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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

TELEPHONES—
 Editorial and Business Office 174
 Residence 131

EDITORIAL

Merry Christmas to All

Once again comes the season of Christmastide and the opportunities which it affords—the home comings, the family gatherings, the sending of greetings to friends which oftentimes are only heard from once a year, the giving of gifts and a multitude of things that are only common at Christmastide. It's a grand time of year for all, whether it be children or adults, who after all are only grown up children.

The 1947 season should be a happy and joyous time for all Canadians. We are not torn by war and the differences that seem large are after all only local or individual. It's a time for thankfulness, too.

And so we want to join with all folks everywhere in extending Christmas greetings to not only our readers, correspondents, advertisers and business associates but to everyone we can reach. To-night is the night before Christmas. Merry Christmas to one and all from the editor and staff of the Acton Free Press, your hometown paper.

There is a Santa Claus

No Santa Claus? Yes, my little man, there is a Santa Claus! Regardless of what you may hear or read to the contrary. The world would indeed be poor without one. It is true that he does not always wear a white beard and drive a reindeer team—not always, you know—but what does it matter. He is Santa Claus with the big, loving, Christmas heart for all that; Santa Claus with the kind of thoughts for everyone, that make children and grown-up people beam with happiness all day long.

Because—you know, Santa Claus is the spirit of Christmas; and ever and ever so many years ago when the dear little Babe was born, after whom we call Christmas and was cradled in the manger out in the stable because there was not room in the inn, that Spirit came into the world to soften the hearts of men and make them love one another. Therefore, that is the mark of the Spirit to this day. Do not let anybody or anything rub it out. Then the rest does not matter. Let them tear Santa's white beard off at the Sunday School festival and growl in his bear-skin coat. These are only his disguises. The steps of the real Santa Claus you can trace all through the world as you have done here with us and when you stand in the last of his tracks you will find the blessed Babe of Bethlehem smiling a welcome to you. For then you will be home.—Smith Falls Record-News.

Dream is Shattered

Commenting on the reluctance of Great Britain to renew the long term food contracts with Canada at fixed advance prices, the Financial Post states that the dream of stable farm prices has been shattered. Argues the Post:

"Desperately short of dollars, Britain is endeavoring to buy her food as cheaply as possible and preferably from soft currency countries.

"Such an attitude is understandable, notwithstanding the public statements of certain Canadian groups which pretended otherwise. So long as war conditions lasted, when cost was of secondary importance to supply, buyers had no objection to long-term contracts. Now the situation has completely changed.

"Mr. Gardiner, the wheat pools, and some farm groups have talked a good deal about stabilization of farm prices. They hoped that the British government would be willing to pay higher-than-world-prices in the future in exchange for lower-than-world-prices during and since the war.

"From the first it was an idle hope. No government could expect to stay in power in Great Britain or anywhere else if it paid more than a penny necessary for the people's food."

We Hope to Do Better

Added to all the extra excitement and hurry in the holiday season we have this week been having installed some added equipment in our commercial printing department. A long period of search and arrangements have resulted in an automatic press being put into operation and it is hoped that this added equipment will enable us to catch up and maintain better delivery to those for whom we do commercial printing.

We have in the past regretted that many times

our equipment failed to meet the needs of our customers. The delay has been of deep concern to us. We do appreciate the forbearance of these patrons in awaiting the completion of deliveries. When we become accustomed to the operation of the new press we hope to overcome a great deal of the former delay. We might have secured a machine sooner but not one that is capable of turning out the standard of quality printing which we have endeavored to maintain.

Thanks to all for your patience. We hope soon to do better on your delivery. The new equipment has speeds of about four times the presses being replaced.

Emergency Measures

Stop-gap measures aim to bring coal quickly to an idle factory or food to a hungry nation. The chief emergency to-day, however, is not lack of food or fuel but lack of faith. Men need ideas to live by as well as food to live on. And fire in the factory furnace cannot win the battle for production where there is no fire in men's hearts. To fill larders and bins, therefore, is not even a stop-gap measure unless, at the same time we pour a quality of living to meet the crisis in faith.

Theories of how to live won't meet this need any more than theories about mines or agriculture. Some miners and some farmers somewhere will have to produce more coal and food in order to inspire others. And some ordinary citizens in some still-free country will have to produce more happiness and security in life in order to convince the rest of the world that here is the way to live.

