THE HOME OF

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, Mill Street, Acton, Ontario. The subscription price is $2.00 per year, in advance. Postage is charged additional to offices in the United States. The date to which subscriptions are paid is indicated on the address label.

ADVERTISING RATES—For small unclassified advertisements, and in other columns, the rates will be found at head of column. Display advertising rates on application.

G. A. DILLS, Editor and Proprietor.

TELEPHONES—
Editorial and Business Office . . . 174
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THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 19

EDITORIAL

Tree Vandalism

Some persons would seem to believe that any tree growing in the bush near the roadside was their rightful property if such tree is suitable for a Christmas tree. Farmers throughout the country are complaining of the vandalism of tree cutting and tree stealing. It may not seem serious to take a single tree but multiply this single tree by the multitude of single trees and loads of trees that are taken every year and the seriousness of the theft is seen. The trees belong to the farmers who own the property. They are of commercial value at this time of year and the farmers are entitled to derive the benefit from their sale.

Compulsory Auto Insurance

Much has been said and written regarding the advisibility of passing a law making it compulsory to take out automobile insurance. There is naturally much to be said on both sides, but is generally agreed that these hundreds of derelict cars on the highways, that are a menace to safety, and usually operators of such cars, are inclined to be reckless in driving, and indifferent as to any damage they may do to other cars. They know full well that if responsibility is placed on them for collisions, the victims stand no chance of collecting damages. A compulsory law is in force in several parts of the United States, and has, it is claimed, produced good results.—Aylmer Express.

Other Municipalities Feel the Pinch Too

In speaking of Municipal matters the other week the Milton Reformer said: "If there is an increase in the tax rate for next year it will not be because of any extravagance on the part of the present Town Council, but rather will be due to the piling up of the debenture debt of the County by the County Council which will react on the different Municipalities, who will be called upon to face and shoulder the burden placed upon them by the County Council, who appear, apparently, to think there is no limit to the resources of the individual ratepayers of the County. There are not a few, we have found out, and they are prominent men in the County, who think it is about time to call a halt in this pyramiding of the debenture debt of the County. They say, and we don't wonder at their saying it, 'where is this thing going to end?' We believe Halton is about the smallest County in the Province, and if we are not mistaken, has the largest debenture debt of any county in the Province." The Municipalities are certainly being made the goat these days in providing the wherewithal for both County and Provincial bodies to administer and control.

"Peace on Earth to Men Good Will"

Christmas Day will soon once more be with us, and still it is the day which we could least well spare out of the calendar of the year. There are those to whom the religious associations of Christmas are the sum and essence of the whole festival. The story of the birth of Christ never grows old for them—it is the prettiest story in the world, and —best of all—every child who hears it for the first time loves it. If it were possible to conceive a time in the far distant future when Christianity should have faded out of the world, like some of the religions of the past, we may be sure that the Christian festival would still linger on in one shape or another. Or say that only one of Christianity's golden messages was destined to survive in a world which had firmly established the brotherhood of man, is it fanciful to believe that it would be the Christmas Message of "Peace on earth to men goodwill." The first Christmas Message was a very triumph of broadcasting. It pulsates down the ages with a vigor and a sweetness with which all humanity in its best moments finds itself in tune. "I have always thought of Christmas-time," wrote Charles Dickens, arch-priest of Christmas, "apart from the veneration due to its sacred name and origin—if anything belonging to it can be apart from that —as a good time, a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time." We all need the spirit of goodwill which avoids extremes and narrowness and selfishness, and which does not grudge to others a full share of happiness and well-being. That is the message of common humanity as well as of the quiring angels, and the fuller response to either —or both—the more serenely we may look forward from the merriment of Christmas to a Happy New Year.

A Worthy Community Effort

The enterprize and willingness to assume the work of the Community Christmas Tree that has been undertaken by the local True Blue Lodge is commendible. Christmas time is always a busy blustering time for everyone with scarcely a moment to spare but this work of doing for others that seems to prevail at this season has its own satisfaction in the joy of a duty well done. Kiddies and grownups will appreciate and willingly assist with the work of the Community Tree undertaken by the True Blue Lodge.

