

## The Action Free Press

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H. P. MOORE, Editor and Publisher

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### EDITORIAL

#### The Daylight Saving Muddle

The Daylight Saving plan for the summer is likely to be the cause of considerable annoyance and dissatisfaction this year. In the House of Commons last week the proposal to adopt the measure for the Dominion this year was defeated by the substantial majority of 105 to 50. Notwithstanding this action the railways have adopted Daylight Saving and given notice that their time tables will road by that system—an hour in advance of standard time. In the House farmer members from all parts of the Dominion strongly opposed the plan and gave reasons for their objections. Locally we are evidently in confusion. Some of the factories have announced the adoption of the Daylight Savings plan, and the post office must necessarily adopt it because the mails come and go by the railway time table. The churches will not be likely to convert their services by the earlier time because of the inconvenience to the farmers, and the schools will be in a predicament inasmuch as some members of the family will be employed where Daylight Saving is in vogue and others where standard time is adhered to. This undesirable confusion in time will cause much inconvenience.

#### Our Memorial to Our Soldiers

With commendable alacrity and splendid unanimity the Civic Committee on Acton Soldiers' Memorial presented their report before a mass meeting of citizens last Thursday evening. The committee had unanimously decided that, inasmuch as they had learned that the soldiers generally were not favorable to a monument, that memorial entrance gates with cut stone abutments bearing the names of the Acton soldiers who have participated in the war, to be located at the entrance to the town park was most desirable. Their report was presented with architectural drawings showing chaste and substantial designs, and the suggestion that \$3,000 be raised to carry out the proposal. The Messrs. Beardmore's benefaction in devoting the block bounded by Mill, Wilbur, Church and Fellows Streets for recreation purposes was pointed out at the meeting as offering a more desirable location for these handsome entrance gates and pillars. It located as an entrance to these grounds, with the pretty greenwards of bowling greens, tennis courts and shrubby backgrounds or hedges, the result would be most effective. They would be readily seen by all visitors to town. Further, as the new provincial highway will in all probability pass through Acton the route will be on Mill Street, and the memorial placed here would win the admiration of all this large volume of traffic passing through town. If this site is available it should meet with universal approval as the ideal place for Acton's memorial.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES

A new coat of arms for Canada has been decided upon. Consideration is being given by the Government to the question of adopting a coat of arms for the Dominion of Canada which will be representative of all the provinces comprised in the confederation. A committee of officials has been appointed to take up the subject and consider designs submitted to it. It is high time that we had a coat of arms covering all our provinces.

The continuance of the abnormally high price of butter is calling special attention to the cause. The president of the Union of Mothers' Clubs of London has summoned a special general meeting to consider a proposal to boycott the use of butter until the dealers reduce prices. Butter is now dearer than it has been in many months, and a jump to 80 cents a pound for creamy prints on the London market Saturday prompted action by the Mothers' Clubs. The Mothers' Club will also organize a campaign to oppose any proposal to again prohibit the importation and sale of oleomargarine.

The Government has accepted the argument of Liberal members in regard to permitting women to take seats in the Legislature if elected, and also permitting them to be elected to municipal office. At the time of the passing of the Franchise Act of 1917 giving women the right to vote in Ontario Provincial elections the Liberals emphasized the logic of this by permitting these new voters to represent the people if so desired. The Government voted down those proposals but now adopts them as their own. A bill to enable farmers' wives to become members of School Boards has also been introduced.

Last year a great many people were opposed to Daylight Saving time because the Union Government had enacted it. This year the Government voted the proposition down by an overwhelming majority. Will those opposed to the scheme now put the Government on the back and tell them what splendid fellows they are?

An interesting bill now before the Legislature has for its object the development of community halls and athletic grounds in the rural districts of the province. The Government will make a grant of 25% of the cost of constructing a community hall up to a maximum of \$2,000. This bill, if enacted, should encourage the fostering of the community spirit.

The tariff crisis has passed over for the present, but will recur with the consideration of the budget. Sir Thomas White, the acting Premier, made a conciliatory address, and the western men evidently have decided to await the budget before taking any definite action. But they are decisive in their demands for consideration of their claims.

Premier Lloyd George is making a fight at the peace conference to do away with conscription for military service. It is sincerely to be hoped the world will never again see the necessity for the adoption of any conscription measure for military service so long as the world stands, in any country.

U. S. Secretary of War Baker is credited with the statement that the cost of the war in money value alone was \$107,000,000,000, or \$11,000,000,000 more than the total property value of the whole of North America. "No child born in a civilized nation in the next hundred years will escape paying a considerable portion of the debt this war has brought about," says Mr. Baker.

Sir Robert Borden has submitted to the British delegation at the Peace Conference a memorandum to the effect that the British dominions do not wish to assume any responsibility in European affairs where the Empire is not directly concerned. This is a view that will be supported by an almost solid public opinion in Canada.

