



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

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EDITORIAL

Happiness in 1942

As we come to the close of another year and stand on the threshold of a new year, there is the opportunity to look back and chance for the hope for a brighter, better world brought closer by the turn of events of the next twelve months. None can predict the course, but all can hope and work toward that end. A year ago we did the same thing.

1941 did bring its joys and sorrows. In the world war it brought many events that seemed to be a turn in a long series of reverses. It brought new allies and new enemies. But more important 1941 brought reverses to an enemy who had been accustomed to only successes. Victory is far from complete but 1941 did seem to bring first successes in the war.

1942 will bring more reverses but there is good reason to hope that the successes will be more numerous than the reverses. With these successes will come sadness to many homes. Victory will be dearly won and the news that brings joy to a world at war generally will bring deep suffering to the homes that gave the men that gave their all.

And so as we stand on the threshold of a New Year we wish for all that it will hold a maximum of happiness not only for the world cause but in the securing of that essential victory, that the toll of suffering may be as light as possible. May 1942 bring us nearer peace and world happiness. May the suffering of the war bring us all closer in understanding of each other. Happiness cannot abound in a world at war. And to those who suffer most in bringing world happiness may the joy of, service and sacrifice come to bring you a measure of happiness through the tears.

Two Ways of Life—And Christmas

Some time ago there was a booklet published entitled "The Two Ways of Life." That title came back to us as we witnessed an incident at Christmas on one of Acton's streets, not a main thoroughfare. Three little lads came along the street with their arms about each other and as they walked they sang "Silent Night." They sang it with all due reverence and evidence of training. Their voices blended well and they completed their song and at its conclusion broke into a run for some place—possibly home—along the street. Their training had come from schools and Sunday Schools.

The next pedestrian came stumbling along. It was quite apparent he was drunk. Sometimes he kept to the sidewalk. Sometimes it seemed he wouldn't make his destination. We suppose that his destination too was home. We suppose there was a song in his heart, but we doubt if it was "Silent Night." We doubt if those at home appreciated the Christmas eve home coming.

Two ways of celebrating Christmas. Two ways of life. Acton is no different from any other community. In Toronto motor accidents due to drunkenness mounted. Police took car keys away from scores who were considered unfit to drive their cars. New Year's comes along and ideas of happiness will vary from those who think it should be stimulated and self-contained to those who find it in spreading happiness to others. While some community institutions teach the true spirit of Christmas, parents of mature years show by example the false spirit of the Yuletide. Two more ways of life not our own and an enemy country, but all within our own fair land.

Just Our Opinion

There has been a great deal of controversy, and it seems to grow rather than diminish, regarding

compulsory military service. We were not greatly surprised therefore when the other day we received a telegram from a Toronto newspaper which made this query, "If Dominion government decides compulsory selective service without limitations is necessary to maintain our fighting forces at adequate strength, do you think the people of your district would oppose it, provided proper provision is made for farm labor requirements and essential war industries?"

We know that there are various opinions regarding that question in Acton and district. We have heard many of them, and we do not profess to be able to summarize them and state them. Only a vote of the public would show that, so that our answer was only our own opinion. This was our answer:

"Since everyone is in the front line in this war, pushing is difficult. With this in view, we hope that if the Dominion government decides compulsory selective service is necessary, that it won't be confined to the fighting forces, but will be all inclusive, industry, labor, capital, property, etc., as well as the lives of men between certain ages. We favor equality of service."

Our viewpoint is simply this, that because we happen to be fat and over forty we have not the right to compel service upon anyone of a more desirable age unless we are prepared to toss into the compulsory way all that we have strived for and hope by our life to gain. We don't know that a similar viewpoint maintains in Acton and the district but we have talked to a number of people who refuse to endorse conscription conscientiously believing that with their own inability to give active service they have not the right to compel that condition on others.

Willingness to put on to others the compulsion to give their all should carry with it a willingness to give our all. Our answer is only our own opinion. Perhaps you as a reader you would like to set down on paper your opinion. It is a vital question that affects everyone.

Hockey Again

Folks generally will be glad to know that Acton Arena will be operated again this year and that prospects are brighter for some hockey being played where so many good games have on past occasions been witnessed. The calls of war made it necessary that the team playing here shall be composed of those from Guelph and Acton. That fact alone will give some idea of the inroads the war has made on those of the age that play this great winter game.

