



**The Acton Free Press**

Published Every Thursday at Acton, Ontario

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

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**EDITORIAL**

**Not in the Prize Money**

Too often it would seem that the principle back of local fairs is lost sight of. The amount of the prize money won should not be the first consideration. If everything in connection with the average fair were paid for on a cost basis, it is doubtful if any of these events would exist. It is generally conceded that oft-times the prize money won does not cover the expense of getting the exhibit ready.

Fairs never were meant to be a money-making event. They are run solely for the promotion and improvement of agricultural products. That is the reason merchants and citizens, municipal and provincial governments render financial assistance to promote these events. Pride in showing stock and products, pride in improvements the incentive to do better next year. These should be the chief factor with exhibitors. The fairs can be and are educational institutions for those who desire to improve. The profit does not come in the prize money but in the better prices always available for better quality.

**Further Improvement Reported**

Substantial improvement in Canadian employment conditions was noted in reports to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on September 1st.

Reports from 10,336 employers showed an aggregate payroll of 1,174,041, or 30,581 more than on August 1st. This increase was larger than any recorded on September 1st for any year since the system was started in 1921. On September 1st last year 9,987 firms reported 1,014,532 workers employed.

Reflecting this gain, the Bureau's index, based on 1926 equals 100, rose from 120 on August 1st to 123.2 at September 1st, when it was higher than at any date in any other year for which data was available, except 1929.

The greatest gains in manufacturing were in food and textile factories, while moderate losses were reported in iron and steel plants. Among the non-manufacturing industries, logging, mining, communications, transportation, construction and services showed improved activity while on the other hand employment in trade was quieter.

**Vote**

Next week is election week and every citizen of the province entitled to do so should exercise their franchise. As a citizen the editor intends to exercise that privilege and those who know us are well acquainted with our views. We have no desire to hide them and certainly are not ashamed of them. We intend to vote for Tom Blakelock and support the Hepburn Government. We feel we have plenty of good reasons for our choice.

But as editor of THE FREE PRESS we do not intend to use THE FREE PRESS editorial columns to promote the candidature of any one candidate. We concede to every voter the same privilege that we ourselves enjoy. The columns of this newspaper have been open to all sides on exactly the same basis. It seems to us that this is the proper course where one paper serves the community.

We frankly admit it has been a difficult task as we are quite enthusiastic in our choice. We, however, have equal respect for the choice of those which is contrary to ours. And so we urge everyone to exercise their franchise on October 6th. Vote as your best judgment dictates. Study the questions thoroughly and intelligently. But by all means have an opinion and go to the polls and make your choice.

**Further Commendation**  
A few weeks ago we congratulated the Council on the good work being done on the streets this year. This week we have further cause for congratulations. Through the co-operative endeavor of the Provincial Department of Highways and the Council the upper section of Mill Street is to have a cement curb installed and those muddy sides of the road are to be paved. To all those who are making these improvements we again give commendation. Continued permanent improvements of this nature are doing a great deal to improve Acton. The Department of Highways and the Council are to be highly commended on this latest improvement.

**A Wider Field**  
In co-operation with the merchants of Acton, THE FREE PRESS has during the past eight weeks participated in the Acton Good-Will Campaign. Through the efforts of the contestants the field of THE FREE PRESS has been considerably widened, and we believe the service that Acton merchants can give has been well demonstrated to a wider section of the countryside. We are appreciative of the splendid work of all the contestants who entered into the event and the sportsmanship that prevailed throughout. It will be our constant endeavor to better serve this larger field of readers and do our part in advancing Acton and the district. We offer congratulations to all and thanks.

**Absent-Minded Drivers**  
A survey of American Automobile Association garages reveals that 1,500,000 motorists ran out of gas on the road, in the United States, last year, despite the fact that there is a filling station nearly every mile of pavement and a gasoline gauge on every modern car.

The report is an interesting exposition on the absent-minded carelessness of the average motorist. It draws a vivid mental picture. A million and a half drivers stranded and inconvenienced because they were preoccupied and forgot to check the contents of their tanks. A small army of car carriers walking to the nearest gasoline station as a result of abstraction and over-optimism.

It is hardly a picture to weep over, but it has its serious side. For it is entirely plausible that this same absent-mindedness may apply to other phases of driving and be responsible for a great many traffic accidents.—Minneapolis Tribune.

**Fire Prevention in the Home**  
The best place for fire prevention to start is in the home. Charity should start there, according to the ancient saying, and certainly safety should come first. In order to safeguard the home, inspection should be made, not only Fire Prevention Week but periodically throughout the year. All heating and lighting equipment examined, chimney and pipes kept clean of soot. No smoke pipes permitted through combustible walls disposition of ashes safeguarded. The fuse cabinet should be of metal or asbestos lined. Fuses in all fuse blocks, none of them bridged, and not over 15 ampere fuses used in branch circuits. All drop cords should be insulated, and not supported on any conductive material. Electric irons always detached when not in use and kept on metal stands.

