



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOF DILLS, Editor

TELEPHONES—
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offer to give whatever assistance was in their power to the incoming Council. It was good to hear Reeve-elect Chalmers welcome such help. But it was really splendid to hear retiring Reeve McCutcheon and other Councillors say that as citizens they will always maintain a keen interest in Acton and do their citizenship duty cheerfully. Coming from a group of men such as this it speaks volumes for continued advancement of Acton. Their experience is invaluable and has only been secured by years of effort.

With such a spirit prevailing Acton will continue to live up to the motto on the town's crest, "Floreat Actona."

Playing a Part

The method of eliminating the bootlegger by providing easy access to intoxicating liquors has apparently proven false. Now we come to the cut price era. But we are willing to wager that this method will not prove effective either in ostracising this terrible thing, the bootlegger, whom it appears everybody abhors but whom we are also told is patronized by many.

The ways of curbing the bootlegger lawlessness are indeed different from any other form of law enforcement. In the desire to stop murdering we have the death penalty. To stop highway speeding, fines are imposed. But to stop bootlegging, the present approved form is competition and cut prices. But the bootlegger will be blamed again for whatever may happen in sales of intoxicating liquor. The interests always have a bogey man to put the blame on.

Canada at the present time might well curtail its consumption of intoxicating beverages. A soldier wearing the King's uniform is no honor to that calling when he lays in the gutter drunk or staggers about the streets, the laughing stock of all who see him. The factory worker is not playing an efficient part in winning the war who comes in to work the day after a carousal and attempts to sober up on the job. There are ways in which everyone can play a part in helping with this war. A sober nation will be the most efficient and accomplish the task most quickly. The present is no time for brains befuddled with bootleg or any other kind of intoxicating liquors. It's a waste that could well be eliminated at the present time.

Ontario's Importance

Commending Ontario for having contributed more than half the Red Cross campaign total, the Ottawa Journal says the Province has "less than one quarter of the population" of Canada.

Actually one Canadian in three lives in Ontario. The 1939 ratio as shown in the forthcoming edition of The Financial Post Business Year Book and Market Survey is 33.2%.

And Ontario, by the way, with 34% of the gainfully employed and 34% of the national wealth, produces 45% of the national income, 52% of Canadian manufacturing production and 41% of total Canadian retail sales.—Financial Post.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Merry Christmas from this corner, too!

If there was ever any doubt about it, the past week has furnished proof conclusive that Britain rules the waves.

The new calendars are coming in and will soon replace those that have become a bit soiled and commonplace.

The flow of greetings started early. It's splendid to hear from many whose contact is only at the Christmas time.

The total production of gold in the world since the discovery of America has been estimated at 1,204,935,511 fine ounces.

The shopping days are two. The arrival of Santa Claus is in terms of three and the close of the year is just ten days away.

A green Christmas is indeed a possibility this year, but there are still a few days left yet to make the Canadian winter setting really right and we still have faith.

We welcome a number of new subscribers this week to our mailing lists. Friends have remembered friends by making sure they have their home paper every week during 1940.

The next days are busy ones. Be patient with those who are attempting to render a service that is taxed to capacity. Keep the merriment of Christmas in your pre-Christmas work as well as on Christmas Day.

Canadians are assured of ample supplies of turkeys for the celebration of Christmas and New Year's, according to a recent government report, which reveals that the number of turkeys on Canadian farms at June first was 2,476,000, an increase of 21 per cent. over a year ago.

Ontario News of the Week

By Muriel McDonald

One of the more intriguing situations in Ontario which may be traced definitely to Canada's declaration of war is the state of worry at Queen's Park over the alarming decrease in the consumption of liquor by citizens generally. The decrease is estimated to be as much as forty per cent.

During the last war, public opinion was crystallized into a demand for prohibition. The bars were closed. The man who wanted a drink called on the doctor for a prescription. This time, with the sale of liquor administered by the Ontario Government, there is to be no prohibition. A share of the profits goes to the credit side of the ledger in the Public Accounts of the Province, helps a great deal to keep the Government's financial showing a favorable one.

Thus it would be a shrewd guess to say that the sharp falling off in liquor sales since war was declared in September causes grave concern to the Provincial Government because it curtails revenue for the administration.

If one accepts this guess, however, Premier Hepburn's explanation comes as somewhat of a shock. In a public statement, he intimates that his government's chief concern in connection with the drop in sales is a corresponding increase in the manufacture of home brew and smuggling of liquor from the United States. And right there, the shrewd guesser has no answer. For there can be no accurate check of the moment on this alleged home manufacture nor on the smuggling said to be flourishing.