Those who remain at home can enjoy a few games again. Everyone realizes that in these present times the importance of winning is minimized by the greater game in which the war is involved. But those at home in spare moments can just as well divert their attention from the needless fussing that accomplishes no good and tends to lower the morale generally. Hockey will not loom large in the public eye until the greater question has been settled, but as a diversion it still has its place. There is the point too that debenture payments on the arena have to be met yearly in spite of the war and that any revenue earned from the building assists taxpayers who may divert the funds to war effort.

We know the boys in the armed forces will keenly watch the progress of the team playing in Acton. For them too the games may be a pleasant diversion. So good luck to the team and good recreation for the spare moments again.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A brighter, Happier New Year to all!

While Christmas Day weather was more like that of early spring, the days that have followed are reminders that winter is still very much in command.

Another war-time casualty seems to be the calendars. But still there will be plenty to meet requirements even if not to cover all the unfaded portions on the wall.

"In the past we have had a light which flickered. In the present we have a light which flares. In the future there will be a light which shines over all the land and sea."—Winston Churchill.

Canada's gold production in the first nine months of 1941 amounted to 4,005,205 ounces valued at \$154,600,393 as compared with 3,941,401 ounces valued at \$151,743,938 in the corresponding period of 1940.

The New Year may not hold much promise for you if you fail to use care in your driving. Remember winter roads demand extra care and partaking of intoxicating liquor makes driving on any road conditions unsafe.

"The war is not England's, it is that of all civilized countries. We are fighting firstly for the defense and liberty of Canada, and secondly to deliver the peoples that are Hitler's slaves from their chains. Is our response large enough, generous enough? It is not if we do not consent to give all."—Brigadier Georges Vanier, O.C., M.D., No. 5.

Price Control And The Farmer

Was On the Home Front! This is another of a series of articles dealing with the operations of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. It is devoted to a consideration of the price control measures as they affect Canadian farmers. — by Bruce M. Pearce.

How will the Canadian farmer be affected by the new price ceiling law?

We went to Ottawa for one thing to find the answer to this question. We found that the Wartime Prices and Trade Board had the farmer's position fully in mind.

Don A. M. Shaw, Director of Marketing Services for the Dominion Department of Agriculture, who represents the agricultural viewpoint on the Wartime Prices and Trade Board and who has had a long experience with Canadian farm problems declared that it would require considerable time to cover the field. Meanwhile, the farmer had no cause for alarm. Don Shaw assured us: "He can be sure that this Board is aware of his problems and is seized of the importance of maintaining adequate supplies of food in wartime. We realize his difficulty in securing a good farm labor due to war conditions."

"Nevertheless it is true that foodstuffs enter into the cost of living in an important way and therefore runaway prices must be halted. Actually the price control is an indirect one so far as the farmer is concerned. Some farm products have already been exempted from the price ceiling so far as sales from producer to processor are concerned. The ceiling on retail prices of foodstuffs must be maintained and the farmer will be governed by it in direct sales to consumers."

"The farmer may be assured that there will be no attempt to destroy his bargaining power on products which he sells to a retailer or to an intermediary processor. The retailer or processor, of course, will be governed in what he pays by his own price ceiling. We believe that it will be possible to price control plan on foodstuffs with fairness and justice to all."

We went, too, to see J. Gordon Taggart, newly-appointed Food Administrator, who is faced with one of the biggest tasks assigned by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Provincial Minister of Agriculture for Saskatchewan, at the age of 49 years, he is recognized as one of Canada's best-informed authorities on farm problems. Born on a farm in Nova Scotia, he is a graduate of agricultural colleges in the Maritimes and Ontario. He taught agriculture in Alberta and headed an experimental station in Saskatchewan. He came to Ottawa as chairman of the Bacon Board, but when the price control emergency arose a few weeks ago, he was drafted as the logical man to head up the Food Administration. Tall, clean-cut, with a brisk, alert bearing that inspires confidence in his associates, this upstanding young Westerner gives the impression that he will shear away red tape and get direct action in solving the intricate problems facing him.

