

RACKETS FLOURISH IN LOCAL CHURCHES—TAG DAY A RACKET

Observer Points Out the Absurd Church Supper Racket—Congregations Should Dig Down in Their Pockets

(Observer will from day to day discuss in this column matters of local interest. He has some sound views in regard to things in general. His views are bound to create discussion and perhaps a reply, as every one may not agree with him).

MORE RACKETS

Speaking of rackets, one which comes pretty near the top of the list is the Tag Day. Perhaps this is the most objectionable form there is. It is worse than the Church Supper, because one can at least stay away from that, but there is no escaping the Tag Day. Not even by staying in the house all day can one be assured of safety, for sometimes they come to the door. As for taking a walk down town, that positively cannot be done without experiencing a holdup. Then unless you want to go around wearing a badge as big as a pie plate all the rest of the day you will be held up not once but many times. Of course one always reaches for a dime, or perhaps a big nickel, but who was ever known to possess one when it was so badly needed? No, your pockets will be simply lined with quarters and fifty-cent pieces. You might of course actually be without any money at all, as most of us are, but who would believe you?

At about this point I can hear my readers say, "The idea of begrudging a few cents to such worthy objects." No, we do not begrudge the money, that is not the point at all. What we do dislike on principle is the holdup feature of the performance. The sponsors are good psychologists, they bargain on the average citizen forking over rather than incur the unspoken yet nevertheless apparent contempt of the tag-seller. They take advantage of human weakness; they know that no one has the moral courage to say "No, I won't be made a victim of your high-pressure salesmanship. I don't mind contributing to the cause, and will do so when approached in the right way." But just think what would happen to tag days if even a few people would say it.

There is, however, a means of preventing a Tag Day, if public opinion could be aroused sufficiently to adopt it. Unlike the Church Supper, which will probably be always with us since there is no legal way to stop it, the Tag Day on the other hand can be prevented. Before such a day can be observed permission must be obtained from the Mayor. Let that permission be withheld then; it is as simple as that.

If, however, these occasions must continue, then let us at least have a little variety. Let us try to inject a little more interest into the thing by making an appeal to a wider circle. There is an appalling sameness about the days at the present time. A few suggestions might be in order. Why not have Tag Days for the following:

1. Relief of Homeless Cats.

2. More beer and Better Beer.
3. Permanent Home for the Rubble Brigade.
4. Fund to Purchase Ideas for More Tag Days.

So the list might be carried on indefinitely. As it is, during certain periods of the year every Saturday is a Tag Day. If it can't be stopped, why let's have every Saturday of the year taken, and if that isn't enough, why there are plenty of other week days. Even Sundays might be utilized if the object is of a religious nature.

Among other rackets that might be briefly mentioned are the so-called Drives, high-pressure sales agents from outside concerns, all carnivals and fairs, and even exhibitions.

The "Drive" is well-known to all. Canvassers call from door to door getting people to sign pledge cards which are payable sometime in the near future. Again, the object may be worthy enough, but the method of procedure is a racket. Sales agents from outside firms come in and take money out of the community for some article that is inferior and yet higher priced than could be bought locally. These articles have to be higher priced to pay the agents' commissions. Some of them get as high as fifty per cent of the sale price as commission.

Carnivals and fairs are merely rackets for taking money out of the people. It may not always go out of the community, but it is a racket just the same.

The remedy for all this is simple enough. With possibly one exception all the rackets I have mentioned are controlled by the community. That they are not better controlled would seem to be yet a further proof of the statement that people like to be fooled.

—OBSERVER.

"SIAMESE" TWIN DIED TODAY, 30 HOURS OLD

MEDFORD, Mass., July 3—A 36-hour old Siamese twin girl died today here, although a physician claimed earlier that it had a fighting chance for life.

The twins, born to Mr. and Mrs. Diego Florenzo of Everett, Mass., were delivered by Dr. John Vernaglia. The tissue, he said, connected each head, and was about three by 3½ inches in size.

Termining the case "very, very rare," he said the longer he waited before operating the less would be the chance of shock to the living girl and the cleaner, to a surgeon, would become the line of demarcation marking the living organism from the dead.

The first operation, Dr. Vernaglia declared, would just be "the beginning of other operations."

SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

Miss Harriet VanWart entertained at a small tea yesterday afternoon in honor of Mrs. F. G. O. Pearson, of Gerrard's Cross, Bucks, England, who is spending the summer with her mother, Mrs. W. J. Osborne.