An agitation has been started, and it has much to recommend it, that an act be passed by the Province to provide that the revenues derived from motor licences be paid to the municipality in which the owners reside when the licenses are issued, less departmental expenses. The government has other sources of revenue but the municipalities have few except through direct taxation.

Dollar Days are profitable business moves in many towns. Owen Sound recently had one in which the merchants heartily co-operated. Sudbury also had a great success a few days ago, and Oshawa will have one on Saturday with upwards of one hundred storekeepers taking part. What is good for these and other places should be of value to the business of Collingwood.—*Collingwood Bulletin*. "A Dollar Day ought to prove a good piece of enterprise and profit for Acton merchants.

Assessor Reid has about completed the assessment of this municipality for 1919. Talking about assessment difficulties, how would it do to compel every property-owner to file a statement of the price at which he would sell, and then assess him accordingly at the same time making it obligatory for him to sell his property if someone should offer him the price? This ought to get rid of the many instances in which an owner's selling price and his assessment valuation are not within speaking distance.

The illicit traffic by which liquor is still being brought into Ontario, under all sorts of subterfuges and efforts at concealment, is, it needless to say, illegal. It is a direct violation of law. What is the remedy? The Dominion Parliament will be petitioned at the present session to enact legislation embodying the provision of the existing Orders-in-Council dealing with the manufacture, importation and transportation of liquor. Such legislation might well provide that the enforcement of its provisions should be entrusted to the special machinery in existence in the various provinces for administration of the liquor law.

Provision for soldiers who desire to engage in agriculture is being made by the Dominion Government on a somewhat large scale. The plans of the Government for the settlement of returned men on farms include expropriation of land, loans to soldiers, substantial reductions in the price of implements, harness and live stock. Provision is made for education in agriculture. Two courses of instruction have been laid out. In the preparatory course practical farming experience may be obtained by going to work on up-to-date farms. The soldier will be visited from time to time by representatives of the Soldiers' Settlement Board, who will keep a record of his progress. It is recognized that the success of the plan will depend largely upon the co-operation of practical farmers and the development of the community spirit.

The nuisance and loss occasioned by dogs running at large is causing Municipal Councils to take stern measures in some localities. Adamston Township Council has evidently grown weary of paying out money at every meeting on account of sheep killed or injured by dogs. At its last meeting the Council decreed that dogs should no longer run at large in the township; that dogs running at large and unaccompanied by owner or attendant might be killed by any resident ratepayer; that all dogs must wear a tag, and that the tax on dogs shall be higher than before. This is legislation in the interest of sheep, one of the most valuable animals on the Canadian farm and one whose numbers have greatly decreased in recent years owing to the depredations of dogs. The usefulness of the by-law just enacted by Adamston Township can be increased through other municipalities following suit.

Two important motions emanating from the Liberal side of the local house will come up for discussion during the week, one by Mr. Parliament, of Prince Edward, demanding a commission to study the reasons for the decline in rural population, which has been outstanding for some time, and the other by Col. Atkinson, of North Norfolk, in regard to the necessities of the present readjustment period succeeding the war. Mr. Atkinson impresses upon the Government the necessity for passing legislation to provide for such matters as a fair wage, fair prices for the product of the farm, encouraging men to go back to the land pensions for widows with dependent children, the suppression of feeble-mindedness and social diseases, and by making a close study of all matters relating to the health and welfare of the people of the province, including unemployment, with a view to the enlargement of the comfort and happiness of the people.

### Big Deputation for Provincial Highway

Action was Represented by between Twenty and Thirty Delegates

#### PROMISED CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF PROJECT

The largest delegation to wait upon the Premier and Cabinet this morning was that of small town representatives from cities, towns, villages, townships and counties along the direct route from Toronto to Guelph, together with a number from Waterloo, Kitchener, Cambridge, Waterloo, Galt, Kitchener, Waterloo, Galt, Kitchener, Waterloo, Galt, Waterloo and London. Not only the advocates of the northerly route are urging the Government to proceed with the highway. The southern route, through Galt, is also making its appearance. The "northern" route made a strong bid for the highway. The Government, however, decided on the more southern route, and invited the delegates to the Parliament Buildings to impress upon the Government the necessity for giving the northern route a trial. The delegates were received by the Minister of Transportation, Mr. H. P. Moore, and the Minister of Finance, Mr. G. W. Ross, and the Minister of Education, Mr. J. E. Pearce.

He was polished, cultivated, personified, intelligent, and when he was asked what he thought of the northern route, he said: "I think it is a good route, but I am not in a position to say whether it is the best route."

On that day there was a sort of curio in the room, for on the table before the speaker stood two plates, namely, a round one, and a square one.

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