



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOF DILLS, Editor.

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Standing Together

The thing that pleased us most about the last Victory Loan was the fact that so many participated in it. Perhaps you didn't bother to analyze those figures given in the summary for the county and this district and published last week. Its fine to meet quotas and finish the job in good style but it was particularly fine to see that there were 5,514 applications in Halton; that Acton district had 848 applications. One in less than every six in the county took bonds and one in less than every four in Acton and district helped in the loan.

It is this participation of everyone in this latest of the war efforts that particularly pleases. It is this feeling that those who aren't in the front line and making a voluntary effort are backing up the fighting forces in whatever opportunity is presented, that made this latest Victory Loan a greater success than any of the previous efforts.

That spirit of shoulder to shoulder was what carried Britain through the dark days. It is what will bring final victory and what we as Canadians will have to cultivate more and more. There are dark days ahead yet, but standing together we cannot lose.

V

Chicken to the Rescue

Just why the calling of a thing "Chicken" makes it more desirable is more than we can fathom. But it seems as if chicken is being applied to most everything these days to bring it into public favor. "Chicken" haddie has long been a standard line of canned fish. Within the past few months those little salt fish that used to come in a big wooden box and sell at a big handful for a nickel have appeared in cellophane at a quarter the quality for double the price and now have chicken attached to the fancy label and display carton.

Then along comes John Marsh, editor of the Amherstburg Echo, and calls muskrat "Marsh Chicken," and tells that folks in that district hold muskrat suppers and regret that the season is so short. We read too that in Poland dog meat brings \$1.75 a pound, and cats \$4.45 each. We're wondering if the Polish folks know about this plan of calling the common things chicken and making them so delectable that they become exclusive.

We recall once eating a meal with the meat portion called "Woodchuck" and later finding out that it was the same animal which in this part of the country we call a groundhog. Perhaps if it had been called field chicken we might have been licking our lips and relished the flavor that still lingers. In these days of shortages it seems that "Chicken" has come to the rescue. Thanks again to Mr. Churchill. Some Chicken. Some Neck.

V

Bananas and Deliveries

In England they have no bananas. We are told that shortly in Canada supplies of this fruit that is always in season may soon be gone. Last week new restrictions were put into effect on deliveries in towns. Those of us who are over forty will not look on these changes as creating a great hardship. In fact perhaps the going without these things will bring a greater appreciation of them when they are restored. The best bananas we ever ate, with the greatest taste thrill we ever experienced, were the first ones we recall that were on sale on circus day in town. They were so good we recall deploring the seeming waste of that portion which adhered to the inside of the skin. Then on deliveries we recollect the Saturday morning shopping list with the whole

week's supply of household needs and loading them in the little express wagon that never had rubber tires in its prime and taking them home in time for mother to get the Saturday baking done. Don't recall a store that had much of a delivery system and those that had, maintained a two wheel cart with a big box and motive power was supplied by the delivery boy.

Delivery of the butcher shops wasn't really delivery in Acton in those days, not so many years ago, but the butcher called with a fine display of meats in a covered wagon and you made your purchases at the door. Bananas and delivery have been done without at other not distant periods and folks even enjoyed life before the motor car became common.

The alarming situations are not the home restrictions although they may seem the closest at present. The banana skins on which we are skidding are still in distant countries. Bananas and delivery will be restored only if we put every effort in every walk of life first in the bringing of victory.

The Years Bring Little Change

"In every circle, and truly, at every table, there are people who lead armies into Macedonia; who know where the camp ought to be placed; who possess ought to be occupied by troops; when and through what pass that territory should be entered; where magazines should be formed; how provisions should be conveyed by land and sea; and when it is proper to engage the enemy, when to lie quiet. And they not only determine what is best to be done, but if anything is done in any other manner than what they have pointed out, they arraign the consul, as if he were on trial before them. These are great impediments to those who have the management of affairs; for every one cannot encounter injurious reports with the same constancy and firmness of mind as Fabius did, who chose to let his own ability be questioned through the folly of the people, rather than to mismanage the public business with high reputation. I am not one of those who think that commanders ought at no time to receive advice; on the contrary, I should deem that man more proud than wise, who regulated every proceeding by the standard of his own single judgment.

What then is my opinion? That commanders should be consulted, chiefly, by persons of known talent; by those who have made the art of war their particular study, and whose knowledge is derived from experience; from those who are present at the scene of action, who see the country, who see the enemy, who see the advantages that occasions offer, and who, like people embarked in the same ship, are sharers of the danger. If therefore, any one thinks himself qualified to give advice respecting the war which I am to conduct, which may prove advantageous to the public, let him not refuse his assistance to the state, but let him come with me into Macedonia. He shall be furnished with a ship, a horse, a tent; even his traveling charges, shall be defrayed.

But if he thinks this too much trouble, and prefers the repose of a city life to the toils of war, let him not, on land, assume the office of a pilot. The city, in itself, furnishes abundance of topics for conversation; let it confine its passion for talking within its own precincts, and rest assured that we shall pay no attention to any counsels but such as shall be framed within our camp.

