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G. ARLOV DILLS, Editor

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EDITORIAL

Your Help Appreciated

For the next week or so the editor and Mrs. Dills will be attending the convention in Victoria, B.C. of the Weekly Newspapers' Association. Latest reports are that over four hundred have registered and will be on the west coast at this gathering. They will come from Newfoundland and every province of the Dominion.

A loyal staff will present your newspaper next week without the assistance of the editor and likely most of the issue the following week as well. May we ask advertisers, readers, and friends to give them the same local help in compiling the hometown newspaper which has always been accorded to us in our task. With it they will serve you well.

What We Want and Can Pay For

When Hon. George Dunbar, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs, warned against the spending spree of municipalities, his words followed the tone of a statement by the Investment Dealers' Association of Canada. Mr. Dunbar was speaking at the 49th annual convention of the Ontario Municipal Association at Brantford. He declared that "many municipalities were going ahead pell-mell spending their money."

In a pamphlet issued by the Investment Dealers' Association was the following statement: "With the existing strong feeling of optimism and with current revenues running high, municipalities are liable to overlook the fact that present conditions are abnormally favorable and as a result may burden themselves with debt charges which in more difficult days may prove too heavy." And further: "By careful planning some of this new debt may be avoided. Those who must resort to a long-term debt program should do so carefully. Bonds should only be sold when there is no other alternative."

With a backlog of several projects that require attention, that were sidestepped during the war years, it is small wonder that most municipalities are finding many things that require doing. It was a popular attitude to say "we'll do that after the war."

Perhaps it would be well for every municipality to list the things desired for that town. Then they might be placed in order of importance by a Council or Citizen's Committee and the approximate cost noted beside each item. The next step in a plan of municipal spending might be to decide which projects should be paid for by tax levy and which could be financed by public subscription. After all, everything has to be paid for.

The Department of Municipal Affairs might here do a useful task in establishing the maximum amount that could be raised by municipal borrowing. With its wealth of statistics before it, there should be no difficulty in establishing a scale of borrowing and making a limitation on every municipality on its ability to pay not only now but for the life of the debentures to be issued.

The demands on municipal councils are heavy. These are days of progress and endless shortages. Fortunately the debenture debt of Acton is very moderate and a progressive program can be carried on. However, not all the desires can be met and it does seem a time for some planning and budgeting.

Traffic Losses Up in August

Ontario's traffic death toll took the lives of 79 persons in August, according to a survey of newspaper reports of motor vehicle accidents.

This is a sharp reversal of July's hopeful downward trend in motor accident fatalities, bearing out Highway Minister George Doucett's warning last month that "there is certainly no ground for complacency or for letting up on our safety efforts throughout the province because of fewer fatal accidents in any single month."

While this tragic total is above August of last year when 62 deaths were officially reported, it is still below the 1937-41 average of 84.4 deaths in August or the 98 total of August 1941. And traffic is greater now than it was then.

Worst feature of the August figures this year was the increase from five in July to eighteen last month in the number of children killed in the age group 5 to 14, the school age group.

Halton Well Up in Baseball

It would appear that in Halton County a pretty high brand of baseball is handed out to the fans. The Oakville Intermediate B team, after winning the Halton championship, has eliminated Fort Erie and made a formidable score against Tilsonburg.

In the Intermediate C group, Acton has taken the first round from Walkerton and the Milton Juveniles have eliminated the Aurora and Napanee entries by comfortable margins since winning the county honors. There are few counties, we believe, that have as many teams still in the O.B.A. playdowns as Halton has this year. Truly, it is quite a county for sports.

People at Fires

Fire Chiefs of the Dominion meeting at London have given some attention to one of the chief problems affecting their work. They are asking stricter regulations, more rigidly enforced, over the public.

Every department knows only too well how serious is this matter. Fires, unfortunately, are often spectacular. They attract spectators, and the kind of people who flock to them are sometimes of the type who are utterly lacking in consideration for those who must fight the flames. They want a show and they are going to have it, regardless of how much inconvenience they may cause.

The strict laws asked by the Fire Chiefs are not unreasonable. They want the authority to assure themselves freedom of action in fighting fires. They are heartily sick of motorists who refuse to get out of the way of speeding equipment, of others who insist on trailing the reels to the scene of action, and of people who crowd around for a closer view of operations.

