

THE DAILY MAIL

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GUNS ARE TO KILL

A recent amendment to the Criminal Code of Canada has added materially to the potential value of unregistered revolvers and pistols. With the New Year they have become worth fifty dollars or thirty days in excess of their intrinsic value. It may be that their power for evil, as well as that of those registered has been lessened. That will be the more desired gain. The new law, requiring registration of private armament, does not confer the right to carry a revolver. A special permit is still necessary to relieve the pistol toter of liability to a concealed weapon charge. The amendment is another good step in the right direction and should be rigorously enforced.

There are, of course, altogether too many privately owned revolvers in the country. The American Bar Association attributes 90% of the major crimes in the United States to the misuse of the pistol and that, from some 20,000,000 of revolvers in unauthorized hands, will come, in 1935, about 12,000 murders and about 80,000 robberies. We have no figures from which to forecast Canada's criminal harvest for the year, but there is plenty of evidence to justify a war on deadly weapons in all the provinces.

In addition to the criminal possession and use of the revolver, the careless keeping and reckless handling of death-dealing weapons are a fruitful source of tragedy. The accidental death of a four-year-old girl from the discharge of a gun in her brother's hands and the frantic attempt of the fear-crazed boy fifteen years old, to take his own life, made pathetic pre-Christmas reading. It is only one of many stories of preventable tragedy.

Apart from exceptional cases, there is nothing to justify the presence of a revolver in the home. A pistol is a weapon for inflicting injury, presumably for destroying life. It is a dangerous weapon in the hands of an expert and doubly dangerous in the hands of an amateur. Even policemen sometimes shoot innocent bystanders. The ordinary householder, gun in hand, is usually a greater menace than the prospective burglar. Telephones and radio cars lessen the necessity of keeping revolvers about the house which, so often, provide a source of danger to curious children. The defensive value of the privately owned pistol set against the possibilities of harm, has little to recommend it.

Public opinion will stand back of legislation which reduces to a minimum the sale and traffic in death-dealing weapons. The means of death and injury belong in the hands of those who have jurisdiction in the case and that comes to the individual citizen only by rare exception. In most cases registration of revolvers could well be followed by confiscation.

POLICE PERFORMANCE

The Halifax Chronicle carried the following story of a night incident in that city that is worth re-publishing, not particularly for its news value, but for the lesson it carries to policemen in general:

"It was ash barrel night in the downtown district. Containers were piled along the curb of Hollis street, awaiting the arrival of the ash cart the following morning. Putting on his pigskin gloves and adjusting his silk muffler as he stepped from a restaurant a well-dressed young man stepped in front of one of the containers and with his spat encased shoe kicked it over.

"A policeman less than half a block away saw the action. He inquired the reason for the act. 'Just feeling lively' was the reply. Ten minutes later a young man with a silk muffler flying in the wind, hands sweating under pigskin gloves and feet moving over the sidewalk in ash besmeared spats put the last shovelful of ashes back in the barrel.

"The barrel was again full to the brim. The sidewalk swept clear of the

dirt, the shovel returned to the police station and a lively young man wended his way home—not quite so lively."

The policeman responsible for such punishment should not only have his name recorded but should be promoted, or be in some way officially recognized. The "well dressed young man" was given a lesson he will not soon forget, and one that was more effective than had the cop taken him to jail and fined him before the beak on the following morning. And all the policeman did was to use his head and apply common sense to the situation.

SNAPSHOTS

Old-timers didn't spend their last cent on specialists when the case was hopeless.

What grandmother had to say about paint on the face delayed its popularity for a whole generation.

If a man has done something worth while, his old age sits lightly upon him in the eyes of the people.

A hick town is a place where there is no true leisure class except the policeman.

But 'rugged individualism' didn't become a by-word and a hissing till it quit paying a profit.

One may be that unpractical as to scenery and has to ship in its poish to live in a country that is all tatoes.

Wife and Family of Police Head Had a Narrow Escape

(Special to the Daily Mail)

Clair Station, Madawaska Co., Jan. 18.—When the R.C.M.P. barracks and dwelling house of A. P. Robichaud burned here early today Mrs. Robichaud and family escaped from the blazing building in their night attire just in the nick of time. The building was reduced to ashes and all the property lots, Robichaud, who has been taking a special course at R.C.M.P. headquarters at Fredericton, was informed of the fire this morning by 'phone call. The fire broke out at three o'clock this morning.

