



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

TELEPHONES—
Editorial and Business Office 494
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EDITORIAL

The Battle Goes On

Answering an appeal for combined effort the Canadian War Services Fund has launched its campaign this week to raise \$5,500,000. It is a big six appeal in one and will be welcomed by workers and citizens generally.

Briefly here is the plan. Instead of making six separate appeals the Canadian Legion, I.O.D.E., Knights of Columbus, Salvation Army, Y.M.C.A., and Y.W.C.A., have agreed upon a basis approved by the Dominion Government to make one national appeal for funds to carry on their war work. Such a concentration of effort is something we and other newspapers and citizens of the Dominion have asked for. The division of the fund has been agreed upon by the participating organizations. But if you wish your donation to go to a particular body it may be so designated.

It is not necessary to go into detail on the work these organizations have been doing for the boys on active service in the army, Navy and Airforce. It is not necessary to tell of the need of the fund. You are asked to give to supply the little extra comforts that only these organizations are able to render. You are called upon to join in sacrifice and service.

When the canvasser calls meet him with a willingness to share in this work. He or she are doing this service voluntarily. They are giving you the opportunity to do your share. Acton and district have done nobly in every other effort. Do not let the boys down on this one.

Remember this is the only national appeal to be made this year. If you cannot give now pledge your budget for the year. There is to be no Red Cross appeal in 1941. The battle of Britain still goes on. We must keep supporting our armed forces.

For Friends and Neighbors

It was our privilege, through the kindly thoughtfulness of friends in Toronto, to be able to attend on Monday evening the big meeting in the Arena and hear that ambassador of good will, Wendell Wilkie. Twice in very recent days we have listened to encouraging messages from our neighbors.

And what a splendid thing, it is to have good neighbors and how in time of trouble good neighbors are such a comfort and help. We got thinking about those "Cards of Thanks" that appear in illness and bereavement and how they invariably express that appreciation for the kindly helpfulness of friends and neighbors. Now it just seems the community has widened a little and in our trouble we have found that citizens of the United States are kindly and helpful friends and neighbors.

Then we found ourselves thinking of other neighborhoods where the neighbors were not kindly or friendly. Neighborhoods in Europe where armed forces marched in to enforce upon the small neighbor their needs; where ambassadors of good will are an army of sufficient strength to impose the wishes of the neighboring country; where the neighbor is a bully and rules by force all the neighborhood of nations.

Yes, it is a privilege to live with good neighbors and how often the superior qualities of neighborliness are not brought out until one is in need. President Roosevelt or just plain United States Citizen Wendell Wilkie will never see these words, but we do feel these days "that for the kindly helpfulness of friends and neighbors we Canadians and Britishers are indeed very grateful."

Fixing The Farmer

The plight of the farmer may be serious but we doubt if all the fixing going on at the present time is to be the cure. Looking through the news, last week we note that Western Canada has a wheat surplus that is costing the government 50 millions dollars to store. The proposal is to offer a bonus to western farmers to grow less wheat next year. He would get under the plan \$4.00 per acre for land if summer followed. It would give us a chance to eat up our surplus we suppose.

Then in Ontario schools, pupils are signing cards and if they go to work on the farms, they will be granted their year's standing, and can leave school in April. We have one government with more wheat than it can sell and another administrative body urging young people to help pile up the surplus. Just seems to be carrying the humorous side of things to the extreme with the farmer being plunged into more confusion.

Then as if two governing bodies weren't enough to be settling the farmer's troubles we find the County Council granting \$300 to help the farmers form the New Federation. It passed with one dissenting voice. But we feel there will be more dissenters by now. It is just as logical for any other groups of citizens to ask for a grant for the industry in which they are engaged. Funds handled by County Council may be expected, for instance, by the four hundred members who make up the Employees Association of a local industry. Perhaps the printers of the county might get some help in meeting their association dues.

We sometimes wonder if the farmers would not make better progress if they were allowed more freedom in solving their own problems. We would like to have seen their new organization, one in which they had the complete jurisdiction but we doubt if that generosity of County Council will be in the best interest of the organization just being formed, or helping the farmer's difficulties generally.

It May Help

Those green tax notices that have been going through the mail this week have not been welcome missives. Examination of them gives the actual cost to the individual of what the extra mills have meant to him or her. Perhaps not such a terrific amount but on a tax bill always more than is wanted.

Tax increases throughout the country have not been usual in most municipalities this year. And perhaps it is unfortunate that Acton was not able to join the popular trend. There were however, improvements and repairs that were long overdue and an accumulation of these multiplied to make the load heavy in this year. With careful administration and a close check on all expenditures there is no reason why the rate cannot be brought down at least the increase and perhaps more in 1942. That is the most cheering news we can bring you now. It may help ease your feelings when you read this year's figures. But don't expect many more municipal improvements this year and this lower tax rate also to follow.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The "boys over there" depend on the "folks back home." Give Now, Give Generously, to the Canadian War Services Fund.

