



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

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EDITORIAL

On the Uptrend
Indications point to improved business conditions in 1940. Needless to say, the greatest improvement will come to those businesses who aggressively seek recognition with the public. According to the Financial Post, Canadian business leaders are optimistic that the increase in payroll activity, which got under way toward the end of 1939, will be continued and exceeded in the new year.

Evidence of this can be found in our own community. Factories are operating at capacity and have been working extra hours for some time. The relief rolls reflect the same cause for optimism as they are now practically at a minimum with most who are able having regular employment. Just how much of this increased activity and spending power will remain and assist in building up the community is a point that can be determined by the business men of our own community. There have recently been times of adversity. Surely those who have carried through in these times will be given first opportunity to serve in times of prosperity. Merchants too can help retain this trade by watching stocks closely and offering a good range of goods, at the right prices. And the best way to make folks feel welcome and tell them of these services is by advertising in your local paper.

Is It a Race This Year?

With the municipal contests all over and the personnel of Halton County Council decided, the choosing of the Warden will be the next move before the machinery of municipal affairs get underway. The situation in Halton this year is a most unusual one. Out of fourteen members, there are eight new members elected this year.

It would appear to require some guessing before a name would be selected. Members are in the position of choosing a Warden with all the old precedents swept away. The municipalities who had prior claim, as taken on a rotation basis, have all returned new Reeves. Gone this year are many of those who by length of service in County Council would have had a legitimate claim to the honor.

With a new crop, the new Warden, too, will have some problems to keep an even keel. It is some time, if ever before, that such a situation has arisen. The electors seemed to have a change in mind. They have secured a radical change here.

If Reform Must Be

Another indication of public feeling on the matter of lengthened terms of office for municipalities was given on Monday when Toronto voters opposed the plan by four to one. It is splendid for a provincial governing body to try to make a saving. But it is evident that the plan of pointing to the municipalities, when it is known full well that the larger savings could be made by the province, does not go down with the general public.

After all this war is being fought for democracy. When folks want the privilege of electing municipal bodies every year it seems scarcely the proper thing at the moment to attempt to push down their throats such an unpalatable dose. Local municipal Councils and Boards are more intimately watched than either of the governments. It can safely be left to those in the municipality to decide when an election is necessary.

If Hon. Mr. Conant, in his great desire for reform, would enact legislation that would provide for the Reeve and half of the Councillors to retire

each year, we believe he would meet with better reception and be doing a greater service. We believe such a plan would meet with approval and would provide better municipal government. It has been in effect on School Boards for some time, but we have never been told why it did not apply to Councils. If we must be reformed, let it be an improvement.

Pioneers from Acton

The days of the pioneers are not yet over. On January 1st, the first municipal government in the Northwest Territories, as at present constituted, was established at Yellowknife. That act of pioneering has a special local interest. The electors of Yellowknife have selected 'Jack' McNiven, son of Dr. and Mrs. J. A. McNiven, of Acton, now Superintendent of the Negus Mines, Limited, as one of their members of the five man Board of Trustees.

In the older parts of the Dominion we write of Early Days and the early Councils and the founding of our communities. The pioneering spirit is still necessary and fortunately is not lacking. And we find an Acton young man taking his place in the pioneering in a far removed part of the Dominion. The electors of Yellowknife have chosen well. We, in the home town, are justly proud of their selection.

Canada's First War Loan

Ottawa's announcement that preparations are under way for Canada's first war loan, now scheduled to make its appearance during the first quarter of 1940, is good news inasmuch as it will provide the rank and file of Canadians with an opportunity to make their first direct contribution to Canada's war effort. The backbone of Canada's participation in this war will be financial because of the vast amount of foodstuffs, materials and military supplies that will be required from this country. True, much of these materials will be paid for by the Allies, but some of the British purchases in this country will have to be financed by Canada, and Canada's own program will be extensive. It seems probable that at least 40 per cent of the national income will be required in the next year to meet the cost of war and the other expenditures of all governments in Canada and to finance British purchases here.

It may be taken for granted that there will be no 'tax free' bonds in this war, that will gravitate to a few holders and enable them to minimize their income taxes. Nor will there be any duplication of the abnormal profits from war materials witnessed during the last war. The safeguard against this is the Excess Profits Tax, enacted at the special war session of the Canadian Parliament.

