



The Acton Free Press

Published Every Thursday at Acton, Ontario G. ARLOP DILLS Editor and Proprietor

Office Phone 174 Residence Phone 131

Notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths are inserted in this column without charge...

DIED

BLOW - Suddenly, at Acton, Ont., early Sunday, December 23rd, 1945, Frederick Sheldon Blow...

CARDS OF THANKS

Mr. Bob Heatley desires to thank the War Service League and all others who sent parcels and gifts to him while serving overseas.

Mrs. R. Louitt wishes to thank the Acton and Vicinity War Service League, other friends and organizations for parcels and favors received while overseas.

Flt. Sgt. Tom Watson desires to thank the Acton and Vicinity War Service League and friends and other organizations who so kindly remembered him with cigarettes, parcels and letters while he was serving overseas.

Mrs. F. S. Blow and family appreciate deeply the helpfulness and sympathy that found expression in so many ways at the time of the passing away of the beloved husband and father...

Bits and Tatt

- Happy New Year. -To Everyone in 1946. -A Peaceful New Year. -Be sure to send in lists of holiday visitors. Write them early in the week. -It was really a White Christmas in this section after the rainfall and a great day to spend Christmas indoors. -The hockey season is scheduled to open in Acton to-night when the county team from Milton is to be the opposition. -Mrs. Robert Patterson had the misfortune to fall on Sunday evening and fracture her right wrist...

MILTON

Milton voters went to the polls on Monday to elect two councillors when four qualified for the two seats which were not filled at the first nomination. Victor Norris headed the polls with 237 and Harold Whowell polled 217 to take second place. In the Army for three years and overseas two years, F. R. D. Gowland arrived home on Monday having come to Canada on the Monarch of Bermuda...

BURLINGTON

Rfmn. A. W. Stevens, Guelph Line, arrived home on Monday from overseas on the Monarch of Bermuda, after service overseas. On Thursday last at the Trades School, Craftman M. V. Kenney, Bellview Ave., was met by his wife, parents and friends, after four years service and with service overseas. On Friday evening last, the members of the Fire Department held a most enjoyable Christmas party for the members, their wives and children in the Lions Club Hall...

CAMPBELLVILLE

Rev. Mr. Thompson of Acton took charge of the Christmas service at St. David's Church on Sunday afternoon, as the Rev. Mr. John MacNeil is confined to his home with flu. We wish him a speedy recovery. On Sunday evening the St. David's Presbyterian Church choir presented a cantata entitled "On Wings of Angels"...

Rev. Mr. P. G. Bryan of Duff's Church, Morrison, was the minister in charge. Mr. Murray McPhail, the choir leader, and choir deserve praise for the splendid presentation of music. About 50 members formerly of the choir gathered in the basement afterwards and the Ladies Aid served lunch.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Menzies spent Christmas at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Graham of Weston. Mr. and Mrs. David Mahon and family of Windsor are spending the Christmas season at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Mahon.

Mr. Daniel Inglis of the R.C.A.F. arrived home last week after nearly three years service at the Azores Islands and British Isles.

Miss Olive Mahon, Toronto is home for a week at Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Cairns and family had Christmas dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nixon of Ancaster. Mrs. Beattie of Ridgeway is holidaying at the home of Mrs. C. A. Easley.

Mr. W. D. Reid of Belleville visited the home of Mr. William Reid last week. Jackie Roberts had the misfortune to badly sprain his foot while skating on Crawford's pond.

Mrs. O. Morse is spending a few weeks at her daughter's home in Woodstock.

Miss Anne McDonald, Mr. Ronald Roberts and Miss Kathleen Roberts of Toronto spent Christmas at the home of Mrs. Charles Roberts.

Miss Elizabeth Morley and Miss Evelyn McLaren of Hamilton spent last week-end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William McLaren.

Orville Laking of Dundas, Ross Laking of Milton and Jack Laking of Chatham spent the Christmas holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Laking.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Donaven and family of Hamilton; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Merkle and family of Millgrove; Mr. and Mrs. George Inglis spent Christmas at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Inglis.

The Robert Elliott of London spent the week-end with his sister, Mrs. Thomas McPhail.

Mr. Bob McPhail narrowly escaped being burnt at the King Calcium Products mill last week when he opened the furnace door and gas fumes exploded, scorching his hair and face. Dr. Stevenson attended him.

ROUTINE

The plumber, aged twenty, had applied for military service. He went in for his trade test and was asked to make a joint in a lead pipe. When the job was finished, the officer wrote on the man's paper: "Joint very neatly done." A day or two later the man found himself posted as head cook in the officer's mess.

China Proper is one of the best watered countries of the world.

Chronicles of...

Ginger Farm

Written Specially for The Acton Free Press by GWENDOLINE P. CLARKE

With you who read, Christmas is now a thing of the past but with us, as I write, it is very much a thing of the present. For this is Christmas Day the tag end, it is true, but Christmas Day nevertheless.

Perhaps you may wonder at my writing on this day of days, but you see, tomorrow, for many people, it is business as usual, and if weekly papers are to come out on schedule it is up to those who contribute to do their little bit.

But back to Christmas: At one time during the day, when we were happy with our own family around us, I wondered how all the rest of the folk were spending Christmas Day - folk who are friends of this column particularly and I did hope that everyone everywhere was having just as happy a Christmas as we were in our own quiet way.