A Levy that Might Well be Removed

With the splendid surplus announced by the Provincial Treasurer, Hon. J. D. Monteith, it would appear that a lightening of the tax burden would be in order. True the automobile license fee has been reduced and the amount put on where it justly belongs in an increased gasoline tax. But a nuisance tax that is still with us is the amusement tax. It has been abolished on the admission charges of twenty-five cents and under and has proven a real benefit to ordinary folk who derive no benefit from the automobile fee reduction. But it still remains on all admission charges over twenty-five cents. It is a nuisance and a direct tax on the whole general public. It was a war time tax. Surely with the war over for all these years and the Provincial treasury showing a steady increase this burden might be lifted from the shoulders of the public. Its removal would be equally as popular as the reduction of the postage rate and abolition of the stamps on receipts and reduction of stamps on cheques and sales reduction that have all been inaugurated by the Dominion Government.

A Splendid Surplus

It is pleasing to note the steady improvement in Provincial finances as reflected in the announcement of Provincial Treasurer Monteith. The surplus of $2,567,000 which is the largest in the history of the Province is surely a healthy indication of the prosperity of the Province. There is a large increase in revenue which is chiefly derived from succession duties, Liquor Control Act and gasoline tax. The increased revenue of 1028 is over $6,000,000. The increased expenditure over the previous year is approximately $3,700,000. The special balance has therefore been directly made possible by the assessments on the people through the various levies. There has been no economy effected in the Provincial expenditures but a decided increase. It is always gratifying to have the balance on the right side. It is equally gratifying to reduce taxation and not increase. With such a splendid surplus the next session will undoubtedly see further reductions to the general public in lower taxes. Possibly the Government will assume a greater share of the road costs from the Municipalities or relieve them from their percentage of the Old Age Pension scheme. Any of these or other reductions would prove popular and a real assistance to every ratepaper.

A Programme of Expansion

The decision to expend $20,000,000 by the Canadian National Railways would seem to indicate the faith of the directors in the business conditions and prospects in the Dominion during the coming years. The branch line programme authorized by Parliament in 1929 will be proceeded with, and in connection with this, too, some $10,000,000 will be spent. Work will be commenced on the Montreal terminal plan, and this will be continued not only through 1930, but for a period of probably five years, until that great undertaking is completed. Other work at Montreal will include new construction at Point Charles shops, and at Montreal stockyards. The C. N. R. system will extend its rock ballast programme very materially along its main lines during the year, with extension also in its automatic signal equipment. At Hamilton, the building of a new station and other terminal facilities will be pushed forward, the tenders for this work now being complete. Building construction of a major character will go on in connection with the Canadian National Hotel system. The programme includes the new hotel of the company at Vancouver, a new hotel at Saskatoon, a new hotel at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, and the early completion of the new combined station and hotel at Halifax. Preparatory work will be done in connection with terminal extensions at Winnipeg and Edmonton. The budget of the railways will go before Parliament in the ordinary course of events when it meets in February.

EDITORIAL NOTES

With a generous fall of snow and real cold winter weather its not hard to get the Christmas spirit.

Hanover voters lists contain the names of 099 Municipal voters—just one short of the required number to entitle the Municipality to have a deputy-reeve for the County Council.

Judging from the membership taken and paid for and the willingness to co-operate it would appear that citizens generally are going to avail themselves liberally of the opportunities provided by the skating and curling rink.

Isn't it just fine to have those Municipal elections all over before Christmas and be able to enjoy a Community Christmas time free from the contentious questions that are bound to develop at this time in every Municipality.

With the hockey season not yet started the sporting editor of the Guelph Mercury has made a poke at Elora and needless to say Editor Samson of the Elora Express has checked back, and judging from the comment last week we would say he's still carrying the puck.

