



**The Acton Free Press**

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**EDITORIAL**

**If Time Hangs Heavy**

It is impossible for your life to be a success if time hangs heavily on your hands. If you are frequently bored, if you are all the time wondering what to do with yourself, if you look at the clock and wish it were an hour later than it is, then your attitude toward life is all wrong. There are a score of fascinating possibilities for occupying every moment, and if the best you can do is to wish time away, it is a poor compliment to your brains. Wake up. Find out what time is meant for. Even if in half an hour you are going to start something you want very much to do, that is no reason for wishing the half hour away, or for wasting it. The people who get the most out of life for themselves, and do most with life for others, never find time hanging heavy on their hands.

**When the City Complains**

At a recent Trades meeting in Toronto, complaint was registered that four large printing contracts had been awarded to outside firms. Apparently, as the Renfrew Mercury very aptly remarks: "Toronto tradesmen overlook the fact that Toronto printing firms not only have canvassers visit every Ontario town, but give commission to grocery, clothing, and what-have-you travellers to solicit printing as a sideline, not only in this province but in the other provinces also. Surely, other cities have a right to fight Toronto with the same weapon—cutthroat prices. Every printing office in our towns, suffers from the "side-line" printing canvasser. And so we have a few large printing plants in a few large cities growing larger and the town printeries employing less men. When the full job is done and the town printshop so forgotten by local users of printing that good craftsmen have to be dispensed with, then Toronto and other large city printshops will reap a harvest."

**Suggestions for Fair Problems**

The problems of rural fairs is a live topic and many of them were discussed at the Annual Convention in Toronto last week. Through a great deal of effort Acton has been successful in providing a variety of attractions that have been interesting to its patrons and have kept the fair to high standard. Every fair in the country is having difficulty in making an interesting programme. The County Fair in Prince Edward County has run against the problem, and the Picton Gazette comes forward with some suggestions: "Why not cut down on horse races, which are a heavy drain on the treasury, and substitute new features?" asks the Gazette, and it suggests that a bareback riding horse-race for young men and women, bicycle races and field and track sports would comprise an interesting programme. It recommends a pageant in the evening, presented by the Women's Institutes of the county, a fiddling contest, a corn-husking bee, a wood-cutting contest, a parade of men and women in old-time costumes, a musical competition for church choirs and rural schools, acrobatics, wrestling and boxing by high school students, a Boy Scout demonstration and a dancing competition. The Gazette believes that exhibitions of carding wool, lace-making, rug-making, basket-weaving, etc., would prove popular with the ladies. In its opinion, a Dog and Cat Show could be staged at little cost, and it would draw hundreds to the fair. Finally, what of a Baby Show? Many of these have found their place in Acton's programme and proven successful. There are others which might well be considered and prove their worth.

**January Compensation**

During the month of January a total of 3,601 accidents were reported to the Workmen's Compensation Board, as compared with 4,236 for the same month last year. The fatal cases numbered 19, as against 21 last January. The total benefits awarded amounted to \$453,530.64, of which \$363,621.34 was for compensation and \$89,909.30 for medical aid. During January last year the total benefits awarded amounted to \$580,403.11.

**The 1930 General Election**

The general election of 1930 and by-elections prior to March, 1931, cost Canada \$2,234,767, according to the Auditor-General's report, tabled in the House of Commons. This involved the payment of 123,385 cheques. Of the total amount of \$112,600 received by the Auditor-General as deposits from candidates, \$14,800 was forfeited by candidates who failed to receive the requisite number of votes. The general election cost the country half a million dollars more than that of 1926, an increase attributable largely to the new double enumeration system and the increase in polling stations.

**For Vehicular Traffic**

A total of \$93,101,050 was spent on the construction and maintenance of highways, roads, bridges, and ferries for vehicular traffic in Canada during 1930, according to an official report just issued. Of this total \$69,988,233 was spent on construction and \$23,102,817 on maintenance. The total road mileage in the Dominion at the end of 1930 was 394,372, of which 80,497 miles were surfaced highway. The mileage of gravel road was 71,347. The Province of Ontario had 44,740 miles of surfaced highways, which is 55.6 per cent of the total for Canada. Quebec was second with 13,302 miles or 16.5 per cent. British Columbia was third with 4,596 miles.

**No Place for Part Job**

Just why the Hydro probe should be made a piecemeal affair is hard to understand. If the mysterious payment of one or two of the sums to Mr. Aird is to be made the subject of inquiry, the \$125,000 payment, supposedly for the securing of an advantageous contract, should likewise be made the subject of a full investigation. The people who are presumably the owners of this great public enterprise, are entitled to know the full meaning of these payments. Each of them may be in perfect order and in the best interests of Hydro. But a clean breast of the whole situation would remove all stigma from Hydro that it is trying to cover up something. The idea of dragging out an investigation on each particular amount gives the impression to the public that there is something wrong and that an inquiry will be withheld until the last possible moment. Both parties apparently have some cleaning up to do, and neither party has a right to hurl insults at the other until they have cleared themselves in the eyes of the public, who at the present moment have little faith in any of their leaders hiding behind such charges.