Very Reverend Dean W. H. Moorhead and Mrs. Moorhead will arrive in the city today to take up their residence here. Their sons Walter and John left on Wednesday for Camp Mooswa, Lake Annis, N. S., to spend the holiday season.

The Choir of St. Andrew's church had a very delightful picnic at Stanley on July 1st. About fifty were present and supper was served by the ladies of the Presbyterian church at Stanley.

Mrs. L. G. Hatheway, of Montreal, and little son, Victor, and Mrs. J. Winston Reid, of Windsor, Ont., and little daughter Margaret, have arrived to spend the summer with their mother, Mrs. Fred Chestnut.

Miss Lois MacLagan, graduate of the Nurses' Training School of the Royal Victoria Hospital, arrived from Montreal yesterday to spend her vacation with her mother, Mrs. Kenneth MacLagan of North Devon.

Mr. and Mrs. John Conroy, of Bangor, Maine, have arrived in the city and are visiting Mrs. Conroy's sisters. They were accompanied from Bangor by Miss Helen O'Connor. Mrs. Conroy was formerly Miss Mary Mavor of this city and has many friends here.

Mrs. J. Vernon Kierstead, of Montreal, has been visiting Mrs. Harding Kierstead, at 349 Aberdeen street for the past several days. Mrs. Kierstead has spent the past three weeks in the province and visited friends in Saint John and Hatfield's Point. While here she also visited the Misses Gerow on Saunders street. She will return to Montreal tomorrow evening.

New Dean and Wife Arrive Here

Very Rev. Dean W. H. Moorhead, arrived here today accompanied by Mrs. Moorhead and are taking up their residence at the Deanery, which has been thoroughly renovated, and put in good shape for the new occupants. Their sons, Walter and John, who are at camp at Moosewa, N. S., for the summer, will arrive later. John Moorhead will take up his studies here while Walter will go to Rothesay College. Those who have met the new dean have been very much impressed by his kindly and genial manner, and all will extend him a warm welcome to Fredericton, and wish him every success in his new field of labor.

23 DROWNED

MEXICO, July 3—The Gaudaloupe river overflowed its banks today, resulting in the drowning of twenty-three persons. Flood conditions were terrible and many more lives were endangered late today.

Sanson—Fisher

A wedding of interest to many friends in Fredericton took place yesterday afternoon at Gormain Street Baptist Church, Saint John, when Rev. Dr. S. S. Poole united in marriage Miss Hazel May Fisher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Clarke Fisher, Saint John, N.B., and Gerald Adrian Sanson, Moncton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Sanson of Boiestown, N.B.

While the large number of guests assembled the organist, Professor Hiram Ball played Wagnerian music and for the processional The Bridal Chorus from Lohengrin. During the ceremony the organ numbers played were "The Voice That Breathed O'er Eden," and "O Perfect Love." During the signing of the register the organ voluntary was the Intermezzo from Thaïs. As a processional Professor Ball played Mendelssohn's Wedding March.

The church had been artistically decorated for the ceremony with baskets of ferns, white peonies, blue lupine and forget-me-not. The pews reserved for the guests were marked by clusters of lily of the valley and forget-me-nots tied with white tulle bows.

The bride who was given in marriage by her father wore a becoming gown of golden glow silk lace over taffeta of the same shade made on slenderizing lines and finished with a short train. Her halo hat matched her gown and her slippers were also of golden tint. She carried a cascade of talisman roses and lilies of the valley.

Miss Marion E. Fisher as bridesmaid was her sister's only attendant and was wearing a gown of powder blue net over taffeta of the same delicate tint, with lace mitts, shoes and accessories to match. Her large picture hat was a Leghorn straw trimmed with French flowers. The bridesmaid's flowers were a cascade bouquet of Johannah Hill roses.

Fred Sanson of Three Rivers, Que., was his brother's groomsman, and the ushers were Dr. Robert A. Langstroth and Harold Nichol of Moncton.

Immediately after the ceremony a reception was held in the Royal Hotel for the members of the two families and immediate friends. The bride's table had as central ornament a four-tier wedding cake with decorations of silver leaves and wedding bells. Tiny rosebuds ornamented the soft tulle which surrounded the cake and white tapers in silver candlesticks completed the pleasing scheme of decoration. Scotch roses and forget-me-nots in crystal vases centred the other tables.

