

Personals

Miss Waretta Smith spent Christmas Holidays in Toronto.

Mrs. Harold Hamilton spent New Year's with friends in Toronto.

Corp. Wm. Coleman of Toronto spent New Year's at his home here.

Mr. and Mrs. John Brush of Hamilton spent New Year's with Acton relatives.

Mr. Elmer McKinnon of Pickering spent New Year's with Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Masales.

Miss Nora Kenney, R.N., of Toronto, has been visiting at her home here for a week or so.

Miss Marie Clayton returned this week to her studies at Notre Dame Academy at Waterdown.

Miss Pat Scott of Galt was a weekend visitor at the home of Rev. A. W. and Mrs. Foebury last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bell and Wilva, of Toronto, spent New Year's at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Masales.

Mr. Harold Kennedy of Detroit, Mich., is home for a few days owing to the illness of his father, Mr. John Kennedy.

Mr. and Mrs. Angus McKinnon of Bracebridge, were visitors on New Year's at the home of their daughter Mrs. G. W. Masales.

AC2 Elmer Lasby graduated from the Galt Aircraft School as an Aero Engine Mechanic, stationed at Manning Depot, Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Burns attended the funeral of the late Mrs. George Mills, Toronto, formerly of Acton, on Wednesday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Sample and Sgt. Lewis Sample of Harne Texas, U.S.A., visited Mr. and Mrs. I. B. Weadje, Willow Street, while in Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Frick and family, and Mr. Ross Allan of Toronto, were in Acton this week for the funeral of the late Hiram D. Gibbons.

Mr. and Mrs. George Blahop returned yesterday to their home at Manitoulin Island after spending a few weeks with Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Blahop.

Mrs. Angus McDonald and Messrs. Sandy, Joe, Kenneth, Russell, Archie and Norman of Dolly Varden, spent New Year's with Mrs. R. Currie and Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Currie and Bobby at Milton Heights.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Day, Rockwood, Mr. and Mrs. Allan Smith and family spent New Year's Day in Toronto with their brother, Mr. R. W. Wansborough and their mother, who is spending the winter there.

George Wallace
CLOTHES SHOP
112 Yonge St.
(2nd Floor)
Toronto
Take the Elevator and Save Money

Specialized
Optical Service
At Moderate Cost
E.P. HEAD
Registered Optometrist
GUELPH — ONTARIO

GREGORY THEATRE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 9
"ONE NIGHT IN LISBON"
With Fred MacMurray (the flyer from Texas) and Madeline Carroll (the beauty from London). Cartoon "Way of All Peat". "Unusual Occupations." Chapter II "Drums of Fu Manchu."

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10
Matinee at 3:00
"THE PENALTY"
Melodrama with Lionel Barrymore, Edward Arnold, Barnyard Follies' gay, with Mary Lee, Rufe Davis, "Fox News."

MONDAY, JANUARY 12
"THE MAD DOCTOR"
With, chilling with Basil Rathbone, Ellen Drew, Sport "Ice Capers." Cartoon "Dizzy Kitty." Band "Hal Kemp & Orchestra."

If It's
"GREENS"
You Want
CALL US FOR FRESH STOCK

Green SPINACH	2 lbs.	21c
Green BEANS	1 lb.	19c
Bunch CARROTS	2	10
Solid CABBAGE	1	10c
Washed CARROTS	3 lbs.	14
Waxed TURNIPS	1	5c
Solid PARSNIPS	3 lbs.	14c
Cooking ONIONS	1 lb.	6c
HEAD LETTUCE	2	25c
Choice TOMATOES	1 lb.	23
CELERY HEARTS	2	25
Texas GRAPE FRUIT	4	19
Dolcious APPLES	4	19c
Jumbo LEMONS	6	19c
Choice ORANGES	6	19c
Fresh GRAPES	1 lb.	15c
No. 1 SPY APPLES, Bkt.		59
PEANUTS In Shell, lb.		20c

IN GREAT DEMAND
POT BARLEY, lb. 5c
WHITE BEANS, lb. 6c
SPLIT PEAS, lb. 10c
BABY LIMAS, lb. 15c
Large LIMA BEANS, lb. 17c
R. C. MACARONI, lb. 5c
BULK SODAS, 2 lbs. 25c
GINGER SNAPS 2 lbs. 25c

