



The Acton Free Press

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EDITORIAL

Another Milestone

With this issue of THE FREE PRESS we commence the sixty-seventh year of publication of Acton's newspaper. Into the volumes down through these years have gone the history of this district added to the current history of the years have gone too, stories of earlier years before Acton had a newspaper. We have been very fortunate in being able to preserve every one of the copies published.

It is perhaps worthy of note too that during all that time THE FREE PRESS has not missed a single issue. The office has been very fortunate in the matter of fires and other disturbances that interfere with publication schedules.

Conditions have changed during those sixty-seven years and THE FREE PRESS has endeavored to keep pace with the changing conditions and fill its part in providing not only a modern newspaper but a printing service that would meet the requirements of Acton and district. THE FREE PRESS has come from a seven column four-page journal to an eight-page paper of that same size. Mechanical changes have been numerous that have increased the service. It is thirty-two years since the present editor first became associated with THE FREE PRESS.

That is looking back. Glancing at the future we hope to continue our community service. We have appreciated the co-operation of all in making that service possible. May we continue hand in hand to keep Acton and district in step and playing its part in making Canada a better country in which to live and work.

Where Credit Is Due

We like to give credit where credit is due and therefore we commend the Department of Highways on the attention now being given No. 25 Highway from Acton to Milton. We do not know what the final result will be or how marked the improvement. But when road machinery and repairs are actually put into operation, it is almost a sure sign that it can't be worse.

The section of the highway that runs from the end of the pavement to the town limits should also be put into condition at the same time. Council would perhaps do well to arrange with the same contractors to complete the job. Milton also has some badly broken surface on its section.

It would be terrible and unusual if the highway was put in excellent condition and the municipalities neglected their connections.

The Excuse Has Gone

In the days of depression and when employment for young men was difficult to secure, a good deal of the blame for burglaries and petty thieving was blamed on this condition. It was argued that men unable to find employment were forced to steal to secure the requirements of life. In many cases this was found to be the fact. Others in those days used that argument but actually stole because it was easier than work. This latter class we still have with us. Evidence of this is shown in the burglaries, not only in Acton but reported in many communities at the present time. There is certainly no need for any able-bodied individual to be out of useful employment in these days.

In view of circumstances it would seem only fitting that the maximum penalties would be handed out to these thieves when they are apprehended. The present day has no place for those who will not work.

War Or No War

Halton is to have an equalization. War or no war we can't settle our little county affairs without full dress trimmings and all the incidental expense. First session of the court was held on Saturday and at the time of writing this (Monday) another session was in progress. Indications at that time that a temporary adjustment was to be made, one admittedly unsatisfactory to most of the members. It is also interesting to note that the figures used in discussion as to cost of equalization proceedings are now down \$10,000. It is of further interest that the amount involved is actually about \$440 in cash per year.

We come right back to our first point. That there is something radically wrong with our system of municipal adjustment of taxes that requires \$30,000 at any time to establish and equalize that distribution. We suggest that County Council spend less time in making and endorsing resolutions to be forwarded to other governing bodies. That the time thus saved be spent in evolving a system of equalization less costly. If county councils cannot do this work it's only another argument showing the uselessness of this governing body.

When we say solution of the problem we mean not an appeasement due to war conditions but a method of settlement that will be satisfactory when we haven't anything else occupying our fighting abilities. Surely Canada in its government can solve such problems in easier way.

What Will Be 1941 Figures?

The census enumerators have been making their rounds and within the next week or so will have completed their tabulations. The ten years since the last census will show many changes.

Let's look for a moment at the figures of 1931 gathered from a book that is now getting pretty well thumbed and will, we hope, within the year, be replaced by the new edition with the 1941 figures. What is your guess as to changes?

Ten years ago Acton's population was given as 1,855. There were 30 stores. Halton had a population of 20,558 and 361 stores were listed. There were 443 persons employed in the retail stores of the county and net sales were placed at \$5,757,100. These are just a few of the answers that could be secured from the book of ten years ago. The fund of information in the 1941 edition will, we believe, be even wider.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The hot weather has made the bathing place at Fairy Lake quite the popular spot these days.