So, tossing the guessers and the Government's explanations aside and coming down to fact, we see an end to the increased prices for liquor which came into effect after the war budget in Ottawa and the setting up of much lower prices designed to again boost the legal sale of liquor in Ontario.

And there the matter rests until, let us say, next April. Why April? Because at that time citizens may judge whether or not home manufacture, smuggling or some other situation is

still keeping down the sale of liquor in spite of the lower prices just instituted; because, unless all signs fall, high prices have not been the only factor in the slackening of trade in Ontario's liquor stores.

In the last year, we had prohibition. In the present conflict, it is just possible that we in Ontario may witness a form of voluntary abstinence that may stand for some time as an interesting episode in Canadian history. For in addition to the churches throughout the Province which are embracing a definite movement to have individual members abstain voluntarily from the use of liquor, there is evidence to support the belief that thousands outside the ranks of church members and adherents have stopped or cut down their drinking.

It may be that the same war psychology that operated in the last war toward the setting up of the Ontario Temperance Act is responsible for the present situation. For example, a man easily persuades himself that with so many young fellows ready to sacrifice their lives if necessary for the country, the least he can sacrifice is some of the excess liquor he has been drinking. Speaking generally, war has a sobering effect on citizens. There is more work to be done, less time for the leisure that nearly always accompanies the drinking of liquor.

At any rate, a check on the sales of liquor in the next three months should prove interesting.

There will be general agreement with the statement of Hon. Mr. McLarty, Labor Minister, that at a time when Britain's enemies have sworn her destruction no one in Canada should be allowed to wax fat on his country's necessities, no one should be permitted to make a greedy gain out of the common good. In other words, Mr. McLarty was impressing on the public the fact that under the operations of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, there would be no profiteering, no hoarding and no undue enhancement in price of the necessities of life.

Captain H. M. Smillie, an officer of the Army Service Corps in the last war, has come forward with the novel suggestion that those desirous of sending fresh butter to the Canadian boys at the front should pack the butter in tubes like shaving cream or tooth paste. This he

claims would be much superior to forwarding the butter in cans. These tubes, contends, could be made from the new grease-proof paper.

The municipalities of Ontario are gradually getting out of the red. Hon. Eric Cross, Minister of Welfare and Municipal Affairs, announces that five years ago there were more than \$105,000,000 in municipal debentures in default, but already arrangements have been completed for more than \$102,000,000, leaving only \$2,607,303 to be dealt with during the coming year.

ROMANTIC STORY ABOUT FRIED CHICKEN

Poultry, according to Mons. Thomas, chef at a well known Montreal hotel, provides one of the dishes most pleasing to the general taste, and at least one recipe is surrounded by romance. This is the origin of fried chicken as told in the legend of "Poulet a la Marengo." On June 14th, 1800, 139 years ago, Napoleon Bonaparte in one of his lightning strokes defeated the Austrians at Marengo, and in celebration of his victory invited his leading generals to dinner that evening.

Unfortunately the field kitchen had been unable to keep pace with the rapid advance, although Napoleon's chef, Duannat, had pressed forward in a light van. The van, however, was not provisioned, and Duannat was faced with an almost unsurmountable problem. Napoleon had said dinner, and dinner would have to be. Duannat spied a farm house in the distance and at once dispatched two battle-scarred veterans of Napoleon's escort to see what they could find. The old soldiers were had put to it but they managed to outfit three wandering chickens and gather a few tomatoes and a bunch of garlic. With these materials, Napoleon's chef had to uphold his reputation and comply with the imperial order.

The chickens were hastily killed, plucked, and cut into pieces. Meanwhile, fat was being heated in a pan on an improvised stove, and in no time the pieces of chicken were browning and sizzling. With a few drops of cognac sprinkled on top of the pieces of chicken, the dinner was served and was highly praised by Napoleon and his staff. This was instituted "Poulet a la Marengo," or fried chicken.

Cream of Canada's Manhood Applies for Commissions in R.C.A.F.



A hive of activity as Canada's airmen prepare to go to the aid of their Motherland, is Trenton air station, where Canada's future air force is busy training in the art of aerial warfare. The cream of Canada's manhood, supplied by the three armies, is being rapidly trained to handle various fighting and bombing planes, such as the Oxford bomber. Top, and the Fairey Battles, Centre, flying in close formation.

