

**The Acton Free Press**

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G. ARLO DAVIS, Editor

## EDITORIAL

### The Y. in the Community

Some idea of the part that the Y.M.C.A. plays in the community life of Acton might be gathered from the annual meeting this week. The annual financial report showed that the institution was paying its way and meeting its obligations and had a balance on the right side of the ledger.

But, while important, finances are not all important in such a work. Supervisor W. J. Benson in his report, gave some idea of the use to which the building was put. Even then his report could not begin to cover all the uses since the building has other tenants who use it freely. But his report showed that during the year there were over 9,000 participants in the Y.M.C.A. part of the building alone. The membership was well over the 200 mark the Paul "Bill" Benson, the Y in Acton is a real community centre.

But not all the activities are confined to the building proper. This year will see camps for boys and girls in operation, track and field and swimming activity are on the summer program. Plays and other items were on the winter program. Annual meetings can be dry, but when they contain so many features that are going into the upbuilding of the young lives of the citizens of tomorrow they have an inspiration.

There have been misgivings about the ability of towns of the size of Acton to carry on a Y. program. Through the beneficence of the late J. A. Murray in providing the building and much of the equipment, the plan was made possible. Through those that follow in positions in the Y. the use of the building fulfills a great place in the community. The officers from President George Mason down, have rendered a worthy service, as shown in this year's report.

### War Secrets Not New

There are a lot of things we would like to know about Canada's war effort. Ignorance of what is happening is apt to make us like others very critical. The gigantic proportion of the effort makes it impossible that we could, if given the opportunity, see all these things ourselves and so often we have to rely on others.

And so we refer again to what the editor of the Barrie Examiner had to say after he heard at first hand from government officials of Canada's armament. Here it is:

As was pointed out by J. S. Duncan, Deputy Minister of Defense for Air Services, according to the Directors of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association in Ottawa recently, the British Empire has fully recognized that our supremacy in men, in aircraft, in equipment and in morale are essential if we are to be successful in the tremendous struggle in which we are engaged against Nazism.

It was to ensure this supremacy that the first Empire Training Plan was launched. And it is the highest state of efficiency that Mr. Duncan has decided to relinquish, for a time, the especially important industrial work as Vice-President and General Manager of the Massey-Harris Co. to assume the director of the part of our Dominion's war effort.

The British Commonwealth Air Training Plan is a program which embodies the spirit of a united British Empire said Mr. Duncan, "a plan which if all the details of it were known to our enemies might catch them napping with a plan which will sufficiently understand will inspire the people of the great Dominion our Mother Country and the British nations beyond the seas with a feeling of unshakable confidence in the ultimate outcome of this mighty struggle."

But Mr. Duncan said that some critics have complained that progress had been slow. Answering these, he declared:

"Work is proceeding actively, methodically according to a carefully worked out plan. Every Province of the Dominion is playing its part or will be called upon to do so." In a word, the greatest single enterprise

Canada has ever known is launched and well under way. Great progress has been made to date, and the program is being carried out entirely in accordance with the prescribed and pre-arranged schedule."

We know Alex McLaren, editor of the Barrie Examiner quite well. Perhaps that is the reason his article satisfies us. The present is not the only war in which secrets have had to be kept. Washington, having been asked by an officer on the morning of a battle, what were his plans for the day, replied in a whisper, "Can you keep a secret?" On being answered in the affirmative, the General added, "So can I."

### Just Patience

War news has overshadowed everything else this past week. The long-expected German offensive and the defence of the Allies has excluded thought on any other events. Unless the comment one marks is read within a few hours of that same day, rapid changes make such comment out of date.

If there ever was a time when we must have faith in our leaders it is the present. Idle gossip can create no good but can distract a lot from the effort of others. We know full well that in this day when we have so many means of securing news that it is difficult to be patient. Sometimes to meet that demand news is given out that may not be authentic.

Most interesting, however, is the tremendous reaction against Communism throughout Canada. Following the ruling of Mr. Justice Chevrier of the Ontario Supreme Court that the Communist Party is an illegal organization, there has been a heavy demand for action that will give the country added protection against those who would undermine the country in wartime either to seize control of themselves or assist an outside nation in weakening the resistance against aggression.

Did you ever try to place yourself in the position of someone whose job it was to produce a feature news item at a certain moment when actually there had been nothing even to give such an item? And like the man in other industry who must be a producer sometimes the boss expects production and takes no excuses, no matter how reasonable. That is the position of many of those engaged to-day in giving the war news. The general public are largely to blame for this situation. Surely everyone wants to play his or her part in this titanic struggle. One little part that is helpful on the home front is just patience, 'yes and forth.'