PICTURES OF WILD LIFE

At the Brunswick Street Baptist Gymnasium last evening, several motion picture reels of wild life in Canadian forests were shown. Rev. G. W. Guou addressed the younger generation on the necessity of being kind to birds and animals and Wendell K. Hay gave a short talk on game protection. A very special feature of the programme was the music of a Hawaiian Guitar Trio under the competent leadership of Hamilton Gerard. Their numbers were highly appreciated. The meeting was under the joint auspices of the Spurdin Brotherhood and the Fredericton Branch of the N. B. Fish and Game Protective Association.

HOCKEY FANS

If you are a hockey fan you will be at the game tonight when the Moncton Red Indians and the Fredericton Juniors cross sticks in what is expected to be the best hockey game in Fredericton since the days of Mike Murphy and Larry McLean. The Fredericton Juniors are favored to win tonight's match with the former Maritime Junior champions. Be there to support the boys and help them on their way to the Memorial Cup Playdowns.

LIQUOR CONTROL MET

A regular meeting of the New Brunswick Liquor Control Board was held here yesterday with the chairman, R. G. Fulton, presiding and the two other members of the board, F. J. Robichaux, of Shediac, and M. E. Agar, of Saint John, also present. Routine business was discussed.

LEFT HOSPITAL

Harry Crowley, well known resident of this city, was able to leave the Victoria Public Hospital where he has been undergoing treatment and is now recuperating at his home.

Bargains in coats, dresses, blouses and hats at J. E. Johnston's. Three days' Sale.

Board of Trade Held Lively Meeting Here

(Continued from page one)

His experience and business advice. A hearty tribute to Mr. Hodge was paid by more than one member present, who mentioned the men that are gone who have done good work for the Board which they had done. The first tourist organization in Canada was promoted by these men of the old guard, F. B. Edgecombe, J. W. McCready, C. Fred Chestnut, F. B. Coleman, and others. These have all passed away except R. P. Allen, who was then and has been active in tourist matters. To Mr. Allen is due much of the credit of bringing big game hunters and fishermen here long before the Tourist departments as they exist today were established in New Brunswick or any other province.

Speeches dealing with the affairs of the Board were delivered by C. L. Dougherty, W. A. West, J. T. Jennings, Don Smith, A. A. Shute, G. W. Hodge, F. L. Cooper, S. S. Miller, R. P. Allen, Mr. Justice Richards and His Worship Mayor Clark.

Mayor Clark in reply to Mr. Shute offered to place the city Council Chamber at the disposal of the Board of Trade and it was arranged that the next meeting be held at that place.

Mr. Hodge suggested more frequent meetings and a meeting once a month if necessary. He also suggested active co-operation on the part of the new members.

Some of the new members made speeches pledging their hearty support to the board.

The address of the president W. W. Hubbard was heard with interest and contained some very valuable suggestions. He also pointed out the fact that this city had reached a serious point in regard to the chain store problem. Mr. Hubbard's address was as follows:

Gentlemen:—

A year ago at our annual meeting you re-elected me as your presiding officer, and now that another year has expired, I trust you have no intention of repeating the mistake.

Our records for the year do not show any notable work accomplished. At the annual meeting, on account of the small attendance, it was decided to call a general meeting the following week, when the matter of chain store competition, provincial finances, the extension of the Armory, the establishment of a Central Bank for Canada, the restoration of Government House, routing of export traffic via Fredericton and other matters were discussed and correspondence was taken up with Ottawa. Action then and since taken no doubt helped Fredericton's claim to certain public works which have been prosecuted during this year and will be completed in the future. Other matters are pending.

The possibility of dredging the Oromocto Shoals was taken up with Hon. R. B. Hanson, and the engineers' report received indicating that a possible cost of \$200,000 would not give any assurance of a permanent channel and suggesting it would be cheaper for the Government to build a special light draft steamer than to dredge.

So far as passengers and ordinary freight traffic, this suggestion might fill the bill but for lumbering and other operations the light draft steamer would not be effective. For weeks at a time during the past season shipping was held up on account of the low water on the shoals.

