



**The Acton Free Press**  
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G. CARLOS DILLS, Editor

TELEPHONES  
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**EDITORIAL**

**The Functions of the Press**

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

**EDITORIAL No. 1**

**The Functions of An Editor**

The title "editor" is sometimes misunderstood by newspaper readers, not because they want to misunderstand but because they have never been told just what the functions are of the person who holds this title. An editor, to explain it briefly, is one who superintends, revises or prepares literary matters for publication. The title does not necessarily mean that the policy of the newspaper is set or controlled by the editor. On large newspapers there are many editors, and policy is usually decided upon by the managing editor. The duties of the other editors, city, sport, suburban, women's page and others, is simply to carry out the duties prescribed in their particular spheres.

For our purpose, however, we must deal with the editor in a little different light, because in fully 80 per cent. of Canada's weekly newspapers, the editor is also the publisher. In other words he fills the dual role of preparing literary matter for publication, and of deciding upon policy as well. We want to deal with the functions of an editor from this standpoint.

Essentially the editor is a human being, writing and dealing with men, women and children. He may be young or old, lazy or energetic, bold or timid, superficial or deep, querulous, or constructive, slovenly or business-like, grasping or generous. He is certain to be human. He reacts to praise and criticism, to good and evil in much the same way as those who share community life with him. The editor, and this is true of 90 per cent. of all weekly editors, recognizes the inherent decency of the countryside. He is still sufficiently old-fashioned to believe with his readers that the Ten Commandments and the Golden Rule have neither been repealed, improved upon or modified by modern advances.

The editor is a student of community affairs. He has at his disposal records of public organizations in the community, and it is from his study of these records that he makes his editorial comment. He is not easily swayed by the hysterics which sway and excite and mislead city people. Like the people he serves he uses good commonsense in his reasoning. The editors of Canada's weekly newspapers, serving the rural areas, are a greater power than most people suspect, for it is a political fact that more members of the House of Commons and more members of Provincial Legislature are elected from the rural areas than from the cities.

It is the editor who decides what is fit and what is not fit to print. It is he who differentiates between news and propaganda. It is he who can, if he will, give the leadership that every energetic community must have. He is not hard to get along with, but he has a code of ethics which often cause him to refuse business rather than accept it against well grounded principles. He is not a super-human. He is a hard-working individual doing an important job in the community to the best of his ability, and if at times he fails in his task, it must be remembered that he is like every other human being in the community, heir to the frailties with which all mankind is endowed.

**Showing What Taxes Are Made of**

The 1940 Auditors' Reports which are now available to all ratepayers contain this year some interesting comparative tables as well as the usual features of interest in municipal finances. One of these is a comparison of tax arrears. For the years 1937-38-39 this amount stood around \$7,000 yearly. For 1940 it dropped to a little over \$4,000.

Another comparison is the debenture debt over a period of three years. This shows a reduction of \$25,760.00 in this period and this is the first year in over twenty years that Acton's debenture indebtedness has been under the \$100,000 mark. A small comparative table of the interest savings due to the present collection arrangements notes a change from a net cost in 1937 of \$224 to a net profit in 1940 of \$350.

A very complete schedule is given comparing receipts and disbursements of the Public School Board. This also covers the period from 1937 to 1940. It shows that while the levy from the municipality was maintained for two years a deficit was accumulated each year. Salaries have kept an even keel through the four years under comparison.

The entire book is one that should have the study of every ratepayer. It gives a slight conception of what those who assume municipal office are doing in financing your municipality. A careful study of it will prove that careful administration has been given. It will show a need of the best men in the community to administer these finances in the years to come. The study will show too a very bright picture for the future which can readily show tax reduction.

If you are financially interested in Acton secure one of these booklets from the Clerk's office or at The Free Press office. They are available to ratepayers while the supply lasts without cost. If you would know Acton don't confine your study of the book to three pages.

**Giving The Tools**

Canada's Victory Loan 1941 will give Canadians another opportunity to assist in providing the tools, possession of which can only assure victory for Britain. Surely we in Canada who are free from the terror of bombing attacks, who walk our streets in peace can and will do more to provide the means of defence for the Motherland.