In case you might confuse this with the present day we ought to inform you the above is from an address by Lucius Aemilius Paulus, surnamed Macedonicus, (229-160 B.C.) a Roman General and member of a patrician family. As Consul for the second time, he was entrusted with the command in the Macedonian War, which the incapacity of previous generals had allowed to drag on for three years. He brought the war to a speedy termination by the battle Pydna, fought on the 22nd June, 168 B.C.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"Stalin's position among the people of Russia is ten times as strong now as it was when the war started." Sir Stafford Cripps.

"We confiscate only once, but we can tax perpetually, provided we preserve our enterprise." Senator Walter F. George, of Georgia.

The visible supply of Canadian wheat on March 10 totalled 475,074,479 bushels compared with 485,401,718 on the corresponding date a year ago.

Speaking of wooden tires that are to be made in Halton County we suggest a trial trip on them on No. 25. If they and the machine and driver stand, they'll take any back concession line in the country.

It came as news to lots of county residents that the salary in the county registry office was \$1800 per annum for a 32 hour week. A little better than a dollar an hour which even in munition plants is considered pretty fair.

By a vote of 14 to 2 Toronto City Council requested the Ontario government to amend the Liquor Control Act. Seems useless to amend the Act when the Provincial Ministers say they can't even enforce the speed laws on the highways. All of which seems to further indicate there is plenty to do if the provincial governments would just look after its own affairs.

WAR
25 Years Ago

Gallant Action by Empire Troops Advanced Lines in Southern Palestine to Outskirts of Gaza.

BY H. H. GORDON

Advances by British armies in France and Mesopotamia 25 years ago in the First Great War overshadowed an effective, but less spectacular, campaign for the defence of Egypt carried on in the Sinai Desert and south Palestine by a comparatively small force of Empire troops.

During the latter part of 1916, British, Australian and New Zealand soldiers under Gen. Sir Archibald Murray had driven the Turks from most of the Sinai Peninsula, an expanse of desert lying east of the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Suez. Although his force had been whittled to little more than three divisions, Gen. Murray in 1917 undertook to drive the enemy from the stony hills of southern Palestine, to further relieve the threat to the Suez Canal.

In March Ottoman troops commanded by the German general, Kress, von Kressenstein, held a line from Gaza to Beersheba, in southern Judah. As long as this front could be held, access to the northern part of the country was virtually impossible because of mountainous country, lacking roads and water, to the east of Beersheba.

While problems of communications and supply handicapped the Empire forces, von Kressenstein's plight was almost equally bad. Supplies for the Turks were hopelessly short and desertions were common. In addition Turkish commanders continually quarrelled with him and among themselves.

Attack on Gaza

This was the situation when Gen. Murray decided to thrust forward along the sea coast to Gaza and engage the Turks before they could retreat to stronger positions further north. The Turkish garrison at Gaza was a day's march distant from any supporting troops and the British commander hoped it could be overcome before reinforcements arrived.

Surprise and celerity were the two essentials of the attack entrusted to a force under Lt. Gen. Sir Charles Dobell. Actually when the attack was launched on March 26, the British railroad was 20 miles from Gaza, involving difficult approach marches to a concentration point where water was scarce, supplies lacking and concealment difficult.

Camel water convoys were prepared, ammunition columns specially grouped and organized and every available horse, mule, camel cart, motor car and transport tractor pressed into use. The troops marched with the hardest essentials. Gen. Dobell's success depended on his being able to force the surrender of the Gaza garrison before midnight on the day of the attack. He came within an ace of succeeding.

Turkish forces were routed at the Wadi Guzzeh, five miles south of Gaza and nearly 1,000 prisoners taken. But during the early operations around Gaza a dense fog blew in from the sea delaying the advance for about two hours. This delay probably robbed the attacking force of complete victory.

Unable to force the surrender of the garrison, Gen. Dobell withdrew his men to a strong position on the west bank of the Wadi Guzzeh and the action came to an end. Although

complete success was denied the British, Gen. Murray considered the results of the operation justified. His hopes and the advance of the railway to Wadi Guzzeh was assured. Several thousand Turks were killed or wounded and British casualties totalled 4,000.

15,000 Empire Railwaymen

Are Running the Trains in the Middle East

Vital movement of troops and equipment for Britain's armies in the Middle East, as well as supplies for a civil population of 50,000,000 people, are being largely handled by 15,000 men who in peace time work on the railways and docks of Britain, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and India.

Formed into companies of the Royal Engineers, New Zealand, Australian, South African and Indian Engineers, these men carry on in the Army the work of engine drivers, platelayers or stevedores, just as they did at home. Operating companies, consisting of engine drivers, firemen, signalmen (called "blackmen" in the Army), brakemen, shunters, boiler-makers and fitters, guards and stationmasters, each have about 100 miles of line to work, some of it like that on the Trans-Indian railway over mountain ranges in wild, inhospitable country. Much of their rolling stock has seen service on the

railways of the United Kingdom, and more than 100 locomotives and some 1,500 waggons have been sent to Iran alone since last September.

