



The Acton Free Press

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G. ARLOF DILLA, Editor

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EDITORIAL

How True The Headlines?

In the light of the headlines given Acton last week in the water situation, particularly by the late editions of The Toronto Star, one may well pause to consider the headlines about other places with which we do not have close contact. Certainly the headlines carried in the late editions of "poisonous" and "deadly" water in Acton were, to say the least, greatly exaggerated and we've heard other words used to describe the Star stories that were a lot stronger.

The situation might have been a serious one. We are not contradicting the fact that the water in many taps was dirty and had smelling for a few hours on Saturday. So far there is nothing to prove it was poisonous or deadly and at time of writing, a week later, we have yet to hear of any illness directly traceable to the water supply. Folks in Acton are liable now to take the screaming headlines not very seriously after the local experience and wonder what little truth may be in any of them.

A Vast Change

When the auto salesman starts calling on his prospect list this summer he is likely to discover that there has been a vast change in buying habits since 1939. Old customers in the medium salaried class who used to buy a new car regularly every other season may have to be convinced that they can afford a new vehicle after waiting five years. And purveyors of radios, furniture, rugs, refrigerators and a score of other goods in the semi-luxury class are going to meet the same resistance, because the "surplus" money that used to be available for such purchasing now largely goes to Mr. Hsley and to meet the higher cost of necessities. The fact that there are now almost twice as many Canadians earning \$5,000 a year as there were in 1919, and the same proportion would hold for the \$3,000 and \$4,000 citizens too, makes no difference. Sharply higher taxes and an increase of more than 20 per cent in the bare necessities of life has drained away the bulk of the surplus purchasing power of the medium salaried classes.—The Financial Post.

Getting A Dollar's Worth

C. L. Burton, C. B. E., head of one of our largest mercantile companies, claims Canada's urgent need is to cut out controls and promote production. He says Canada must choose, and choose soon, whether to have:

- 1. Large production and full employment; or 2. Small output and unemployment, due to price ceilings and wage controls.

This question of government restrictions on prices and industry certainly has become confusing to the ordinary citizen. It isn't made any clearer when we find two of the biggest industrialists in the United States directly opposed in their opinions on the subject. Henry Ford II, for instance, favors removal of all restrictions, while on the other hand Henry Kaiser claims such action will spell economic disaster.

Those who favor removal of controls say large production and keen competition should combine to keep prices down, at the same time providing maximum employment. Those in opposition say the result will be sky-rocket prices and inflation.

The decision which our economists and experts must make is one which demands the greatest study and consideration, because our future prosperity is at stake.

The working man and farmer are not interested in higher incomes if it means the cost of living will jump out in proportion. What they want is a dollar which will purchase a dollar's value, not fifty cents worth.—Barrie Examiner.

City Paper Pays Tribute to the Home Town Paper

Turning from the city to the small town papers that come to us is like stepping from the slums, full of vice, into an old-fashioned garden sweet with lavender and thyme and the scent of perennial flowers. The pages of the big dailies are so full of murder, thievery, immorality and selfishness that the better news is obscured by these glaring shatterings of the Decalogue. One puts the paper aside with a feeling of depression and heartache that the world is so full of terrible and unhappy things.

Then picking up the papers that record the happenings of the little towns around us, one gains renewed faith in life. Here are set forth only that which uplifts the community—the activities of the business men, the church items, the happy social gatherings of the people, the marriages, births and deaths, farmers' items, and all the thousand and one daily occurrences that make up the simple annals of the great common people, who are really the foundation of this country of ours.

Scandals are seldom published in the country newspapers, but if it so happens that decency demands it, the uglier details are omitted or given a kindly touch that is widely different from the unfeeling publicity of the city press. The offenders may be our neighbors, or people we have rubbed elbows with all our lives. They are real human beings to their town paper, while to the great city dailies they are merely grains of a sort that are ground out hourly in their new mills.

Sometimes people speak lightly of the country newspaper, but it is one of the most potent and up lifting factors in our national existence.—Christian Science Monitor.

Now to Have

Intensive cultivation of home gardens provides thousands of Canadians with the opportunity to make a concrete contribution toward solving an urgent and desperate human need.

The world food problem has reached such magnitude that millions of people in Europe and Asia are faced with famine conditions. This is in addition to the overwhelming task of rehabilitation and reconstruction both national and personal that inevitably follows in the wake of war.

Canada, as one of the great food-producing countries of the world, has undertaken to do her utmost to alleviate the situation. To this end Prime Minister King recently announced a nine-point program aimed at restricting the amount of food used by Canadians, maintaining war-increased farm production and providing more for famished lands.

The problem is essentially one of increased production and a reduction in Canadian consumption of wheat and its products in order to step up supplies of exportable food. Here is where every household who has a piece of workable ground can do his bit.

High up on the government's food-saving program is the encouragement of home gardens. The announcement came in plenty of time to allow backyard gardeners to lay their plans. At first thought planting an extra row of lettuce would not appear to make much impression on the famine situation, but more home-grown potatoes and other vegetables would affect family wheat requirements.

Like every plan for alleviating human suffering the current food production program calls for effort on the part of individuals. However, benefits will not be entirely one-sided. Nutrition experts assure us that backyard gardeners get better food, for the elusive vitamin has less chance to escape on its journey from garden to table.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A firm conscience is better than a stiff upper lip.

Freedom to say what we think is important, but the courage to do what we say is even more so.

A home that isn't fighting for something beyond itself will become simply sweet or decidedly sour.

New cars, like other things, are just to be looked at and not for general use, but another few months is neither here nor there.

It's said that the better weather has created a new demand for new tires and sales have been much heavier this month.

Appropriations for highways have been doubled in the Ontario budget. Still wondering after twenty-five years if it will include the road between Acton and Milton.

In view of the fact that \$20,000 is set aside in the Ontario budget for the maintenance of the Premier, it hardly behooves Premier Drew to criticize local school boards as extravagant bodies and out on a spending spree.

Every community should realize the need of job-providing industries in order that its young people are not forced to flock to the city to secure employment. Industries mean payrolls—and payrolls enable young people to stay and help build up their own home communities. Boards of trade and municipalities should encourage these industries.—Altona (Man.) Echo.

Advertisement for Hydro Lamps featuring a light bulb illustration and the text 'SAVE YOU MONEY YOUR HYDRO OFFICE'.

Large advertisement for Carroll's House Cleaning Sale listing various household products like Javex, Soda, Soap, Wax, Tea, Peas, Ammonia, and Pineapple with prices.

Business Directory

Medical section listing Dr. W. G. C. Kenney, Dr. H. G. Joyce, Dr. D. A. Garrett, and Dr. A. J. Buchanan.

Dental section listing Dr. George A. Sirrs.

Notary Public section listing C. F. Leatherland, B.A.

Accounting section listing Langdon & Aylsworth.

Chartered Accountants section listing Lever & Hoskin.

Accounting section listing D. M. Timbers.

Veterinary section listing B. D. Young, V.S., B.V.Sc.

Veterinary section listing F. G. Oakes, V.S., B.V.Sc.

Real Estate section listing Willoughby Farm Agency.

Real Estate Broker section listing Wm. R. Bracken.

TIME TABLES

Gray Coach Lines section listing coaches leaving Acton with various times and destinations.

Canadian National Railways section listing train schedules for West and East directions.

Advertising -- It Always Gets Results