

# COMMUNITY UNITY

### A Synopsis of Various Sport and Athletic Activities

The Acton Teen Age group will have another of their Friday night get-togethers on May 8. Two of the Special Interest groups will meet at 7:30 p.m. for an hour and a half of music and drama. There are a good number of teen-agers interested in good music and we hope to see a crowd on hand. Drama has gradually picked up a number of interested boys and girls and I understand they are planning a couple of acts for the Friday Night "do." Let's have every teen-age boy and girl out for the big show on Friday.

Last week a number of interesting Table Tennis events were run off. The Y members tourney was held on Tuesday night for the Baxter Trophy and was won by Ron Salt. The girls who compete for the same trophy have yet to declare a winner. The winner in the boys' group for the trophy for six months and the girl champion holds it for six months. On Friday night, a team of six Y members played host to a six man team from the Acton Legion and a very enjoyable evening was spent in a friendly contest of singles and doubles. The Y team came out on top in the competition. The players took time out to have some refreshments with the Tannery-Town bridge group but were right back playing shortly after. It was the desire of all players to have another such tournament some time within the next two weeks.

Bud Kentner, one of the younger up and coming table tennis stars, won the junior boys' championship when he defeated Ron Anderson. Bud's forehand smash proved a little too much for Ron. On Saturday afternoon an open tournament was held. Doug Davidson and Ron Salt ended up playing against each other for top honors with Ron winning three straight games which were closely contested all the way by Doug Davidson.

The Y.M.C.A. display will be held in the Acton Arena this year with all Y classes taking part. These groups will perform in many different ways some putting on games, others folk dancing and two boys' groups demonstrating the very fast and exciting game of floor hockey. The little Nursery Class will again put on the "Bunny Act" which never fails to please the spectators. The high school boys and girls, who have been using the Y facilities all through the season will put on a demonstration of rhythmic dancing, apparatus work and club drill. The high school girls are under the leadership of Mrs. Orr and the boys under Mr. McLenn. There will be clowns on hand to make you laugh when they put on their special routine of spills and fun.

### MENTAL DEVELOPMENT

Modern life gives people plenty of chance for mental development. If they do not get it, they can't complain that they had no chance. The newspapers, the radio, and modern books present a constant stream of information and discussion, through which people can grow in intelligence. Lectures and discussions at the clubs, churches and various organizations, constantly present educational opportunities.

Discussion of important subjects in small groups of people is often very developing. It is a helpful thing to ask people what they think about the work of the United Nations, the action of the government on taxes and the budget, or any such issue. Such questions stir interesting talk and people are thereby induced to read and follow these issues, and this helps mental development.

### SPRING CLEAN UP TIME

This is the time of year when citizens will be thinking of cleaning up their yards, gardens, cellars, attics, etc. of the winter's accumulation of rubbish. Extreme care should be taken in disposal of this material, especially by the bonfire method. Be careful so that sparks and flames do not spread to garages, fences, barns, homes etc., or creep by means of dead and dry grass. It is strongly urged that you use proper incinerators or metal barrels to burn such rubbish and make sure that the last ember is extinguished after burning any material outside. The majority of grass fires are caused by children playing with matches and parents are urged to watch them and warn them of danger to life and property by an innocently started fire getting out of hand. The Fire Department may be urgently needed elsewhere while putting out a grass fire. Another thing often neglected at this time of year is an examination of smoke pipes and chimneys after winter's use. There is a tendency to make them last until it is time to let the fires out. For this reason there is the most dangerous time of the year for fires from these causes. Therefore, check your heating equipment and protect your home and also your neighbours from exposure to sparks and flames.

### FOOT SPRINGS

Mechanism of the foot includes springs and not arches according to a leading authority, who declares that the old belief in fallen arches is not false as the medical theory that the earth is flat.

In a publication entitled "Care of the Feet," which is being made available through government health departments, this expert advises special care of the springs and adoption of footwear which permits free functioning of all the bones in the feet. He deprecates the practice of putting pads in shoes to build up the "arches".