We know that Acton and district has done a splendid job. In War Savings the community responded nobly and are maintaining their pledges. Don't deviate from that means of systematic saving. Every dollar you lend through every channel is helping. But perhaps you can lend an extra amount. The Victory Loan offers another opportunity for service in the home front. Bring out the unused dollars, put them in circulation for victory.

**Census Taking Next Month**

As of June 2nd 1941 a count will be made of all Canadians. But census taking to-day involves a lot more than merely counting the inhabitants. Those in charge will leave forms in every home that have 40 questions. These must be filled by the householder and ready for the enumerator when he makes his return call. That is very simple in the towns, cities, etc.

Out on the farms the census is another proposition. The farm schedule has 167 questions to be answered. The farmers must really supply a lot of facts and will come to know what industries have to go through regularly in supplying information for various government departments. Of course all the information gathered is confidential.

The enumerators will not of course finish their job in one day but figures are taken as of June 2nd. For instance all those born after June 2nd are not counted even if the enumerator calls on June 30th. Persons who die after June 2nd are taken into the count no matter when the enumerator may call. Many felt (and we did belong to that school) that the present census could have been omitted. There are of course many sound arguments that it should be taken at this time. After weighing them we do not feel opposed to the compilation of this data at this time. Without a doubt the material secured can be valuable in Canada's War Effort. The job will take from three to four weeks and it is estimated that from three to four months after its completion a close approximation of figures that have been secured can be presented.

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

Special services in the churches, home gatherings, placing flowers on graves wearing flowers. Yes, mother was honored in many ways on Sunday last.

Some got five, some got six and some are not dealing in specific numbers when recounting the experiences of the opening days of the trout fishing season.

Revenues derived from the registration of motor vehicles, drivers' permits and gasoline taxes in Canada in 1939 aggregated \$79,915,860 as compared with \$67,475,045 in 1938, a gain of 18.4 per cent.

Building permits issued by 204 municipalities in Canada during 1940 had a total value of \$113,005,208. New construction accounted for \$85,613,697, and the remaining amount was spent for additions, alterations and repairs.

**The Week at OTTAWA**  
Specially Written For The Acton Free Press by  
BY ALAN HARVEY  
Canadian Press Staff Writer

OTTAWA, (CP) — Parliament is in full stride this week. The third session of sittings after the Easter recess and there are indications it won't be longer before the present session is prorogued or adjourned.

Because of the war this has been a session remarkably devoid of legislation. Private bills are for the most part of minor importance, although a bill for establishment of an Alberta provincial bank is before the Banking Committee for the second consecutive session. Last year the committee gave it much consideration but it failed to pass.

As the week began, Finance Minister Hiley's budget was up for consideration. Other major matters are completion of consideration of the general departmental estimates for 1941-42 and the \$1,300,000,000 war surplus appropriation bill was approved before Easter, discussion of the regulations governing the wheat reduction plan, and possibly a considerable debate on the labor situation.

However, the general feeling is that Parliament likely will end its present sittings some time around the end of this month.

**Honor Roosevelt**  
Speculation in procedure during President Roosevelt's proposed visit to Ottawa continues. There have been suggestions that if Mrs. Roosevelt makes the trip with the President she may be given a seat on the House floor if Parliament is in session. Staff officials cannot recall any other woman ever being seated as a guest in the House.

Officials in Washington have said there seems little likelihood the president can get away this month.

The capital already has welcomed one distinguished visitor this month, Prime Minister Menzies of Australia. After an extended visit to the Middle East theatre of war and Britain, Mr. Menzies arrived in Ottawa last Wednesday.

Accorded the seldom-conferred honor of a seat on the House floor, Mr. Menzies delivered a message of confidence and determination in the outcome of the war to a cheering Commons. Later he attended a session of the war committee of the Cabinet to give key ministers a firsthand picture of war developments across the Atlantic.

While the House had the wheat regulations under consideration, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued its first crop report of the new season. The government's program for bonusing farmers who use former wheat lands for other purposes is aimed at average reduction of 25 per cent in 1941. The report showed that by April 30 Canadian wheat farmers had filed "intentions" to plant 25 per cent less wheat.

**Tax Delayed**  
The House heard Finance Minister Hiley make an announcement of special interest to residents of small communities. The new 20 per cent tax on motion picture theatre tickets doesn't go into effect until May 19.

