



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

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EDITORIAL

Acton Fair Next Week

With the splendid crops the country has produced and the freedom from epidemics about the Province, Acton Fair can look forward next week with splendid prospects. We predict that the smile of President Jimmie Mann will be even broader after the culmination of the event, next Wednesday. But you folks can all help him and his Directors wonderfully by your loyalty to this institution, that does so much in the encouragement of agriculture and the production each year of a show that outdoes that witnessed in centres many times larger.

We've sort of been through the mill and listed now with the Past Presidents, but like most of them we're just as keenly interested. If you will look over the list of Past Presidents, published elsewhere, you will notice that they are, in most cases, still quite active in Fair work. The ranks of this list have been broken by the death of three Past Presidents, but Acton Fair never had any better workers or finer Presidents than the late Wm. Johnstone, J. K. Kennedy or John F. Robertson.

Next week the Fair is with us. Next week a year's preparation for its success will be culminated. Presidents and officers come and go, but its growth and progress continue. Being a part of it is the finest way to show your approval. If you are not an officer or helper, you can be a part of it next week for two days and we are sure you will find enjoyment and profit in your participation. It's the Silver Jubilee year. For twenty-five years Acton Fair has been successful. Let's join in going with it to new higher successes.

Shifting the Load

Ontario Mayors, meeting in convention apparently found several ways of shifting the tax burden. Among them were adding another cent to the gasoline tax and putting a head tax on women workers. Both have features to commend them, even if these are only a means of shifting the load.

If folks would sooner live in an automobile than in a home, it seems reasonable they should pay a share to maintaining streets, parks and other municipal features which they enjoy. Tax arrears are the problem of every municipal body and all too often those in arrears escape property tax but would be forced to pay a gasoline levy.

With the granting to women equal privileges with men in franchise and other matters, it does seem only fair too that women gainfully employed should share a tax as well as voting men. The legislation requested by the Mayors asked an extension to "all persons gainfully employed between the ages of 21 and 60 years," whose names do not appear on assessment rolls as ratepayers.

We fancy that in many communities there are just as many women under this ruling liable for tax as there are men liable for poll tax. The question has been discussed informally in Acton Council and we know full well would have the endorsement of that body. We believe such a tax in Acton would lower the rate over a half mill.

Of course neither of these levies will be popular but for that matter, what tax levy is popular anyway.

It Rained That Night

A week or so ago we attended the session of Police Court in Acton, and since it seemed so much of local interest, reported the cases held there. That was merely a matter of routine weekly affairs, but that evening it rained and when it rains in the evening, we like to sit on the verandah and just watch it

rain. It seems a time for quiet reflection, just watching the rain come down and soak everything.

Some way or other the proceedings of police court kept going on, review during those moments. If it hadn't rained, perhaps we wouldn't have had time to reflect. Perhaps again it is not well to comment on law courts, but then again, it's no harm to reflect, and so here was the picture that passed on review.

First two up had been guilty of passing a sign without first stopping their motor vehicles as required by law. Both were assessed a fine and costs. The next case was that of a man who had become intoxicated and broken up a prayer meeting. The proceedings were brief and he pleaded guilty and asked for leniency. He was admonished not to come back and dismissed.

The final cases you read about. There was plenty of legal array present. While the Magistrate admitted an officer of the law had been assaulted, there were enough technicalities found to dismiss both cases.

And since it rained that night, we wondered about the whole procedure. The rough and abusive cases and the defiance of those things always calculated for the betterment of the community were dismissed. Failure to obey a traffic sign was duly penalized. Perhaps some other night it may rain again, and you too will have time to ponder a moment on the question, and the equation you too may try to solve will be whether points of law and technicalities are more important than the protection of the things which many of us still regard highly. Opinions may not be expressed oft times but one's thoughts on a rainy night are quite permissible.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Next Tuesday and Wednesday are the big days for Acton. Friend will meet friend at Acton Fair.

With so much comment on the European situation it seems unnecessary for us to add to the confusion. Really, it's a job for the experts, isn't it?