Acton's business buildings and industries continue expansion. All splendid evidence of sound community growth.

Sales of farm implements and equipment in Canada during 1940 totalled \$47,595,154, an increase of 40 per cent. over 1939.

Summertime may be vacation time for teachers and pupils of the school but for School Boards it is the busiest time of the whole year.

The roadways about town are due for some more attention with the road maintainer and some very bad holes need immediate attention.

Canada's exports during the first five months of 1941 totalled \$567,008,000 as compared with \$437,316,000 in the similar period of 1940, an increase of 35 per cent.

Boys of Acton in quite a number are eagerly anticipating the two weeks camp arranged by the Y.M.C.A. Not all the benefits of a Y.M.C.A. in the community are confined to the building in the town but it certainly makes a fine headquarters.

With the Victory Loan Campaign successfully concluded workers can perhaps have a brief vacation before the next big effort is scheduled. For the front line and in war torn British Isles and Europe there is however no vacation period.

Mid-week holidays are considerable of a nuisance and the observance of Dominion Day was haphazardly carried on as suited the individual circumstances. Surely it would be better to make these few holidays which do not come on Mondays, occur on that day of the week. It is more satisfying to all.

The district about here remains high and dry but surrounding territory gets some showers that give a real impetus to growth of the crops.

The new headache of this week in industry is the unemployment insurance scheme. We suggest that with this inaugurated governments turn their attention to something else and give industry a chance to make inventory and have their tax collection arrangements put into working order.

Pencils--70,000,000

Britain Ships 3,000 Sorts Across The Seven Seas

British pencil makers have set up a new record by triple freight in laying away great quantities of virgin red cedar wood during the last month of peace. These stocks, with new deliveries from Kenya, are enabling Great Britain to ship more pencils overseas than she did before the war; the increase for the last quarter of 1940 was 60 per cent. up on the like period of 1939.

The result is that 70,000,000 pencils a year, in 3,000 styles, are now going out to world markets from the British Isles. The front of them and the largest quantities are bought by South Africa for the use of the multitude of goldminers in the drawing offices of the Union's giant mining centres.

The desired pencils exported cost 30¢ a gross; the cheapest is 10¢. Pencils with "gumbers," metal rings and rubbers and other novelties, go to the majority of India where the demand is for cheapness.

Lead hardness is determined by the proportion of China clay mixed with the graphite. Hard gold is used for lettering the best; bronze or silver or aluminum for cheaper goods.

Placed end to end, Britain's 70,000,000 pencils would extend to 734 miles.

R.A.F. Has Now An Aunt Sally Fleet

Burying high explosives, bombs, fuses and death by drowning, men are putting to sea in speed-boats which have been specially built to be bombed by the R.A.F.

These intrepid men are the crews aboard armoured plated, 40 ft. boats, built in British yards renowned for racing craft and designed to withstand hits from light practice bombs.

Direct hits simply drill holes clean through the hull, which being packed with a special buoyant substance called oozite, one-fifth the weight of cork, can be "mended" comparatively simply.

Only amidships, where the crew of three and the vital parts are concentrated, is there stout armour plate, mounted on rubber buffers. Gauze masks protect the men from bomb fumes and they are in radio communication with the bombing aeroplane. A safety tender lies near at hand.

The target boats not only turn in their own length, but can invite the movement of any likely objective, from a steamer train to zig-zagging naval vessels.

Training with them gives pilots and bombardiers of the R.A.F. valuable practice for their attacks upon moving enemy objectives.

MERRY WEDDING, ANYWAY

LONDON, (CP)—So that a girl could buy her wedding dress, her family rallied around and gave her 76 ration coupons for material. They may have to wear blackout curtains before the end of the year, but at least the girl looked pretty on her wedding day.