People are never going to be cured of going to fires, but such events are not spectacles put on for their entertainment. It is of prime importance that the firemen be given every facility for doing their work. The law even now makes provision for this, but it is too laxly enforced. It should have more teeth and they should be used.—Windsor Star.

Getting Down to Earth

Public opinion in Canada has settled down considerably since the excited period of protests against price rises. With all the undoubted skill with which price control was administered, there was admittedly a mistaken inclination, if a natural one, to play up the success of the plan a little beyond the bounds of discretion.

At one stage it was almost an article of popular faith that we had discovered how to keep prices low, whatever else might happen. As it became plain that this was not true, there was considerable irritation over increases in prices.

The rise in the price of bread must be accepted as an inevitable increase. Bakers have been meeting greatly increased costs of all labor and materials, and were no more willing than people in other lines of business to bear the entire burden.

The main factor in the increased price, however, has been the end of the subsidy, amounting to millions of dollars a year, which the government, at the cost of the taxpayer has been providing.

This took the form of a plan by which wheat to be used for flour for consumption in Canada was sold to millers at seventy-seven and three-eighths cents per bushel, although the actual cost is one dollar and fifty-eight and one-half and exactly the same sort of wheat is sold to Britain at the same price and to other countries at far higher prices.

This was an unreal and artificial state of affairs, probably justified in time of war but not to be maintained in normal circumstances.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Just two weeks until Acton Fair and the big event of the fall season.

September maintained the heat wave pretty well but too soon will come the days when a little fire will be needed in homes, offices and factories.

Plenty of people can be found who will holler loud and enthusiastically for a baseball or football team, but there are not so many who will holler so constantly for other good causes of their home town.

There are two basic points about Britain's present dire predicament from which this country and others should learn, says the Financial Post.

There are limits to what a nation can do, limits to what it can spend. There is not, contrary to the assertions of latter-day prophets, an inexhaustible pool from which to draw social and other benefits.

2. The powers of "planning" are limited and the results uncertain.

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NUT CRUSH 14 OZ. 43c
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SANI-FLOUGH Lbs. 29c

FRENCH
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MAPLE SYRUP 14 OZ. 50c

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Sardines TIN 13c
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FISH CAKES TIN 19c

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LIMA Beans TIN 19c
GOOD SIZED, MEATY
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CLARE'S
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WAX BEANS 10 OZ. TIN 15c
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PUDDINGS PKG 7c

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Physician and Surgeon
(Successor to Dr. J. A. McNiven)
Office in Symon Block, Mill Street,
Acton
Office Phone 78—Residence Church
St., Phone 189

DR. D. A. GARRETT
Physician and Surgeon
Frederick Street, Acton
Formerly Dr. Nelson's office
Office Phone 238—Residence 243

DENTAL

DR. A. J. BUCHANAN
Dental Surgeon
Office—Lalahan Block, Mill Street
Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
X-RAY — GAS
TELEPHONE 148

DR. GEORGE A. SIRRS
Dental Surgeon
Mill Street, corner Frederick, Acton
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
TELEPHONE 19

LEGAL

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Eastbound
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11:51 a.m.; 2:06 p.m.; 4:46 p.m.; 6:26
p.m.; 9:06 p.m.; 11:11 p.m.

Westbound
10:38 a.m.; 12:25 p.m.; 2:50 p.m.;
5:13 p.m.; 7:33 p.m.; 9:33 p.m.;
11:28 p.m.

2 - To Stratford
a - To London
b - Sundays and Holidays only
x - Daily except Sundays and Holl-
days
y - To Kitchener
c - Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

STANDARD TIME

Eastbound
Daily except Sunday, 6:30 a.m.
9:15 a.m.; 9:45 p.m.; Sunday only,
10:25 p.m. Daily except Sunday, Flyer
at Georgetown, 6:22 p.m.; Daily Flyer
at Georgetown, 10:17 p.m.

Westbound
Daily except Monday, 11:47 a.m.;
Monday, 1:00 a.m.; Daily except
Sundays, 11 a.m., 6:15 p.m.; 10:30 p.m.;
Sundays only, 1:00 p.m.; Sunday only,
10:40 a.m.; 1:00 p.m.; Flyer at Geo-town
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