



**The Acton Free Press**  
Member Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association  
Member Ontario Quebec Division, C. W. N. A.

THE ACTON FREE PRESS is published every Thursday evening at The Free Press Building, 1111 Street, Acton, Ontario. The subscription price is \$10.00 per year, in advance. Single copies are sold at 10c. The date to which subscriptions are paid is indicated on the address label.

ADVERTISING RATES: For small unclassified ads, 10c per line per week. For classified ads, 5c per line per week. For long term advertising, rates on application.

G. A. DILLIS, Editor and Proprietor

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THURSDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 20, 1929

### EDITORIAL

**Three Choices**

With the manifestos of the various political leaders before the public, the voters may now settle down to making their decisions for the casting of the ballots. The one thing that wasn't supposed to be an issue has been pronounced on by all leaders and there are three different attitudes. As we see it, the capital "I" of the Conservative party has said there will be no referendum on the liquor question while his party is in power. They will take all the blame and if it doesn't succeed they will try something else. The question arises just what would be designated as success. The nominal head of the Liberal party is lukewarm in his stand on the liquor issue. He would give a referendum when the people demand it. His attitude is a step more democratic and advanced than that of the head of the Conservative leader. He promises better enforcement of the present liquor law. The head of that party known as the Progressives makes an out and out stand in opposition to that taken by the Conservative party. There will be a liquor plebiscite within one year if the Progressive party are put into power. The manifesto of this party also declares that a stop of the manufacture and sale of liquor will be made within the Province.

There are three choices given the electorate. The failure of the Liquor Control Act is apparent to every one but Premier Ferguson, it would seem. In the previous election he estimated Ontario's expenditure on liquor at \$5,000,000. It has reached ten times that amount and we won't show how much more until the day after election. The fair trial the Premier asks would therefore seem little more than an excuse for continuing for another four years an act that does not promote temperance. Mr. Sinclair's policy is for temperance advancement in not too quick stages. Mr. Lethbridge, of the Progressive party, offers the real plank of a temperance platform. The question never should have been allowed to enter politics. The Progressive party and the Liberal party provide the way of getting it out of politics. Prohibition is the issue in the Provincial election. The way for prohibitionists to vote is clear cut. Wherever a Progressive candidate is in the field, if he be a follower of his leader, their leading plank is bone-dry prohibition. The Liberal party offers a good second choice and a step in prohibition advancement over the Conservative party, which is seemingly out and out wet. The Premier has made his statements. It is for those who desire temperance advancement to give the answer. The prohibition question is at present in politics. Let the public say that they are ready for its removal. Ontario has never yet voted for prohibition when the question was complicated by party politics. Ontario has never yet voted against prohibition when the voting was freed from the shackles of the political machine. The issue is clear cut for prohibitionists. Let the verdict be given in no undecided terms on October 30. Advancement in temperance can be made only one step at a time. Let temperance people forget their politics and take the first step toward temperance advancement.

At the time of writing this editorial the representatives for Halton County have not been yet chosen. The names mentioned as probable are those of the present member, Mr. George Hillmer, Conservative, and Mr. H. M. Pettit, Progressive, who ran in the last Provincial contest. Last time the vote on the Liquor Control policy was on an unknown quantity. This time the absolute failure of the Liquor Control Act is before the electorate. The temperance forces have nothing to gain from the Conservative party. The Progressive and Liberal parties have the only bone-dry planks in their platform. Let there be no splitting of the vote but the pinning of all the strength of the temperance forces to either one of these two parties in each constituency and get the liquor question out of politics again.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES

If there is any reform or change in Provincial matters you desire promised, now is the time to mention it to your candidate. Promises are being made rather glibly. Their fulfillment is another matter.

The photograph of Acton Citizens' Band appears on another page of this issue. This organization was never at greater strength or in better condition than at present. Its Fair Day performances were a credit to the town of Acton, and citizens and home-comers were proud of their band and its accomplishments.