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### A LITTLE ARITHMETIC

At the end of last December, the Unemployment Insurance Fund had on its books a credit balance of \$357,222,407.29. During the five and a half years the fund has been in operation, some \$330,000,000 has been contributed to it by employers and employees, while enough more has been taken from the taxpayers at large to bring total revenue for the period up to more than \$427,000,000.

Benefit payments for the period have totalled only about seventy million dollars, of which fifty-one million was paid out in 1946. Even that year, benefit payments were only about fifty five per cent. of revenue received, so the balance in the fund grew by some forty-one million dollars.

Using simply arithmetic, one discovers that, if unemployment was no worse than last year, there is enough in the fund to take care of benefit payments for seven years, without further contribution by employers or employees. Even a serious depression should not completely exhaust the fund. In simple justice, the size of the fund seems to constitute a good argument for eliminating further contributions, or reducing them to a level approximately the same as that of probably payments. — The Printed Word.

You can't give out to the nation what you haven't lived out at home.

### Danger in Common Watering Trough

A common watering trough is just not good enough for dairy cattle. Unless every animal is healthy, the common watering place serves as a breeding place for tuberculosis.

This reminder comes from Canada's acting Veterinary Director, General, Dr. Thomas Childs. He says that when testing a herd he has often found one or two animals badly infected and, next to them on the milking line, several reactors. If these reactors had been bred and raised on their owner's farm, the veterinarian concluded that it was there they had been infected. The spread of the infection, he attributes to the common trough.

Nor is tuberculosis the only disease which cattle may acquire in this fashion. Actinomycosis, or lump jaw may be spread when discharged from its ulcers fall into the trough from which all members of the herd drink.

To prevent infection of these dangerous, expensive and sometimes fatal diseases, Dr. Childs recommends individual drinking bowls. More and more farmers are installing these.

Not as satisfactory but less expensive is a metal or wood pail for each cow. These should be of heavy construction, as cows have the habit of pushing them around. And as a cow must as easily as kicking over her milk pail, the buckets should be strong enough to stand a certain amount of this violence.

Despite its limitation, even an individual bucket is better than a common watering trough, but individual drinking bowls are best.

### Have Given Farmers Millions of Trees

Free trees are supplied to farmers in the Prairie Provinces for shelter-belt planting by the Dominion Forest Nursery Stations at Indian Head and Sutherland, Sask. These trees are grown and distributed by the Stations. Broadleaf trees are supplied free of charge, while a small charge is made for evergreen trees, the planters paying express charges on shipment. Up to and including the spring of 1946, over 200 millions of broadleaf trees have been distributed to more than 4,000 planters every year and practically five millions of evergreen trees to more than 800 planters annually.

For the most part, the Forest Nursery Stations and the planters have concentrated attention on establishing farm and home shelter belts for the purpose of providing protection to people, livestock, gardens and buildings but during the past 25 years many farmers have given some attention to planting field shelter-belts for the purpose of improving conditions for crops grown under field conditions.

Full information on the subject is given in publication 785 on "Planning and Planting Field Shelterbelts" by John Waker, Superintendent, Forest Nursery Station, Indian Head. Chapters are devoted to benefits from field shelterbelts, planning, what to plant, extent of planting, and seasonal care, together with valuable information about trees. A free copy of the publication may be obtained by writing to the Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

### FOREST FIRE DANGER

Statistics of forest fires show that April is one of the heavy months for this form of destruction. Probably there are many such fires also in May. Through the summer the growth of green grass may have some tendency to check fires, but in the spring before the new grass gets started dead leaves and dry grass which form the carpet of the forest are likely to be dry and inflammable.

All who pass through the woods should be extremely careful that no heedless act of theirs should start a fire. Any campers or fishing parties that start a fire in or near woodland should also be extremely careful to see that they do not set the woods afire.