Our homecomers arrived by car late Christmas Eve. It was well they did for the driving would have been very bad Christmas morning. They came in laden with parcels, gay with colored wrappings, tags and ribbons, and those same parcels were soon carefully distributed around the Christmas tree. We teased each other with time-honored phrases: "I know something you don't know" "Yes, and I know something you don't know."

The next morning I couldn't help laughing when I suddenly remembered how time reverses things. When the children were small it was they who were up early, they who crouched around on the floor around the Christmas tree, reading the name-tags, feeling the parcels, trying to guess by their size and shape what wonderful surprises would be found inside. Now it was I who did the crouching and guessing! Partner and son Bob were, of course, out at the barn milking, daughter and friend Bert were not up yet, so I had the floor to myself. And I am telling you I was really curious. But I didn't peek and when we were all together I wouldn't let anyone else peek either. The morning's work had to be done first, no matter what. Then there was dinner which really wasn't a chore at all, because I had cooked the turkey and all the trimmings the day before so that it had only to be popped into the oven and heated up again. No one knew after the first course how they were going to find room for Christmas pudding but we managed it somehow.

And then came the tree, yes, even before the washing of dishes. Not that we could wait any longer. Not that we were looking for anything big, but you know what pleasure there is in this interchange of family gifts. Who else knows one's needs and fancies so well as the members of one's own family? Certainly there was a ting of sincerity in our voices as each one of us said: "That is exactly what I wanted!" In fact I was so fortunate in one of my gifts that I hardly knew how to tear myself away from it all. It was from Partner a copy of Nellie McClung's latest book, "The Stream Runs Fast." He had heard me say, after reading a review of the book, that I wanted to get a copy, so the news was relayed to Daughter.

It was my good fortune a few years ago to meet Mrs. McClung, and I not only like to read books written by authors whom I have met, but I like to own them too. And Mrs. McClung is one of the most lovable of persons. So, when Daughter said, "Now you just sit down, Mother, we'll do all among the paper, wrappings and gift boxes, and waded right into the 'Stream Runs Fast'."

I forgot about the wind and the sleet. I forgot, for awhile, to worry about how our Torontonians were to get home on slippery roads. I was back with Nellie McClung, reliving with her some of her early experiences which had been so similar to our own out there on the Saskatchewan prairie. But I had to come back to reality because Partner announced about six o'clock that he didn't want to hurry anyone away but he really thought it would be wiser if they made an early start as the weather was bad. So there was a general hurrying and scurrying, things gathered hastily together, and in half an hour they were away, starting out on what we hope was a safe journey back to the city. And thus ended our Christmas Day, our first peace-time Christmas in six years. So now it is "A Happy New Year" to you all.

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Twenty Years Ago

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, December 21st, 1925.

The last day of 1925. Even Toronto had it fourteen below on Sunday evening.

Watch night services are being held in the churches this evening. Reeve Mason, choirmaster, and twenty-five members of the United Church choir visited a number of the congregation who are shut-ins through illness on Sunday afternoon and sang the cantata "The Light of the World."

A social evening in the form of a farewell party was spent at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gibbons when the members of St. Joseph's Choir presented Miss Delene with a watch prior to her leaving for St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto.

MARRIED

GILLES-SCOTT. At the home of the bride's parents, requesting, by Rev. W. G. Rose, Annie May, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest H. Scott, to John Gould Gilles, oldest son of the late Neil and Mrs. Gilles of Esquimaux.

DIED

MITCHELL. At her home, lot 11, con. 6, Erinosa, on Tuesday, December 20th, 1925, Grace Isdale Thomson, widow of the late George Mitchell, in her 96th year.

The most active port in Canada is Victoria, B. C. with a total of 5,961 ships entered in 1940 against 4,032 for Halifax.

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DR. HUGH S. AUSTIN Dental Surgeon. Mill Street, Corner Frederick, Acton. Office Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Evenings by Appointment. Telephone 19

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TIME TABLES

GRAY COACH LINES. COACHES LEAVE ACTON. Fastbound: 8:31 a.m.; 8:46 a.m.; 9:16 a.m.; 11:51 a.m.; 1:06 p.m.; 4:56 p.m.; 6:26 p.m.; 9:06 p.m.; 11:11 p.m. Westbound: 10:38 a.m.; 11:43 a.m.; 2:35 p.m.; 3:11 p.m.; 7:34 p.m.; 8:35 p.m.; 9:23 p.m.; 11:28 p.m.

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Happy New Year. That's the Happy New Year wish we extend to all our friends. May Victory in Health, Happiness and Prosperity be Yours for the years to come. Elliott Bros.

ROYAL PALACE GUELPH'S LEADING THEATRES. DEC. 24-26, MON., TUE., WED. "SHE WENT TO THE RACES" With Frances Gifford, James Craig. DEC. 27-29, THU., FRI., SAT. "HOLD THAT BLONDE" With Eddie Bracken, Veronica Lake. DEC. 31-JAN. 3, MON., TUE., WED., THU. and Midnight Show on New Year's Eve. "KISS AND TELL" With Shirley Temple. DEC. 25-26, TUE., WED., THU., FRI. "THE SPANISH MAIN" In Technicolor. With Maureen O'Hara, Paul Henreid. DEC. 29-31, SAT., MON. "LIFE WITH BLONDIE" Penny Singleton, Arthur Lake. On the same program "FALCON IN SAN FRANCISCO" Tom Conway, Rita Corday. New Year's Midnight Eve JAN. 1-4, TUE., WED., THU., FRI. "STORK CLUB" With Betty Hutton, Barry Fitzgerald.

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