The Board arranged in September, through the co-operation of the Rotary Club and the City Board of Education that the Australian Trade Commission should have a chance to meet the business men of Fredericton and the school pupils.

The Board joined with the city in welcoming President Beatty and party of the C. P. R. and Judge Fullerton and Co trustees of the C.N.R. on their visits to the City, and representations were made to the latter as to some transportation disadvantages under which this city and New Brunswick generally endured. Later on your Board in conjunction with other Maritime Boards was asked by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce to nominate a director for Central Bank of Canada, so that his name might be placed before the shareholders for election. Our Mr. J. D. Palmer was nominated and all other Boards in the Province asked to second his nomination.

Your President represented this Board at the meeting of the Maritime Board of Trade in Saint John, where a most interesting report from the Freight Rates expert of the Maritime Freight Rates Commission was received, who although only two months on the job, had found many freight and express rate disabilities against the Maritimes and was acting for their correction. This gentleman, Mr. Rand Matheson will be in Fredericton on the 28th inst, and would like to meet our people and learn our point of view as well as any difficulties we may have. I hope that we may turn out in force to meet him when he comes.

At the last annual meeting regret was expressed that our citizens by their patronage were encouraging the chain store units established here to the serious embarrassment of our Home Town merchants, and injuring the city and province by sending their money outside the province never to return. A comparison of our business streets ten years ago and today shows a regrettable change which has deprived the city of useful citizens and making increasingly difficult the upkeep of community enterprise.

Your Board has suffered greatly in membership by the absence of many locally owned stores. The Chains do not in any way co-operate in the up-building of the city, but are a continuous drag on its resources to the enrichment of often foreign families and individuals. Our farmers by supporting these chain stores are encouraging foreign competition for what they have to sell and gradually but surely robbing themselves of the good market here which they once enjoyed.

Investigations carried on during the year by a Parliamentary Committee and Royal Commission have demonstrated that these chain combinations have encouraged the sweat shops and, under-paid labour, and practised deceit in their offerings to the customers by under-sized packages, skimmed textile and apparently premeditated and organized short weighing. It is hoped that the public conscience may be aroused so that ethical practices and fair dealing may be encouraged and the people generally awakened to the fact that not only are they not benefitting from this system of big business, but are actually destroying their individual opportunities for work and markets.

Now, gentlemen, I come to a discussion of the future existence of the Board. Dose or does it not merit the support and co-operation of our citizens. During the past few years, support has so dwindled that its extinction and the surrender of its charters is imminent. It is plainly up to this meeting to say what shall be done.

This Board was inaugurated in August 2nd, 1874, as the Fredericton Traders Association and after carrying on until 1891, was that year incorporated under the Dominion Statute Chapter 130 of the Revised Statutes of Canada with forty signatures asking for incorporation of those forty good men and true our esteemed member, Mr. G. W. Hodge is the only survivor.

The following were elected officers for the ensuing year:

President—W. W. Hubbard; Vice-President—S. S. Miller; Treasurer—J. H. Malcolm; Secretary—R. H. Simonds; Auditor—G. S. Armstrong; Directors—G. W. Hodge, J. D. Palmer, R. L. Phillips, C. Hedley Forbes, H. A. Smith, J. T. Jennings, A. A. Shute, John Neill, Hon. R. B. Hanson, Hedley S. Murray, C. A. Kitchen, Mayor W. G. Clark, Hon. Mr. Justice Richards, Ivan McKnight, F. L. Cooper, Dr. G. C. VanWart, Jas. Pringle, G. C. Armstrong, Fred Campbell, H. B. Colwell.

MERCURY DROPS LOWER

The mercury in this part of the province dropped still lower this morning in the recent wave of cold. Several thermometers in this city caught the temperature this morning at 15 degrees below zero. The average or official was 13 degrees. The weather indicated a change to warmer temperature this afternoon.

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LADIES—Copy names, addresses, for mail order firms. Good pay. Experience unnecessary, no canvassing. Write: stamped envelope, United Advertising, 1114 DeKalb Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

It must occur to Sam Insull that he wasted a lot of valuable time in travel.

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Warner Baxter

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