

The Acton Free Press

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THURSDAY EVENING, AUGUST 15, 1929

EDITORIAL

"The Busiest Town Competition"

From the Milton Reformer of last week it would be judged that the editor of that journal has at last seen the joke of this "busiest town in the county" article says: "The Georgetown Herald says that Georgetown, on Saturday nights, is the busiest town in the county. Glad to hear it. The Herald man has probably never been in Milton on a Saturday night or he would add the words 'except Milton.' First thing we know Acton will be laying claim to that distinction. Well, if all the towns in the county are as busy Saturday nights as Milton, it shows that things throughout the county are in a flourishing condition, for which all should be devoutly thankful. And what is true of Halton should be just as true of other places throughout the Province. The most popular general in Canada to-day should be General Prosperity." You are right, brother, the only way to judge is to visit all the towns on various Saturday nights, and other nights, too, and we haven't the time or inclination to become a self-appointed judge in such a contest, so we presume Acton will have to make entry from some other source than its newspaper. It reminds us that we received, in the same mail a few weeks ago, two pieces of stationery from two newspapers in the same county, and on the head of one was, "Best Advertising Medium in the County" and on the other "Best Advertising Medium in the County" and, Brother White, you and I don't believe either one of them. And we presume the busiest town in the county would come in for the same opinion when we set out to make comparisons.

Where is the Improvement?

The official report on liquor consumption in the Dominion and the comparisons with the previous seven years leave no argument in favor of the Liquor Control system, which is now operative in all but two provinces of the Dominion. The 1928 sales totalled \$107,694,384—rather more than \$10 per capita all over Canada. Total Government revenue was \$72,560,501. Ontario and Quebec record by far the highest revenue totals among the Provinces, their combined total aggregating two-thirds of the Dominion's aggregate. Ontario's revenue amounted to \$8,130,300, and Quebec's to \$7,000,000. Alberta, with \$2,765,000, and British Columbia, with \$2,752,220, are next, though the former total actually includes the revenue for 15 months. Convictions for drunkenness have increased from 21,026 in 1918 to 33,005 in 1928, although still far short of the pre-war figures of more than 60,000 in 1913. Infractions of the liquor laws increased from 7,383 in 1919 to 15,150 in 1928. The report records a steady increase in the number of deaths listed as caused by alcoholism, and also in the proportion they bear to the total. Deaths from alcoholism (excluding Quebec) have more than doubled in the seven years tabulated. The total deaths from cirrhosis of the liver show a similar increase. A slight decrease in the other Provinces in 1928 and 1927 is more than offset by the large number of deaths from the cause in Quebec. Convictions for "driving an auto while intoxicated" grew from 142 in 1921 to 1,322 in 1928, while the number of motor cars registered in Canada was slightly more than doubled. The proportion of immature drinkers among those whose use of liquors is recorded fell from 19.6 per cent. in 1914 to 9.9 per cent. in 1923, and had risen by 1928 to 14.4 per cent. Such is the record of conditions under this law that was promised would decrease drunkenness and improve conditions existing under the Ontario Temperance Act. In just what way have conditions been improved? Small wonder that Mr. Hanna resigned and gave up his task when he saw the impossibility of the promise of fulfillment of advancing temperance and the failure of the system. Will the others who have been responsible for bringing the Government sale measure into Ontario be as big and admit the failure of the scheme? We doubt it.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The slight earthquake felt on Monday morning was of sufficient force to make one appreciate the fact that such earth tremors are not usual in this section of the country.

"Rural Hydro Rate Cut Promised by Ferguson" is a newspaper heading sample these days. And yet some people aver that a Provincial election is not near at hand. Why all the promises, then?

Steady Improvement

The steady improvement of Canada's financial affairs are shown by statements of figures which passed through the books of the finance department up to the end of July 31 last. The net debt of the Dominion decreased by \$1,487,580 in the year since July 31, 1928. On that date Canada's net debt stood at \$2,255,080,000. Ordinary revenue of the Dominion of Canada increased by \$14,125,605 during the four months of the present fiscal year as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. Total ordinary revenue of Canada up to July 31 was \$181,003,055 as against \$160,373,200 a year before. Ordinary expenditure of the Dominion showed an increase of \$1,712,607 for the last two four-month periods as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. Total ordinary revenue of Canada up to July 31 was \$181,003,055 as against \$160,373,200 a year before. Ordinary expenditure of the Dominion showed an increase of \$1,712,607 for the last two four-month periods as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. Total ordinary revenue of Canada up to July 31 was \$181,003,055 as against \$160,373,200 a year before. Ordinary expenditure of the Dominion showed an increase of \$1,712,607 for the last two four-month periods as compared with the corresponding period a year ago.

