



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

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\$70.00

Not a very big increase in the amount of money received by the Municipality, but representing a substantial increase in the amount of money that is being wasted in intoxicating beverages is the year's amount received from the Liquor Control Board by the Municipality. For the past three years this amount has been about \$185 per year. This year the amount is \$250.

In view of the fact that the amount paid to Acton represents a percentage on the amount of sales in Acton, the increase this year has been over forty per cent. in the consumption of beer. This does not take into account consumption of other intoxicating liquors. And this was the plan which we were told would eliminate the bootlegger and moderate the drinking of intoxicating beverages. It would be interesting to know just what that \$70 increase in the coffers of the Municipality represented in money diverted from care of families, payment of store accounts and unhappiness in the homes. Yes, in the general degrading, too, of the youth of the community. What an expensive way of getting \$70.

Rumor Weeks

While not officially recognized by any association or group of folks, the weeks before nominations and the one between nominations and elections are known in most communities as "Rumor Weeks." Things that would not be credited at any other time and would be termed foolish are often repeated in greatest confidence and sincerity during this time. Acton is no different from other communities in this respect.

For instance, we heard last week that the Y.M.C.A. is maintained by the taxpayers, a statement which is absolutely ungrounded. Then, we had the story about the cost of garbage collection, which was multiplied by fully five times and handed out as a true fact. These are only the preliminary rumors. This week they will grow and if there is a contest next week for the various municipal offices, they will reach a grand crescendo and no doubt become personalized. Do such things make for the best in municipal affairs?

With so much material available and the facts so easily uncovered, would it not be better to search for these facts before repeating any rumors? If you want to know about the affairs of your town's finances, a statement will be presented on Friday night. And again there is the Auditors' Report, available every year. Discussion of your town's affairs is good. It shows a citizenship interest. But discuss them in the light of fact and not rumors. Discuss those who seek election in the light of their ability and record to serve in public office and not from a personal grudge standpoint. Let's make what is often Rumor Week into Fact Finding Week.

Financially O. K.

A casual study of the financial report that will be presented to the ratepayers to-morrow night reveals that the system used this year of having taxes in four instalments and all due, before the fall months, has been a decided factor in financial improvement this year. Interest on loans has been reduced from \$821.77 to \$139.53, and a further interest saving of \$85 made when the County Rate was prepaid. Direct relief is \$1,000 less than the figure of a year ago. This year a balance on hand of \$7,500.34, against \$1,713.59 shown last year.

While this interim report is not nearly as complete or does not give a final analysis of the year's

work as the annual Auditors' Report, it does indicate the trend of the municipality's finances. And this year's report can be received with optimism—perhaps more optimism than some had hoped for in view of several major improvements that have been carried out this year.

Just picking comparison figures from the reports here and there, we find collection of tax arrears is better, due, no doubt, to improved general conditions. Poll tax and dog tax collections are up, while the licenses and permits are lower. Debenture and interest payment remain about the same. Next year will see a lower amount due on this account. Purchase of new equipment and improvements have brought the fire protection and Town Hall items sharply up, and mark the biggest controllable changes on the disbursement side. But it seems to be generally agreed that good value was received and that the improvements were not before being required.

We will not go into any more detail but in the statement to be presented citizens have every reason for pride in their municipality and the Council has made a good job of administration.

We Yet Have the Second Line

While all effort on the war activity is certainly the thing to do, still, this can be overworked. By way of example, there seems no legitimate reason why Provincial Highway No. 25, from Acton to Milton, can not be kept in decent condition as a gravel road, even if the war is the reason for not paving it at the present time.

That piece of road just seems a hoodoo. Everyone who drives it thinks or talks uncomplimentarily about it throughout its entire twelve miles. Three kinds of governments have admitted it should be paved. Every one of them has been eminently successful in neglecting to make any marked improvement.

Perhaps it was a false hope to think all the grief was over when the signs appeared and it was officially designated as "King's Highway No. 25," but we still cling to faith and promises. While other sections received attention, this one was put off and now the war is the excuse given.

Well, if it hadn't been the war we believe it would have been something else. We had twenty-one years of peace and it wasn't done. That strip of road just drags around from one war to the next. We admit failure and pass it on to the next generation, in the firm belief that air transportation will have reached such a stage by then that it will be unnecessary to improve it.

"Travel to Canada"

"Travel to Canada" is the editorial advice to Americans in large display type contained in the New York Daily Mirror.