REAL ENDURANCE MEDAL

LONDON—Seaman Evan Owen Griffiths, chief of four British sailors who survived 31 days adrift in an open boat on a meager ration of biscuits and raw water, has been awarded the British Empire Medal.

CONTROL COBBLING

LONDON, (CP)—Board of Trade

President Oliver Littleton has been

given power to fix maximum price

for boot and shoe repairs and laundry work as well as other services during

war.

Dmitri Demonstrates His Camera Skill



Ivan Dmitri, one of the world's greatest color photographers, demonstrates his uncanny skill at Mount Edith Cavell. Dmitri has a party of camera enthusiasts at Jasper Park Lodge from various parts of Canada and thirteen states in the United States. In this picture he is seen crouching in the centre, after he has called the proper framing and exposure to a few of the 34 members of the party and is showing them the correct angle for a picture of Eric Norderer, well-known Swiss mountain guide of Jasper, and little Dickie Johnston of Minneapolis, who is with the party.

Inset shows Dickie close up, all decked up as a mountain climber. Dickie had a great time on the trip to Mount Cavell and is a great favorite with the party.

WAR MYSTERY OF 45,000,000 PEOPLE

Why Is Britain Healthier Than In Peace Time?

The United States are sending to Britain a committee of American medical men to try and find out why the people have come through the winter's "blitz" with better health than in the years of peace.

Medical men generally are completely baffled by the nation's fitness. They feared that, after nights of crowding in air raid shelters and exposure to all weather on A.R.P. and fire-watching, epidemics would sweep the country like a plague.

In fact, there have been fewer cases of scald fever, diphtheria, pneumonia and typhoid fever, and only half the number of deaths from influenza. Whooping cough and meningitis have been rather more prevalent than usual.

Britain's own doctors offer various explanations of the mystery, among them the dispersal of densely populated areas, the improved system of health supervision, the spread of education in preventive measures, better people at "the pictures" and in other public places.

AIR, however, are agreed that the busy, hazardous life led by 16,000,000 people leaves them neither the time nor the inclination to breed over-mature infants. The war has taken them "out of themselves."

Women Give Hair To Help Britain

From Babies to Grandmas They Sacrifice Their Treasures

OTTAWA, (CP)—In Britain where the war slogan is sacrifice anything for victory, even your hair.

British women are doing just that. It's the grandmothers' chance to do their bit in a way that few modern women can emulate. When the Minister of Supply recently asked the British housewives to save their clippings and women to donate their long hair, a London dandy says that thousands of clippings and hundreds of treasured baby cuts were turned into a piece of faded blue ribbon.

One patriotic grandmother, in her 90th year, had her first "hair" and she donated hair weighing several pounds. Billed in volume in a woman's arm and 40 inches long. Another home珍藏 of babies' hair was evidently treasured from childhood for two pins were tied together with a piece of faded blue ribbon.

Another woman wrote, "I am pleased to give my hair along with that of my little girl and my mother's. We are sure that it will be more important and to use it now than to keep it for sentiment's sake."

ELECTRIC TUBES TOUGH TRAFFIC

Electronic tubes are consigned daily in case of the Canadian National Railways Express and shipments require gentle handling. These tubes are used for broadcasting, television or X-ray work. Some require special wood or steel crating and stand higher than a man. These must remain upright and the contents safe instead of being crushed.

For small radio transmitting tubes an upright carton case has been designed in the form of a pyramid which ensures that it will always be right side up.

Going East

Daily, except Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Daily, except Sunday, 9:30 p.m.

Daily, except Sunday, 11:30 p.m.

Ferry at Georgetown, 9:30 a.m.

Ferry at Guelph, 11:30 a.m.

Going West

Saturday only, 1:30 p.m.

Ferry at Guelph, 6:30 p.m.

Daily, except Sunday, 7:30 p.m.

Daily, except Sunday, 11:30 p.m.

GRAY COACH LINES

COACHES LEAVE ACTON Standard Time

ESTHORN — To Toronto

5:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m.

5:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m.

WESTBROOK — To London

5:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m.

5:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 2