of Evening Prayer 2:30 P.M.

FRESDALE CHURCHES
Rev. W. H. Fife, Jr., Minister
Sundays, January 7th
All services are cancelled in Knox and Chalmers Churches for this Sunday.

A Credit Union is a co-operative organization, too, being organized within a group of people united by some common bond or community interest. It operates under Provincial supervision just as the Haldimand Farmers Co-operative Association does, and receives a charter from the government before it is permitted to make loans.

This column cannot give full information on the workings of a Credit Union, but for those who may scorn the movement or minimize its importance, it should be pointed out that in 1940 there were sixteen Credit Unions in Ontario. In 1944 there were forty-three incorporated, and in the first ten months of 1944, fifty new Credit Unions were incorporated. There are now in Ontario two hundred and fourteen Credit Unions with total assets of \$4,500,000.

It should be pointed out also that this four and a half million dollars represents savings and assets accumulated by ordinary people, civil servants, employees of industrial concerns—people who work. This amount of money has been accumulated by them and is controlled entirely by them. Does the Credit Union mean? The proof of the pudding is in the eating.

Last year, Credit Unions in the Maritime Provinces loaned approximately \$8,000,000 and of this business, only \$1,000,000 was loaned to the Government. At current rates of interest, the Government would have to pay 0.023 per cent of total loans to finance it. It may seem strange that most people are so hostile to the Credit Unions or groups might well inform themselves on Credit Union organization, as the Dundas Township folks have done. Good references may be had by writing to the Department of Agriculture, Toronto, and from the Extension Department, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, N.S.

Haldimand County excels in many things and this time it appears to be in its ability to accumulate snow. There are people within the county who have received no mail since the storm on December 11th. It might seem foolish at first glance to suggest that the New Year is an excellent opportunity to start a Farm Radio Forum in your neighbourhood; but now may be the opportune moment.

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RAY MacKinnon is a name that should be on the corner-stone of Canadian radio. He stepped out of the broadcasting threshold at 17 and has doubled his age in the service of the listening public. He joined the CBC in 1938, but, like over a hundred of its other members, has been on active service since early in the war. He is attached to the R.C.A.F. overseas.

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