

# The Acton Free Press

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## EDITORIAL

The peace treaty will become effective by December 1, as decided by the Supreme Council. Nations which have accepted the treaty will exchange formal ratifications in time for the pact to become effective on that date. The hope will be general that this old earth will never see another war; that the peace treaty will be permanent and that international amity and goodwill shall characterize all the future history of nations.

The theft of automobiles throughout the North American continent has grown to large proportions. The alertness of the police and the numerous safety devices invented, while in some degree effective, have not overcome the cupidity of motor vehicle thieves. A new way to discourage these thieves, says the Youths' Companion, of Boston, is for the owner to make an imprint of his thumb on the instrument board of the car in such a manner that it cannot be removed without defacing the board. The owner himself carries a card that bears a duplicate of the thumb print and files a similar card at police headquarters.

It is expected that within a week or so the memorial cross which Canada will award to the mother of every soldier who fell in the war will be ready for distribution. The suggestion that Canada award a silver cross to the mother of every soldier who fell in the war originated with Mr. W. A. Fraser, the novelist, formerly of Georgetown, and he advanced the idea in a letter to The Toronto Star, which supported it editorially. Sir Sam Hughes was Minister of Militia at the time, and he as well as the Prime Minister thought well of the plan, but a difficulty presented itself—could a memorial cross be awarded the mother and not the wife of a soldier? It has, however, been decided that the mother of a single soldier will receive it and the wife of a soldier who was married.

Canada rejoices in the wonderful success of the Victory Loan subscription which closed last week. The immense sum of \$600,000,000 subscribed this year, added to the previous Victory Loan subscriptions, speaks volumes both for the loyalty and the financial ability of the people of this Dominion. But the very success of the loan demands production and thrift on the part of the people, and the careful courageous guarding with absolute integrity by the Government, and especially by the Finance Ministers, who may be in office, so that the very utmost shall be accomplished with these vast loans, which have been entrusted to their custody. Thrift by the people and sterling truthfulness by the Federal powers will make for prosperity within Canada's borders and insure it a certain and permanent benefit.

The observations of "The Old Man of the Big Clock Tower," in his column in the issue of last Thursday evidently struck a responsive chord. The Globe on Friday morning said: "This is no time for building bonfires. Fuel is needed badly. Wastage of it is little short of criminal. If the big railroads have quantities of worn-out ties to dispose of, along their lines, their repair they should be required to haul them to nearby distributing points where people who are suffering from the general shortage of fuel can have access to them. The Dominion Railway Board and the Fuel Controller ought to step in at once and put an end to the wasteful destruction." This wasteful waste is not confined to this district. It is reported that on the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk Railways thousands of cords of worn-out ties, which might be used for fuel, have been burned.

In a speech at the Technical School, Toronto, last week, Hon. R. H. Grant, the Minister of Education of the new Provincial Government, related an interesting incident which took place at the first meeting of the successful U. F. O. candidates on October 23. Hon. Mr. Grant said that as each new farmer M. P. P. stood up and spoke in response to the roll-call, each man expressed a deep sense of responsibility and a determination to legislate for all classes of the community. "Not one ever referred to his position as a farmer, or the farmers' interests. I assure you we come to you with honest intentions, at least, and without the usual encumbrances of a party going into power," said the new Minister in conclusion. If the new Government will live up to this policy and the principles enunciated, it will be of great advantage to this province.

The Hon. S. F. Tolmie, Canada's new Minister of Agriculture, has summed up the outstanding facts of Canada's agricultural position in an article appearing in the November number of The Agricultural Gazette. He presents statistics showing the growth of Canada's financial burden during the past five years and points out meags by which our national debt will be reduced. He says in part, "I am confident that this Dominion, through the development of her natural resources, will in time wipe out her debt. Forests, fisheries and mines all contribute their part of the revenue, but by far the greatest returns will be derived from agriculture, which industry we must continue to establish in permanency and increase in magnitude. One of the greatest responsibilities that falls on either the federal or provincial departments of agriculture is the conservation of the great wealth that lies in the virgin soil. Innumerable considerations are involved in this one problem, but the whole affair can be accomplished if we engage in mixed farming with live stock as a basis. This is the fundamental principle underlying success in agriculture."

The Canadian Trade Commission has announced that it is prepared to receive applications from Canadian firms requiring German dyes, upon which the allied Governments have an option under the Peace Treaty. The applicant is required to sign a declaration that the dyes asked for are unobtainable on reasonable terms from British, United States or Swiss sources. Under the conditions named there can be no reasonable objection to trade of this character going to the German manufacturers.

Premier Drury, Ontario's new Prime Minister, is certainly radical where he believes improvement may be accomplished in the administration of public affairs and in general in the methods of government. In an interview last week he professed the almost total passing of party system in Ontario. There are few people who honestly feel that the country would seriously suffer if such a condition materializes. On the other hand there are many who believe that the perpetuation of party patronage has cost the country vast sums, and the greatest efficiency of service has not been attained. In an address before the Political Economy Club last week Premier Drury said: "Blind partyism is Canada's national sin."