BARR'S

Chronicles of . . .
Ginger Farm
Written Specially for
The Acton Free Press by
GWENDOLINE P. CLARKE

Well, I never knew it to fall! As sure as our township election day rolls around we get rough weather and bad roads. And the road we have to travel on our way to the school-house where we vote is narrow, with two steep hills thrown in, with banks sloping down to the creek. All the time I have been driving a car the one thing I got into the ditch was on this same road, and on election day. So today I was only too glad when a car and driver came along to take us out to vote—a car that was far less likely to take to the ditch than our own because of its size and weight. And I was especially glad because just the day before two cars had met at the cross-roads and neither being able to stop on the ice there was a proper collision. I haven't heard that anyone was hurt but I believe the cars were smashed up a bit.

It is too bad when weather and road conditions keep people at home on election day because one naturally has the feeling that, no matter who gets in, it hasn't been a truly representative vote. Of course some people don't bother to go out whatever the weather but on the whole I think rural people turn out pretty well on election day. The pity of it is everyone cannot be satisfied with the returns—one man's meat in this case is bound to be another man's poison. (I might say here that as I write the returns have not yet come so naturally no personal reference is intended). However, we can hope that all men running for office have one aim in common—and that is a sincere desire to serve the community they represent to the best of their ability—by eliminating unnecessary expense; keeping committee fees down to the minimum and by keeping the township free of debt, if that be possible.

On the other hand, we as taxpayers should not be too exacting in our demands for service—at least not at the present time. Low taxes and good roads, don't go together. Removing snow in winter; grading and graveling roads in summer is expensive work—first in the initial cost of machinery to do the job and second in the cost of running it. You get what you pay for. It is, after all, true when applied to township work as it is to the shoes you buy or the coat you wear.

The polling booth for this district was in a new schoolhouse—the old one having been destroyed by fire some time last year. As we drove up to the trim, new building I thought "the little red schoolhouse" as grampa knew it is surely a thing of the past. Here was a modern building, windows on one side only; double-door entry; cement basement, complete with hot air furnace, electric pump for the water system. Hardwood floor in the classroom, a roomy entry for the girls and another for the boys. There were also easily accessible built-in cupboards and a built-in wash-basin complete with running water in the school itself. The lighting system is not yet finished but I understand it is to be modern indirect lighting. All things considered the new school is certainly one grand place for teacher and pupils alike to struggle with the three R's.

We were quite content to examine and admire the new building and its many good points because you see we don't happen to be in that school section so that our admiration will not suffer any set-back when tax time comes around again. As I said before—you get what you pay for, but unfortunately you also have to pay for what you get, and that is something we don't always realize until it comes time to foot the bill.

I suppose January 8th will be coming along all too soon for some people, that being the day when the next draft reports for duty. When there is only one boy working at home on the farm and he is called, it is certainly going to make it very hard for the parents. I am looking forward to the time when the government realizes a serious situation is imminent if farmers' sons are called indiscriminately. Of course I am not thinking of our own case because our boy did not want to stay on the farm, therefore we were not depending on him. Nor was he drafted into the army. He went of his own free will. But there are many cases where father and son have worked together for a number of years, and now if the boy is called how is it possible for the father to carry on as before? Oh, well, maybe it will work out some way. I suppose it is stupid to worry, but really, I hear every day of boys being called for draft; of farmers leaving to work in the city; of farms being sold, and I wonder if in this great farming country the time will come when there will really be a shortage of food. I think you people in town had better dig up your front lawns and grow pole beans and potatoes—and keep a hen or two in your back yard. If the hens don't lay you can eat 'em, and if they're tough maybe your better half will say—"Some chicken—some neck!"

Weekly War Commentary

(Continued from Page One)

new positions following the landing of Japanese troops on both east and west coasts.

Netherlands naval units have done remarkably well in harassing Japanese submarine traffic in the South China Sea, and United States bombers came into the picture January 5. The American airman operating from an unnamed base scored three direct hits on an enemy battleship, sank a destroyer and damaged other vessels at the southern end of the Philippine Islands.