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

Easter falls on March 27 this year, which is the earliest date since 1921, when it fell on the same date. It will not be as early again until 1940.

Parliament at Ottawa is in session, and it is to be hoped the session will be used to settle the country's problems rather than party differences.

A saving of \$8,000,000 is estimated by the cutting of salaries and indemnities of the Dominion officials. It's quite a tidy sum when many contribute a little to the grand total.

Premier Bennett apparently hasn't much faith in the St. Lawrence project, when it is necessary to sign first and discuss the affair in Parliament after. It isn't the usual procedure of business.

Milton has refused to pay the County's accounts for transients at 75 cents per night, on the ground that the charge is too high. After several years of free accommodation, most any charge would seem exorbitant.

The Hon. Arthur Meighen, who has been made a Senator and appointed a member of the Bennett Cabinet, without portfolio, states that he proposes to still retain, for the present at least, his seat on Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission. How can the people expect non-partisan administration of Hydro affairs with one commissioner a member of the Ontario Government, another in the Dominion Government, and the third, Mr. Maguire, whose partisanship was very clearly manifested in his speech to the Ontario Municipal Electrical Association last week? Mr. Meighen should resign his Hydro position at once.—Barrie Examiner.

**Chronicles of Ginger Farm**

Written Specially for The Free Press by GWENDOLINE P. CLARKE

Really, the daily news is getting quite exciting these days—that is, if one gets past the war news without getting cold shivers down one's spine. What I really refer to is news which is much nearer home—that is the discussion of farm problems—the cut in milk prices, the probable outcome of the Farm Council, with representatives from every county, and last, but not least, the heated letters which have been written as a natural outcome of the Honorable T. L. Kennedy's expressed opinion—the farmer. The Honorable Thomas has a habit of hitting straight from the shoulder, but there are times when he aims a little wide of the mark. Hardly any farmer will welcome the suggestion that he has been "babied," or that he has been "given" education, good roads and Hydry. The general impression among farmers seems to be that the farmer pays and pays pretty highly for any advantages that come his way.

And then you know this "prosperity" yarn is getting to be rather a myth. Of course it may be true that prosperity is just around the corner, but the corner must be an unconscionable long way off, for to look for it seems rather like hunting for the foot of the rainbow. We may do our best to get to the corner, but no matter how persistently we travel nor how fast we go, the corner recedes as we advance.

As far as newspaper reports go, one might almost say the conditions reports are rather like a jig-saw puzzle, with some of the pieces left out. Compare the large optimistic headlines on the front page with the market quotations at the back, and you realize you are up against a puzzle. A puzzle, yes—but the parts don't fit together—where, then, are the missing pieces?

Prosperity—and yet—Eggs, eighteen cents a dozen; churning cream, down three cents; cattle market drabby; drop in potatoes, fifty-six cents top price for wheat; small seeds unchanged; and alfalfa apparently not worth quoting at all. Sounds like prosperity, doesn't it? We are beginning to think it is quite a joke—but a grim, desperate joke. Every day we are sure farm prices must have reached rock bottom, but the next day they seem to have gathered momentum, kicked the rock clean out of the way, and go hurtling down again. Either that or they go right through the rock like a diamond drill. Partner remarked to-day that we had better hurry up and get the egg crate away, otherwise the returns might not cover the shipping charges.

But there is just one consolation—it is no disgrace these days to admit one has had up. Through a comfortable bank balance, no farm, however well managed, can possibly be self-supporting under the existing conditions. What can we do? There is only one thing we can do, and that is economize in every way possible. Not so easy, perhaps, when we consider we have already economized up to the uttermost limit. Economy has a different meaning to different people. Some think the only way to economize is to go without things they want, others still get a few of the things they need but by dint of much scheming make every dollar give them in return one hundred per cent value.

And then there is false economy—penny wise and pound foolish. We have had a wonderfully good instance of that this week. Partner has an old root pulper—it is dear knows how many years old, and was second-hand when Partner bought it. Its usefulness was outlived several years ago, but to economize Partner made it do. It has only two cutting knives left and they are in one corner, so that the roots have to be pushed, shoved or in some way persuaded to pass through the knives. Every time Partner is late in for dinner I have visions of him mangled up in the root pulper. Last week he left part of his thumb behind, yesterday I heard his step in the wood shed too early for dinner and there he was with a terrible looking finger. The doctors were away, so there was nothing for it but to fix Partner with a tourniquet on his finger until such time as the doctor could arrive. When he finally arrived it required four stitches to close the wound. Now we do the chores between us under difficulties—Partner hindered by his awkward bandaged finger and I hampered by inexperience. Molly does her share when she is here to do it, but how much time does a school girl have to help at home?

So that is the predicament we are in through practising economy and I have not the least doubt but what Partner will still use the pulper and go on using it until such time as farm prices take a lift. Of course we are not down-hearted—not a bit of it. Somehow, some time, things will change and the farmer come once more into his own, but in the meantime the best we can do is keep scratching. As I read in the paper the other day—a hen does not quit scratching when the worms are scarce! Indeed no, if I know anything, she scratches all the harder and so I guess we will take a lesson from the hens and go on scratching, too.