Thirty-six Years Since Consolidation

There have been over six hundred municipal by-laws passed in Acton since incorporation. The number may look stupendous but when consideration is taken of those by-laws which are necessary to pass ever year and which are really of no further force after the year in which they are passed, the number would be greatly reduced and not seem so stupendous. There are, however, many by-laws in existence on the town's records of which few know of their being and are never enforced. There are others that, if more generally known, the conditions would be modified and changed to suit present requirements. And others that might well be discarded and possibly new ones enacted to replace them. The last consolidation and collecting of the permanent by-laws of Acton was made in 1893. A certificate in a copy in our possession states that Clerk T. T. Moore certifies that at July 1, 1901, they were the by-laws in force at that date.

By-Law No. 8 provides for the licensing of shows and exhibitions. The schedule mentions the fees for the various forms of exhibitions such as "Wax Figures," "Wild Animals," "Puppet Shows," "Wire and Rope Dancing," "Circus Riding," "Side Shows or Minstrel Troupes and Magic Lantern or Panorama Exhibitions. How often are any of these entertainments performed in Acton at the present day?

By-Law No. 17 provides against nuisances, and says it shall be unlawful for any person to engage in chivalries, to blow horns, ring bells, shout or make any other disturbance by firing pistols, fire-crackers or squibs or other firearms or fireworks. In 1874 there were no automobiles. Is it therefore unlawful to blow an automobile horn in Acton? Another clause of the same by-law says, "That no person shall bathe within the limits of this municipality between the hours of six o'clock in the morning and one hour after sunset." This provision is violated every day in hundreds of cases. In 1874 there were evidently no bathing costumes considered proper. The penalties for violation are from fifty cents to ten dollars and costs. By-law No. 182 also prohibits bathing at the Park between 9 a. m. and one hour after sunset unless proper bathing costumes or bathing trunks are worn. Bathing on Sunday strictly prohibited in any condition.

By-Law No. 100 provides that all shops shall be closed each evening, except Wednesday and Saturday, at seven o'clock, excepting the day immediately preceding any statutory or municipal holiday or during the holding of Agricultural Exhibition. Open nights in the stores have been Friday and Saturday evenings for years. This by-law was passed in 1888. It was no doubt very adequate then but needs revision for the present day.

There are dozens of other like changes that common usage has accepted as law but which are contrary to by-laws existing. The revision of by-laws at that time ceased at No. 209. It is surely time that the task of revising and consolidating these by-laws was undertaken. Respect for law is the main factor in its proper enforcement. Obsolete provisions have a tendency to hinder and encumber the proper enforcement of necessary by-laws. There are many of the present by-laws which are disregarded through ignorance of their existence.

EDITORIAL NOTES

With a per capita liquor consumption of \$10 all over Canada, some who don't, use that amount wonder who is getting their share.

A well-known London artist finds women harder to paint than men. Surely the saturation point in painting has not been reached with womankind.

The old home gatherings and entertainments provided by them will soon give place to the wonders and attractions of the Canadian National Exhibition and the lure of the smaller fairs.

Official estimates of the western harvest are less discouraging. The crop is estimated at 60 per cent. of the average. The west will undoubtedly survive one year of a little below bumper crop production.

One citizen says he can't understand how certain domiciles in town withstand even a slight earthquake and remained intact. Knowing where this citizen resides, we realize that he meant—but just let the guessing stop there. We believe the thought was father of a wish.

"We suppose one reason for the increased number of people convicted of driving automobiles when intoxicated is the increased number of automobiles."—Mail and Empire. And you know blamed well that a bigger reason is the increased consumption of liquor under the Government Control Act.