### How Many Can Swim?

With the time fast approaching when full use will be made of the bathing facilities here and when folks go to the bathing beaches we wonder if some effort cannot be made to teach the children of Acton and district how to swim? Each year a number of them drown by themselves at Fairy Lake. Council has provided facilities and supervision which have been a real asset to this sport. Perhaps it would be an imposition to request Council to provide further.

Here it seems is an opportunity for an organization desirous of doing community service. Perhaps an opportunity for several to co-operate. The service is undoubtedly one that has merit. Every child should know how to swim. There are times when it is more important than education. Acton has all the facilities and perhaps with a little effort competent instruction could be arranged.

### EDITORIAL NOTES

Those who anticipated making money out of the present war are a bit disappointed to date. Perhaps that is the reason for some of the criticism of Canada's war effort.

Carleton Place has awarded the contract for a new fire pumper, complete with Chrysler chassis, at a cost of \$3,690. The equipment must be approved by the underwriters.

A new feature of THE FREE PRESS while Parliament is in session will be "Glimpses of Parliament" written by Halton's member, Mr. Hughes Cleaver. The first article appears this week.

"Food for Health" is the title of a very interesting booklet recently issued by the Canadian Medical Association. It tells how the family budget should be spent for the greatest benefit of the family.

Mount Forest and Dundalk residents were puzzled a week ago by a mysterious beam of light revolving in the sky. If they haven't heard yet, the source was a travelling circus that was camped in Guelph.

Judith Robinson and the Globe and Mail are still evidently ignorant of the fact that the people of Canada have entrusted the Government of Canada and Canada's war effort under the leadership of Prime Minister Mackenzie King. Criticism is easy but leadership as this journal found out is more difficult. Might we ask where has the Leadership League gone? The Globe and Mail ought to soon realize it doesn't lead for the Dominion.

### WHAT OTHERS SAY

The conquest of Denmark may look like moral turpitude, but it must be admitted that the Reich never violates a non-aggression pact until the ink is perfectly dry. —The New Yorker

We boast of free speech and a free press in Canada. That means says the Listowel Banner, that as long as an editor writes nothing to offend the advertisers, the churches, the judges, the unions, the subscribers, or the wife he can lawfully print anything he pleases.

## Ontario News of the Week

By Murdo McDonald

Once a trusting group of people, tolerant with agitators, kindly disposed toward the foreigner who was making his home in new land, many Canadian citizens are changing their attitude. With a bitter lesson before them, in which Hitler has gained his ends through the use of a well-organized spy system in enemy countries, residents of the Dominion everywhere are bucking up government plans to eradicate any fifth column in this country.

In British Columbia within the past ten days there has been a vigorous demand to limit the freedom of certain people on the coast whose sympathies might lie with the enemy. In Kitchener, Ontario, where there have been indications of a hungry secessionist element, the Mayor has taken prompt action against organizations under suspicion.

Most interesting, however, is the tremendous reaction against Communism throughout Canada. Following the ruling of Mr. Justice Chevrier of the Ontario Supreme Court that the Communist Party is an illegal organization, there has been a heavy demand for action that will give the country added protection against those who would undermine the country in wartime either to seize control of themselves or assist an outside nation in weakening the resistance against aggression.

There are some who profess to see in an ardent attachment of Communists to appear. Mr. Justice Chevrier's decision that there does not seem to be any lack of money for law costs. They also lead into the action a strong attempt to halt action against their organization by bringing it into the courts.

In some instances the Courts have been slow in dealing with such appeals, but it is hoped that in wartime, short shifts will be given to subversive agitators. Attorney-General Conant, for Ontario, has stated that if the Federal Department of Justice would invoke the Defence of Canada Regulations to apply to subversive elements throughout Canada and intern such persons, appeals against their convictions under the regulations would make no difference.

In Toronto Mayor Ralph Day is moving to have an outspoken Communist ousted from the Toronto Board of Education.

While on the subject of Communism, the death of Emma Goldman in Toronto recently should be noted. One year ago, she was quite enough to disillusion residence in Russia under the Soviet that enthralled many an anarchist. Prior to that she was ready for any overt act against constituted authority. The conduct of the Communists almost cured her. On her return to America she renounced allegiance to the Soviet. The only vestige of Communism left at the end was the fact that her funeral was of a non-religious character.

It might be a wise course to try the Goldman cure on some of Canada's leading Reds. A few years residence in Russia might make decent citizens of some of them.

