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OAKVILLE

The annual banquet of the Halton County Police Association was held at the Fire Hall, Burlington, December 16. There were about 70 members, wives and guests in attendance. The armories building on Thomas Street, which was constructed by Ross M. Gibson in 1927 for a recreation club will be transformed into one of the most up-to-date bowling alleys in Ontario at the expiry of the present lease. Mr. Gibson intends to make this place the sports center of Oakville.

Mayor Charles V. Hillmer, who is retiring from that office at the end of the year, was host last evening to members of the council, past mayors and council members, heads of civic departments and boards at a banquet at the Halton Inn. Dr. F. M. (Doc) Deans acted as chairman and speeches were given by most of those present.

The air age has come to the farm. On Monday afternoon a plane left Milton airport for the Argentine with an unusual cargo—ten cattle and two hogs. The animals were trapped from the farm of A. L. Stagg, Queen Elizabeth Way, just north of Oakville. The destination was Buenos Aires and it was planned to stop at Miami and the West Indies en route.

James R. Black was elected as councillor by an overwhelming majority in Monday's election to fill a single vacancy on the Oakville town council.—Record-Star.

CHRISTMAS THOUGHT

Mrs. Graham Campbell of New York, realizing that every child needs a birthday—that is distinctly its own—did something about it. At her death a few days ago it was discovered that she had left a small box containing 16th to a grandchild who had the dubious fortune to be born on Christmas Day.

It is a reminder that years ago Robert Louis Stevenson had the same thought. He assigned his birthday to the daughter of a friend; "to have hold exercise and joy in the customary manner, by the sporting of the raiment, eating of rich meats, and receipt of gifts, compliments and copies of verse according to the manner of our ancestors." It just goes to show that there is always something to give.

To give a tang to raspberry or loganberry jam, add one teaspoonful of epsom salts to the batch while it is cooking.

THE CHRISTMAS CRACKER

As in Canada, no Christmas party in Britain is complete without a box of "crackers." Christmas crackers were first made in Britain about 70 years ago. It was a confectioner and maker of ornaments for wedding cakes with the typical English name of Tom Smith who brought back from a holiday on the Continent the idea which evolved into the cracker. He saw that a French confectioner made his sweetmeats more attractive by wrapping them in tissue paper. A few weeks before Christmas he set his assistants wrapping sugared almonds in this way. The cracker came a little nearer when he thought of making the package more entertaining by placing a loving message inside.

Chronicles of . . . Ginger Farm

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

Happy New Year, Everybody! And won't it be nice to start a brand new year with all the troubles and trials left, like a heavy pack, on the road behind us. That new pack we are taking along with us into the New Year is going to feel a little light and empty, for awhile, isn't it?—But it will soon fill up a bit—you'll see.

But I wonder with what? But that, I guess, is up to ourselves. Supposing each one of us starts out with an empty pack and has the opportunity to fill it with whatsoever we like—what a variety of things there would be!

This kind of pack is so different from other baggage — it will carry sunshine or gloom; kind deeds or selfishness. And strange to say the weight of the pack depends not so much on how full it is but the sort of stuff it carries. Kindness and sunshine weigh far less than selfishness or gloom. And no matter how much happiness we load there is always room for a little more. As for kind deeds they take up hardly any room at all—and they are so light it is never any trouble to carry them around. But, oh my! just try toting a few selfish thoughts along with you and your load is soon as heavy as lead. And worry . . . worry is the worst burden of all. But that is heavy because of its heavy wrappings. Take away the wrappings and let the good, clean air and sunshine get to the inside package and immediately it begins to shrink, and sometimes sort of evaporates completely. Worry always acts that way given the opportunity.

Just think of the old pack you left with 1947—you will remember it wasn't the joy and the laughter; the kindness to the old folk, nor the patience with the young—they were not the things that made it heavy, were they? No, it was the hurt feelings that were being carried around, the little petty jealousies, the determination to "get even," the discontent and unrest—it was those things that weighed so heavily all the time, wasn't it?

But oh dear, let's forget about that old pack—that belongs to the past, doesn't it? Our concern now is with 1948, and here we are with a nice new pack—and we are not going to let it become a burden, are we? Or, if it should show any sign of over-weight, how about giving it a house-cleaning—turn the pack inside out, let in the sunshine, throw out the gloom—and start all over again.

But do you know what? I don't think we had better put in too many New Year resolutions. They do seem to clutter things up so badly. They have a nice appearance, and you don't like to be rough and throw them out, but after all, what good are they when they are shoved to one side and forgotten? They are something like a pretty girl without much personality—nice looking but useless!