The Dominion Government has set aside \$20,000,000 as aid to highway improvement. Of this amount Ontario's proportion will be nearly \$6,000,000. It will be granted only to work, maintenance of which will be fully guaranteed by the Province. To earn this amount in five years will require an annual Provincial expenditure of only \$1,800,000 by the Province and will result in an asset of \$15,000,000 value on a well-distributed plan of Provincial Highways. The co-operation of township councils, county councils, town and urban councils, the Provincial Highway Department, with necessary public co-operation and support, will undoubtedly place Ontario in an enviable position as a country of Good Roads, affording the farmers the most economical access to their markets, and the general public highways which will create favorable impressions of the Province.

Proportional representation and a new system of voting are among the changes already announced by Ontario's new Premier. Hon. Mr. Drury says that proportional representation would ensure some measure of representation to the minorities of the Province. It would involve the grouping of constituencies, as they are at present constituted. Under the new system there would probably be four or five candidates to be elected from each group of ridings. The voters would not vote with the traditional "X," but would vote for the men in the order of their preference. The vote would be registered in figures 1, 2, 3, 4, etc., opposite the names of the candidates. The ones would be counted first, the two second, and in this way the successful candidate would be determined. It would then be possible for an elector to vote for several of the candidates, indicating his preference by the figure opposite the names. He could select the most outstanding men from all parties they represented. The plan outlined looks as if it might be worthy of consideration.

The remarkable success of the Victory Loan points to a wonderful development in Canadian exports. European countries are still clamoring for Canadian products, though possibly the need in many cases is not as great as during the early part of the year. Financing appears to be the only object in the way of many new orders, and now that Canadians have raised such an overwhelming amount of cash for various purposes, one of the chief being to extend credits to other countries desirous of buying "Made in Canada" goods, a period of great activity is anticipated. The success of the last loan played a wonderful role in the stock market, when the New York Exchange became panicky and millions of dollars, representing paper money, were wiped out in a few hours. During this exciting period the Toronto Stock Market held remarkably well. The success of the loan and the uses to which the money would be put were discounted by the investors, and stocks were held up, the speculators realizing that there was no immediate disastrous change coming over Canadian industry.

A far-reaching policy for the care and control of the mentally defective and feeble-minded of Ontario is outlined in the report just presented to the Government by Mr. Justice Hodgins, who for two years past has been devoting himself to a careful study of the whole problem of the mentally sub-normal in the Province. The report, with evidence and appendices, occupies two large volumes, and is regarded as one of the most important state papers ever presented to the Government of Ontario. The Commissioner makes his recommendations under twenty headings, among the most important of which are, a plan of registration covering the Province, by which the mentally defective will be identified and classified; the detention in permanent homes or refuges, preferably of the colony type, of mentally defective women of child-bearing age, and the segregation in institutions and colonies of both male and female feeble-minded delinquents, whose anti-social qualities or criminal tendencies show a necessity for permanent restraint. The putting into effect of these recommendations will be of incalculable benefit mentally and morally to those concerned.

The influence of the press of the country, in the success of the Victory Loan is freely acknowledged by the members of the campaign headquarters Executive. Mr. G. H. Wood, the chairman, has sent this message to the Ontario newspapers: "At the unanimous request of our Ontario Executive Committee, I beg to express to all the newspapers throughout the Province of Ontario, our sincere appreciation of the services and the splendid contribution to the success of the Victory Loan 1919, which has been made by the Press of this Province. Copies of the daily and weekly newspapers from various parts of Ontario which have come to our notice, indicate that the workers, practically without exception, have been backed up in their campaign by the most splendid newspaper support which any campaign has ever enjoyed. We have every reason to be proud of the fact that under much more difficult conditions, last year's remarkable total has been exceeded, and this would have been absolutely impossible without the strong support of the Press. It must be a great satisfaction to the Press generally, as it is to our own organization, to feel that you have had such an important part in this great achievement."

## NATURE'S WAY

Alcoholic tonics and dangerous sedatives are fast falling into disuse. When the body is debilitated the effectual means of restoring strength is

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Mrs. Jennie McDougall  
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## Fresh Fish

Alex. McKenzie

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Announcement that he will have a supply of Fresh Fish on

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Orders left at the house will receive prompt attention.

Dressed Poultry

Best cash prices will be paid for all kinds of Dressed Poultry.

Alex. McKenzie

## Tailoring

Cleaning, Pressing, Dyeing

J. P. SCARROW begs to inform the public of Acton and district that he has opened the store next to Kenney's Boot Store for High-class Tailoring. Also

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LADIES' WORK A SPECIALTY

SUITS MADE TO MEASURE

Military coats dyed and remodeled. All orders will receive prompt attention. Your patronage respectfully solicited.

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TERMS STRICTLY CASH  
Main Street — Acton, Ont.

## NONE TO TAKE HIS PLACE

A traveler was once passing on his way through a backwoods region where the inhabitants were notoriously shiftless. Arriving at a dilapidated shanty at the noon hour, he inquired what were the prospects for getting dinner.

"The head of the family, who had been absent in 'trading' on a log in front of his dwelling, replied that he 'assumed' he'd have within onto the table 'putty soon.'"