Where a railway has to be built from scratch, a construction company and a survey company are called in to erect depots and lay tracks. Platelayers and other men from the railways make up a company of about 300 who, with the assistance of large gangs of native labor, can construct up to a mile of track a day. In this way over 1,000 miles of track have been laid in the Middle East on strategic main lines and in sidings since the outbreak of war. Parts throughout the Middle East are manned by dock companies, consisting of stevedores, checkers and crane drivers from British ports, all expert in their jobs.

Before going out to their jobs, the British Army's railwaymen are given a course of training at any army railway school and a film will shortly be seen in overseas countries showing them at work there.

SHEN EARNING ENGINEER

LONDON, (CP) Miss C. de H. Benet of Ilney, Buckinghamshire, is the first woman elected to the Institute of British Agricultural Engineers.

GLASGOW, (CP) A Whitley member of the Coastal Command made a "mercy raid" during a blitz raid in Scotland and "bombed 300 passengers in a snow-bound train with bins of food.

NOTICE OF MANPOWER REGISTRATION

At the request of the Honourable Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labour, and by authority of Order-in-Council under the War Measures Act, the Unemployment Insurance Commission is registering all persons in industry coming within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1940.

It is mandatory that the Registration Cards now being supplied to employers be completed for ALL employees, insured and non-insured, and forwarded to the Local Office of the Commission by March 31st.

This is An Important War Undertaking

The skills and training of every worker in Canada must be known in order that they may be used to the best advantage. This is the first step towards complete registration of man-power.

Renew Unemployment Insurance Books Before April 1

To avoid duplication of effort, the above registration is being combined with the renewal of Unemployment Insurance Books.

A supply of new books will be mailed promptly on receipt at your local Employment and Claims Office, of completed registration forms and the old books stamped for the last pay period in March.

For details consult the Commission's Local Office without delay.

YOUR CO-OPERATION IS URGENTLY REQUIRED

Unemployment Insurance Commission
Ottawa, Canada. March 23, 1942.

War Ministers Inspect New Railway Munitions Plant

A BIG WAR PLANT, the existence of which had been unknown to the general public, was given national recognition when three members of the Federal Cabinet officially inspected the National Railways Munitions shops at Montreal, operated by the Canadian National Railways. The Ministers were Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Naval Services; and Hon. W. P. Mulock, Postmaster General. They were welcomed to the plant by R. C. Vaughan, President of the Canadian National Railways. Upper left—Mr. Howe watches Miss Josephine Skull, instructor of women workers, operating a turret lathe. Centre—Finished guns assembled for government inspection. Right—Mr. McDonald examines the breech of one of the finished guns.

Business Directory

MEDICAL

DR. W. G. C. KENNEY
Physician and Surgeon
(Successor to Dr. J. A. McNiven)
Office in Symon Block, Mill Street, Acton
Office Phone 72—Residence 159

DR. CHAS. D. SHORTT
Physician and Surgeon
(Successor to Dr. E. J. Nelson)
Frederick Street—PHONE 88
Office Hours—2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Sundays by Appointment Only

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

DRS. FRED AND STEVENSON
DENTISTS
Phone—MILTON 2553 After 10 p.m.
Milton 2V
Office Hours: 8-9 a.m., 1-3 p.m.,
7-8 p.m.
Sundays by Appointment only

DENTAL

DR. C. NICHOLSON
Dental Surgeon
Office: In Leshman 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 Phone—Residence 151

KENNETH M. LANGDON
Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public
Office:
Georgetown—Gregory Theatre Building
ACTON—Over C. 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: Knox Avenue
Acton Phone 130

AUCTIONEERS

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

TIME TABLES

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS AT ACTON DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Ging East

Daily, except Sunday	6:11 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday	9:19 a.m.
Daily, except Sunday	6:32 p.m.
Sunday only	8:19 p.m.
Flyer, at Georgetown	9:43 a.m.
Flyer, at Guelph	9:16 p.m.

Ging West

Daily, except Sunday	8:50 a.m.
Saturday only	2:29 p.m.
Flyer, at Guelph, except Saturday and Sunday	6:19 p.m.
Daily, except Sunday	7:00 p.m.
Sunday Only	11:43 p.m.

GRAY COACH LINES

COACHES LEAVE ACTON (Eastern Daylight Saving Time)

Westbound

Daily, 10:05 a.m., 12:25 p.m., 2:38 p.m., 5:05 p.m., 7:18 p.m. and 9:08 p.m.
Daily, except Saturday, Sunday and holidays 11:53 p.m.
Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays, 10:25 p.m. and 12:57 a.m.

Eastbound

Daily, except Sundays 6:51 a.m.
Daily, 9:01 a.m., 11:16 a.m., 2:06 p.m., 4:06 p.m., 6:11 p.m. and 8:51 p.m.

CLEANUP BRIGADE

LONDON, (CP) Mobile squads of housewives known as "Class and Plaster Brigades" have been organized to help clear out some damaged houses.

LONDON, (CP) Lt. Gen. R. G. W. Stone, Chief of the British Mission to the Egyptian army, has been appointed General Officer Commanding British troops in Egypt.