There is another thing that weighs a pack down rather badly—and that is debts. Oh my yes—debts can get terribly heavy! The Chinese realized that long ago, so what do they do? They pay everyone they owe before the old year dies and then they are all "velly, velly happy." Maybe we can't all do that—sometimes it isn't even good business—but at least we can look after the little bills that should be paid. We could clear up the nuisance debts—the \$1.50 owing at the grocer's; that \$2.90 at the butcher's for meat that was sent out with the mailman and for the apron that Bill brought home on approval. Why add to the work of the store-keeper by having him send out these little accounts time and time again. And of course we should look after that over-due subscription to our local paper!

Of course we are being kind to our government when we don't pay our

nuisance debts. Every stamp that is bought adds to its revenue. Well, folks, such as I is, that is my New Year's message to you. The best of luck to you all—and may your pack be light the whole year through.

ERIN

Erin has entered a team in a schedule of the Central Ontario Hockey League along with Markdale, Flesherton, Dundalk, Shelburne and Grand Valley.

At a meeting of the Erin Business Men's Association at the Busholme Inn on Tuesday evening, 35 sat to a banquet, at the conclusion of which officers were elected for the ensuing year.

At the second nomination meeting to complete a council for Erin Township held last Friday, four nominations were received, viz: Alex Bessey, Robert Rowan, Wilson B. Sutton and George C. Wallace. The first three mentioned withdrew and Mr. Wallace was declared elected councillor for the year 1948.

Former neighbors and friends of the Rockside-Belfountain Community assembled in Belfountain Hall on Wednesday evening of last week in honor of Wm. McPherson, who recently moved to Erin. Jack Russell was M. C. and in the course of a short address called on Tom Gibson who read the address and presented Mr. McPherson with a Cogswell chair, smoker's stand and pipe, gifts from those present.—Advocate.

GEORGETOWN

Rev. W. G. Luxton, who will become rector of the Anglican church at Acton and Rockwood in January, was born in Georgetown where his father, now deceased, was accountant at the Bank of Hamilton branch. Mr. Luxton, who comes to Acton from the Aldershot parish, is one of two brothers both ordained ministers of the Church of England. Their mother makes her home now in Mount Forest. Council accepted with regret the resignation of clerk-treasurer P. B. Harrison for reasons of health, the resignation to take effect when a successor is hired early in the new year.

As Tax Collector K. M. Langdon had announced earlier in the year that he was quitting this position at the end of 1947, Council decided to combine this with the clerk-treasurer's job and advertise for a man to fill the office at a salary of \$2000 a year.—Herald.

YULETIDE FASHION NOTE FROM LONDON

With comparatively little hope of new and luxurious clothes for Christmas, women in Britain, being feminine and therefore ingenious, are doing the next best thing. They are concentrating on novel and surprising hair-do's which, while attracting the maximum of attention within and without the family circle, take the minimum of time to attend to. In other words, at parties, in restaurants, and at theatres this Christmas there are likely to be worn head-dresses which will be the 20th century rivals to the kind of adornment about which Fanny Burney wrote in the 18th century. One woman gave a hint of the new fashions recently when she turned up at a wedding with her hair brushed up to the top of her head into a topknot of curls which were then tied round with a scarf, the ends of which hung down her back. One or two of the leading hairdressers who specialise in inventing surprising hair styles are using plaits of different colored nylon which are inter-twined into the natural hair and are introducing hair ornaments of the type which suggests 18th-century fashions. One young man is going further; he will invent a new hair style for his client and build her hat on the spot (and on her head) to wear with it. All these innovations suggest that women have lost neither their sense of novelty nor their sense of humor, and that Christmas will prove both.

I do not look for perfection in my friends; they might expect it in me, and then I would have no friends.

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Around the Christmas Tree

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE EXTENDED

(Authority, P.C. 4854, dated December 3rd, 1947)

ON AND AFTER January 1st, 1948, every employee in insurable employment paid by the month whose annual remuneration does not exceed \$3,120.00 will be insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act.

AT PRESENT those paid by the month whose annual remuneration is \$2,400.00 or less are insured under the Act.

THE CHANGE will not affect the coverage of all hourly, daily and piece rated employees and those paid on a mileage basis, who will continue to be insured regardless of earnings.

WEEKLY RATED employees whose earnings are expected to be \$3,120.00 or less per year will continue to be insured under the Act.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION

J. G. BISSON, Chief Commissioner

R. J. TALLON, Commissioner

C. A. L. MURPHY, Commissioner



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Santa Told Us Not To Tell

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Baxter's Drug Store

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