Every one of Canadian nationality is a Canadian; every one born in the Dominion is of Canadian birth; and every one whose family has been of three generations residence or more in Canada is a Canadian "in a special sense," according to a report issued by R. H. Coates, Dominion Statistician. The report would seem to settle a controversy of long duration as to just what constitutes a "Canadian."—Smith Falls News.

Neighborhood News

BURLINGTON

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. McGrath left on Thursday last to spend a few weeks at Springfield Mass., and with their daughters at Providence, R. I.

The resignation of Miss Haig, teacher of English and History at the High School, has been received by the School Board, to take effect at the end of the present term.

Sixteen new members were received into Knox Presbyterian Church on Communion Sunday. Rev. C. A. Mullin, the pastor, extended a warm welcome to the new members on behalf of the congregation.

Mr. and Mrs. Angus Stewart, Freeman, announce the engagement of their daughter, Leslie Jessie, to Captain Henry Grant Redfearn, eldest son of Captain and Mrs. Harry Redfearn, Colborne, Ontario. The marriage to take place the end of December.

The condition of Mrs. Hayes, John Street, who has been confined to her home for the past few months, shows very little improvement. However, the doctors have diagnosed her case, and it is expected she will be restored to her usual health with medical treatment.

Local business men and residents of the Township of Nelson are complaining of the conditions of the Middle Road and Brant Street has been left in by the contractors. Work was commenced on these two pieces of road in September, but on account of the sudden cold spell the latter part of November the work of paving had to be discontinued.—Gazette.

GEORGETOWN

Miss Reid, of Alliston, was a visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Shortill last week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Matthews left on Tuesday, for Owen Sound, where they will spend a month with Mrs. Matthew's sister.

Mr. and Mrs. Angus Gillespie and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Gillespie, of Thamesville, and Major Eccles, of Holstein, visited with Mrs. Eccles and other friends last week.

The services conducted by the Mcmaster University Trio, of singers and preachers, in the Baptist Church last Sunday, were much appreciated and enjoyed.

Mr. George Dobson, the obliging and efficient station agent at the Canadian National Electric Railway here for the past seven years, met with a pleasant surprise on Tuesday evening, when officials and fellow employees of the road presented him with a beautiful gold watch, and Mrs. Dobson with a handsome purse.

Members of the Brant Fishing Club were entertained at the home of Mr. W. R. Raine, Toronto, on Friday evening last. Mr. Raine made a splendid host and the boys certainly appreciated the good time provided. Those present were: Dr. Watson, R. B. Poulis, J. L. Thompson, Wilfred Pord, F. Lindner and J. M. Moore.

We had a letter yesterday from Mr. C. E. Ruddy, of Borger, Texas, telling us how much he appreciates the Herald. He also kindly sent us a copy of the Borger Daily Herald. "Charlie" is now bookkeeper on the Herald and getting along fine in his new southern home.—Herald.

MILTON

James Halliday, of Hornby, sails this week for England, where he will spend Christmas with relatives.

Miss Kathleen Snelgrove, of Toronto, formerly, of Milton, has been visiting the Misses Storey.

Thanks to zero weather, J. J. Peacock, manager, has good ice ready for members of the Curling Club, the earliest for many years.

Mrs. Hodge Stark, of Esquesing, who underwent an operation at Guelph General Hospital recently, is doing nicely.

Fred Markle has purchased a dairy business from P. Weir, Collingwood, and has moved his family to that town. We wish him every success.

"Bill" Stewart, well-known hockey star, of Toronto, formerly of Milton, is the popular coach of the Upper Canada College junior O. H. A., hockey team, Toronto. His picture appeared in last Saturday's Toronto Daily Star.—Champion.

Mrs. A. J. Sloane, of Stratford, spent a couple of days this week with her mother, Mrs. R. White.

In a hockey match in Toronto, one night last week, Fred Barnett, hockey star, formerly of Milton, received serious injuries which will put him out of the game for a few weeks.

Clarence Knapp, an old Milton boy, who has been accountant in the Acton branch of the Bank of Montreal, has been transferred to a branch of the bank in Toronto.