In 1937 Nova Scotia fishermen caught 158,961 cwt. of lobsters, with a landed value of \$2,304,302, compared with a catch of 145,091 cwt., with a value of \$1,992,170 at point of landing in 1936.

We're just like other folk. All the rather unkind things we said about the Mill Street roadway are replaced with complimentary ones when we see what a splendid job is being made of the re-surfacing.

Using the facilities of international bridge, ferry and tunnel companies, a total of 7,474,049 motor vehicles crossed the Ontario-United States boundary in both directions in 1937, compared with 6,450,357 in 1936.

The Simcoe Reformer, whose editor has campaigned vigorously against the slot machines, captioned the leading editorial last week "A Tearful Farewell." In fact, it seems that the Reformer has reason for a bit of hilarity over the final operation of the law and so have many others who wasted their substance in these devices.

An editor of one of our exchanges says that he and his wife disagree materially. She reads what others write and he writes what others read. She keeps the devil out of the house to the best of her ability while he retains him on all occasions and could not go to press without him. She knows more things than he writes and he writes more things than he knows.

There is a newspaper in Kansas whose motto is lie, steal, drink and swear, and is thus explained by the editor: "When you lie, let it be down to pleasant dreams, when you steal, let it be away from immoral associations; when you drink, let it be pure water, when you swear, let it be that you will patronize your home paper, and pay your subscription when it is due."

Ontario's Minister of Agriculture Hon P. M. Dewar opened this week the Western Fair in London and next week is scheduled to open Acton Fair. Associated with him in Acton will be the President of the Ontario Agricultural College, Dr. G. I. Christie, and the President of the Ontario Fair Association, our own R. J. Kerr. Acton is indeed highly honored by having these outstanding men in agricultural circles attending and participating in the Fair.

During our days in band work, we ran up against many obstacles in maintaining a place to practice, but never, apparently, anything as bad as in Dresden, where the following notice appeared in the Times: "Members of the Dresden Community Band will practice in Fire Hall No. 1 next Monday at 8 p.m.; that is, providing the Town Council is not in session. In that case, the Band will practice in the Grand Opera House, provided there is not a colored dance or a bingo party on. In that case, the Band will accept the kind offer of Mr. Madden, and will move their equipment to his hall and hold forth there; that is, if the Orange Lodge is not having an initiation. In that case, the Band's executive committee have other alternatives up their sleeves. So, boys, don't think practice is called off."

The Sunday School Lesson

FOR SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18th

JONATHAN: COURAGEOUS FRIENDSHIP

Golden Text.—A friend loveth at all times.—Proverbs 17: 17.

Lesson Text.—I Samuel 20: 4-17. Time.—10:02 B.C. Place.—Gibeon.

Exposition.—I. Jonathan's Covenant with David, 4-10.

There is something singularly beautiful in the mutual love of David and Jonathan. The worldly interests of the two were opposed (v. 31). Jonathan was their apparent to the throne, but David was the divinely chosen king. Yet each quite lost sight of selfish ambitions in his love for the other. Jonathan loved David as his own soul (v. 17; ch. 18: 3), and at the peril of his own life protected him from the anger of Saul (v. 33, 35). In doing this he voluntarily renounced his own application to the throne. David on his part bitterly lamented the death of Jonathan, though that death cleared his way to the throne (2 Sam. 1: 17-27). David had been perfectly safe in Nabal's house had sent three companies to take him, but the spirit of God had come upon them and hindered them from carrying out Saul's evil designs. Even Saul himself had been humbled (ch. 19: 20-24). There seems to have been little need for David's fleeing from such a place of security as that (cf. Ps. 9: 13). Jonathan, it is true, was a sincere and mighty friend, but it was better to lean upon the arm of God than upon any arm of flesh. Jonathan covenanted to find out for David just what his father's attitude toward him might be. He was to tell him the exact facts, whether they were good or evil. How often we see moral or spiritual perils confronting those to whom we profess to be friends, and yet do not warn them. There is one friend whom we safely trust to tell us all that we need to know (John 14: 2, 15: 15).