No man or nation will find this greater satisfaction and security if he waits for other men or nations to be different. But everybody might start thinking what he can give to others instead of what he can get from them. Start putting the nation's interests ahead of his own. Start thinking of what God wants instead of what he wants. Start himself instead of waiting. That is at once the quickest and the surest way. That is a stop-gap measure that bridges gulfs as well, an emergency measure that meets the full emergency not only now but forever.

Cautious Policy Needed

On the whole, most Canadian communities are blessed with pretty fair government; surprisingly good, let us say, in view of the little interest most citizens take in it, the little thanks most municipal representatives get.

Most to be blamed for general mediocrity of municipal administrations is the ridiculously short term for which most of them are elected. Every Canadian community is paying a high price for the stupidity—and sometimes worse—of those forces which are ready to mass their strength against suggestions for lengthening the term of municipal office. Only in that way will there be some chance for an administrator to formulate and carry through businesslike programs, hence some reasonable incentive for more altruistic and civic-minded citizens to devote their brains, time and energy to this public service.

Right now, communities all across Canada are getting new administrations. Never before in our country's history have conditions called for more cautious and far-sighted municipal policies than at present.—Financial Post.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Merry Christmas Everyone.

A White Christmas seems assured for this district. December's snowfall has been copious.

The last week of old-1947. May the new one bring a big measure of happiness and joy to all.

Tomorrow is the day that more than children have been anticipating for months. May it be a bright and Merry Christmas to everyone.

These are the days of the Christmas concerts and parties and it just seems as if everyone was crowding in all the nice things for a whole year of appreciation.

A test in Newark showed that pretty man driving 34 miles at 45 mph, instead of 20, will save 5.8 minutes. And it makes for more safety to keep the speed down.

These Christmas greeting cards do seem to pile up but isn't it nice to know you have so many friends who wish you well and think it worth while to remember you at Christmas. Yes, we enjoy every card we receive.

From a purely financial point of view, the union business in Canada and the United States is booming. In Canada this year union members (\$31,697 last December) will probably pay out a total of \$13 millions in dues.

When control was removed from lumber and flour, the Labor Minister said increased production was the only solution to higher prices. Production of lumber and flour is at an all-time peak yet the price of flour has doubled and lumber is up \$5 and \$8 a thousand feet.

Retail sales continued upward in October, advancing 5 per cent. beyond September volume. While 12 per cent. gain over October, 1946 was reduction from 16 per cent. increase recorded in September comparison, increase was greater than average gain for earlier months.

On this happy occasion we wish you and those you hold dear, Merry Christmas and a rewarding New Year.

Roy's Electric Service
 R. R. 1, ACTON

We hope that the laughter that sounds through your home this Christmas is echoed throughout the entire New Year.

Hinton's 5cto\$1 Store

F. L. WRIGHT
 ACTON

Lift your ears and harken to the melodious Christmas bells ringing out our Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you.

Carroll's

CATERA DRY
CINGER ALE 2 1/2 LBS 27c
 DIAMOND BUNDED WALNUTS 1 LB 49c
 ALYMER STUFFED OLIVES 1 DOZ 65c
 BEHE TOMATO KETCHUP 1/2 GAL 24c
 TUNA 1/2 TIN 49c

MIXED NUTS IN SHELL 1 LB 39c

VICTORY SWEET MIXED PICKLES 34 OZ JAR 29c
ALYMER WHOLE DILL PICKLES 34 OZ JAR 27c

NEW LOW PRICE!
BEHIVE GOLDEN CORN SYRUP 5 LB TIN 27c 5 LB TIN 65c

NEW LOW PRICE!
PRUNES 2 LBS 29c
FRESHLY GROUND ROMAR COFFEE 1 LB BAG 51c
ALYMER FANCY BINGO CHERRIES 30 OZ TIN 35c
BRIGHTS ONTARIO PEACHES 30 OZ TIN 26c

POST'S BEAN WITH COCOLES 2 PEGS 29c
ALYMER DEW RIFT WAX BEANS 1/2 TIN 55c
VAN CAMP'S POKE BEANS 1/2 TIN 55c
BEANS 1/2 TIN 55c
1/4 VEGETABLE 30 OZ TIN 26c
SHORED SALLOW JUICE 1/2 TIN 26c
SPREAD 1/2 TIN 26c
ALYMER BLUEBERRIES 1/2 TIN 35c
FRAN'S FLOUR 1 LB 35c