Friends gathered at the home of Mrs. J. A. Featherstone, Trafalgar Township, to bid farewell to her and Miss Dorothy, prior to their removal to Milton. Mrs. Featherstone has been a lifelong resident in the community, her grandfather having been one of the pioneer settlers. An address was was read by George Cudmore. Mrs. Frank Hadley made a presentation of a reading lamp.—Reformer.

OAKVILLE

Wm. Whitaker met with a painful accident, when he fell on the ice on Friday near his home. His many friends wish him a speedy recovery.

Ed. Orr, of Clarkson, intends moving to Oakville, and will occupy the house, formerly occupied by Dr. Millar.

Miss Kathleen Regan, pitcher of the Girls' Softball team, will play with the Parkside team next year. The Oakville team will certainly miss her.—News.

Mr. and Mrs. D. McKinley, Church Street, left town on Thursday morning last for Florida, where they will spend the winter.

John Heatle, of Rothwell, a former Oakvilleite and lifelong friend of the late John T. Andrew, was here on Tuesday to attend the funeral.

Miss Hattie Hagaman left town this morning to spend the winter months in the mild climate of Southern Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Tyrrell, of Oakville, announce the engagement of their sister, Helen Muriel, to Harry Ernest Wiffen, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Wiffen, of Halstead, England. The marriage to take place shortly.—Record.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Lister will celebrate their golden wedding on Tuesday, December 31st.

Dr. and Mrs. H. V. Dewar have taken up residence in town for the winter months.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Armstrong, of Erindale, will celebrate their golden wedding on Tuesday next, December 17th, in the Community Hall there, afternoon and evening.

Mrs. W. Stewart and Mrs. Andrew Crathers, daughters of Edward Hillmer, motored over from Detroit for the funeral of their grandmother, Mrs. Thos. Hinton.

Mrs. C. E. Dilts, of Bronte, and her mother, Mrs. Case, are leaving shortly to visit with relatives in Los Angeles, Cal., where they will remain for the winter months. Mrs. Case is over seventy years of age, but is a wonderful traveller, having crossed the continent a number of times.—Star.

ROBIN'S CURLS.

Robin had long, beautiful curls; but he was three years old,—almost too big to wear curls, papa thought.

One day mamma and papa were talking the matter over, and wondering how he would look with short hair.

"Robin," said Mamma, "Do you want your hair cut?"

"Yes," said Robin, "you may cut off my hair, but don't cut off my curls!"

ERIN

Miss Rhona Smith, of Hamilton, was a week-end visitor with Mrs. Threshald.

Mr. Ira Rossel, of Royal Oak, Mich., is visiting with relatives in this community.

Mrs. James Wheeler has returned home after spending two weks with Toronto friends.

Mrs. Geo. Rossel and two children spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. V. Harding, Acton.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Thompson spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Thompson, at Toronto.

Friends here will be interested to know that Mr. F. E. Walker, who has been connected with the Toronto office of the Royal Bank of Canada, has been transferred to the managership of the branch at Inwood, Ontario.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank McAlister and family have moved to Norval, where Mr. McAlister and son have gone into the garage business. We join with the citizens in regretting that this family is leaving the village and at the same time we wish them the best of luck in their new adventure.—Advocate.

WITTICISMS ABOUT WOMEN

Although Lord Dewar is a bachelor, and apparently a confirmed bachelor, he seemingly entertains a high appreciation of the fair sex, judging by some of the witty sayings he fires off about them from time to time. Here are a few of the best:

"The road to success is filled with women pushing their husbands along."

"No man is so good but a women can make him better."

"A golden wedding is when a couple has gone fifty-fifty."

HE WAS USED TO JOLTS

There was a head-on collision on a certain railway, and many people were injured. When the special arrived, says the Argonaut, the crew began to search for bodies before attempting to move any of the cars and found an old negro Pullman porter fast asleep in the wreck. The rescuers roused him and asked:

"Didn't you know that you were in a serious wreck?"

"No, sah, boss," he replied. "I did feel sumpin' kind of jolty I thought dey was a-puttin' on de dinah."