Pansley squashed the hope of the Fergus-Thistles for a championship team this year. It's too bad Fergus, you may never be as close again.

Stocks of refined sugar on hand in Canada on January 25, 1941, amounted to 266,050,488 pounds compared with 192,884,644 pounds on the corresponding date a year ago.

If Acton is to maintain its reputation for being kept clean and tidy, citizens should not leave garbage containers on the curbs or in front of properties after they have been emptied.

Have had several volunteers for that bucket brigade who would welcome the opportunity to throw pails of slush on automobiles that have the habit of going at such a speed the pedestrians have been splashed.

Hanover, Kincardine and Barrie are considering adoption of a municipal garbage collection system. From a town where it has been recently put into effect we say "Go Ahead." The cost is worth it and it keeps the community uniformly clean.

After having for years a sidewalk frontage that is habitually under water we thought conditions were remedied last year by the installation of a new drain. It helped a lot but the cure will only come when sidewalks are brought up to a uniform level with the highway.

Towns with their main street running east and west are said to have less of a snow blockade than towns like Chesley with the Main Street running north and south. However, it's rather late in the day to move our main street. Chesley Enterprise Don't worry brother, we live in a community where the streets run neither east, or west, north or south and they filled up just the same with snow.

WAR 25 Years Ago

British Held One-Fourth Of Allied Line On Western Front Extending From the Yser to the Somme

BY H. H. GORDON, Canadian Press Staff Writer

British reinforcements were rushed to France in the spring of 1916 when the German Crown Prince made his desperate, but unsuccessful drive on the great French fortress of Verdun. So great was the drain on French reserves at this period that forces were called upon to take over the Arras front, relieving the 10th French Army to take part in the defence of Verdun.

The theory of a way of exhaustion was developed by both Allied and German strategists. It was the German policy at Verdun to wear down French military power, already expended to the utmost. On the other hand, Gen. Joseph Joffre, commander-in-chief of the Allied armies, adopted a defensive policy with the object of drawing in and exhausting the great mass of German reserves concentrated before the Meuse fortress.

Prepared for Somme

In accordance with Joffre's plans, Sir Douglas Haig, the British commander, extended his front southward to the River Somme and at the end of March British forces held one-fourth of the line on the Western Front. At this time Haig undertook to prepare for the Battle of the Somme in July.

While the Battle of Verdun continued during the spring months the British armies were reinforced by several divisions from across the channel. Away in the east Russian armies on the offensive were successful in diverting German troops from the Western Front.

Haig's preparations north of the Somme assumed big proportions. They involved the accumulation of great stores of munitions and other materials and the construction of miles of roads, railways and trenches. The training of Britain's new army went on behind the lines, while at the front a long series of raids into enemy trenches kept the enemy busy. When the Battle of the Somme started in July the attack on Verdun lost its vital importance.

Who Says Farm Is Safe Place?

In United States, Anyway, It is the Most Dangerous Occupation

NEW YORK, (C.P.) City dwellers, weary of dodging automobile, and waiting for green lights, often wish they could retire to the farm and relax.

But this, says the U. S. National Safety Council, is the bunk. Of all occupations in the United States the farm is the most dangerous accounting for 27 per cent of the 17,000 killed while at work during 1940. The tractor is the farmer's greatest killer, horses, mules and cows next. In the farmer's home, falls constitute the most important type of fatal accident, same as in all homes.

THE OLD MAN OF THE BIG CLOCKTOWER



Campbell, Adam Dixon had the only tailor shop but there were three boot and shoe businesses conducted by Alexander Grant, David McInnes and Thomas Marshall. One medical practitioner, Dr. Robert Morrow and a drug store operated by Dr. N. McFarvin attended to all ills of the population in those days.

John Hannah was the only baker in Acton. General stores were operated by C. T. Hill, Mrs. S. A. Seaward and C. & F. Symons. James Mathews and John McKee had grocery stores and Charlie Wolger sold the wine. We find another industry which was overlooked, that of W. Shimpke & Co. who were in the lumber business.

There were no pay-rollers, photographers, stores listed as hardware or many other businesses that since thrived. The only descendants of any of these business institutions now here that we note is Mr. M. Symon.

In looking over the list of Georgetown businesses I find The Herald was published by Rev. N. Burns. William Barber was making paper, although Strickville was given as his headquarters. Thomas Statham was operating his hake shop in Georgetown at that time.

I might go on at some length from this well preserved volume. Its figures are interesting. In those days a large amount of capital was not necessary to become established. And I find many of those with very limited capital in those days have built up splendid business enterprises. Sometimes we are apt to complain today of changing business conditions. Look at the businesses which flourished seventy years ago, then compare them with those now in Acton.

Next time I will have a story of another type. Not nearly so far back but which those in the forties recall.

LOCAL HISTORY

Saving Forests From Fire Bomb

Britain Lines Up Protective Units to Save Her Trees From The Hun

LONDON, (C.P.)—Elaborate plans have been formed to protect Britain's forests from fire bombs this summer. Hundreds of forest rangers have been employed. Special fire-fighting equipment has been obtained.

