



The Acton Free Press

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EDITORIAL

Important Elections

Municipal Nominations this week and elections being held the week following shape up as the most important in years. They are important not only because municipal government is one of the foundation stones of our system of democracy...

They will have to make up for six years of war when most municipal councils abandoned all but the most essential public works projects because of the shortages of labor and materials.

The need for men with the vision, the honesty and the administrative ability to solve these problems lends an added incentive to municipal electors to get out and nominate and vote and nominate and vote wisely.

The problems of municipal government have grown with the years, particularly in urban centres. The taxation system—a levy on real property—has remained unchanged while there has been a gradual widening of the basis of expenditure chiefly through assumption of part of the cost of many social services.

Generally, residents in small municipalities take a keener interest in municipal elections than those in larger centres. They know the candidates personally, know their capabilities and their shortcomings and are generally better informed on municipal affairs.

A regrettable apathy toward municipal elections developed during the war when hearts and minds were centred elsewhere and when the actions of the Dominion government personally affected the lives of all Canadians.

Why Not All Canadians?

It was interesting to note in the news from Ottawa last week that "general support" was given to a motion for introduction of a resolution which will grant a non-taxable increase of \$2000 annually in the indemnity of members who now receive \$5000 that is taxable.

We have no argument against a \$5000 salary for members of the House of Commons. When we look at the salaries paid professional players of games, movie stars and many others, it seems that the job of running Canada should pay \$5000 a year even if it takes 245 to argue out some seemingly trivial question.

The point to which we take exception is that the fifty per cent. increase is to be non-taxable. That is manifestly unfair to every salaried worker who now pays tax on everything from \$600 or \$1200 up, according to whether the person is single or married.

Until the Dominion government is prepared to give every Canadian exemption from taxes on salaries up to \$2000, legislators have no right to ar-

range such exemption for themselves. We don't recall any mention of such an item in the platform of any of the parties at the elections in June. It wouldn't have been popular then and it isn't popular now.

Relaxing Controls

Do we realize that Canada's cost of living has risen less than that of any other country? Canadians are the best fed people in the world. Because of everyone's cooperation, our government was able to subsidize essentials such as milk and oranges, making the necessities available to all.

"Aw, Dad," begged Jimmy, "let me have the car all by myself, just once." His dad yielded to him. He got the car. What a wonderful feeling of power to have his hands on the wheel and no one to check him!

Are we mature enough to have unrestricted buying power put into our hands, have we the inner control necessary? Or will we indulge in an orgy of spending, race through the red light of inflation and land up in the hospital Depression?

To quote Donald Gordon, Chairman of the War-time Prices and Trade Board: "In the reconversion of our economy each segment of the economic structure has its part to play and every citizen will have to bring all his intelligence and realism to bear on the task."

Through disciplined use of controls comes our opportunity to show that our patriotism is not a treble flame but a burning passion. Our dollars properly spent can help to build confidence, enterprise and national security.

"Shakedown" in Quebec

A pretty sorry mess in Quebec provincial politics is disclosed by Blair Fraser in the current issue of Maclean's Magazine. Fraser charges that many Quebec tavern keepers were asked to contribute \$500 each to the funds of the Union Nationale Party.

In bringing this glaring shakedown into the open, Mr. Fraser has done both the country and Quebec province a public service. It is to be hoped that the resulting publicity will force prompt investigation and clean up with drastic punishment for those public officials who have been attempting this sort of blackmail.

Not Enough Jobs to Go Round

Last week, according to the Financial Post, the "concerns on deficit of jobs" which had been feared for several weeks finally hit official statistics which show for Canada as a whole 15,000 more job-seekers than jobs, compared with a surplus of 12,000 in previous reports.

EDITORIAL NOTES

There can't be much complaint that this has been a splendid fall unless it comes from those who are anxious to enjoy the use of the arena in hockey and skating again.

Congratulations are not only due Halton County for the splendid showing in the Ninth Victory Loan but to our neighboring town of Georgetown for the fine showing of reaching 243 per cent. of the objective set.

To-morrow night is Nomination Night and a night when every citizen of Acton should pay particular attention to the community's affairs. The next year or so will see some big strides in municipal changes and spending.

DRAB RATS' GAY COATS

LONDON (CP) The drabdest rat can have a gay coat if it submits to the ministrations of scientists who claim that their derivative of the chemical alloxazine will give albino rats "football jerseys" of symmetrical white and yellow stripes, and is also capable of turning rat pelts to such shades as sky-blue.

NEAREST CROSSING?

SOLEL, Que. (CP) A hundred French-Canadian sailors are making an unusual Atlantic crossing, manning two tugs and four dredges which are being towed to France. They are going from Solel to St. Nazaire and probably will make the slowest Atlantic crossing in modern seafaring history.

The most densely populated political unit in the world is the province of Kwangsu, in China, with a population of 40,000,000 in 41,000 square miles.



PROUD GRANDPA: D. C. Gaskin, of Windsor, vice-president and general manager of Studebaker Corporation of Canada, and year-old Caroline Anne, his grand-daughter, but it off well on their first meeting at the Canadian Pacific Railway's Windsor Station in Montreal when he met her and her mother on an R.C.A.F. wives' train.

Carroll's ALWAYS UP TO DATE Ask for ROMAR Coffee. COFFEE 41c. LIGHT BULBS 15c. FRY'S COCOA 19c. CREAM OF WHEAT 14c, 22c. SHREDDED WHEAT 23c. GOLDEN TIP TEA 44c. CARROLL'S OWN TEA 38c. OUR DANDEL TEA 32c. CORNFLAKES 25c. MARSH SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT 21c. CHOICE MALAGA GRAPES 19c. FRESH IMPORTED GREEN BEANS 25c. P. E. I. SEED POTATOES \$3.50.

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TIME TABLES

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS Going West Daily, except Sunday 9:11 a.m. Saturday only 2:38 Daily, except Sunday 7:48 p.m. Monday, only 12:08 a.m. Daily, except Sunday 1:24 a.m. Flyer, at Georgetown, daily except Sat. and Sun. 6:35 p.m. Flyer, at Guelph, daily except Sat. and Sun. 7:12 p.m. Going East Daily, except Sunday 6:49 a.m. Daily, except Sunday 9:56 a.m. Daily, except Sunday 6:50 p.m. Sunday, only 8:19 p.m. Flyer, daily, Georgetown 9:25 p.m. Flyer, daily at Guelph 8:59 p.m.

GRAY COACH LINES COACHES LEAVE ACTON Eastbound 8:30 a.m., 12:30 a.m., 9:16 a.m., 11:31 a.m., 2:06 p.m., 5:16 p.m., 6:26 p.m., 9:06 p.m., 11:11 p.m. Westbound 4:03 a.m., 11:13 a.m., 2:35 p.m., 4:52 p.m., 7:11 p.m., 10:38 p.m., 11:23 p.m., 11:28 p.m. a To London b Sundays and Holidays only c Daily except Sundays and Holidays d To Kitchener e To Stratford

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