Jonathan's wish for David (v. 13) was the very best that could be desired for any man (cf. Heb. 13: 5, 6). It was not merely a formal utterance on Jonathan's part. It was his heart's deepest desire for David. He was a man of sincere and intelligent faith (ch. 14: 6). He knew well that the greatest of all blessings was that of Jehovah's presence and help. Jonathan recognized two facts about his father: (1) That Jehovah had been with him; (2) that Jehovah was with him no longer (cf. ch. 18: 12).

The change in Saul's experience was apparent to all who knew him at all intimately. So large a part of the Bible record of Saul's history is taken up with the dark picture of his last days, the days of disobedience and apostasy, that we forget that there was a better time in his history, when God was with him (ch. 10: 7), when the Spirit of God was upon him (ch. 11: 6), when he went out to do battle for Jehovah, when he was humble, brave, generous, large-hearted and obedient to God. It is this bright beginning to his public life that makes the dark ending so unspookily sad.

Nothing sadder can be said about any man than this which Jonathan says about his father: "The Lord hath been with him." The saddest men on earth are those who are forced to say, "I knew once what it meant to have the Lord with me, but He is not with me now." There are many of whom this is true. Jonathan had a true conception of Jehovah. We should make God's kindness to us the measure of our kindness to others (Eph. 4: 32; 5: 1, 2). David, when he came to a place of power, remembered the expressive phrase used by Jonathan (2 Sam. 9: 3). It was an everlasting covenant that Jonathan wished David to make with him, and it is an everlasting covenant that our David makes with us. And our David also makes a covenant not with us alone, but with our posterity as well (Acts 16: 31; 2: 39).

Jonathan's kindness to David, 11-17. Jonathan undertook to sound his father and find out his real attitude and purpose regarding David. He had been very confident at first that his father plotted no evil (v. 2), but David had shown him that he might be mistaken. Evidently his confidence in his father was not very deep. It is an appalling thing when a father's character is such that even his own son, and a son with so trusting a nature as Jonathan, is forced to distrust him. It would not do for any one to see Jonathan with David for that would imperil his own life (cf. vs. 32, 33). They arranged a very simple plan by which Jonathan could be David's friend whether it was safe for him to come out of hiding and at the same time no one else knew that there had been any communication between David and Jonathan. Whatever the price might be they must meet at least once more. David did not for a moment distrust Jonathan's fidelity. Jonathan might have good reason to play him false, but he knew that he would not do it. Jonathan ought to have gone a step further, and come out of the camp of David's enemies and cast in his lot with him who he knew was God's chosen man (cf. ch. 23: 16-18).

FROZEN BREAD. Practical use of frozen bread is reported from Fairbanks, Alaska. Freshly-baked bread is quick-frozen at 20 degrees F., and is then shipped by train or aeroplane to retail distributors who store it in quick-frozen condition until the consumer requires it to be defrosted.

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 Sir:

In asking me to offer my suggestion that would assist the rural weekly newspapers in making Canada a better place in which to live and work, you are giving me a rather large order.

Localism is perhaps one of the best-kept secrets of the weekly newspaper, as of most of our local communities. It would seem to me that one of the greatest contributions that a weekly could make would be to give the people a better understanding of the world in which we all must live.

(a) A better understanding of people. We in this country are coming to be quite heterogeneous. It is very easy to play up the native-born and to play down foreign immigrants, very easy to set Orangemen against Catholics and vice versa; not so easy to get each group to understand the other. Further, the world to-day is shrinking. It took some of our ancestors nearly three months to cross the Atlantic, now it can be crossed in about a day. Our knowledge of the various nations has not kept pace with this growing proximity. It is still easy to start up racial animosity that may lead to war.

(b) We need a better understanding of modern movements, political and otherwise. It is perhaps inevitable that in the heat of an election campaign the rival parties present their own points of view as strongly as possible. Surely between elections there out to be some opportunity for an OPEN FORUM in which various groups will have the opportunity of presenting their distinctive policies and points of view. We cannot get rid of movements that we do not like simply by ignoring or denouncing them. We must understand them.