Matches should be kept out of the reach of children and the children should be regularly taught the danger of fire and not to play with matches. Closets should be kept clean and all rubbish removed from the entire premises. Cleanliness is next to Godliness. Perhaps that is the reason it always plays such an important part in fire prevention.

It is not the intention to give all the details of home inspection. You have already admitted to yourselves that you can safeguard your own homes. Put the impulse into action. Start this Fire Prevention Campaign in your home where fire ever lurks to destroy you and yours. And then by vigilance and regular re-inspection, you will be adding greatly to your store of safety and happiness for all time to come. During Fire Prevention Week the Fire Chief will visit business places, factories, schools and dwellings. Do your part to prevent fires. Make a thorough clean-up.

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

Fair Days elsewhere are not always graced with as good weather as blessed Acton last week.

Next Wednesday should see every man and woman in Ontario doing their duty as they see it.

Wars and rumors of wars still occupy the headlines these days. They seem to persist in spite of all other events.

And now fall and winter programs are being planned. Judging from present indications the season will not be a dull one in Acton.

It's a safe bet that none of the candidates next Wednesday will poll half as big a vote as those in the Good-Will Campaign that closed this week.

It is not generally understood that the law prohibits anyone to give or sell tobacco in any form to a child under 18 years of age, except with a written order from the parent or guardian. And parents or guardians would do well to purchase their own.

**"WE WHO ARE ABOUT TO DIE—SALUTE YOU!"**

That was the greeting the gladiators of old gave to the Roman emperor before they perished in the arena.

But we are not gladiators and we are not going into battle. We have no hate for anyone. We are not sick of life. We do not wish to die. But we will, by the hundreds.

We are the people who are going to die in fatal motor accidents during the years 1937 and 1938.

Most of us have not even a premonition of the fate which awaits us. We do not realize that Death lurks around the corner. We have not seen his shadow nor heard his footsteps. But Death awaits.

Waits around the bend in the next car's faltering brakes, in the trail of some chance driver who loves to "jockey" in a line of traffic or swish past another car on a curve or hill. In the street, on the open highway, what matter where? Death waits and does not announce his coming!

We are marked down to die. The great god called Statistics has written down our names in his big book and by actual laws we are doomed.

We do not know it, but Death is coming. Some of us are little children. Our deaths will be more horrible, more tragic, than others. But die we will. Parents, teachers and professional life-savers with all their earnest warnings will avail us not. We are marked down.

We are careless now. We do not take thought. Have you never been a child? Do you not know what it is to be a stranger to responsibility, to depend on others for care, for shelter, for protection?

Yes, protection. That is one of the things the child is taught to expect from his elders; something in a cruel and reckless ego he does not receive.

Our deaths will be more tragic because more cruel than all the others. You can see the headlines: "FIVE CHILD-

**DREN KILLED IN SAFETY ZONE," "TOTS RUN OVER ON WAY FROM SCHOOL."**

You will read these headlines many times over in the next year. BUT WILL YOU HEED THEM? WE WHO ARE ABOUT TO DIE—SALUTE YOU!

**TWENTY YEARS AGO**

From the Issue of The Free Press of Thursday, October 6th, 1917

Sequeing's Township Rate has been truck at 10 mills.

The McAlmigh farm, on the sixth line, was purchased by William Cutting, Acton. The Wilson flour and oatmeal mills at Fogus were destroyed by explosion and fire last Friday night.

In 1892 Acton Fall Fair opened with the ground covered with snow and the mercury was flirting with zero. The fair that year was held on the 4th and 5th of October.

The Provincial revenue from motor licenses this year is expected to exceed \$900,000. Returns to date show that 75,000 licenses have been issued, compared with 50,000 last year.

Fall Fair Notes—The Electric Department of the Corporation made a display of electric lamps and fixtures, wired and connected. The exhibit of fruit was never exceeded at this fair. The parade of Boy Scouts and Public and High School pupils was a most attractive feature.

**DIED**

MATTHEWS—At Orangeville, on Wednesday, September 28th, 1917, Sarah Ann Fenley, widow of the late George Matthews, of Acton, in her 85th year.

MOORE—In Stratford, on Tuesday, September 25th, 1917, Mary Louisa Ivens, widow of the late Robert Moore, Stratford, and sister of T. P. Ivens, Limestone, in her 70th year.