Great credit to the members of the Royal Canadian Air Force for the restraint exhibited during the trial of three young thugs of foreign extraction for the horrible treatment meted out to a young woman, wife of an officer, of the Air Force. The girl was forcibly dragged into a motor car, carried out in the country, outraged, robbed and left by the roadside in a semi-conscious condition. Some of the more hot-headed members of the Air Force were all for taking the law into their own hands, but better counsel prevailed. The sentences imposed upon the culprits show that Canadians can safely leave such matters to Canadian justice. Mr. Justice MacKay declared that his only reason for not invoking the death penalty was a fear that reviewing authorities might compute the sentence. He sentenced two of the men to life imprisonment, plus 28 strokes of the strap, while to the other member of the trio, described as a dupe and a weakling, he gave 15 years in the penitentiary and 15 strokes of the strap.

BRITAIN'S 400 CLOSED COAL PITS

One half of the miners of Great Britain, who were unemployed at the outbreak of war, are now at work as a result of the Government's drive to increase the peace time output of 200,000,000 tons a year by 400,000,000 tons.

Lord Portal, Chairman of the Coal Production Council is now touring Britain to check on speed production up to the rate 280,000,000 tons required to meet the enormous world demand created by the big slide of German exports. When war began Germany was selling abroad some 24,000,000 tons a year and Poland 14,000,000 tons, about half of which trade is estimated has now been cut off by the British Navy.

Practically the South American countries, while overseas trading stations, are now camouflaged. The supplies and imports are all coming in from Canada, Portugal, Greece, Egypt and Australia. Trade has increased 100% in coal when compared with 1938. It is claimed that the total coal output is now 100% above that of 1938 as of May 1st. Sir W. G. Waller, coal and iron, is also afraid that she would take far more if it were available.

It is possible that the Government will now help to re-open many of the 400 mines which for economic reasons have been shut down since 1939. These and other measures are now being discussed with the coal owners and mining leaders by the Coal Production Council.

## SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK

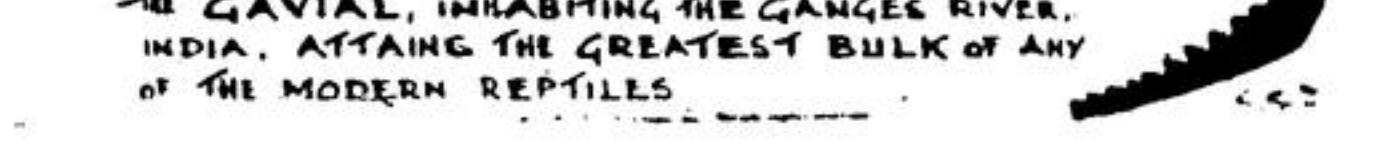
By R. J. Scott



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DRS. FREED AND STEVENSON CAMPBELLVILLE Phone Milton 2303—After 10 p.m. Milton 2W Office Hours 8-9 a.m., 1-3 p.m., 7-8 p.m. Sundays by Appointment

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C. F. LEATHERLAND, B. A. Barrister and Solicitor, Notary Public Issuer of Marriage Licences Registrar of Births, Marriages, Deaths ACTON Officer 22 Phone 181 Residence 181

KENNETH M. LANGDON Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public 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 Syman Block Phone 28 Mill Street, Acton

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### VETERINARY

B. D. YOUNG, V. S. B. V. S. Veterinary Surgeon Office Brookville, Ontario Phone—Milton 1404

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

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## TIME TABLES

### CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

#### AT ACTON STANDARD TIME

##### Going East

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Daily, except Sunday | 6:04 a.m. |
| Daily, except Sunday | 9:45 a.m. |
| Daily, except Sunday | 6:28 p.m. |
| Sunday only          | 8:19 a.m. |
| Plyer at Georgetown  | 9:41 a.m. |
| Plyer at Guelph      | 9:15 p.m. |

##### Going West

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| Daily, except Sunday | 8:48 a.m.  |
| Saturday only        | 1:29 p.m.  |
| Plyer at Guelph      | 6:46 p.m.  |
| Daily, except Sunday | 7:00 p.m.  |
| Sunday only          | 11:43 p.m. |

### GRAY COACH-LINES

#### COACHES LEAVE ACTON Standard Time

##### EASTBOUND — To Toronto

6:58 a.m.—9:01 a.m.—11:31 a.m.—2:06 p.m.—3:31 p.m.—5:31 p.m.—8:46 p.m.

##### WESTBOUND — To Kitchener

8:53 a.m.—12:28 p.m.—2:23 p.m.—4:23 p.m.—5:18 p.m.—8:38 p.m.—10:53 p.m.—11:53 p.m.

x through to London daily except Sun. and Hol. b—Sun. and Hol. Sat. only, d—daily except Sat. Sun. and Hol. e—Sat. Sun. and Hol. f—daily except Sun.