(c) We should have a better understanding of modern economic developments. We Canadians are only one or two generations removed from early pioneer life. Our policies tend to lag behind, yet in reality we must work out our destinies in a highly complex industrial society. Surely every citizen should have some little knowledge of the actual world in which he lives. I sometimes put it that there are two questions we could all learn to answer—"How did we get this way?" and "Where do we go from here?"

I would suggest that without attempting anything sensational or spectacular you could carry out my suggestions, to use your own phrase "in a quiet, effective, and practical way."

Yours sincerely, J. S. WOODSWORTH, Leader, Canadian Commonwealth Federation, Ottawa.

RAW FURS VALUE

The value of Canada's production of raw furs in the season 1936-37 (12 months ended June 30th, 1937) is placed at \$10,666,375, compared with \$15,464,883 in the preceding season. These totals comprise the value of pelts of fur bearing animals taken by trappers and pelts sold from fur farms, the value of the latter representing approximately 40 per cent. of the whole. The total for the 1936-37 season is the highest recorded since the 1928-29 season.

APPLES IN CHINA

While Canadian apples are much appreciated in Hong Kong and district, particularly by Europeans, nevertheless the volume of business has never been large. This is owing mainly to the fact that United States apples, which do 90 per cent. of the trade, have an advantage in price. Invariably Canadian quotations have been 10 to 15 cents per case dearer than the United States supplies. War has also interfered with business, especially in North China and Manchukuo.



Diplomacy is the art of saying things in such a way that nobody can tell exactly what you mean.

French Flying-Boat Crosses Atlantic



Just 22 hours, 48 minutes out of Horta, the 41-ton French flying boat, Lieutenant De Valseau Paris, is shown sitting down at Port Washington, N.Y. The Lieutenant De Valseau Paris' flight was France's first experimental trip across the North Atlantic. This air view gives a good idea of the huge proportions of the ship.

Business Directory

MEDICAL

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

DR. E. J. NELSON, Physician and Surgeon, Electro-Therapy, Phone 88.

DR. WM. G. CULLEN, L. M. C. C., Physician and Surgeon, Office Hours—1-4 and 7-9 p.m., Sundays by Appointment, Wilbur Street—Just North of Mill Street, Telephone 128.

LEGAL

C. F. LEATHERLAND, B. A., Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public, Estates speedily wound up. Court work attended to promptly. Office 23, Phone 18, Residence 131, Successor to H. N. Farmer.

KENNETH M. LANGDON, Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public, Office: Acton, Georgetown, Over T. Beynuck's Cafe—Main Street, For Appointments Phone Acton 65—Georgetown 18.

Office Hours—Acton, Tuesday and Thursday, 1.15 p. m. to 4.30 p. m. Evenings on request.

DENTAL

A. J. BUCHANAN, D. D. S., Dental Surgeon, Office: In Leithman Block, Hours: 9 a. m. until 6 p. m. Evenings by Appointment.

Gas for Extractions, X-Ray, Closed Wednesday Afternoon, Phone 148.

P. W. PEAREN, D. D. S., L. D. S., Dental Surgeon, Office in the Symon Block, Phone 28, Mill Street, Acton, Rockwood Office open every Thursday Afternoon and Evening.

VETERINARY

B. D. YOUNG, V.S., B.V.Sc., Veterinary Surgeon, Office: Brookville, Ontario, Phone—Milton 1464.

F. G. OAKES, V.S., B.V.Sc., Veterinary Surgeon, Office and Residence—Knox Avenue, Acton—Phone 130.

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F. L. Wright, Office—Cooper Block, Office 95—Phone—Resid. 1093.

TIME TABLES

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

Table with columns for AT ACTON, Going East, and Going West, listing train numbers and times.

GRAY COACH LINES

Table with columns for COACHES LEAVE ACTON, Standard Time, EASTBOUND, and WESTBOUND, listing times to Toronto and Kitchener.

Through to London, daily except Sun. and Hol.; through to Stratford; 6-daily, except Sat., Sun. and Hol.; 6-daily, Sun. and Hol.