"It is generally agreed that most Americans want to knit the nations of this hemisphere in a solid bloc that can resist any attempted invasion," says the Mirror. "It is further agreed that most Americans want to aid England in any way short of war."

"Best way to contribute to both these ends is to spend your 'travel dollars' in Canada.

"Alarmists should not be permitted to fan rumors about border inspection into foolish fears that will keep Americans from planning a trip to Canada.

"The simple fact is that no more identification than a voter's registration certificate or membership in any automobile club is needed for entry into Canada, or return to America."

EDITORIAL NOTES

There are even those (including some wives) who hope there won't be any hockey in Acton this year.

Just as a reminder of what days to come will be like, Saturday gave quite a demonstration of what February often is.

Chesley is like other towns most of us know about. The Enterprise makes the following comment: "Everybody wants the old home town to go ahead, but they deem it some other person's duty to do the pushing."

Revenue freight loaded at railway stations in Canada and received from foreign connections during July, 1940, amounted to 8,943,065 tons, compared with 6,274,181 tons in July, 1939, an increase of more than 40 per cent.

The reduction in the price of bacon exports to Great Britain is hardly welcome news to the farming community, who had reason to hope for better instead of lower returns for their labor in comparison with that obtainable in other industry.

The advertising manager of a large American rubber company believes in advertising in weekly papers. He says: "It is our belief that the best advertising medium for an independent tire dealer is his local newspaper. Because of our beliefs, we do everything we can to encourage our dealers to advertise in their local paper. At the same time we discourage them from using the numerous types of schemes that parade under the heading of advertising and prey on small dealers who, unfortunately, are the ones who can least afford to waste their money on them. We believe that a low cost mass appeal, such as newspaper circulation, provide the most economical medium."

The Week at OTTAWA

Specially Written for The Acton Free Press by JOHN DAUPHINEE Canadian Press Staff Writer

Ottawa, November 20th (CP)—From the farmer's point of view, the biggest development since Parliament's new session began a couple of weeks ago, is Agriculture Minister Gardiner's announcement of 1941 agreements with the British Food Ministry.

The agreements affect the fishing industry to some extent, but primarily, they deal with farm products. Of the \$105,741,000 worth of food stuffs, exclusive of wheat, which Britain has agreed to buy from Canada, all but \$12,050,000 worth will be agricultural items.

Some criticism of the agreements already has been heard in the House of Commons and elsewhere, but the general attitude here is that the Minister did a good job for Canada while he was in the Old Country. Mr. Gardiner told the House the money involved would be the "largest return from these products since the latter part of the last war."

Products Affected

The agreements with Britain cover a wide range of foodstuffs. The biggest classification is bacon and pork by-products, which will be exported to Britain to a value of \$66,200,000 in 1941. Next comes cheese a concentrated food, which takes relatively little shipping space, to a value of \$16,100,000.

Of all the items mentioned in the agreements, canned apples is the only one to be exported in less volume than in 1939. This drop will be overcome partially by exports of fruit pulp and fruit pectin for the first time.

It seems likely shipments under the new bacon agreement will take care of Canada's whole exportable surplus. The agreement calls for delivery of 425,000,000 pounds of Wiltshire sides and cuts in the next twelve months.

Officials here think that the prospective rate of hog marketings in 1941 will be sufficient to supply the domestic and export demand without any immediate expansion in production. It is estimated marketings next year probably will total 6,500,000 hogs, a 25 per cent. increase from the estimate for 1940.

The Agriculture Department is making every effort to maintain high quality in Canada's bacon production, because the biggest British orders will demand higher proportion of hogs of Wiltshire standards.

Sure Market

Some cheese producers have expressed disappointment that the price of 144 cents a pound set for their product under the agreements is not higher, but at least they have the assurance all the cheese they make will be sold. Britain wants at least 112,000,000 pounds—20,000,000 pounds more than she took this year—and more if possible.

Officials are trying to overcome the difficulties in the way of increased cheese export. Estimates here indicate milk production won't be much higher in 1941, and domestic consumption is expected to expand as increased employment puts more money into Canadians' pockets.

The Agriculture Department suggests that slaughtering of cows should be held to a minimum this winter, especially in Ontario and Quebec, the major cheese-producing provinces.