### Not in Dollars and Cents

Prof. Christie, in his splendid address the first night of Acton Fall Fair, put the matter of the dividends accrued from the expenditure on community effort fairly and squarely. In immediate returns in dollars and cents they may not pay, but in the larger view of a better community and the establishing of the town and maintaining it in high standing as viewed by those of other centres, they pay handsomely. Acton Fair, like other undertakings, have been financial successes for many years back. The loyal support accorded these endeavors and the whole-hearted backing of the citizens have helped those who direct to make them such. They are not particularly large money-makers in point of view of the effort expended. But they are the means of making Acton a better community. They are the means of bringing all together to work for the common good of the community. To see the immense good of these community efforts, it must be as Prof. Christie says, to lose sight of the return in money and look for the dividends in the lives of the young people of the community and the betterment of Acton as a centre in which to reside. May success continue to attend these efforts and the good they accomplish will continue to be felt in later years as well as in the present.

### The Guelph Mercury Changes Ownership

The popular, though venerable Guelph Mercury, has been disposed of by J. Innis McIntosh, after being in possession of the family for nearly seventy years. In 1862 the late James Innis, uncle of Mr. J. Innis McIntosh, became an owner of the Mercury. Thirty-one years ago this prosperous journalistic enterprise came into the hands of its late owner. The new owners J. F. MacKay & Co., Limited, Toronto, are experienced newspaper publishers and journalists. For seventy-five years the Guelph Mercury has been a factor in the life of the people of its wide constituency. Always honorable and upright, it has stood for the best things in the community, and has wielded a wide influence in maintaining a healthy moral status throughout its field. It has been a purveyor of the legitimate news of the community, as well as the general news of the day in a manner commendable and interesting. The Mercury has always fearlessly maintained an opinion of its own on all public questions, whether the issue has been one of local interest, or state or Provincial significance. In the executive conduct of the paper Mr. McIntosh has been always honorable, fair and consistent. He has had the happy faculty of surrounding himself with able editorial, executive and mechanical leaders, each co-ordinating in the effort to make the paper representative of the city and surrounding territory to which it catered, and a success as a journalistic enterprise. The Free Press has always considered itself more or less related to the Mercury, inasmuch as the plant used in the establishing of this office fifty-four years ago was a part of that taken over by its Guelph neighbor when it amalgamated with the Guelph Daily Advertiser. We are glad of the noted success achieved by the Mercury during its long and honorable career, we wish for its late owner a renewal of health and vigor when relieved from the arduous work to which he has applied himself for so many years, and we welcome to this community Mr. J. F. MacKay and his coteries of associates, and wish them great prosperity in their newly acquired enterprise.

### The County Levy Increase

The thousand dollar increase in the County levy on Acton—along with the increase imposed on other towns in the County—will make the ratepayers repeat again, "Of what use are the County Councils?" Acton's share now is over \$9,000 each year toward County expenditure we mention the amount because it has been steadily increasing and shows no sign of becoming lower. The amount locally is now almost as much as that required each year to meet our largest debenture indebtedness the waterworks system. Partly the County Council is to blame. Partly the Provincial improvements we thought were being paid for from Provincial funds are in reality forced to be paid by the County Councils and revert directly back to the ratepayer through this levy. In most cases the expenditure of the amount contributed cannot be seen by the community. Just where Acton directly derived \$9,000 worth for this contribution it would be hard to explain. True, a certain amount is needed for the maintenance of things in common use throughout the County. The County Council is not always to blame, but the money is raised for County Council purposes and the ratepayers naturally look there for the explanation of the ever increasing load that is being applied each year, with no prospect of decreasing. We repeat again the assertion we made some time ago that we believe the administration of much of the County Council funds could be better handled by the local institutions. And that too much is, by Act of Parliament, being dumped on to the County Council for administration. Much of the County Council expenditure is foisted onto it by the Provincial Government. The County Council, in turn, unloads its burden onto the municipality and when the load becomes sufficiently heavy to really hurt, some action will be forced by the electorate. Acton, with other municipalities in this County, is bound to feel it next year in an increased millage. No careful administration on the part of the local bodies can forestall the inevitable. Acton Council has done well. In the past four or five years the County rate has increased from \$5,000 to \$9,000. The millage has not kept pace and the careful administration of affairs locally is responsible for this. This year's big increase has been the last year. Next year we predict, will see an increase in Acton's tax rate. The Council has been able to administer its own affairs and meet an increase in County expenditures without much increase in the millage. All the obligations have been met as they become due and Acton is in splendid financial condition, but an increase will be due for next year and the chief factor in this is the County Council levy.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES

Acton Fair is over for this year. Plans for a greater event in 1930 are not too soon to be laid and are already being outlined.