It may take a forest fifty or one hundred years to grow, but a fire may sweep through it in a single day. The loss to the individual owner is heavy. Valuable property which is one of the resources of the country has gone up on smoke and there is nothing to show for it.

### LUXURY MAIL

They're talking of reducing air mail postage. Strange to say, this doesn't seem to arouse resentment in places not served by air mail. No one stops to think that there are only about two dozen cities on air lines, aside from the places served only by the bush lines.

Air mail is a costly thing. It's a luxury whether the cost is paid in the postage or by a subsidy to make up for deficits or by Treasury loans to Trans-Canada Airlines.

What the majority of people need more than lower air mail rates is a restoration of the 3 cent rate on ordinary mail. And if the post office has money to spend, it could improve rural deliveries.

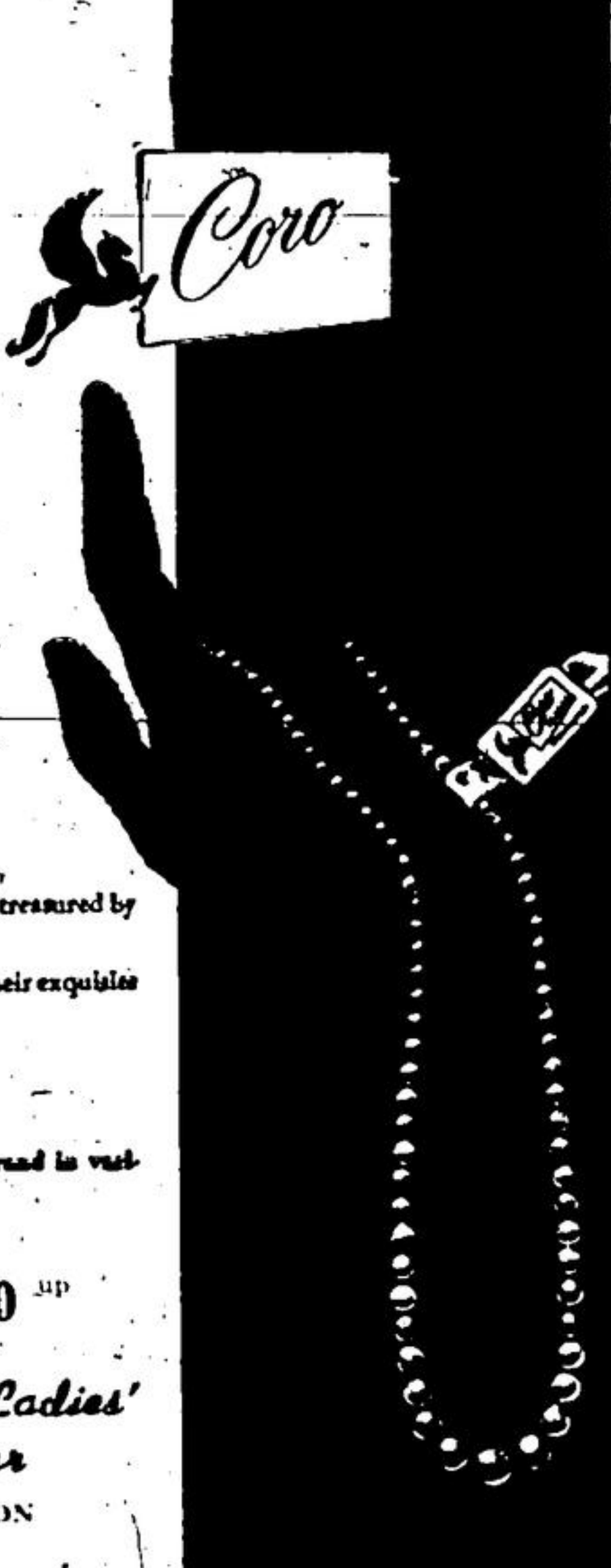
Business interests that now use air mail can stand present costs. Others would be better served by keeping first class mail on the reliable trains at the pre-war rates of postage. — The Printed Word.