It is indicated that the forthcoming war loan will have bonds as low as \$50 in denomination, and it is the hope of the Minister of Finance, Hon. J. L. Ralston, K.C., that every Canadian will become a creditor to the Canadian Government through his or her ownership of a Government bond. A creditor relationship of every citizen with his government is an assurance of good government and of good citizenship.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Perhaps you have accomplished the art of writing it 1940 by now.

Canada ranked third among world countries as a producer of aluminum in 1938, producing 66,000 long tons. A long ton is 2,240 pounds.

The new calendars have again come into usefulness. They are not as plentiful this year as in other years. Perhaps some business places have decided to leap this year.

Canadian tobacco growers harvested a record crop this year, when the production amounted to 108,770,100 pounds, compared with 101,394,600 pounds in 1938, and 72,093,400 pounds in 1937.

Just as at present, the Christmas and New Year holiday period is a popular time for weddings, it would appear from anniversaries that even a half century and more ago it was a favorite time.

The renewal of the amusement tax seems to be one of the assured levies that is soon to come into force again. There is no more pleasant way to collect than on amusement. We know places where the tax signs were never taken down.

The Financial Post is at least consistent in its condemnation of the King administration. Rarely is an issue missed that special attention is not given the government in a front page article. Some of them may be a bit hackneyed but they are brought forth at least regularly.

Air mail carried by Trans-Canada Air Lines during the past twelve months amounted to 702,291 pounds, and air express to 40,216 pounds. Passenger service has only been in operation for six months, during which period 16,606 revenue passengers were carried an average distance of 500 miles.

Ontario News of the Week

By Muriel McDonald

A key man from Ottawa has presented for this newspaper what we believe is one of the most enlightening revelations made so far about Canada's war job.

What he had to say followed a casual question about the Dominion's forthcoming war loan. And after he had very politely explained that we were out of order at the moment in trying to find out how much money would be borrowed, what interest would be allowed and when the loan would be launched, he said:

Your curiosity is well-placed, nevertheless, because this loan is just about the most important war development to date for Canadian citizens. True, we know have troops on English soil, and thousands more are getting ready to follow them. But you cannot get away from the cardinal fact that this war is first and last an economic war. Britain and France have set the example and Canada must follow.

After the last war, there was much talk about the sacrifices made by our young sons in France and Belgium while those at home had it easy; made big money; scarcely knew what sacrificing meant. Taxes at home were comparatively light. War costs were piled on war costs, the great bulk of it shoved ahead for a later generation to pay.

In the last war, volunteers flowed steadily across the ocean and conscripts followed—some five hundred thousand country had some five hundred thousand men in uniform. In this war we shall likely make a good showing insofar as man power is concerned, but the emphasis will necessarily be placed on the effort to beat the enemy down the economic way. And that means that while fewer Canadians may make sacrifices overseas, those of us at home are certainly going to know there is a war on.

Don't overlook this. When the Canadian government declared the policy of "Pay As You Go," there was grim determination to stick to that policy. It will mean that every citizen will be expected to shoulder his share of the cost in proportion to the wealth he has. It will mean, too, that there will be no high and fancy prices for war goods and war services. It will mean simply that as much as possible for this year's cost of this war must be met with funds which come in from natural income this year.

It is altogether likely that before the war is over Canada will match the war effort of Great Britain and use as much as 45 per cent. of the national income for government purposes, including war. And when you consider that national income is the sum total of everything we produce in the country, you will get a real picture of just what a sacrifice that will mean for all of us.

You can also realize what a task your government has in directing all this. With very high taxes made necessary, your officials at Ottawa must at the same time see that the goose that lays the golden egg is not destroyed. In other words industry cannot be taxed to a point where that industry cannot carry on its vital services toward the war effort. The whole community must be kept in a healthy financial state to support the common effort. Prices changes must be kept in check, wages kept up to the living cost.

And in the light of this, you can see more clearly perhaps the reason for the impatience displayed by the government members when well meaning citizens put forward all sorts of revolutionary schemes which would fool around with our monetary system at the very time that our financial structure must be kept as steady as a rock. Their attitude might be summed up this way: 'There's a job to be done now. Bring on your untried schemes after the war is won.'

I've sketched this situation for you as background for the war loan proposition. You will realize, of course, that no matter how cheaply the government

buys its materials and services for this war, no matter how stiff the taxation is, no matter how determined the government is to 'pay-as-you-go,' there will still be a margin between what the government must spend to beat Hitler and what it will get in current revenue. And there you have the reason for this issue of bonds.