Maintain Pressure
Retreating Axis forces in Libya and Russia were hammered from all angles early this week. In north Africa the main body of Rommel's armored divisions was whittled by Imperial troops attacking from the south and west, while concentrations at Sollum and Halfaya Pass near the Egyptian border were engaged after the capture of Bardia.

Russian forces continued to force German armies back on the Central Front and rapid moves in the south may force the Nazis to withdraw from the Crimea. Soviet troops sallied from the long-beleaguered fortress of Sevastopol to aid their comrades who had already overrun the Kerch Peninsula to the northeast.

Fall of Manila after stout resistance means that a second allied Pacific Bastion in this 124th week of the war is held by the Japanese. At Hong Kong, Canadians, Indians and Britons fought a brave fight before the base was yielded; at Manila Americans and Filipinos wrote an equally brilliant page in the world's book of courage and heroism.

To the people of the United States loss of Manila is a sharp blow psychologically, for it is their first taste of reverse. They have yet to become accustomed to the day-to-day war news, some bad, some good; they have yet to teach themselves that reverses are but incidents in a long war, and that eyes must not be deflected from the ultimate goal and the last battle.

Tides of Pacific
With Manila and Hong Kong now in Japanese hands it is to be expected that the assault on Singapore will be redoubled and that sooner or later the great battle for the Netherlands East Indies will start. Japan must make these if she is to make headway in the war, but she still has far to go. Meanwhile there are signs that in Washington great projects have been put afoot by Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt to wrest the initiative from Tokyo in the Pacific.

Even as in Russia for six months the Soviets had to fight a continually losing battle only to turn the tables with a vengeance, so in the battle of the Pacific the tide will turn in good time. The same was true in Libya. The New Year may very well mark the beginning of wide democratic offensives that in the end will make Manila and Hong Kong seem like very hollow victories indeed to the Japanese.

Although Gen. Douglas MacArthur had been compelled to surrender Manila, reports at the week-end indicated that consolidation of his forces north of the Philippines capital offered the best chance of continuing the fight. Regardless of the outcome of the battle, it is believed the United States will be able to maintain communication with the southwestern Pacific.

To Hold Singapore
The longer British, United States and Netherlands forces hold out in the various attacks being made by the Japanese in the South China Sea and the Pacific, so much the better for Singapore, on which the big allied offensive in the Far East is likely to be based.

Gen. Sir Henry Powell, Imperial commander-in-chief in the Far East, has stated that every inch of ground in the Malay peninsula will be contested. Reinforcements are on the way for the British defenders resisting attacks on the east and west coasts of Malaya.

Nazis Flounder
Highly encouraging news came from Europe and North Africa at the week-end. Even Adolph Hitler's presence on the Eastern Front could not stem the retreat of German forces before Moscow and in the Crimean peninsula further south.

In their counter-offensive north and south of the Soviet capital, Red Army spearheads have been driven deep behind the Germans attacking at Mozhaisk and Maloyaroslavets, west of Moscow. More than 100,000 men of the invading army were in dire straits with the Russians attacking from the flanks and rear as well as delivering tremendous frontal assaults. Russian troops landed at Kerch in the Crimea, continued to push Nazi forces back, at the same time alleviating the pressure on Sevastopol.

Reports from Sweden stated that Germans were busily strengthening fortifications on the Polish-Russian frontier. While the Russian counter-offensive is progressing remarkably well, it will be an outstanding achievement if Soviet troops reach this area in the near future.

Bardia Captured
British forces in Libya now virtually control the route from the Egyptian-Libyan frontier to the Gulf of Sirte, a distance of approximately 500 miles. Bardia, one of the few remaining strong points held by Axis troops, fell to a bayonet attack by composite forces January 2, following a bombardment from land, sea and air. Five thousand Axis prisoners were taken and 1,150 British prisoners held in Bardia were released.

The main force of the retreating German armored divisions stubbornly resisted British attacks at Agadabia at the week-end, but British advance units ranged far into Tripolitania and even Rome admitted attacks on posts not far from Tripoli.

