



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

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Encouragement for Ratepayers

A lower tax rate for the year will come as welcome news to all ratepayers and Council has done well to arrive at this improved state. It required several hours of calculating to reach the decision. As most citizens are aware, debenture payments this year are nearly \$4,000 less than last year, and an even lower rate was hoped for.

Relief and hospital bills have, however, been the highest in the municipality's history. A note on a loan for the Cemetery Board required payment this year, and other items seemed to mount up until it appeared that even a one mill reduction would not be possible. The mill saving is welcome and the prospects for a decreasing rather than an increasing rate for the future are indeed encouraging.

The Friendly Station

It has indeed been a matter of satisfaction to hear the many kindly comments on the performance of Acton School pupils on the radio. To all of the performers it was an entirely new experience and yet we learn that to listeners there appeared no indication of nervousness. Some had heard the school children several times, but after all the practice that had been necessary to secure good standing at the Festival, it was a privilege indeed for many to hear what is being accomplished in school work in even the smaller communities.

Station CFRB has indeed a friendly attitude to many of the smaller centres and this is the second broadcast which Acton has been privileged to put over this station. It is a broad policy that makes many warm friends for the station throughout the countryside. We wonder sometimes if there isn't more of a truly Canadian side to its work than there is in others which are supposed to represent Canada, and which its citizens largely maintain.

We have always found its officials most cordial and friendly, especially Mr. Locksley, the Musical Director, and Mr. Boddington, with whom perhaps we have had closer association. And the radio audience of Saturday night, whom we have heard comment, mentioned frequently that informal few minutes at the close, when Mr. Boddington allowed the children to say hello over the radio. The performers were at ease at all times and we gather that in the minds of many CFRB is regarded as the friendly radio station, and Mr. Boddington, the personification of that friendly spirit which makes folks quite at home, even when performing before the large radio audience that this station reaches.

No Time to Play Politics

In a front page editorial the other morning, the Globe and Mail made the following comment on the Saskatchewan election:

"Saskatchewan's election results cannot be considered a tribute to Federal Government policies, or even those of the Provincial Government. They are a tribute to the Canadianism of electors who stood sturdily between the rest of the country and the crack-pot theories threatening national disunity."

"The credit goes to the men and women who rose out of eight years of bitter adversity to proclaim their faith in sound economic principles while gilded sophistry dangled munificence before their eyes. This, from people, half of whom have been on relief, is a significant demonstration."

"Premier Aberhart's effort to capitalize their suffering to his own glory received the contempt it deserved. Aberhartism has been kicked back un-

equivocally to its own balliwick, where it ought to remain until its day of extinction."

Canadians as a whole are trying to be steady and not accept a lot of these new-fangled doctrines. But often patience is sorely tried by the petty wrangling of politicians and the attention given to the things that matter only in a political campaign, while problems of moment are left untackled. The Saskatchewan vote is a challenge. It has to be proven that the voters did the right thing in turning down Aberhart and his quack cures. It's no time for playing politics but a time for leadership.

We Are Free

We drove along a busy city street on Saturday evening and for some time was wedged behind a slow moving car equipped with an amplifying device. The man at the microphone on the machine was drumming up a crowd to attend a Fascist meeting. Reference was made to the police and a protest against their actions. The outfit ambled down the street bellowing out its message and no one interfered as long as we saw it.

In a country that is this week calling attention to the privileges that the signing of Magna Carta has given through over seven centuries, all kinds of thought have freedom of expression. All sorts of "isms" have the right to lawful assembly and discussion of their pet theories. In the British Empire we enjoy these rights, secured back in 1215 when King John unwillingly signed the Great Charter. Perhaps to-day we would term his reign one of the many isms, but progress has been made, and in the British way the people make their own choice regarding their particular form of government.

We in Canada can openly discuss our governments, and have the power to overthrow them when it is considered advisable by the majority. Such a privilege is not possible in the lands where Fascism, Communism or Nazism rules. Guard well the privileges we enjoy and make sure the change you would have is for the better.

As Others See Us

The Globe and Mail had the following editorial comment to make on the occasion of the visit of weekly newspaper editors in Toronto, and incidentally one of the editors of this great city daily accompanied the group all through the trip in Northern Ontario:

"When a convention of weekly newspapers assembles, such as that held in Toronto yesterday, the city becomes aware of a public force which was unknown not many years ago. By getting together, exchanging ideas, and planning improvements, publishers of weeklies throughout the country have established for themselves an important and enduring place within the realm of the Fourth Estate. The development has led to political independence which, supported by a high degree of editorial intelligence, has made them a power for good government and community leadership. At the same time the close contact they are able to maintain with their readers enables them to interpret public opinion with magnificent accuracy. Collectively the weeklies picture Canadian life more truly than any other medium."

"It is acknowledged that the weekly paper is closely read. It is neighborly and friendly, occupying a place in community life which is not otherwise filled. The publishers, for this reason, have a serious responsibility in giving direction to thought. That they are observing this so admirably must be gratifying to the readers as well as themselves."