Gifts For Everyone

Come in and See Our Stock

TOASTERS	$3.00 to $6.50
IRONS	$1.50 to $6.00
ELECTRIC PERCULATORS	$9.50 to $12.50
PYREX PIE PLATES	75c and $1.50

Silverware

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COLD MEAT FORKS Regular $2.00, for	60c to $1.00
DESSERT SPOONS Regular 75c, for	50c
TABLE SPOONS Regular 85c, for	65c
TABLE FORKS Regular $2.50, for	$1.50
SUGAR SPOONS Regular $1.00, for	50c
GRAVY LADLE Regular $3.50, for	$2.50
BUTTER DISHES AT	$1.25, $1.75, $3.00

Wishing Everyone a Merry Christmas

JAS. SYMON

MILL STREET - - - - ACTON, ONT.

Did You Ever Stop To Think

By EDSON R. WAITE, Shawnee Oklahoma

That when you advertise your business you also advertise your town. Advertising brings business---good business builds a good town.

That newspaper advertising satisfies both the buyer and the seller.

That no business can expect permanent prosperity, no matter how encouraging the present may look, unless they adopt a permanent system of newspaper advertising.

That every business must keep step with progress and must be imbued with a spirit of growth. Advertising makes a growing business.

That success brings success. Every business achievement leaves a business that is much stronger and in better shape to undertake a still bigger proposition.

That the success of the business of a town as a whole will never be great as long as a town has a lot of "do-nothing" business men who spend their time jockeying around trying to get business without working or paying for it.

That it is sad to relate that in some towns this "do-nothing" crowd often are strong enough to juggle the truth so that they kill the ambition of many of the up-to-date ones, who quit advertising and working and become dead ones like the "do-nothings."

When local business men do not advertise in local papers, it means a dead business town and to the outside world the town gets the reputation of being an electric-lighted graveyard.

Advertise Regularly and Get Regular Dividends

Business Directory

MEDICAL

DR. J. A. McNIVEN
Physician and Surgeon
Office and Residence—Corner Bowes Avenue and Elgin Street.

LEGAL

Phone No. 22 P. O. Box 325
HAROLD NASH FARMER, M. A
Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public, Conveyancer, Etc.
PERRYMAN BLOCK - ACTON, ONT.
MONEY LENT ON MORTGAGES
Hours—9.30 a. m. to 5.00 p. m.
Saturdays—12.00 o'clock.

DENTAL

DR. J. H. JOHNSON, D.D.S., L.D.S.
Dental Surgeon
Office, Mill Street. In the Cooper Block.
TELEPHONE 45

A. J. BUCHANAN, D. D. S.
Dental Surgeon
Office: Over Hazzard's Drug Store
Hours: 9 a. m. until 6 p. m. Evenings by Appointment
Gas for Extractions
Closed All Day Wednesday

P. W. PEAREN, D. D. S., L. D. S.
Dental Surgeon
Successor to Late Dr. J. M. Bell
Phone 20 Mill Street, Acton

MISCELLANEOUS

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Account books of all kinds made to order. Periodicals of every description carefully bound. Ruling neatly and promptly done.
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Ambitious, reliable men wanted at once. Part time pay while training for Aviation Mechanics, Garage Work, Driving, Battery, Electric Acetelyne Welding, House Wiring, Industrial Electricity, Machinist, Bricklaying, Plastering, Drafting, Barbering and Hairdressing. Act quick, get your application in now. Write or call for information.
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WISHING OUR FRIENDS AND CLIENTS
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
Frederick L. Wright
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PHONE 102J
Residence: Main Street, Acton

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July-September
"Representative Men and Women of the Old Testament"
October-December
"Representative Men and Women of the New Testament"
BY AMOS R. WELLS, LL. D.
Price: $2.00, Postpaid
THE RYERSON PRESS, Toronto

By using a whole page, we could not tell you more sincerely how much we value your Friendship, than in this small space. We wish you the best that Fortune may have in store for you.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

Watson's Bakery