



**The Acton Free Press**  
Published Every Thursday at Acton, Ontario

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

TELEPHONES—  
Editorial and Business Office 124  
Residence 125

**EDITORIAL**

**The Functions of the Press**

This is one of a series of editorials specially designed to acquaint our readers with the various functions of the Press in a Democratic community.

**EDITORIAL NO. 1**  
**The Functions Of The Press**

Commencing next week it is our intention to feature an editorial each week for a period of nine weeks, outlining the functions of the press in a democratic community and its relationship to the various phases of community life. There is considerable ignorance as to the position and prerogatives of the press in the area it serves. This lack of knowledge is almost entirely the fault of the press itself, because it has neglected the important duty of making its readers conversant with the fundamental principles involved in the publication of a community newspaper. The series seeks to make amends for the omissions of the past, and to present in simple language an explanation of the main relationships between the newspaper, its readers, its community, and its associations with organizations, business groups and institutions within the realm it seeks to serve.

The nine phases to be discussed are: The Freedom of the press, and Governments, The Press and the Churches, The Press and the Advertiser, The Press and Propaganda, The Functions of an Editor, The Functions of a Reporter, The Press and Local History, and The Guarantee of Freedom. We sincerely hope that our readers will carefully study and digest the series, because we believe that it will give them a new understanding of their local newspaper, and the historical purpose of its mission in the community.

**Big Business**

The auditors' report presented to Council last Thursday showed Acton to be in a splendid financial condition. Incidentally, printed copies will not be available to the public for about three weeks. There is one section we have watched closely for many years. That is the statement of debenture indebtedness which is this year for the first time since 1920 below the \$100,000 mark.

While taxes are high this year, it must be borne in mind that municipal bodies are carrying a double burden. They are paying off on debenture debts which date back as far as 1914 and at the same time financing present work and capital expenditures on a pay-as-we-go basis. There have been no debts added since 1931. All of these old debts bear interest of from five to six and a half per cent. Last year the debenture payments with interest amounted to \$15,735.86. The debenture indebtedness decreased by nearly \$9,000 and each year principal payments get larger and interest rates decrease. There are debentures retired in every year from now excepting 1941-46 until the 1953, when the last one matures.

The tax arrear list also shows improvement although with nearly \$3,000 still owing there is still room for a distribution in the maintenance of Acton on those who have not been meeting their obligations.

These are just a few of the items from this 1940 report. When copies are made available, we advise citizens to make a study of them. They will show the necessity of careful selection when you choose municipal officers. This community of yours is a

big business enterprise whose administration demands seeking out of the best business executives procurable to run it — a business with an annual turnover of over \$50,000.

**Are You In The Moving Line?**

As the spring and moving time approach, the need for more housing accommodation in Acton becomes more acute. There are absolutely no houses to rent and the place has seemingly been reached where those who would reside here with any reasonable security of occupancy of a home must build homes of their own.

While the Dominion Housing Plan is still in operation a splendid opportunity is afforded for folks to own a home of their own. Those who are having difficulty in securing a home would do well to make inquiry regarding this plan which is really owning a home on the rental basis. We understand the way is now open to secure these loans without difficulty in Acton. Just how long the plan will continue to operate we do not know.

With present methods of construction you can secure a home on short notice—shorter than renting one. Only this week we read of a company formed in Canada who have a pre-fabricated construction of house that can be erected in between nine and ten hours. We do not advocate such speed for satisfaction, but rather a careful planning of the home in which you are going to live. The building season is opening now. Now is the time to plan and arrange for building. Later on you are bound to be disappointed and present moves in real estate indicate that the choicest lots are being secured now.

**So Much Sympathy**

This spring is but a re-affirmation of what many have contended that pedestrians still have some rights although they may be a bit bewildered. There's been quite a bit spent on improvement of highways and all to good advantage. Now it surely is the pedestrian's turn.

Experience has proven that Acton is no different from other communities and water will not run uphill. In the interests of those who still walk we suggest that either the sidewalks be made higher than the roadway so that the water will run into the catch-basins or that the municipal officers be provided with a pump to get the water over the humps. No we don't advocate that all sidewalks be raised in one year but we do think it is time a start was made on this work. And if its not asking too much we hope the start will be made at John Street on the south side and as the surveyors say, run in an easterly direction to a point.