Thus encouraged, the traveler dismounted. But to his chagrin, he found the food to be such that he could not force himself to partake of it. Making such excuses as he could for lack of appetite, he happily thought himself of a kind of nourishment that he might venture to take there, and one sure to be found on a farm. He asked for some milk.

"We don't have milk any more," drawled the head of the house. "The dog's dead—died week ago last."

"The dog?" cried the traveler. "But what has that got to do with it?"

"Well," explained the host, meditatively, "the critter don't seem to know 'tough' ter 'em up 'ter he milked themselves. The dog, he used ter go 'n' fetch 'em up."

## FIRST ARTIFICIAL DYE-STUFF

Merle acid, first produced about 150 years ago, was the first artificial dye-stuff. It was first prepared by the action of nitric acid on indigo, but after 1825, it was prepared from carbolic, nitric and sulphuric acids from which it is still obtained for commercial purposes.

Merle acid is a yellow, odorless solid with an intensely bitter taste, and its solution gives a beautiful yellow color to the wool on which it is used as a dye.

## WHAT HE BROUGHT BACK

A chap who went trout-fishing, returned empty-handed from his trip, and his wife said to him in some surprise: "Didn't you catch any trout at all, George?"

"Oh, yes," said he. "I caught twenty-five fine, large trout, but they were stolen from me on the train."

"Well, never mind, George," said his wife. "You've brought home a brand-new fish story, anyhow."

## THE TRICOLOR

How many who sported the tricolor in honor of France know of its associations with Mary Queen of Scots? It was Mary who, according to tradition, gave the tricolor device to Paris—the white to represent the house of her royal husband the Dauphin, the blue for Scotland, and the red for the red-robed Swiss of the loyal body-guard.

The revolutionists of 1793 adopted Mary's colors for their own.

## LEADERS WANTED

Be yourself. Say what you think, and act as your will prompts. The world is full of imitators, who are frightened at the very idea of independent opinion. It is leaders who are wanted, those with so much steady self-reliance that they are not afraid to stand alone, to champion an unpopular cause, or to be designated as odd and peculiar. These are the people whom the crowd laughs at first, and whom it ends by following.

## A CALL TO DUTY

With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and orphan; to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace.—Abraham Lincoln.

## THE BETTER HALF THAT TIME

The wife of an American farmer named Fowler, whose farm was about to be sold, thought there might be oil on the farm, and insisted on digging a well before she and her husband quit the place. Mr. Fowler yielded to his wife's whim, and fitted the money to dig the well from among his more prosperous neighbors. The great flow of oil in many years followed the digging of the well, and Fowler's neighbors got \$15,000 for every \$100 they had lent him. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler are now all millionaires.

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The Merchants Bank will cash all War Loan coupons or interest cheques when due, on presentation, without making any charge whatever for the service.

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ACTON BRANCH, L. B. SHOREY, Manager.

GEORGETOWN BRANCH, H. R. MIMMS, Manager.

## Business Directory

MEDICAL

THOS. GRAY, M. D., C. M., MCGILL  
1, R. C. P. Edinburgh; 1, R. C. P. & S. Glasgow. Member British Medical Association, etc.  
Office—Frederick Street, Acton, Ont.

DR. J. A. McNIVEN  
Physician and Surgeon  
Office and Residence—Corner Howe Avenue and Edin Street, the residence formerly occupied by Dr. M. H. Harrison, Acton, Ont.

VETERINARY

JOHN LAWSON  
Veterinary Surgeon — Acton, Ont.  
Graduate of Ontario Veterinary College 1885.  
Office—Arthur's Block, Residence 4111 Street, Calla day or night promptly attended to.

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HAROLD NASH FARMER, M. A.  
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Conveyancer, Etc.  
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ACTON ONTARIO

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The Mercury Office, Guelph  
The News-Record, Perth, or  
With W. J. Gordon, Hardware Maker, Hildburgh.

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Phone 36, Acton. Call at my Expense

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H. S. HOLMES, Agent  
ACTON, ONT. Phone 13

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HAMILTON & SONS  
Cor. North & Woolwich Sts. Guelph

# Advertising

To some, modern advertising is a mere stimulant to buying. This was perhaps its first mood. But in the growth of Canadian advertising there has been of late years a constructive force for honest manufacture and honest salesmanship. You cannot possibly advertise a wooden nutmeg on any large scale. The most you can do with bad stuff is to sell once and clear out. The whole modern theory is to regard the bulk of advertising as a capital investment, based on square dealing and goodwill, and designed slowly to build up a business or a trade mark in which people may trust.

Education is not too big a word to apply to modern, intelligent advertising. It educates every one it touches. The organization is put upon its honor and required to study and develop in order to live up to its assertions. The public reads and compares and tests. Current manufacture of all kinds is largely a reflex from the public through advertising departments. They are no longer merely selling forces, but building forces as well.

Hundreds of inches of advertising space is used in the FREE PRESS this week by observant, experienced merchants. Why, because it pays them to do so. It would pay you. Try it and be convinced as your competitor is.