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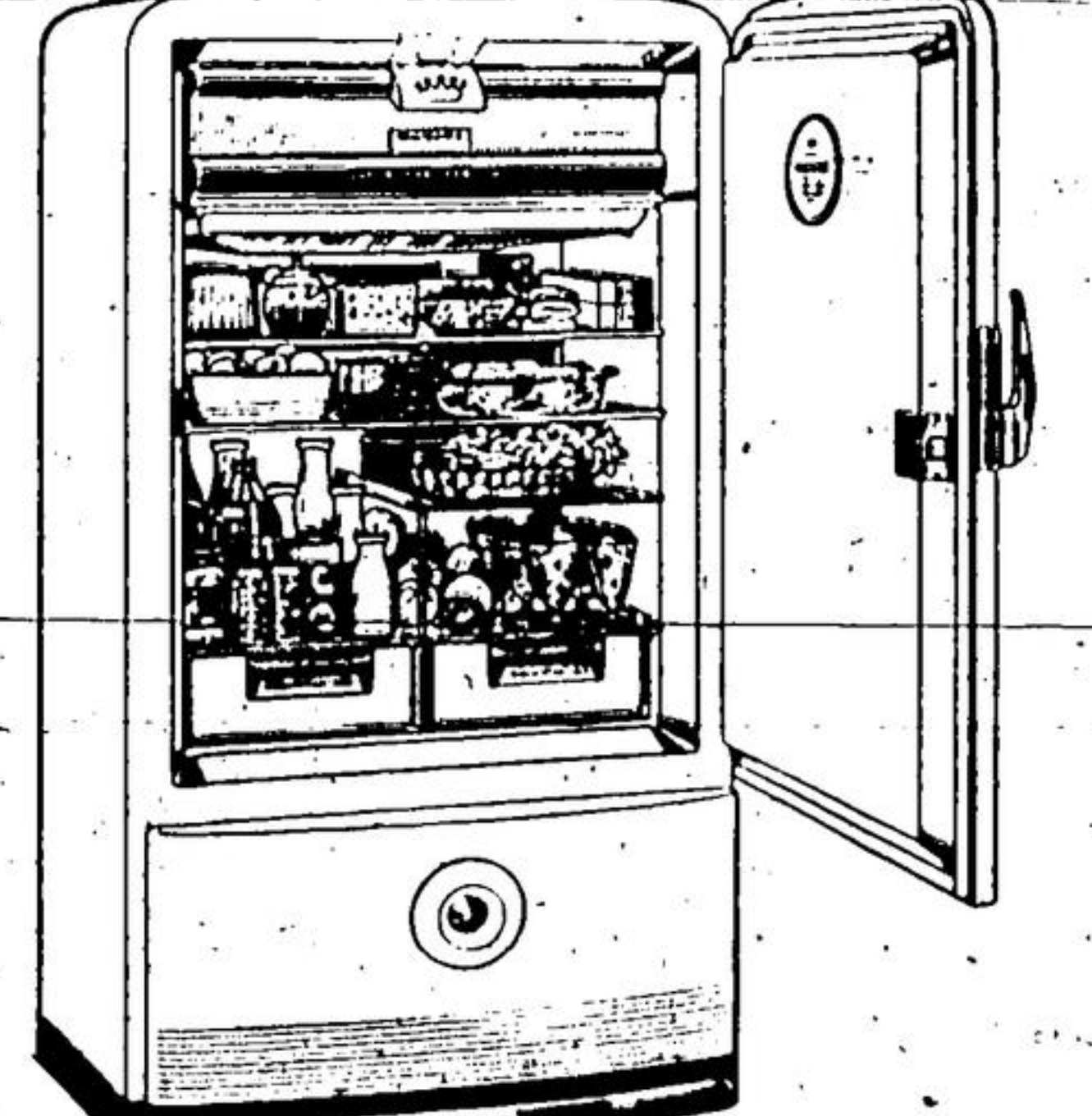
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