We here in this low section have had so much sympathy given us on the deplorable conditions in front of THE FREE PRESS building that the tears of sympathy are adding to the flood difficulties.

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

The end of March was lamblike, for which most everyone was truly grateful.

Yes, Tuesday was April Fool day and a skiff of snow that morning indicated that winter was still tooling around.

Less than a month until the fishing season opens and we hope none made the mistake of tearing off two sheets of the calendar on Tuesday.

Machine tool production in Canada during 1940 was valued at \$10,821,949, compared with \$1,548,419 in 1939, an increase of 800 per cent.

Have you made your contribution to the War Charities Fund? Meet the canvasser with a smile and help him with the voluntary service he is giving and the opportunity he presents for you to do your bit.

Georgetown too has adopted the plan of publishing in the annual auditors' report, the list of all those in arrears for taxes. Over \$33,000 is included in unpaid amounts—which is about 11 times the amount shown in arrears in Acton's report this year.

Just when we were already to see how Editor Hugh Templin of Fergus would describe a championship hockey team, along came a team from a place named Paisley. You have your sympathy, brother. It's much more difficult to tell about the soft ice and the breaks of the game than it is to celebrate. We never heard of Paisley in hockey until this year, but it looks as if we'll have to ask the editor there to exchange.

When we confided to our readers, in a recent editorial that we had flat feet, we never anticipated that the secret would be broadcast as it was on Sunday morning. It just goes to prove that the family circle is wide and we'll have to be more careful with family secrets when friend Andy Clarke is reading what is happening in rural Ontario and telling of Neighborhood News. We don't care so much about what he said about No. 25 Highway because its condition is no secret.

**WAR**  
**25 Years Ago**

**Britain Speeded Work On Defence to Meet Zeppelin Menace Which Cost 84 Lives In April, 1916**

BY H. H. GORDON  
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Nazi boasts regarding the strength of the German Air Force run true to form. Early in the First Great War the German High Command bolstered civilian morale, with prophecies of the havoc Zeppelins were to work over Britain, but, as in the present war, British land and air defences met the challenge successfully.

Fifteen airship flights were made over the United Kingdom in April, 1916, and German bombs brought death to 84 persons. During the four years of the First Great War 528 persons were killed and 1,156 injured as a direct result of zeppelin attacks. The casualties resulted from night raids, the Germans learning early in the war that daylight operations could not be carried out successfully.

During 1915 about 40 German airships appeared over England and Scotland and in the following year the number increased to 126. It was in 1917 that heavier-than-air craft became Germany's most potent air threat and only 20 zeppelins crossed the North Sea. During 1918 the number was cut to 10. About 6,000 bombs were dropped by Zeppelins on England and Scotland during the war.

Five airship raids occurred between March 31 and April 5, 1916. In the first of these, the L-15, after being hit by an anti-aircraft gun at Purfleet, Essex, was sent crashing to the ground by Lt. A. de B. Brandon, a British airman. Most of the raids were over England's eastern counties, but the Zeppelins got as far as Edinburgh, bombs on the Scottish capital having little effect.

The destruction caused in London by bombing raids during the past year, losses through airship attacks on the British capital in the First Great War appear insignificant. But the German High Command's strategy 25 years ago was the same as today—the terrorization of the population.

London's defences were improved during 1916 and after isolated raids in the latter half of the year, the Germans appeared only over places less strongly defended.

After the war most of Germany's Zeppelins were handed over to the Allied nations under the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles.

**First Quota for Four Months' Training Is Slightly Exceeded**

The quota of 4690 men set by military authorities to begin the first four months' training period under the Natural Resources Mobilization Act turned out to be exceeded by seven after medical examinations were completed, the first day of the new term. By military districts the numbers accepted were as follows:

(1) London, 217; (2) Toronto, 763; (3) Kingston, 286; (4) Montreal, 962; (5) Quebec, 551; (6) Halifax, 184; (7) Saint John, 178; (8) Winnipeg, 366; (9) Victoria, 269; (12) Regina, 466; (13) Calgary, 355, making a total of 4697.

**Science Breeding Promises Results To Canada's Farms**

**With Co-Operation Among Farmers Artificial Method Would Help Canada's Exports — Says Expert**

WINNIPEG, (CP)—Widespread scientific breeding of cattle resulting in quality production on a large scale, permitting Canada to export pure-bred animals to build up depleted European stocks after the war, has been forecast by Prof. J. M. Brown of the Animal Science Department, University of Manitoba.