**SHOE ON THE OTHER FOOT**

Wife—It keeps a man guessing to find a good wife these days.  
Husband—Yes, and after he's married his wife keeps him guessing the rest of his life.

**SLATS' DIARY**  
BY ROSS FARQUHAR

Friday—Bilsters and me was invited over to Jane's house tonite to play anagrams and a

about 10 a clock why James pa got up and went down to the furnace and rattled a round a wife and then he Wound the Clock and then he turned-out the lite and let on like he thot we was gone and went home. I wander what he thot of that.

Saturday—Ant Emmy and ma went down to see ole Mrs Crust which has lived all her self for a grate menny yrs. Ant Emmy sed if it wassent for the two Gold fish she surly wood get offly-ionsum she Xpecks.

Sunday—Ma made me take a Kery bath this morning before I went to Sunday school. she found the touel I used last nite and she sed it wassent dirty enuff for me to of tuk a real good Bath. Wimen is to suspishus I think.

Monday—Ma enformed pa today that she had boughten a new cote at a very very grate bargen and pa sed gee wizz where am I going to get the money to pay for it and ma sed Well I aigt no fourtune teller.

Tuesday—Pa pulled a boner tonite when Mrs Kitty Blend was here, she sed her dauter got her singing voice from her and pa without thinking very deep pa sed Well that shud ought to be kwite a releaf. Ma looked at him and her eyes shuddered.

Wednesday—Mr Gillem had his pockets Picked tonite wile him and Mrs Gillem was up at the city to a show he sed he felt sum 1 reate in his pocket but he thot it was his wife and diddnt do nothing about it.

Thursday—Ant Emmy says its all rite fer gentlemn to prefer blonds if they wood any make up there mind before they go a hed and marry a brunett or sum thing.

Douglas' Egyptian Liniment is univalled for speedy relief in muscular rheumatism, lame back, inflammation, burns and felons.

**HIS CLAIMS WERE MODERATE**

The customer, having coughed loudly to signify his impatience, at last attracted the shopkeeper's attention.

"I want a mousetrap," he said rather sharply. "A good one, and please be quick, for I want to catch a train."

The shopkeeper eyed him coldly. "I regret, sir," he said, "that my mousetraps are not guaranteed to catch trains."

**OVER AND OVER**

Every job is monotonous if by that we mean doing the same task over and over. Each spring and each autumn however is as fresh a miracle as if neither had ever happened before. Sunrise is an old story but no sunrise is exactly like another. If your work is palling you, your mind is stale; if everything seems a grind, perhaps the element necessary is a change of attitude.

There's a wealth of rich flavor in a small quantity of this tea.

**RED ROSE TEA** "is good tea"

2 CHOICE QUALITIES — Red Label & Orange Pekoe



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Making Your Dime Work Overtime	PURE LARD 1 lb. 10c	Every Dime Must Do Its Duty
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Quaker Irradiated Muffets pkg. 12c	Aylmer Choice Quality Tomatoes 2 No. 2 tins 10c	Australian Choice Peaches tin 15c
Carroll's Guaranteed Storage Eggs dozen 15c	Brunswick Brand Sardines 2 tins 10c	Carroll's Own Creamery Butter pound 19c
Carroll's Breakfast Bacon lb. 18c	Carroll's Ready-Out or Shell Macaroni 2 lbs. 10c	Carroll's Special Oeylon Tea pound 39c
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Carroll's Pure Peanut Butter lb. 18c	Aylmer Sweetened Applesauce 1 lb. tin 10c	Rowntree's Olde English Cocoa 1/2 lb. tin 23c
	Libby's Tender Mellow Sauerkraut Big tin 10c	Vi-Tone 1 lb. tin 51c
	Eagle or Beaver Brand Blueberries 1/2 lb. tin 10c	
	Aylmer Choice Pitted Cherries No. 2 tin 10c	
	Bi-More Sweet White Corn 3 No. 2 tins 25c	
	Green Valley Tender Peas 2 tins 15c	
	Aylmer Fork and Beans 2 No. 2 tins 17c	
	SALADA TEA Brown Label 1/2 lb. 27c	
	Carroll's Pure Bulk Pure Cocoa lb. 10c	
	Shelled Walnuts 1/4 lb. 10c	
	Hand-Cleaned White Pea Beans 5 lbs. 10c	
	McCormick's Kiss Candies lb. 10c	
	McLaren's Fruits-Stuffed Olives 4-oz jar 10c	
Egg-o BAKING POWDER 4-oz. tin 10c	Carroll's	Day & Martin's SHOE POLISH tin 10c

"Quality First - Economy Always"

LEMONS Special, per dozen 25c	Large Navel Oranges special, per dozen 53c	Seedless Grapefruit special for 23c
3 BANANAS lbs. for 25c	Medium Navel Oranges, per dozen 37c	3 CABBAGE, large 10c
	Small Navel Oranges Special, per dozen 23c	

Mill Street Phone 158 Acton, Ontario