Neighborhood News

MILLINGTON

Mrs. W. J. Hiddell and daughter, Ruth, are holidaying at Rossmore, on Lake Huron.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Clark and daughter, Eva, Wm. Toole and Victoria Peart, spent the holiday at North Bay.

Mrs. J. Locke returned on Friday from a trip to Kenfield, Ont. She reports a most delightful trip on the Wagon.

The many friends of W. J. W. Fisher will be pleased to hear he has returned from the Hamilton Hospital, and is convalescing quite favorably at his home.

Chas. Weir, Lloyd Kenney and Frank Smith spent the week-end at Lion's Head on fishing trip. They report a good catch, but "oh boys" the ones they failed to land.

Thursday morning W. E. Vallance notified Chief Smith that his Pierce-Arrow car had been stolen. The car was recovered about noon on the Lambton highway, abandoned and slightly damaged.

The many friends of Mr. A. E. Hubbard will be pleased to hear that he is now progressing most favorably and hopes are entertained for a speedy recovery. Mr. Hubbard underwent a second operation at St. Joseph's Hospital on Friday, which was most successful.—Gazette.

ELGIN

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Overland and two children, of Claremont, are holidaying with Mr. and Mrs. J. Ove kept them in Elgin.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Weddell and little Miss Yvonne, were Sunday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Scott at Orillia.

Miss Bertha Hamilton is spending her vacation with her parents here, after taking a summer course in Arts at the Toronto University.

Miss Roma Smith, of Hamilton, and Mrs. George Smith, of Toronto, returned after spending the past two weeks with Mrs. Theobald.

Mrs. Wm. Graham, R. D. Graham, Wesley Graham and J. D. MacDonald spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Graham at Barrie.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Winterberg and Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Weiland, of Buffalo, N. Y., spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. W. Hill and other friends.

Mrs. J. O. Warden, of Los Angeles, California, is visiting with Miss L. Warden, Guelp, Ont.

Mr. and Mrs. George McLaren, of Elgin, and Miss Overland, of Elgin, are in the sports at Stanley Park on Civic Holiday, attracted a large crowd when a programme of sports was held on the grounds throughout the afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Duxbury, of Barrie, were in the city on Sunday looking over the scene of his birth and enjoyed a chat with old friends. It is thirty-five years since he was in Elgin.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. McLeod on passing the recent piano introductory examination at the Toronto Conservatory of Music with honours.

A contractor has taken the job of cutting down the hill and straightening the road on Leitch's Hill on the Wellington road, and has a steam shovel, trucks, and a number of men on the job. On Tuesday a driver lost control of his truck and it smashed through a fence and all but toppled over the bank. The truck was damaged and the driver, who escaped injury.—Advocate.

GEORGETOWN

Mr. Jack Barker is spending a month in Muskoka.

Mr. Fred Davis, of Toronto, spent the week-end at his home here.

Mr. Dalton McCarty and Mrs. C. G. Cillia, spent the week-end at his home here.

Mr. and Mrs. Bain and son have returned from a visit with friends in Muskoka.

Miss Norma McCartney spent the week-end with Mrs. Lowe in Allandale.

Mr. and Mrs. John McEwen left on Tuesday for a few days holiday with friends in Muskoka.

Miss Mary Threlkington, of St. Catharines, is visiting at the Lawson home in Stewarttown this week.

Miss Annie Sinclair, of Inglehart, is visiting at the home of her aunt, Mrs. Fred King.

Mr. Jim Clark, of Owen Sound, spent the week-end with Harry P. Lawson, Jr., in Stewarttown.

Miss Myrtle Toat met with the misfortune of having her car wrecked while in a race at the Business Men's Community Picnic.

Miss Olive Wrigglesworth has returned to her home in Toronto after spending two weeks' holidays with Mr. and Mrs. G. Wrigglesworth.

When Caretaker W. Ward entered the idle Georgetown Foundry last Friday he found the building had been ransacked and considerable damage done to the contents. Motors were torn from their bases, grinding wheels were broken and the contents wrecked. In the office, papers and records were torn and scattered and the furniture damaged. Chief Marshall is investigating.