This election will be a testing time of just how deep are the temperance principles of those who desire bone-dry prohibition. Let politicians have the answer in emphatic terms.

### Neighborhood News

**BRN**  
Mrs. A. Aggett, of Buffalo, is visiting with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Hildner, at their home, 1000 St. George Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Mrs. W. E. Hush has returned home after visiting with relatives at Chatham. Mrs. Cora Gibson, nurse-in-training, of Toronto, spent Saturday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Gibson.

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Barr, of Guelph, were weekend visitors with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Campbell.

Mr. J. Miller, of Frankfurt, Ill., has moved to the farm, lot 13, fifth line, John, recently purchased from Mrs. McArthur.

Mrs. Grafton, of Carman, Manitoba, and Mrs. Minnie Shaw, of Miss Road, are visiting with Mrs. W. Orr and Mrs. Galloway.

Mr. Thomas Young, of Winnipeg, Man., who has been spending the summer with relatives and friends, returned to the West this week. Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Young, returning with him as far as South St. Marie.

Miss Ella Miller, who taught in the Junior room of Erin School last year, has been successful in obtaining a place in seven of the Junior Matriculation subjects which she wrote this summer, taking six first class honors. Miss Miller will continue her studies at the College.

The many friends of Mrs. Donald P. Sinclair will be pleased to know that she has been removed from the Lord Dufferin Hospital to her home and although she is still bed-ridden, making satisfactory gain towards recovery. It will be remembered, fractured her hip in a fall in the early summer.

#### GEORGETOWN

Mr. James Clark has been appointed Government Inspector of cattle at the Toronto Stock Yards.

Mr. Wm. Whelpton, of Brockton, spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. James Hesse.

Mrs. J. Leslie, of Guelph, spent the weekend with her aunt, Mrs. Mary Keefe.

Miss M. Hitt is leaving this week to spend the winter with her sister, in Calgary.

Mr. and Mrs. John Kennedy, of Owen Sound, visited friends in town during the week.

Mrs. E. K. Mearns, of Toronto, visited with Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Mackenzie during the week.

At the regular meeting of Gwent Lodge, A. F. & M., last Friday night, the members presented W. Bro. A. B. Castell with very nice upholstered chair, prior to his removal to Highgate. A beautiful basket of roses was also sent to Mrs. Castell.

Mrs. H. W. Kennedy and daughters, Misses Margaret and Lillian, left today for their new home in Toronto, where the Misses Kennedy are attending the University. We are sorry to lose these splendid citizens from our town but all wish to wish them health, happiness and prosperity in their new home.

About 12 o'clock last Wednesday night fire was discovered in the warehouse at the rear of A. E. Parnell's grocery store and an alarm turned in. The fire responded promptly and although the flames had made considerable headway they were soon extinguished when the water was turned on. The warehouse was badly damaged and the loss to goods by smoke and water will be considerable. Herald.

#### MILTON

Mr. and Mrs. E. Mosher are visiting relatives in Boston, Mass.

Miss H. Tuck, of Toronto, spent the weekend at her home here.

Miss Sibbald, of Toronto, is the new teacher for S. S. No. 16, Trafalgar.

Miss Roberta Michie, of Acton, spent the weekend at the home of her aunt, Mrs. G. Hill.

A large number of Miltonians attended Acton Fair yesterday. It was bigger and better than ever.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Vaughan visited Mr. and Mrs. Elgin Ford, Tillsonburg, last week.

Jack Hill, manager of the Bank of Toronto at Walkerville, visited friends here this week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Craft and daughter, Lulu, of Goderich, visited at the home of Guy Pearson over the weekend.

There are 15 prisoners in the jail here, five of them waiting to be transferred to the Reformatory at Guelph.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Oster and daughter, Miss Oster, of Baltimore, Md., are visiting their daughter and sister, Mrs. J. H. McPaul, Chatham.

Miss Odette, of Philadelphia, has been visiting her friend, Mrs. (Rev.) J. M. McPaul.

W. Panton, County Clerk, who has been visiting relatives in Western Canada, has returned home.

W. Simpson, for fifteen years clerk in Callbraith & Co's store, has accepted a position with a grocery firm in Brampton.

Miss Hetherington, formerly of the local High School teaching staff now of Toronto, spent the weekend with friends in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Brad, of Orton, Mich., have been visiting their cousins, Mr. and Mrs. E. Hill and Mrs. P. B. Hill, Peora and Mrs. E. Ellis Milton. They are on a motor trip through Canada.