Actually J. G. Taggart is a Coordinator, as he will supervise the work of more than one dozen Administrators appointed to control prices of animal products, dairying, fishing, poultry and eggs and other branches of agriculture. We asked him about the farmer's position generally under the new legislation which became effective December 1st. "We will maintain a price ceiling on foodstuffs consistent with securing adequate supplies of food," he replied. "We realize that if the supply were seriously impaired, the price ceiling could not be maintained. Bootlegging and black markets would develop for people meat and sell out."

Mr. Taggart acknowledged that the new measure would have the effect of halting the upward trend of farm prices, but he added: "There are compensating advantages for the farmer in the new law. He will be protected under the price ceiling on the things he has to buy. The sharp upward swing in his cost of living and operations will be halved likewise by the ceiling on manufactured and processed goods which he uses."

He had this to say about the farm products supply picture as it passes under price control: "The country needs dairy products and meat, both for its own use and for Britain. Adjustments are being made to provide that production of livestock and milk will not be unduly restricted. "The supply situation as regards cereals, fruits and vegetables is satisfactory. You know seasonal fluctuations in fruit and vegetable prices are exempt from the ceiling. The supply of poultry and eggs needs some bolstering and these products are likewise exempt so far as the farmer's price to packers and processors is concerned. We have ample supplies of wheat, with a surplus of 500 million bushels, although in these uncertain days, the future even for wheat cannot be predicted. The main point is that farmers will have to divert their energies to more profitable channels. In this way they will not only improve their own position, but will maintain the

supply of essential foodstuffs. We realize that the farm labor situation is critical but we hope to see that situation corrected in part at least by next spring."

Mr. Taggart appreciates the difficulty of the problem confronting his branch, but he is facing it confidently and unflinchingly. The wide variety of channels through which food products move from producer to consumer complicate the picture.

"Toughly speaking, we can accept two major classifications. First articles requiring processing. We have the Deputy Food Minister, who is in touch with the wholesale and retail trade and whose duty is to act as arbiter in these cases. He must see that any necessary price 'adjustment' is fairly spread over all parties concerned. Recently, foodstuffs passing directly from producer to consumer with little or no processing. Admittedly it is not always easy to draw this distinction."

Mr. Taggart as Coordinator will have from twelve to fifteen Administrators co-operating with him. Each will have one particular line to care for, such as flour, food, fruits, canned goods, fish, tea, coffee and spices, dairy products, bakery products, cereal foods, meat, etc. Naturally time is required to bring into action a plan of this magnitude required for an industry like food, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific. One of the first decisions was to exempt seasonal price fluctuations for fresh fruits and vegetables from the price ceiling, temporarily at least. Mr. Taggart explained this action by citing a case:

"If a price ceiling were imposed on potatoes, nobody would store them. Potatoes would be dumped and the price would collapse. Speculative buying would be hindered to provide supply for the future. It might or might not take place."

Mr. Taggart explained how certain products were at least partially removed from the price ceiling, such as livestock, milk, poultry, honey, maple syrup and eggs. "In the case of live animals and milk, the exemption was only on the sale from producer to processor. It is not off in the case of processed products from these commodities. The ceiling was lifted from live cattle going from farmer to packer, but not from resultant meat products. It was lifted from milk going from farmer to distributor, but not from milk from distributor to consumer. Again, while there is no ceiling price on cream sold to the creamery, there is a ceiling on butter sold by the creamery."

Such are a few of the important distinctions and differences drawn in the case of numerous primary products. The Board does not wish to impede the flow of these products through their natural channels nor to deprive the farmer of a fair price. In the view of Mr. Taggart, it is vital that the food supply be maintained, otherwise the ceiling would be punctured, because people must and will eat. Finally he emphasized that it was the desire of the Board to know what was happening in the rural areas, to do everything possible to make easier the farmer's position consistent with maintaining the ceiling on the retail price of foodstuffs.

Make Every Hen Give More Eggs A National Aim

Culling Flocks of Non-layers and Mongrels an Essential of More Production for Export

BY MARSHALL BATEMAN Canadian Press Staff Writer WINNIPEG, (CP) Prairie youths aim to help Canada's war effort by improving poultry stocks on farms so the Dominion can ship all eggs needed by Great Britain.

"The campaign to make hens profitable farm and town sideline is being aided by boys and girls poultry clubs all over Canada. Some 70 clubs are functioning in Manitoba."