Prof. Brown said he could see no material obstacle in the way of breeding cattle by artificial insemination. But, he said, it would be necessary to form district associations and operate them by technical experts. This would require co-operation of farmers.

Artificial insemination was carried on successfully in large livestock units in Russia and by co-operative breeding organizations in Denmark and since 1938 many breeding stations have sprung up in sections of the United States.

Canada is trying out the artificial fertilization of cattle at the Neepawa (Manitoba) station. Prof. Brown said it was still in the experimental stages. The station was established two years ago by J. M. Bowman, district agricultural following experiments at the university here in 1938.

**Grim Dawn Patrol For Old Shanghai**

SHANGHAI, (CP)—Every dawn six large trucks piled with empty coffins start off on a grim patrol through the streets of Shanghai's International Settlement. A few hours later, their rounds completed, they arrive at the repository of the Shanghai Benevolent Cemetery Association, the coffins filled with bodies of Chinese who died on the streets during the night.

The daily average is close to 80, two-thirds of them infants, and in cold weather it mounts to 200 or more. These figures are for the International Settlement alone additional scores die every day on the streets of the French Concession and in the areas surrounding the city proper. Most of the victims were refugees who crowded into the foreign areas of Shanghai during the Japanese invasion in 1937. Thousands still live in the streets and die of starvation and exposure.

**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  
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  
Mill Street, near Frederick Street  
Telephone 128
- DRS. FREED and STEVENSON**  
CAMPELLVILLE  
Phone Milton 2353 After 10 p.m. Milton 2W  
Office Hours: 8-9 a.m., 1-3 p.m., 7-8 p.m.  
Sundays by Appointment only.
- DENTAL**
- DR. C. NICHOLSON**  
Dental Surgeon  
Successor to Dr. A. J. Boehmann  
Office: In Leishman Block  
Hours 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Evenings by Appointment  
Gas for Extractions **X-Ray**  
Phone 148
- LEGAL**
- C. F. LEATHERLAND, B. A.**  
Barrister and Solicitor, Notary Public  
Issuer of Marriage Licenses  
Registrar of Births, Marriages, Deaths  
ACTON  
Office 22 Phone Residence 151
- KENNETH M. LANGDON**  
Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public  
Office: Georgetown Gregory Theatre Building  
ACTON: Over T. Seynuck's Cafe  
For Appointments Phone Acton 65  
or Georgetown 39
- Office Hours Acton, Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Evenings on request.



**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 in 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 1930

W. K. GRAHAM, Manager, Acton Branch

**VETERINARY**

**B. D. YOUNG, V.S., B.V.Sc.**  
Veterinary Surgeon  
Office—Braceville, Ontario  
Phone Milton 1464

**F. G. OAKES, V.S., B.V.Sc.**  
Veterinary Surgeon  
Office and Residence—Knox Avenue  
Acton Phone 139

**AUCTIONEERS**

**FRANK PETCH**  
Auctioneer and Representative Commercial Life Assurance Co.  
Phone 391  
Charles Street Georgetown

**TIME TABLES**

**CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**  
**AT ACTON**  
**STANDARD TIME**

**Going East**

Daily, except Sunday	6:04 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday	9:49 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday	6:28 p.m.
Sunday only	8:19 p.m.
Flyer, at Georgetown	9:41 p.m.
Flyer, at Guelph	9:45 p.m.

**Going West**

Daily, except Sunday	8:48 a.m.
Saturday only	1:29 p.m.
Flyer, at Guelph	6:16 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**  
6:58 a.m., 9:01 a.m., 11:31 a.m., 2:04 p.m., 3:55 p.m., 6:11 p.m., 8:56 p.m.

**WESTBOUND — To London**  
9:04 a.m., 11:23 p.m., 2:23 p.m., 1:04 p.m., 6:28 p.m., 8:08 p.m., 10:10 p.m.

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

**MORALE TO PLAY IMPORTANT PART IN VICTORY SAYS MINISTER OF DEFENCE**

In importance of maintaining the morale of the men in the fighting forces was stressed today by Hon. J. L. Ralston, Minister of National Defence, on the opening of the United War Services Campaign in Ottawa.

Mr. Ralston said that the morale of the fighting forces is not merely for the purpose of staying in the line, but it is a matter of staying in the line with a vital burden of building and maintaining the morale, and it will be morale above anything else which will win this war.