After the reception Mr. and Mrs. Sanson left by motor for a honeymoon trip. For travelling the bride wore a coral Lansea two-piece suit with white polo coat and white accessories and a French velour model hat matching her coral gown. On their return they will take up residence in this city, later to move to Moncton, where the groom is a member of the High School staff. He is a graduate of the University of New Brunswick.

The bride is a graduate of Saint John High School and Provincial Normal School. She has been a member of the teaching staff of King Edward School and was a leader in C.G.I.T. work in Saint John.

The many gifts of china, cut glass, silver and substantial checks received by bride and groom evidenced their wide popularity. The groom's gifts to the best man and the ushers were gold cuff links and to the bride a gold bracelet. The gift of bride and groom to the bridesmaid was an initialed gold compact.

Among the many out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Sanson and Miss Winifred Sanson of Boiestown, Miss Bertha Sanson, R.N., of Dover, N.H., Miss Ethel Sanson, River Glade, N.B., Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sanson of Quebec and Harold Nichol and Miss Grace Marshall of Moncton.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitman Haines entertained last evening at bridge in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Young and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Corbett, who are leaving shortly for Vimy Ridge. Bridge was played at four tables with Mrs. Frank Corbett, Mrs. D. J. McLeod, Don Harvey and D. J. McLeod winning the prizes and guest prizes were presented to Mrs. Young and Mrs. Corbett. Delightful refreshments were served by the hostess who was assisted by Mrs. D. J. McLeod and Miss Alice Bird.

CANADIANA

HAVE YOU SEEN A LITTLE BOY

Have you seen a little boy with stick-out ears, He had big blue eyes that seemed to hold back tears, And in his hand, like candles all aflame, He held some Pussy-Willows, while there came His plaintive plea, "a dime." I shook my head And shut the door, just as the poor child said "A nickel!" . . .

Then suddenly there came A wave of pity—an o'erwhelming shame. With eager haste I rushed to open the door; Gazed down the empty street; I longed to pour My trifling pittance in those poor small hands. Oh! He of endless pity understands My sorrow till I find him, and assuage his fears; . . . Have you seen a little boy with stick-out ears?

—May Austin Low.

A COUNTRY COOKHOUSE

There's a cookhouse in the country that is ever in my heart, Though time and distance keep me and its hominess apart, I have just to close my eyelids and kind memory takes me back, To the peace and quiet belonging to that little country shack.

There's a table on the west side wearing oilcloth flowered bright, With a wooden bench around it, where we all sat down at night. Then the shad-flies wood'd the lamp-light, in their droll stupidity; As the cat slept in the woodbox and the stove glowed cheerily. In a corner stood the washstand and the clock ticked over that, While on yonder nail with dignity, hung father's old straw hat. I can see the dear old sofa where I used to lie and drowse, After milking time was over and I had sent back the cows. There's a cupboard near the window, I can smell its hidden ware, A big jar of ma's brown cookies and some gingerbread, I swear. There was never any style about this room so dear to me, Yet, tonight I wish I might enjoy its quaint simplicity.

—Ursula MacMillan.

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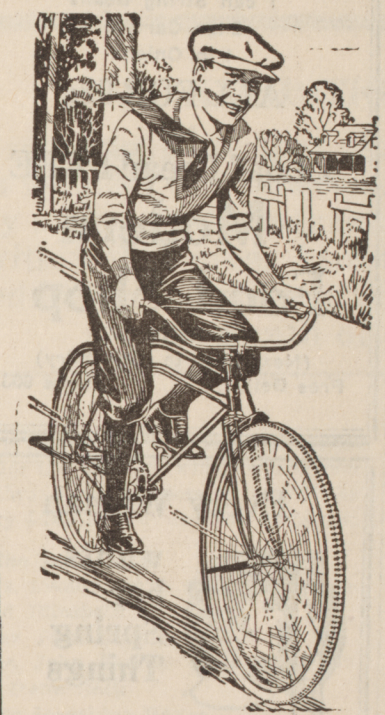
9 - 6 or by APPOINTMENT.
404 Queen Street.

TENDER

Tenders for renovating the rooms at York St. School will be received by the undersigned until NOON JULY 11, 1936.

Specifications of work to be done may be seen at the office of the School Board.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES,
R. D. HANSON, Secretary.



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SATURDAY, JULY 4 at 8 o'clock

A general discussion on feeding and breeding will be conducted. Everybody welcome and there is no charge.