It is pointed out eggs are a product of every Canadian province and it necessarily the job of broad areas. The young enthusiasts of Manitoba after results of their experiments for what the C's are worth to all comers in town and country.

The work in helping district farmers sell 400,000 and improve poultry is planned a part in Canada's objective to supply Great Britain with 360,000,000 eggs during the year ending next September. Already some 83,000,000 eggs have been shipped; the Dominion department of agriculture reports.

The Holland Poultry Club, winner of the 1941 Dominion poultry judging championship at the Canadian Comptons in Toronto last month, is poultry raising in a district 30 miles southwest of Winnipeg.

Culling Flocks Erle Leslie, teen-aged girl who scored individual high honors for the club in the national competition, recalls that when the club was formed several years ago most of the chickens on the farm in her district were "mongrels" or crossbreeds and farmers found them unprofitable. But not, she said, Holland district farmers are getting more eggs from fewer hens as result of the club work.

The club members are being trained to spot non-layers and old hens in flocks, how to feed and manage

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growing, laying and breeding birds. They are instructed in the best type of building and equipment to use in poultry raising. Control of poultry diseases also is studied.

Miss Leslie said that other club members last fall went about the district culling flocks. "At one farm two of us culled a flock of 200 hens," she said. "The 100 culled laid five eggs the first day, four the second, three the third, and then they stopped laying altogether. The egg production from the remaining 100 hens has increased and the owner is now receiving more eggs from his 100 hens than he got from the 200 and at the same time his total expenses are cut in half."

More Eggs a Month To help Canada's war effort, poultry raisers should endeavor to get more eggs a month from every hen. This can be done if the birds are given comfortable living quarters and good feed, Miss Leslie said.

Members of the club may purchase pure-bred chicks each and either building or planning to build new henhouses and brooder houses. A hen should have four square feet of floor space and a building to accommodate 100 hens should be 20 feet by 20 feet and be built for warmth with suitable ventilation, said Miss Leslie.

SHE LISTS MEN IN HERO BOOK

LONDON, (CP) Mrs. M. Mathew, who supplies uniforms to military, naval and air force officers after they have lost everything, has the names of 700 men in the "heroes book" she keeps at the headquarters of her Officers' Replacement Kit Depot. She is often the first woman to meet men after escapes from death on active service.

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 176 Woolwich St., Guelph Office of Dr. L. H. Leggett Office Phone 311 — Res. Phone 250

DR. WM. G. CULLEN, L.M.C.C. Physician and Surgeon Office Hours: 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Sundays by Appointment 301 St. Street, near Frederick Street Telephone 128

DR. W. G. C. KENNEY Physician and Surgeon Office in Symon Block, 301 St. Street, Acton Office Phone 78—Residence 150

DRS. FREED AND STEVENSON CAMPBELLVILLE Phone MILTON 2583—After 10 p.m. Milton 2W Office Hours: 9-9 p.m., 1-3 p.m., 7-8 p.m. Sundays by Appointment only

DENTAL

DR. C. NICHOLSON Dental Surgeon Office: In Leishman Block Hours 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Evenings by Appointment 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 Phones Residence 151

KENNETH M. LANGDON Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public Office: Georgetown—Gregory Theatre Building ACTON—Over T. Seaynick'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: 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 9:49 a.m.

Daily, except Sunday 6:28 p.m.

Sunday only 8:19 p.m.

Flyer, at Georgetown 9:11 p.m.

Flyer, at Guelph 9:15 p.m.

Returning West

Daily, except Sunday 8:18 a.m.

Saturday only 1:29 p.m.

Flyer, at Guelph 6:16 p.m.

Daily, except Sunday 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Only 11:13 p.m.

GRAY COACH LINES

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Standard Time

EASTBOUND — To Toronto

a5:51 a.m.; 9:01 a.m.; 11:31 a.m.; 2:06 p.m.; 3:51 p.m.; 5:51 p.m.; 8:36 p.m.

WESTBOUND — To London

9:53 a.m.; 12:23 p.m.; 2:23 p.m.; 4:23 p.m.; 6:18 p.m.; 8:08 p.m.; 9:23 p.m.; 11:53 p.m.; 11:53 p.m.

a—daily except Sunday; b—Saturday, Sunday and holidays; c—daily except Saturday, Sunday and holidays.