The War at Sea
Loss of the cruiser Neptune and the destroyers Kandahar and Stanley were announced by the Admiralty January 3. The Neptune was sunk by a mine in the Mediterranean and some of its company of 500 rescued. The Kandahar, accompanying the Neptune, was damaged by a mine and subsequently sunk by British sailors. Most of the 190 officers and men aboard were believed saved.

The Stanley, a former U. S. destroyer, was sunk while on convoy duty in the Atlantic. With her went down the naval auxiliary vessel Audacity, formerly the 5,500-ton German merchant ship Hannover. But against this the Navy destroyed three German submarines and two long-range bombers.

The action in the Atlantic occurred shortly before Christmas when German propagandists announced the destruction of an aircraft-carrier of the formidable class and severe loss to the convoy. Actually 28 out of the 30 ships in the convoy reached Britain safely.

Weekly War Commentary

(Continued from Page One)

ERIN

Alexander Hillock, 79, lifelong and well known resident of Caledon township, died on Saturday at his home, near the Caledon Club.

Lieut. J. M. Abbott, of Camp Borden, Mr. Mac Abbott, of Moncton, N.B., spent a few days with their parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Abbott.

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Robertson, of Guelph, received a letter from their son, Robert Robertson R.C.A., A.F., who is stationed somewhere in England.

Only six ratepayers, all of whom are members of the Council or School Board and the village constable appeared at a ratepayers' meeting called for 7 p.m. Monday evening, in the village hall.—Advocate.

CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT

MANCHESTER, England, (CP) — Beverly Baxter, Toronto-born British M.P., impressed during a visit to Canada and U. S. by the development of air transport, has suggested that some thought should be given in Britain to the building of civilian aircraft.

HIS WERE SEA-LEGS

LIVERPOOL, (CP) — A gunner who was charged with desertion told a court martial he had left his unit to join the navy because army life didn't agree with him.

LIKE GOING INTO HELL

NEW YORK, (CP) — Guns on British ships in convoy are now so well placed and manned that German air attacks on them are "like going straight into hell" said a German pilot, speaking over the Berlin radio.

W. T. PATTERSON R.O.
Specialist in Eye Examination—Orthoptist
165 WYNDHAM ST., GUELPH
Phone 2188
Completely Equipped Offices Below
Maher Shoe Store

Fashion Show!

ACTON TOWN HALL

January 15 8 p.m. (D.S.T.)

Through the Courtesy of Mr. R. H. Elliott a Demonstration and Style Showing of Wabasso Products will be seen in Acton. Acton Models will exhibit the fashions and the Acton and District Red Cross receives 10c for every lady attending.

DOOR PRIZE

Invitations are being mailed and each lady attending who returns the card has a chance to win the door prize of a beautifully boxed Bed Set. Invitations are transferable. There is no admission charge. Models will receive an attractive Bunny Savings Bank.

REFRESHMENTS

The ladies of the Red Cross will operate a refreshment Booth and Serve Coffee, Sandwiches and Cakes.

REMEMBER THE DATE—JANUARY 15TH

Get in Shape for the New Year!

If you are becoming figure conscious, come in and let us fit you now with the Foundation that is best for you. With materials used in Foundations becoming increasingly scarce, the present is a good time to get your requirements. We carry an excellent range of outstanding makes, to suit all figure-types.

B. D. Rachlin
Mill Street, Acton



HOLD HIGH THE TORCH OF FREEDOM

UNUSUAL BANKING
IN THESE UNUSUAL TIMES

As Canada's war efforts gain length of stride and speed of step, business in general reflects added activity and increases in volume. As business increases, banking activity also increases. Our service keeps pace with the requirements of our customers, albeit occasionally they may experience slight delays, owing to war-time depletion of our staff. (More than six hundred members of our staff are already in the Empire's forces.)

By experience, increased effort and up-to-date equipment, we endeavour to compensate for reduced numbers, to avoid delays and inconvenience to our customers, and to conduct all banking transactions, however unusual, with everyday efficiency.

BANK OF MONTREAL
A BANK WHERE SMALL ACCOUNTS ARE WELCOME.
Modern, Encouraged Banking Service