



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOF DILLS, Editor.

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EDITORIAL

Ready for the Fair

Next week the Acton Fair, which has been planned for since the event of 1932 was held, will be the feature in this section. All indications point to a greater fair than ever and enthusiasm is high among the officers of this institution. Enquiry of the Secretary reveals the fact that entries are greatly in excess of last year and inquiries are more numerous than at any other time. The programmes that have been issued assure that none of the moments need be dull for those that attend, and, of course, the reunion features and meeting of old friends means a great deal to everyone attending. The only feature of concern now is that same element that makes or breaks any outside attraction—the weather condition. Acton has always been favored in this respect and it is to be hoped will again be so blessed. With good weather Acton Fair for 1933 promises to have another success recorded. Let's all plan to give this institution our whole-hearted support and encouragement again this year.

Our Maintenance Opportunity

The first instalment of the municipal taxes are due this week and as is usually the case here it is anticipated that citizens have prepared to meet this outlay and will meet the obligations necessary for the general upkeep of the municipality. Acton has enjoyed no lowering of the rate this year but is levying a sufficient amount to meet its expenditures. The debenture indebtedness is getting lower and within the next three or four years, if no new indebtedness is added, a considerable reduction will be possible. The tax payment by citizens promptly has enabled Acton to come through a difficult period very successfully. No handicap was placed on the administration in securing sufficient moneys to meet current expenditures and items as they came due. Excessive interest charges have been avoided and we come out of this period without large amounts to clear away. The tax arrear list is comparatively small and it may well be said Acton has paid its way as it went along. Taxes are due this week, and it is our opportunity to maintain the municipality in its splendid condition.

Through Education

"The entire capitalistic system of the world must be readjusted before the ills now afflicting it can be cured and before the problem of unemployment can be solved." Such is the opinion of the Hon. Newton Baker, former member of the Woodrow Wilson cabinet and a profound student of world conditions. Mr. Baker also believes that two paramount factors must be faced in solving mankind's problem. One is the sound education of youth not along classical lines, but in regard to the life which the youth must face when school and college days are ended. This will involve the reshaping of all processes attendant upon modern education and will require deep study. Secondly, education must be continued in later life so that there will be no uneducated men and women. "More and more world government is being influenced by public opinion," he declares, "and it is highly desirable that the knowledge and character of our adult people be improved. People are learning that the most interesting and valuable method of utilizing their increasing leisure is the continuation of their education."

An Opportune Work

With the report that the Dominion and Provincial Governments will pay part of the cost of labor on municipal work and this plan is favored rather than the direct relief method, it might be well to make a survey of the local situation and an inquiry for the future prospects. A survey might also be made of any needed improvements that should be undertaken so that if the need arises these works can be carried forward under the plan and the municipality would receive the benefit of the government assistance. One project which might well be undertaken, and in all fairness should be done, is the extension of the waterworks mains west on Main Street, under the C. N. R. tracks, to serve that section of Main Street and quite a little part of the community who are at present without the advantage of the waterworks and the fire protection thereby provided. This work, while not large, might well be done under the government assistance plan and a wrong could be righted and a service rendered to this section, which shares in the waterworks costs without securing any benefits of the convenience. This would seem an opportune time to carry on this work and should receive the consideration of the municipal authorities.

The Doubt as to Costs Grows

The debate from platform and by leaflet of Mitchell F. Hepburn, M. P., and the Hydro continues. There have been no retractions in Mr. Hepburn's statements and a further amplification of his remarks were made at Oakville when he told of information he had of negotiations between the Hydro and the Toronto Terminals to take power at a cost of approximately \$4.59 a horsepower. The former statement of power being supplied a paper company at Thorold was also repeated. All these confusing figures make the doubt in the mind of the consumers and owners of Hydro as to what is the actual cost of power and just who is enjoying power at cost and what costs go to make the cost of power. To the average man Mr. Hepburn's explanations are much more understandable than the facts and figures which the leaflets issued by Hydro convey. The more protracted the discussion grows, the more convinced many become that this great public-owned institution is in politics, and, if it is, a subject more complicated than the tariff or any other item before appearing in the political arena has been placed in the hands of the politician. Hydro will need to be a little clearer and not so reticent in its giving of information before the public will be satisfied.