ALYMER BARTLETT PEARS 30 OZ TIN 32c
GLOBE DESSERT PEARS 30 OZ TIN 33c
PITTED DATES 1 LB 29c
RED MARAICHINO CHERRIES 1/2 TIN 31c
SWISS UP 1/2 TIN 30c
PEEK FRANK'S BISCUTTS 1/2 LB 32c
AUNT JEMMA PANCAKE FLOUR 5 LB 47c

WALKER'S LEMON PIE MIX PEG 15c

A LUBRICATING QUALITY OF ATLYMER FANCY BEVE'S PEAS 1/2 TIN 21c

ALYMER QUEEN OLIVES 30 OZ JAR 31c

CURAM CRUMMED PINEAPPLE 30 OZ TIN 37c

ALLEY'S APPLE JUICE 1/2 GAL 33c

ORANGES
 220's 39c doz. 252's 34c doz. 288's 27c doz.

B. C. APPLES Extra Fancy, lb. 15c
EMPEROR GRAPES 29c
TANGERINES, 210's, doz. 27c

Business Directory

MEDICAL

DR. W. G. C. KENNEY
 Physician and Surgeon
 Acton
 (Successor to Dr. J. A. McIvlen)
 Office in Symon Block, Mill Street.
 Office Phone 78—Residence Church St., Phone 159

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—Lalshman 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

C. F. LEATHERLAND, B.A.
 ACTON
 Barrister and Solicitor, Notary Public
 Issuer of Marriage Licenses
 Registrar of Births, Marriages, Deaths
 Office 22 Phone Residence 183

LANGDON & AYLSWORTH
 Barristers, Solicitors, Etc.
 Offices:
 Acton—Comer Building
 R. MacIntyre Aylsworth, B.A.
 ACTON
 Office 215w Phone, Residence 215J
 Georgetown—Gregory Theatre Bldg
 Phone 88w

LEVER & HOSKIN
 Chartered Accountants
 Successors to
JENKINS & HARRY
 1305 Metropolitan Bldg.
 44 Victoria St., Toronto
 Elg. 9131

VETERINARY

B. D. YOUNG, V.S., B.V.Sc.
 Veterinary Surgeon
 Office: Brookville, Ontario
 Phone—Milton 146 r 4

F. G. OAKES, V.S., B.V.Sc.
 Veterinary Surgeon
 Office and Residence: Knox Avenue
 Acton — Phone 130

MISCELLANEOUS

JOHNSTONE & RUMLEY
 Victor B. Rumley
 Funeral Home, Heated Ambulance
 Serving the community for 45 years
 Phone 30 night or day

WILLOUGHBY FARM AGENCY
 Largest and Oldest Agency in Canada
 Head Office, Kent Bldg., Toronto
 Georgetown Representative
 Tom Hewson—Phone Georgetown 882

TIME TABLES

GRAY COACH LINES

COACHES LEAVE ACTON

Eastbound
 8:31 a.m.; 10:36 a.m.; 9:16 a.m.;
 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
 10:28 a.m.; 12:35 p.m.; 2:50 p.m.
 4:13 p.m.; 7:33 p.m.; 9:38 p.m.; 10:23
 p.m.; 11:28 p.m.

a. Daily except Sundays and holidays.
 b. Sundays and Holidays only.
 c. Daily except Sundays and Holy
 days.
 d. Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays.
 e. Daily except Sundays.

RAILWAYS

CANADIAN NATIONAL

STANDARD TIME

Eastbound
 Daily except Sundays, 6:44 a.m.;
 9:48 a.m.; 7:08 p.m.; Sunday only, 8:10
 p.m.; Daily except Sunday, Flyer at
 Georgetown, 6:37 p.m.; Daily Flyer at
 Georgetown, 10:11 p.m.

Westbound
 Daily except Monday, 1:17 a.m.;
 Monday only, 12:09 a.m.; daily except
 Sunday, 8:44 a.m., 6:48 p.m., 7:30 p.m.;
 Saturday only, 2:36 p.m.; Sunday only
 9:43 a.m., flagstop; Flyer at Guelph
 except Saturday and Sunday, 6:36 p.m.

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