#### BURLINGTON

The lights have been placed on the tower which looks as if the town was alive and up-to-date.

Reeve Pettit is judging cattle at Acton Fair today.

The many friends of Mr. W. F. W. Pettit are pleased to see him out and about again after his recent illness.

Mrs. Jack Duke spent the past week visiting at Brockville, Kingston and Montreal.

Mr. Frank Brown, of Buffalo, renewed acquaintances in town over the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Turcotte and Mr. and Mrs. Chas. West, left on Monday morning on a motor trip to Ottawa, North Bay and other points.

Mr. Alfred Foss left on Monday to attend the Toronto Bible School, where he will take up the ministry.

A new platform has been laid at the C. N. E. station which has greatly improved the appearance of the building.

Rev. and Mrs. Geo. W. Telford, called on home from Liverpool, England, on Saturday and are expected to arrive here on Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Emma Hawthorne, has returned to her home at Houston, Texas, after a visit with Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Utter, Ontario Street.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Blair and son, Vernon, have returned home from a motor trip through New York State and to Montreal and other points in the West.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Clarke and Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Whelpton left on Monday morning on a motor trip to Cochrane, where they will spend the week with friends.

Mr. Constance DeForest, of Los Angeles, and Mr. and Mrs. Douglas McCherone, of Hamilton, were visitors at the home of their grandmother, Mrs. Ruby Ontario Street, during the past week. Gazette.

#### SLIGHTLY TWISTED

"Bill," the poet gazed to his friend, "I wrote a poem about my little boy and began the third verse with these words: 'My son, my plucky counterpart.' 'Yes, yes?' "The poet drew a newspaper from his pocket.

"Read," he blazed. "See what I composed and to my opening line." "The third read aloud 'My son, my plucky counterpart.'"

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**THE MAIL ORDER MENACE**

It is fully admitted by many business men in towns and villages, that if mail orders encroach as persistently during the next few years as present activities and their increased advertising coverage in these districts indicate, a new system of merchandising will have been evolved in suburban communities.

Under present conditions the merchandiser in the community centres is faced with the problem of extending credit to his community for various amounts, invariably large, for indefinite periods, while the cash sales, and cash which should be clearing off his book accounts, drift cityward via the mail order. For many reasons such a condition cannot long exist. The business man operating on the credit plan will eventually be compelled to abolish credit entirely, and with this encumbrance removed enter competition in the "sell-for-cash" market, where he has at least an even break with all competitors in getting the cash with the sale.

Total elimination of the credit system in any community, would mean hardship for a time, but as mutual trust and loyal support are essential to the credit system, the spending of money, to any extent, out of the community is bound to tend toward its destruction.

The privilege of spending a dollar where its purchasing power is greatest, even if such saving is only in the mind of the spender, is a right which cannot be denied anyone.

While a local purveyor of some commodity bemoans the inroads which "buying-out-of-town" has made in his receipts, he will yet place an order with an out-of-town solicitor for an article which he could procure right at home. True, he possibly saves 10 cents on his dollar, but so do his customers who buy out of town—and so the cycle of out-of-town buying goes on toward completion.

None of us are free from its effects: Half a dozen solicitors from city printeries canvass the town of Acton regularly in addition to clothing and grocery travellers, who carry printing as a side-line—and apparently they all get business. And this is true in spite of the fact that a phone call will bring a representative from the local printer, with suggestions and estimates, stock, type and ink samples and layouts, if desired.

THINK OF THE ACTON FREE PRESS THE NEXT TIME A SOLICITOR SAYS PRINTING

**THE ACTON FREE PRESS**

Is Your Local Printer

### Business Directory

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DR. J. A. McNIVEN  
Physician and Surgeon  
Office and Residence—Corner Lower Avenue and Elgin Street—
- LEGAL**  
Phone No. 22 P. O. Box 335  
HAROLD NASH FARMER, M. A.  
Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public, Conveyancer, Etc.
- DENTAL**  
DR. J. M. BELL, D. D. S., L. D. S.  
Dental Surgeon  
OFFICE—Mill and Frederick Streets  
PHONE 20  
DR. J. H. JOHNSON, D. D. S., L. D. S.  
Dental Surgeon  
Office, Mill Street, In the Cooper Block  
TELEPHONE 45
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