Originally it was intended to be effective April 30 but larger operators said they would require some time to get special tickets printed. They hadn't started to collect the tax when the delayed application was announced, but it meant a temporary return to the old admission price in many small centres where the increase was already effective.

Another announcement of wide-spread effect was that of motor vehicle controller, John H. Berry. Emphasizing the need for "every drop" of foreign currency that could be obtained, he said an order had been issued requiring Canadian passenger automobile manufacturers to reduce their production substantially between April 1 and December 31, 1941.

**More Grasslands To Mark Prairie In Reclamations**

Land and Water Developments of Great Areas Continues Through the P.F.R.A. Organization

BY LOURNE BRUCE  
Canadian Press Staff Writer  
REGINA, (CP) — Land reclamation and water development projects in the marginal and sub-marginal farming areas of Western Canada will be equipped by the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration despite the war.

The "all out" war effort will not restrict operations of the P.F.R.A. which has spent \$7,000,000 since 1935 in construction of dams, reservoirs and dugouts in drought areas and has returned to grass 1,000,000 acres not suitable for cultivation.

John Vallance of Regina, superintendent of water development for the P.F.R.A., in an interview, said engineering and certain equipment were loaned to the Dominion government last year for war work but there has been no large-scale duplication of plans. "It is the intention to continue as previously with all types of individual, municipal and community types of development," he said.

**Irrigation Projects**  
Besides the small individual development schemes for domestic and stock water and the large irrigation projects, the P.F.R.A. will "not slacken its land utilization work" the turning of sub-marginal or marginal lands back to grass as pasture.

So far 15,000 small, individual dugouts have been built in the area in which the P.F.R.A. operates, said Mr. Vallance. Ten thousand additional applications are on file now and between 3,000 and 3,500 likely will receive attention this year.

The large water or irrigation projects have created storage of "well over 500,000" acre feet of water. An acre-foot is water 12 inches deep over one acre. This water has been made available to about 200,000 acres for irrigation purposes.

In its five years of operation the P.F.R.A. has fenced more than 1,000,000 acres as community pastures and has reclaimed about 250,000 acres previously under cultivation and turned them into pasture lands. These lands have been sown to cereal wheat grass and officials said this method has proven of "inestimable value."

**Fencing Areas V**  
The land utilization policy will be pursued this year and as many community pastures as possible will be fenced. It is also hoped "substantial acreage" will be returned to grass.

The P.F.R.A. operates over the three prairie provinces in an area bounded on the south by the International Border and on the other sides by a line running northwest from Fort River, Man. to a northern boundary 20 miles south of Lloydminster, then southwest to Cochrane a few miles northwest of Calgary, and then south to the International boundary.

George Spence of Regina, a former Saskatchewan Minister of Public Works, is the director of the P.F.R.A. Oswald Freer is superintendent of the Land Utilization branch and Mr. Vallance, who was M.P. for South Battleford from 1925 to 1935, is superintendent of water development.

**GROW OUT OF MASKS**  
LONDON, (CP) — More grief for the government thousands of children have grown out of their gas masks issued when war opened but "children seem more mask-conscious than their parents," said the official report.

**COLLARS THE PROFITS**  
CAMBRIDGE, (CP) — Talk about profiteering a Trinity Street talk-charger three-pence more apiece for two collars than the law allowed and was fined £1 with three guineas costs (\$18.16).

**WAR 25 Years Ago**

Prime Minister H. H. Asquith Showed Mettle In Trying to Solve Irish Problem

BY H. H. GORDON  
Canadian Press Staff Writer  
Prime Minister Herbert H. Asquith's attempts to settle the Irish question were second in importance only to Britain's war effort 25 years ago in the First Great War. Only a few days after the Easter Rebellion had been quelled by a military force, the dauntless British Premier announced in the House of Commons that he intended visiting Ireland in the hope of laying the foundations for an honorable settlement.

Mr. Asquith, who later became the Earl of Oxford and Asquith, arrived in Dublin May 13 after the execution of the leaders of the uprising. In conference in the Irish capital, Belfast, Cork and other places he met leaders and people and studied the situation on the spot. During this time he became the first British prime minister to be sworn in as a member of the Irish Free Council. He thus was in a better position to take a greater share in the executive government of Ireland.