"Ontario may well be proud of its weekly papers. It is doubtful that a higher standard of service is maintained anywhere."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Social Credit theories aren't believed by all the Western Provinces. Mr. Aberhart will soon be doubtful himself.

We found that going under ground or being on the air can both give a sort of sinking feeling. We prefer keeping on the level.

And these are the times when most everyone longs for the dear old school-days—that always provided a long summer holiday.

And when we do reflect on the privileges we enjoy, brought to our attention through Magna Carta Week, it does create a feeling of contentment doesn't it?

Arrears of dog taxes in Trafalgar are reported as \$500,000—imagine half a million. Surely this Township, that pays such a huge (?) proportion of Halton's taxes has not gone to the dogs as completely as these figures indicate.

Halton's Member of Parliament, Mr. Hughes Cleaver, was credited by the Minister of Finance in sponsoring the Government's new housing legislation. The plan is working well in Burlington, where it has been tried out.

One of the finest weeklies in Ontario won high honor when the Bowmanville Statesman was awarded the trophy for the best editorial page in any weekly newspaper in Ontario and Quebec. It was a well merited award for George James is giving a service to his community in his fearless editorial comment that can only be helpful in the upbuilding of that district.

MAKING CANADA

A Better Place in Which to Live and Work

A Series of Letters from Distinguished Canadians on Vital Problems Affecting the Future Welfare of Canada

Specially Written for Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association

Dear Mr. Editor:

I hardly feel that I am competent to offer you suggestions as to matters of policy. However, in view of your definite request, I am offering a suggestion which might possibly be fruitful, and that is that the press of Canada in its editorial policy do something constructive towards the welding of the provinces into a more closely knit federation.

The enclosed clipping from the editorial column of the Windsor Star, dated July 31st, indicates to a certain extent the tendency of certain members of the press to foment a bitter feeling between different sections of the country and in certain periods this feeling has been very evident.

Suggestions for the West:

"The East will do more than simply sympathize with the West in the latter's hour of trouble. (The folks of the prairies do not need to worry about what the East will do. Help will be given the West this year, just as assistance has been rendered in other years of drought.

Saskatchewan, especially, has been stricken this summer (1937). Bearing heat has frizzled the crops until they are worthless even for feed in some places. The farmers will lose completely, even being out of the cost of their seed.

The disaster is more than a local catastrophe, it is of national extent. For, with an impoverished West, the purchasing power of the prairies is curtailed.

The East will rally to the aid of the West. Generous contributions will be made from this part of the Dominion to our neighbors in that part.

Newspapers in the West are hoping



W. R. CAMPBELL.

and suggesting that the East do something. They can rest assured their pleas will be answered.

And, while we are on the subject we would make this suggestion to three or four newspapers in the Prairie Provinces. It is that they be a little less malicious in their constant attacks on the East. Some of the assaults made on Ontario have been particularly bitter. In fact, a few days ago one Manitoba paper had an editorial asking the East to help the West, and on the very same day it had another editorial bitterly assailing the East. That's hardly cricket."

If you want a constructive policy I feel quite certain that a well thought out program which would tend towards closing the gaps between the various sections of the country would be most beneficial.

Yours sincerely,

W. R. CAMPBELL,
President, Ford Motor Co. of Canada,
Windsor, Ontario.



MEALS USED TO
Bully
ME!

It's easy to buy your **ELECTRIC RANGE** on the **HYDRO THRIFT PLAN**

The Hydro Commission will make an allowance of \$15 on every installation to be applied on the service or the cost of the range. A Small Down Payment will instal a range, with the balance arranged on Easy Terms

"...but I love to cook on my new Electric Range"

Do the day's three meals bully you into hours of pot-watching over a hot, stuffy stove? Don't put up with it any longer! Today, choose the modern, convenient electric range you've always wanted. You'll find it easy to own on the HYDRO Thrift Plan. And think of the joy of cooking this fast, clean, thrifty electric way... the ease of preparing varied, delicious meals—with perfect results every time!

TALBOT'S HARDWARE - REID'S ELECTRIC
SYMON HARDWARE

Let HYDRO do the drudgery

For Bigger Business-Advertise!

Famed Quadruplets Celebrate Twenty-third Birthday



The famed Keys quadruplets, who visited the Duane Quintuplets two years ago, recently celebrated their twenty-third birthday at their home in Hollis, Okla. The four sisters are attending Baylor University and consented to pose for the photographer in celebration of their birthday.

Sailing to Newfoundland in Home-made Craft



After nine years of adversity in Canada, Phillip Omond is sailing back to Newfoundland in his crude but sturdy 31-foot boat, Lydia F. A carpenter by trade, Omond built the Lydia F. from salvaged bits of wood and equipped it with an engine he purchased for five dollars. Accompanying him are his four children. The adventurous party are shown as they headed out of the Toronto harbor on the start of their voyage, which they hope to complete in about 15 days.