**JUST MEAT!**

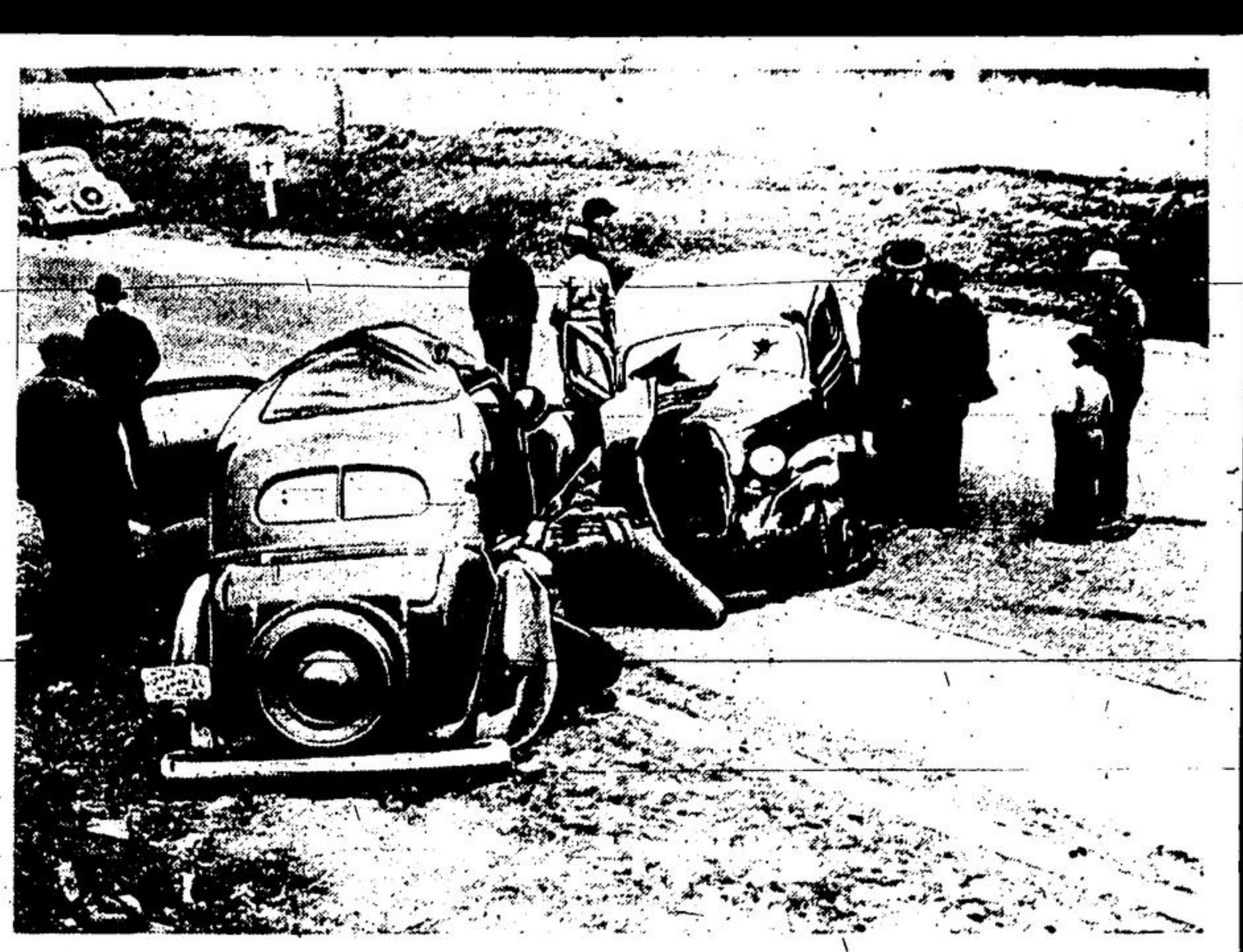
Landlady—What part of the turkey do you wish?  
Boarder—Some of the meat, please.



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**THIS GHASTLY TRAGEDY COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED!**

If it hadn't been for a foolhardy, reckless, criminal driver this accident would have been avoided. As it is, one victim was taken direct to an undertaker's parlours and two to a hospital. The driver who caused it is hopelessly crippled for the rest of his life.

**YOU'LL BE IN TROUBLE IF YOU DISREGARD THE LAWS**

If you are a reckless driver travelling the Ontario highways, cutting in, passing on curves and hills, endangering the lives of others, you will find yourself in serious trouble. The appalling death toll must stop—and you who are responsible for it will be put off the road! A thousand eyes are watching you; so be forewarned!

**Ontario Motorists Will Co-operate**

When you see a motorist driving in a manner dangerous to the public, take his number, make a careful note of the actual time and place, and when you reach your destination write to the Motor Vehicles Branch, Department of Highways, Toronto, giving full details. We do not invite reports of minor infractions of the traffic laws; you are requested to use sound judgment. We will deal adequately with offenders.