No Loosening of Restrictions

Premier Henry did well in refusing again to allow liquor advertising in the Province. Much as most newspapers and periodicals need advertising a livelihood has, up to the present, been secured without encouraging the reading public to drink intoxicating liquor and surely we can subsist further without this revenue. Advertising is a means of education and increasing sales of a commodity. The Liquor Control Act was brought on as a measure to curb the bootlegger and regulate and control the consumption of intoxicating liquor. Premier Henry and the Government he heads could do little less than refuse to let down restrictions on advertising. But the clamor for more revenue and loosening up on the restriction is becoming more insistent and agitated by the liquor interests, who would do anything for greater sales. The young folks of to-day have plenty of opportunity for securing intoxicating liquor without being urged of its good (?) qualities in the newspapers, and magazines and on the billboards. The government might go further and exclude periodicals from circulation in the Province that carry liquor advertising. THE FREE PRESS never has carried advertising for the liquor interests, and doesn't want it for its columns now, and we have yet to hear any open clamor from the press of the Province for the changing of the regulations and allowing advertising of whiskey or similar beverages in the Province. Undoubtedly most of the propaganda comes from the brewers and distillers, who are after enlarged markets and more drunkards.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A man's character is but the crystalized reflection of the thoughts that dominate his mind and the deeds he performs.

Taxes are due and payable this week. It is the testing time for citizens to contribute to the financial upkeep of the community.

After a good start the attendance at the Canadian National Exhibition had a rather bad finish and came out behind that of last year. Still we have yet to hear of any discouragement of the officials of this great institution.

The local police have had a busy time in their efforts to straighten out wrong doing in the community and district. They should receive the whole-hearted assistance and support of everyone in their efforts to bring the perpetrators of crime within the punishment of the law.

The newspaper field lost last week one of its best and finest type of men in the death of Mr. H. Sutton, editor of the Smith's Falls News-Record. A man who upheld the highest standard in the publication of his paper and a citizen who gave freely of his time and energy in the community, he will be missed by a wide circle of friends.

Chronicles of Ginger Farm

Written Specially for The Free Press by GWENDOLINE F. CLARKE

The paper which I am using for rough copy is decorated here and there with pencilled mountain ranges, such as school children are supposed to fill in on their maps and if anyone were to rummage through my waste-paper basket many other odd pieces of paper might be found all marked in the same way. It is just a little habit I have, just as some people will draw faces or write their own initials when at a loss to know what next to write about. My love for mountain ranges goes right back to childhood, when drawing them always had a fascination for me, and at school, because it was a lesson at which I excelled, when I had done my own map I was always sent round to help the other girls with their maps. Three strokes up and two down—three up and two down—finely, evenly, all the way.

To-day my paper is particularly well marked—not because there is nothing to write about, but because I have seen and done so many interesting things lately and met such delightful people that I really don't know where to begin. And, of course, I haven't even finished telling you about our trip to Niagara, but the more I think about Niagara Falls the less I am inclined to attempt to describe it. Is it possible for anyone to describe and is anyone worthy? Certainly my pen could never do it justice, so I'll be content to let well enough alone. But this I must tell you—and I wonder how many will understand me? After we had left Niagara Mrs. — was asking whether I would like to go to another place which was known to be of great interest—but—then at the risk of being misunderstood—I told her all I wanted now was to get home, sit down quietly and think about all the lovely places we had seen. Here are, I believe, occasions when one gets even more pleasure from a trip in retrospect than one does at the actual time, because it seems one can only absorb so much. But oh, for a chance to get that quiet time—to sit for a while and think one's own thoughts! How can it be done on a farm when there are so many unexpected interruptions, especially after one has indulged in an orgy of gadding and as one gadded the work went on accumulating at home. And then the threshing—and the children starting back to school, with all the incidental excitement over new teachers and buying books.

It was on the afternoon of Labor Day that we started threshing, and got through with the alfalfa by supper time. More threshing took until noon next day, and there were thirteen men for dinner, but only twelve sat down at once, for the simple reason there was only twelve that I set for. Partner being the odd man out. Would they have noticed or minded, I wonder, if thirteen had sat down at the table? There might have been some who would mind if they knew, but I doubt very much if any of them would have noticed—it is very little threshing men have time to notice except the food on the table, and it is sometimes a wonder to me that they even have time to notice that!