Shortly afterwards the government appointed a Royal Commission made up of Lord Harrington of Pembroke, Mr. Justice Montague Sherman and Sir MacKenzie Chalmers to investigate the rebellion.

**Birrell to Blaine**  
The Commission's report, made public July 3, held Augustine Birrell, Chief Secretary for Ireland, primarily responsible for the situation that was allowed to arise and the outbreak that followed. Mr. Birrell, a literary man and an ardent believer in the best side of human nature, had resigned following the rebellion, at the time admitting he had been caught unawares.

When followed a vigorous attempt to settle the Irish question by bringing the suspended Home Rule Bill before the House of Commons under certain contingencies conditions. On the outbreak of war the bill had been left in abeyance.

David Lloyd George undertook the work of negotiation and settlement. He brought the leaders of the Irish factions together and a compromise was reached. But members of the Ensignist wing of the condition ministry denounced the agreement as unworthy in view of the war situation. The whole matter was shelved and in the meantime a movement grew that led to Mr. Asquith being superseded as prime minister by Lord George.

**His Farm Stocks Black and White**

Oregon Man Will have Nothing Else and His Paint Scheme Is Same

POE VALLEY, Oregon, (CP) — Back is black and white is white and nothing is between on C. V. Barton's ranch.

"Barton runs the range on black saddle horses, rides herd on 210 head of black Angus cattle, and shows behind a team chosen from 19 black Percherons. Around his 540-acre ranch live white peafowls, guineas, hens and doves, black chickens, ducks and pigeons. And a black dog.

Seven years ago Barton bought the ranch. The horses happened to be black. He added black cattle, and was struck by the appearance of the horses grazing with them. "They looked so good I sold all the other colors," he explains.

He bought black fowls, a flock of black sheep, and was pleased with his handiwork until three years ago. Then he decided the place needed a brightening touch.

So, he introduced white fowls, and painted his place the Black and White ranch.

**Business Directory**

**MEDICAL**  
DR. J. A. McNIVEN  
Physician and Surgeon  
Office and Residence: Corner Howe Avenue and Elgin Street.  
DR. E. J. NELSON  
Physician and Surgeon  
Medical Officer of Health for Acton  
Electro-Therapy PHONE 22

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  
DENTISTS  
Phone: MILTON 2353. After 10 p.m. MILTON 2W  
Office Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. 7-8 p.m.  
Sundays by Appointment only

**DENTAL**  
DR. C. NICHOLSON  
Dental Surgeon  
Successor to Dr. A. J. Buchanan  
Office: In Leishman Building  
Hours 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Evenings by Appointment  
Gas for Extractions X-Ray  
Phone 133

**LEGAL**  
C. F. LEATHERLAND, B. A.  
Barrister and Solicitor, Notary Public  
Issues of Marriage Licenses  
Registrar of Births, Marriages, Deaths  
ACTON  
Office 22 Phone Residence 151

KENNETH M. LANGDON  
Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public  
Office  
Georgetown (Crescent Theatre Building)  
ACTON Over T. Seynuck'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., B.V.Sc.  
Veterinary Surgeon  
Office: Brookville, Ontario  
Phone: Milton 1464  
F. G. OAKES, V.S., B.V.Sc.  
Veterinary Surgeon  
Office and Residence: Elm Avenue  
Acton Phone 130

**AUCTIONEERS**  
FRANK PEITCH  
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	9:19 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	9:15 p.m.

**Going West**

Daily, except Sunday	8:48 a.m.
Saturday only	1:29 p.m.
Flyer, at Guelph	6:46 p.m.
Daily, except Sunday	7:00 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.	3:51 p.m.	6:31 p.m.	8:56 p.m.
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**WESTBOUND — To London**

9:13 a.m.	12:23 p.m.	2:23 p.m.	3:43 p.m.	6:15 p.m.	10:03 p.m.	10:53 p.m.
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Daily, except Sun., H. Sat. & Hol. (at Acton & Elgin) except Sat., Sun. & Hol. (at Stratford & London) 9:00 a.m. to Stratford

**Here's Must For Mimos**

W. D. TALBOT'S NEW GLOSS SEMI-GLOSS ENAMEL is a high-gloss finish for all surfaces inside or outside. 28 sparkling colors. For all outside home painting. Gives greater protection and lasting beauty. A sanitary, washable finish for walls, ceilings and woodwork.

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