Pine weather, a large and enthusiastic crowd and keen competition in every event, met the efforts of the Georgetown Business Men's Association in staging their fourth annual community picnic. "Bigger than usual and better than ever" was the general comment of the large crowd. A large entry of contestants greeted every event and the fact that many of them had to be run off in several heats before declaring a winner.—Herald.

MILTON

Rev. W. K. and Mrs. Allen, Lowville, are enjoying a few weeks' holidays at Lake Muskoka.

Mrs. J. B. Parlow and little son, of Woodstock, has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Little, at Milton.

Miss Gladys Marsh, J. M. Maclean's popular lady clerk, is spending a few holidays with friends in Milton.

Rev. J. N. and Mrs. McPaul, who have been on a trip to the Old Land, have returned home, and Mr. McPaul will preach in his own pulpit in Knox Church next Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Sloane and their three children, of Stratford, are on the holiday here with their parents, Mrs. Sloane remaining over for a few days with her mother, Mrs. H. White.

At the Piremen's Demonstration at Mount Dennis on Monday, Milton won the hook and ladder race and also the rescue race, but was disqualified in the latter on account of some of the men wearing spiked shoes.—Reformer.

C. Christian, butcher, moved his family to St. Catharines last week.

Mr. Baller, of Lansing, Mich., is visiting his brother, P. D. Baller, Drummond.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Babcock attended the funeral of the late W. H. Babcock at Acton on Tuesday last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Clements, of Chicago, returned over and spent the week-end at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Clements.

Mrs. J. P. Little, harnasmaker, and Mrs. Anderson, barber, are having a party of their talking brightened with a coat of paint.

Mr. Leon Kenney, Bristol, R. Y., Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Cross and Mr. A. H. Blairwood, of Providence, R. I., visited their uncle, Chas. Jones, this week. Mrs. Kenney and Mrs. Cross are daughters of the late John Melt, formerly of Milton.

Early Thursday morning Ritchie's gas service station was entered by thieves and over \$100 worth of confectionery, cigars, etc., carried away. Chief Constable Chapman and Provincial Constable Cookman are working on the case.—Gleaner.

OAKVILLE

Town Clerk Hyman, with Mrs. Hyman and children, are holidaying this week at Crystal Beach.

Miss Edith Lane, of Galt, was a holiday visitor with Jean Culver at the Murray House.

Mrs. Jean McEwen was the guest last week of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. McEwen, at Galt.

A new brakewater is being installed along the front of Col. H. C. Cox's estate, lake shore road.

Mrs. F. W. Grinham, of Kingston, was a holiday visitor with Mrs. J. H. Grinham in town.

Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Fennel and family, of Lansing, spent the holiday with Mr. and Mrs. James Beag—Herald.

Civic Holiday passed off very quietly, as there were no sports of any kind in town.

On Thursday evening the men's softball team defeated the Goodyears in Trafalgar Park.

Mr. and Mrs. Davy and family returned home on Friday after spending a month at Port Carling.—Herald.

Prof. Jas. A. Cote, of Montreal, was a visitor this week with his mother, Mrs. Cote, who is in the hospital.

Miss Jessie Wales, of Stratford, visited with Mrs. Walter Whitaker for the holiday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Cox and Mrs. Dorothy are holidaying in Northern Ontario.

W. L. Porter, artist, of Toronto, who recently returned from a round-the-world tour, will address the Rotary Club on Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Frank Holbrook and Mr. and Mrs. Stephens, of Montreal, and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, of Cleveland, are holidaying with Mrs. Thos. Wright, at Meadowbrook Farm.—Star.

PRESERVING HINTS

By Betty Barelay

Mother followed the "pound-for-pound" idea when preserving most of her fruits and berries. This was inherited from grandmother and when carefully followed produced a very excellent and exceedingly rich delicacy. The modern tendency is to can rather than to preserve, but thousands of women still insist upon putting up a quantity of the old-fashioned preserves when carefully followed produced a very excellent and exceedingly rich delicacy. The modern tendency is to can rather than to preserve, but thousands of women still insist upon putting up a quantity of the old-fashioned preserves when carefully followed produced a very excellent and exceedingly rich delicacy.

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THE MODERN WAY

Mistress—And when you leave I shall want plenty of warming.

Servant—It's my habit, ma'am, merely to give a look with my automobile horn.

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