While I was busy preparing dinner, a long distance call came from my brother-in-law, saying that he would arrive that evening at 5.30, and would stay a few days. More hustling—a room to get ready and the train to meet, to say nothing of the dishes to wash after the threshing dinner.

During the week I had accepted an invitation to attend the opening of the new Training School for Girls at Galt, on the Thursday. We were supposed to leave at one o'clock and how I ever did it I don't know. It was one of those mornings when everything goes wrong. You will remember the second week of the Exhibition was hot, and on that Thursday I looked at my pies and they were nicely covered with mildew—not only that the apple sauce was working and liberally sprinkled with brown spots, so because of the heat, instead of having everything ready for dinner as I expected, there was nothing at all and fresh cooking must perforce be done. But I did it and by hook or by crook I was out of the house by three minutes to one. It was a lovely drive to Galt—along winding country roads and since I was not doing the driving I had plenty of opportunity to see everything we passed. And then we came to the new school at Galt and what a beautiful school it was. Four splendid buildings, situated on what must have been the highest point in the district. The grounds were packed with cars and people on foot coming from every direction. There seems to be little known about this school and yet surely it marks an epoch in the educational and welfare work of the province. It is built to accommodate 150 girls and its primary object is to teach girls from 10-16, not only how to earn a living but how to live. Educational authorities are certainly beginning to realize that it is of infinitely more importance that a child should first learn how to live before he or she is called upon to learn how to make a living. There were ten or fifteen girls already at the school—nice bright little girls who seemed so pleased to show visitors through the bright airy buildings. Each girl has a nice little bedroom to herself, each room is furnished with a single bed with a very comfortable spring and mattress; a corner closet and a small chest of drawers which also does duty for a dresser. Walls were white painted, woodwork brown and brown drapes were

at the windows and closet. Bathrooms, in addition to the usual equipment, were also furnished with three shower baths to each bathroom. The kitchens, instead of having electric ranges which would naturally have been more convenient, were furnished instead with ordinary coal-burning cook stoves, so that the girls might be kept familiar with conditions as they will probably find them after they leave the training school. There were lovely bright sitting rooms, dining-rooms, and a gymnasium and, of course, every accommodation for the education of the girls. My space is filled and I really haven't told you very much, but I hope I have said enough to arouse sufficient interest in anyone who may have the opportunity to visit this splendid school! The time will not be wasted.

HALF BEAST, HALF BIRD

No doubt you have seen it in the dusk of the autumn evenings, and have never given it more than a passing thought. And yet this strange creature, the bat, has given rise to much speculation amongst naturalists in the past, and while Pliny, Gesner, and others classed it as a bird, there were some who gave it up as a puzzle. Then in the seventeenth century, the scientist Ray, regarded it in the class of Mammalia. A century later Linnaeus placed it in his Primates, in which he also included monkeys and man. But the bat is generally looked upon by the ordinary man as half beast, half bird—a mouse with wings—hence the name "flickermouse." Burns, however, in "Jolly Beggars," gives it another name, for he refers to it as the "bauckie-bird."

Some peculiar ideas are held concerning this harmless little creature. It is said that it can see in the dark, and Abbe Spallanzani once made experiments to test the veracity of this theory, and in order to find out by what means—sight, hearing, or touch—they were able to steer clear of obstacles in the dark. The demonstration involved some cruelty, for he removed the sight of the bats he experimented with, and also as much as he could of their hearing. He then released them into a darkened room where he had hung certain cloths, but in which he had cut holes large enough for them to pass through. They did pass through them without the least difficulty, and the inference was that "they must have been warned of their approach to the cloth by feeling the repulse of the air set in motion by their wings, and have distinguished the hole by such reaction taking place." But this explanation can scarcely be applicable in all cases.

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Raisins 2 lbs. 25c New Pure Clover	Honey No. 5 pail 45c McLaren's Powdered	Jellies 4 pkgs. 23c Aylmer Sieve 4	Peas 2 No. 2 tins 23c Finest Japan
Rice 3 lbs. 25c For Sound, Natural Sleep	Ovaltine 5ml. tin 45c Chef Ready-to-Serve	Meals 2 tins 25c Clark's Ready-To-Serve	Spaghetti 1-lb. tin 10c McLaren's Punch
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