In addition, many areas where the population is scattered groups of residents have drawn up their own arrangements to protect the forests. A popular summer resort on the fringe of the New Forest was one of the first rural areas to complete plans.

The population, including 70 war-time residents, has been divided into two groups, the static and the mobile. Mothers and young children belong to the static group. The mobile group, about a dozen men and women, have been placed on a rotary fire-watching system. When an alarm is sounded the fire-watcher on duty goes to the observation post on a hill overlooking the woods. When men-dirty bombs fall he communicates by telephone to the air raid prevention warden. The mobile unit can be assembled within three minutes. Messengers on bicycles are prepared to hurry for additional help if necessary. The "static" group stands by the residential district to deal with fire bombs which may fall in the village.

In the Service of The People of Acton and of Halton County

Announcement is Made Of the Opening of a New and Modern Bank Building

The new building of solid brick construction is centrally located and presents a pleasing addition to the business section of Acton.

The Banking Room is bright and attractive and particularly designed for the convenience of both customers and staff. Attention is drawn to the modern low screen type of counter fittings.

You are cordially invited to visit the new building and inspect the up-to-date banking facilities now made available.

Provision is made for every banking requirement, including: Savings Accounts, Checking Accounts, Safety Deposit Boxes, Business and Personal Loans (including Instalment Loans), Money Orders and Drafts.

The BANK of NOVA SCOTIA

Established 1832. Opened at Acton 1940. W. K. GRAHAM, Manager, Acton Branch

Business Directory

MEDICAL

DR. J. A. McNIIVEN
Physician and Surgeon
Office and Residence: Corner Bower Avenue and Elgin Street

DR. E. J. NELSON
Physician and Surgeon
Medical Officer of Health for Acton
Electro-Therapy PHONE 88

DR. WM. G. CHILLEN, L. M. C. C.
Physician and Surgeon
Office Hours: 1-1 and 7-9 p.m.
Sundays by Appointment
310 Street near Frederick Street
Telephone 128

DRS. FREED and STEVENSON CAMPBELLVILLE

Phone Milton 2303 After 10 p.m. Milton 2W
Office Hours: 8-9 a.m., 1-4 p.m., 7-8 p.m.
Sundays by Appointment only

DENTAL

DR. C. NICOLSON
Dental Surgeon
Successor to Dr. A. J. Buchanan
Office: In Leishman Block
Hours 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. Evening by Appointment
Gas for Extractions X-Ray
Phone 148

LEGAL

C. F. BEATHERLAND, B. A.
Barrister and Solicitor, Notary Public.
Issuer of Marriage Licenses
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 P. Seymour's Cafe
For Appointments Phone Acton 65
or Georgetown 88
Office Hours: Acton, Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Evenings on request.

VETERINARY

B. D. YOUNG, V.S., BV.Sc.
Veterinary Surgeon
Office: Brookville, Ontario
Phone: Milton 1161

F. G. OAKES, V.S., BV.Sc.

Veterinary Surgeon
Office and Residence: Knox Avenue
Acton Phone 130

AUCTIONEERS

FRANK PETCH
Auctioneer and Representative Commercial Life Assurance Co.
Phone 301
Charles Street Georgetown

TIME TABLES

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS AT ACTON STANDARD TIME

Going East
Daily, except Sunday 6:04 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday 9:39 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday 6:28 p.m.
Flyer, Acton only 6:19 p.m.
Flyer, at Georgetown 6:11 p.m.
Flyer, at Guelph 9:15 p.m.

Going West
Daily, except Sunday 8:38 a.m.
Saturday only 1:23 p.m.
Flyer, at Guelph 6:46 p.m.
Daily, except Sunday 7:00 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday only 11:43 p.m.

GRAY COACH LINES

COACHES LEAVE ACTON Standard Time

EASTBOUND - To Toronto
6:38 a.m., 9:01 a.m., 11:31 a.m., 2:06 p.m., 5:31 p.m., 8:11 p.m., 8:56 p.m.

WESTBOUND - To London
9:11 a.m., 12:11 p.m., 2:21 p.m., 5:41 p.m., 8:18 p.m., 8:58 p.m., 9:43 p.m., 10:28 p.m., 11:53 p.m.

except Sun. & Hol. & Sat. only, except Sat. Sun. & Hol. & Sat. Sun. & Hol. except Sun. & Hol. to Kitchener, to Stratford

British Corsets One To Customer

Variety of Models Cut Down, Too, in War-Hit Sales

MANCHESTER, (C.P.)—Corsets have been "rationed" in Britain. Only "one to a customer" now in the production, and the number of models have been reduced. In checking up it was found that women of all ages seemed to prefer the "one" piece rather than the one-piece garment. "It is more flexible, it's one-piece garment does not give and stretch enough for hard working women and we are all that now," one corset expert said.