Avoiding the mistakes of the last war, Canada will limit its borrowings to absorb essentials and its citizens will be asked to do the lending from their savings; at a reasonable rate of interest, so that when Armistice has been celebrated, and the boys come home, this Dominion will still be standing on its own feet, under no financial obligation to outside nations and ready for the post war task of building up a nation, stronger and more vigorous than ever before.

At the coming session of the Ontario Legislature, various new sources will be tapped to provide revenue for wartime expenditure. The amusement tax, from

which \$2,000,000 was derived during the last year it was in operation, will be restored and it is even said that a new system of collection has been devised which will make it more effective. Then, too, exemptions on income taxation are to be lowered. There will be retrenchment, too, in several directions. The Grand Jury and the old time Court Crier may have to go.

Society note: Toronto weddings in 1939 totalled 7,311. Toronto weddings in 1938 totalled 8,057. Reason given: The war.

ONE ADVANTAGE

Rankin—It takes a long time to get anything through Benbrough's skull, doesn't it?

Phyle—I should say it does; that man will be dead and buried before he even finds out he is sick.

Why is a plum-pudding like a barometer? Because it goes down quickly.

SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK

By R. J. SCOTT



AINU WOMEN OF NORTHERN JAPAN. FATIGUE AROUND THEIR SHOULDERS TO WIN A HUSBAND

AN ELEPHANT'S EARS ARE HIS 'RADIATORS'. COOLING HIS BLOOD AT THE SINGAPORE AIRFIELD THROUGH HIS SKINS

ONE OF THE PECULIAR MEDICAL DEVICES PATENTED IN 1898 WAS THE 'POISON EXTRACTOR'—AN ELECTRIC BATTERY CONNECTED TO THE NECK, AND A COPPER PLATE, ON WHICH THE BARE FEET REST—THE INVENTOR CLAIMED THE CURRENT WILL RUN DOWN FROM THE NECK, THROUGH THE PATIENT'S BODY AND DEPOSIT BODILY POISONS ON THE COPPER PLATE

Last Photograph Taken in Canada of Commandant of First Overseas Force



THIS, the last photograph taken in Canada of Major-General G. L. McNaughton, Commandant of the Canadian Forces now overseas, was made in Halifax just before the First Division embarked. General McNaughton is now with his boys 'somewhere in England.' Seeing him off is Alistair Fraser, K.C., Traffic Vice-President of the Canadian National Railways.

They talked of the new European war but they had more to say about the old one, remembering experiences overseas when General McNaughton was in command of the Canadian Corps' heavy artillery and Mr. Fraser was serving with the 48th Highlanders of Toronto and later as A.D.C. to Sir Arthur Currie, Commander of the Canadian Corps.

Seeking Victims After Raid on Helsingfors



Finnish soldiers and air raid precautions workers are shown delving into the ruins of a bombed building in Helsingfors, seeking victims and possible survivors after a raid by Soviet warplanes.

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 68

DR. WM. 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 2545 — After 10 p.m.—Milton 2W Office Hours: 8-9 a.m., 1-3 p.m., 7-8 p.m. Sundays by Appointment only

LEGAL

C. F. LEATHERLAND, B. A. Barrister and Solicitor, Notary Public Issuer of Marriage Licenses Registrar of Births, Marriages, Deaths ACTON Office 21 Phone Residence 181

KENNETH M. LANGDON Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public Office: Georgetown—Gregory Theatre Building ACTON—Over T. Seynuck's Cafe For Appointments Phone Acton 65—66 Georgetown-66 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 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 29 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-16874

F. G. OAKES, V.S., B.V.Sc. Veterinary Surgeon Office and Residence — Knox Avenue Acton — Phone 136

AUCTIONEERS

FRANK PETCH Auctioneer and Representative Commercial Life Assurance Co. Phone 613, Georgetown GEORGETOWN P. O.

TIME TABLES

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

Table with columns for AT ACTON STANDARD TIME, Going East, and Going West, listing train times for various destinations.

GRAY COACH LINES

Table with columns for COACHES LEAVE ACTON Standard Time, EASTBOUND To Toronto, and WESTBOUND To London, listing departure times.



SALLY'S SALLIES