THE SAILING OF THE FIRST CONTINGENT

It was a grey December Sunday when the fleet of passenger vessels with the Canadian Active Service Force First Division on board and its accompanying guardian flotilla of warships set off to sea. At times the sun broke through the clouds, sometimes a squally gust ruffled the waters but the general conditions were favorable and the meteorological experts predicted that the ships would just nicely avoid the storm area which had been a recent centre of disturbance. This departure was quite different from the sailing of the First Contingent in 1914. The latter had gone out of Valcartier with great ado, embarked on shipboard and slipped down the St. Lawrence to assemble at Gaspe, awaiting the word to go. When the time came for the actual departure, down the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the sea, that great fleet moved out quietly and with but few observers. This 1939 setting out was under quite different conditions. Instead of the lonely bay the ships were gathered at a port and at a populous place.

It would be difficult, indeed impossible, to estimate the number of people who saw the ships go out, but it can be said that it was very large. The secret of the departure time had been well kept but by the middle of the Sabbath morning it was evident to onlookers that action was impending, increasing volumes of smoke from funnels being regarded as a certain sign. Then, too, there were early risers who had noted at daybreak several naval units moving into the fairway and going out to sea.

The observers were rewarded at noon when their naval craft proceeded down the channel and made for the open, and soon afterwards the first unit of the great passenger fleet followed. In turn the others joined the parade until all had completed their majestic course past the headlands and proceeded to clear the land. As each vessel swung out, its 'tall's upper decks and rigging were lined with troops and from these came great lusty cheers to be re-echoed from the shore. However, one ship must have passed a martinet. As it passed the vantage point occupied by this observer it was noted that the decks were lined but lined with soldiers each wearing his newly acquired libel, and mustered at his emergency station: for them the war was on.

Business Directory

MEDICAL

DR. J. A. McNIVEN
Physician and Surgeon
Office and Residence—Corner Bowyer Avenue and Eighth Street.

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

DR. W. G. CULLEN, L. M. C. C.
Physician and Surgeon
Office Hours—1-4 and 7-9 p.m.
Sundays by Appointment
Mill Street, near Frederick Street
Telephone 128

Drs. Freed and Stevenson
CAMPBELLVILLE
Phone—Milton 3353 — After 10 p.m. Milton 2W
Office Hours: 8-9 a.m., 1-3 p.m., 7-9 p.m.
Sundays by Appointment only

LEGAL

C. F. LEATHERLAND, B. A.
Barrister and Solicitor, Notary Public
Issuer of Marriage Licences
Registrar of Births, Marriages, Deaths
ACTON
Office 22 Phone Residence 113

KENNETH M. LANGDON
Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public
Offices:
Georgetown—Gregory Theatre Building
ACTON—Over T. Seynuck's Cafe
For Appointments Phone Acton 65—Or
Georgetown 48

Office Hours—Acton, Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Evenings on request.

DENTAL

A. J. BUCHANAN, D. D. S.
Dental Surgeon
Office: In Leishman Block
Hours: 9 a. m. until 8 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 29
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

AUCTIONEERS

FRANK PETCH
Auctioneer and Representative Commercial Life Assurance Co.
Phone 61r 3, Georgetown
GEORGETOWN P. O.

TIME TABLES

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

AT ACTON
Standard Time

Going East	
Daily, except Sunday	6:45 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday	9:49 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday	6:28 p.m.
Sunday only	8:19 p.m.
Flyer, at Georgetown	9:41 p.m.
Going West	
Daily, except Sunday	8:48 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday	7:00 p.m.
Saturday only	2:29 p.m.
Sunday only	11:32 p.m.
Flyer, at Georgetown	6:09 p.m.
Flyer, at Guelph	6:46 p.m.

GRAY COACH LINES

COACHES LEAVE ACTON
Standard Time

EASTBOUND		To Toronto	
6:51 a.m.	9:11 a.m.	12:01 p.m.	2:00 p.m.
4:21 p.m.	6:31 p.m.	8:46 p.m.	
WESTBOUND — To London			
10:23 a.m.	11:38 a.m.	2:23 p.m.	3:15 p.m.
5:03 p.m.	7:18 p.m.	8:18 p.m.	
dx 11:23 p.m.	ex 12:08 a.m.		
a—except Sun. and Hol.; b—Sun. and Hol.; c—Sat. only; d—except Sat., Sun. and Hol.; e—Sat., Sun. and Hol.; x—to Kitchener; y—to Stratford.			