Wheat Situation

In his report to the House, Mr. Gardiner also had a cheering word for wheat growers. He calculated that the huge wheat surplus probably would be whittled down to 100,000,000 bushels or less in the next five years.

Mr. Gardiner's speech made no mention of any intended effort to institute a crop control program—but that was suggested in the Senate by a western Conservative—Senator John Haig. The Manitoba proposal to the government that farmers should be bonused \$5 an acre on uncropped wheat lands, up to one-third of their normal planting.

Another suggestion for solving Canada's agricultural problems was made by M. J. Coldwell (C.C.F. Rosetown-Biggar), Acting House Leader of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation. He advocated, among other things, the marketing of all farm products by appropriate boards, suppression of speculation in food products, and public or co-operative ownership of packing and processing plants.

Canada's War Effort

Canada's war effort formed the subject of a big part of the Throne Speech debate during the first week after Parliament got down to business. Conservative House Leader Hanson,

and Senator Arthur Meighen, the party's Senate Leader, criticized the government for not sending more help to Britain. "For us, aid in the defence of Britain should be our first objective... the defence of our beloved country will follow," Mr. Hanson put it.

Government leaders in House and Senate defended the administration's war policies. Prime Minister Mackenzie King said a primary policy for the commonwealth nations at every imperial conference he attended was that they should take steps for their own defence first, then assist Britain and the other Dominions against a common foe. That was the policy adopted by Canada and the policy that would be followed. (Copyright, 1940, by The Canadian Press.)

"DRAFT" AGES GOING UP!

London (CP)—Reservation age for scientific research workers have been raised from 25 years to 30, of fish huck makers from 25 to 35, under a revision of reserved occupations recently made.

NOW LIVING V. C.

Nottingham, England (CP)—A letter from L. Cpl. Harry Nicholls, "posthumously" awarded the V.C., told his wife that he was a prisoner of war and was "O.K." The letter took 75 days to reach Nottingham.

Advertisement for Duo-Therm Fuel Oil Heaters. Features a drawing of a heater and text: "Your HEALTH and COMFORT Controlled by Your Fingertip. Avoid colds... cut fuel bills... regulate your furnace drafts automatically... all with one simple movement of your fingertip! It's easy—once you install an Old Company Heat Control. This clever device actually opens and closes the draft dampers. You just set the thermostat—tend furnace only twice a day—then sit back and enjoy an even, healthful temperature throughout the heating season. Your fuel bills are reduced through the elimination of wasteful firings and harmful overheating. Telephone us—let us tell you how little it will cost to enjoy controlled heat next winter. J. B. Mackenzie & Son ACTON — PHONE 48"

Large advertisement for Duo-Therm Fuel Oil Heaters. Features a drawing of a woman and text: "GOSH! ITS SWELL TO GET RID OF COLD... DRAFTY FLOORS! Duo-Therm Fuel Oil Heaters! Do away with the coal bin—the wood-box—the ash can—cold drafty floors—are easy to operate—economical to buy—better looking than the old-fashioned stove... No wicks—no jets—nothing to plug up or burn out. —COME OUT AND SEE FOR YOURSELF— A. C. PATTERSON Silver Creek Service Station Phone 395r2, Georgetown"

Business Directory

MEDICAL

DR. J. A. MENIVEN Physician and Surgeon Office and Residence—Corner Bowe Avenue and Elgin Street.

DR. E. J. NELSON Physician and Surgeon Medical Officer of Health for Acton 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 6 Mill Street, near Frederick Street Telephone 128

DRS. FRED. AND STEVENSON CAMPBELLVILLE Phone—Milton 235r3—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 Licences Registrar of Births, Marriages, Deaths ACTON Office 22 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 65-06 Georgetown 88 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 Closed Wednesday Afternoon Phone 146

VETERINARY

B. D. YOUNG, V.S., B.V.Sc. Veterinary Surgeon Office: Brookville, Ontario Phone—Milton 146r4

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 391 Charles Street Georgetown.

TIME TABLES

Table with 2 columns: Direction and Time. Includes headings for CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS, AT ACTON STANDARD TIME, Going East, and Going West.

GRAY COACH LINES

Table with 2 columns: Direction and Time. Includes headings for COACHES LEAVE ACTON, Standard Time, EASTBOUND—To Toronto, and WESTBOUND—To London.

Small advertisement for Duo-Therm Fuel Oil Heaters. Features a drawing of a man and text: "How can you SERVE—by SAVING! BUY WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES"