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ERIN
 The Village Fire Brigade is arranging to have fire alarm boxes installed throughout the village, which will be a help if an emergency arises.
 Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland of Morrisburg, have purchased the old Post Office building from Bonar Magill. Mr. Sutherland is a watchmaker and will open a jewelry store along with his trade.
 Nell E. McKinnon, of Hillsburgh, last week shipped 252 horses—14 carloads to Montreal, from where they were sent to Belgium. The animals will be sold as horse meat to help ease the critical food shortage in that country.
 James Petch, of R.R. 2, Caledon, suffered slight concussion Saturday night when crushed by a cow against the wall of his barn as he was herding the animal inside—Advocate.

CANADA AS A PRODUCER OF STRATEGIC MATERIALS
 While it is recognized that Canada lacks some strategic materials, we are among the world's largest producers of some of those materials which are of primary importance. In some instances, Canada is virtually the sole producer of vital materials. The strength of the free countries therefore depends to no small extent in Canada's and Canadians ability to produce and to stockpile such materials as are essential to an effective state of preparedness. — Canada's "Industrial Defense Board" has the mission of securing that end. Recent development of some of our natural resources such as the Alberta oil fields and new mining discoveries in Quebec and Labrador further increase our potential contribution to the democratic nations' reserves of strategic materials.

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BURLINGTON
 On Friday evening last, well over one hundred citizens and business men of the town turned out to a dinner given at the Estaminet in honour of Elgin A. Harris, who has commenced his fiftieth year as editor of the Burlington Gazette. The very large attendance was a high tribute to the esteem and respect in which Mr. Harris is held by the community in which he has labored for the past fifty years.
 The police committee held a meeting on Monday evening last, to consider the applications for the position on the police force left vacant by the resignation of Thomas Hall. Nine applications were considered by the committee and an appointment will be recommended to the council at its next meeting.
 After some discussion, Burlington Council decided to accept the tender of the Hickie-Sengram Co. on a triple combination fire truck, consisting of pump, booster tank and hose body, together with air and hand accessories, according to specifications submitted, but not including chassis. The price was \$6980.—Gazette.

OAKVILLE
 Oakville's retail stores have abandoned the practice of closing all day Wednesday, started several weeks ago in an effort to cut down power consumption, and have reverted to the regular custom of closing in the afternoon only. The all-day closing did not have the desired effect.
 The campaign to raise \$150,000 by subscriptions for the Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital building fund is now under way, and so far is meeting with success. Up until noon on Monday, subscriptions totalled \$26,735.63.
 In the presence of Ontario's lieutenant-governor, Hon. Ray Lawson, the provincial minister of health, Hon. Russell T. Kelly, officials of the hospital board, members of the Oakville and Trafalgar councils, a number of local organizations and several hundred citizens, the site of the Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital was formally dedicated on Thursday morning. The ceremony was a part of the Remembrance Day memorial service.—Record Star.

Is There a Santa Claus
 By Joseph Lister Rutledge
 At intervals of recent years Dr. Brock Chisholm has startled us by blasting away at what we supposed was the innocent myth of a Santa Claus. Dr. Chisholm has warned us that permitting a myth to become a reality in childish minds is to do them an irreparable harm. Belief in the unbelievable will color their lives, warp their judgments and minimize their later effectiveness.
 Now, not being a psychiatrist, we don't pretend to know about that. But if it should be even distantly true of childhood with its amazing adaptability, might it not be much more shockingly true of maturity? Yet almost every public voice we hear is asking us to believe that its particular Santa Claus will provide for our needs, our wants and our inclinations with little effort on our part.
 The Progressive Conservatives in their "please everyone" platform suggest to eager listeners that, given the chance, they would reduce personal income tax to a tune say of two hundred million. Ah, but they would also add to our existing social benefits at a cost of perhaps two hundred million. Ah, but is the true Santa Claus spirit. Just be good and you'll be looked after.
 Of course the Liberals a few weeks earlier had done about as well. They were more happily placed too. They could actually distribute a few gifts as an earnest of the bigger things they would do next year. That keeps us nicely in line.
 Listening to these encouraging voices, too many people are believing. We would remind them of the story of the young skeptic who scornfully admonished a younger friend: "Aw, there isn't any Santa Claus. It's just your father."
 When it comes to Santa Claus, however, the C.C.F.'ers undoubtedly believe that they have the real "know how". All you do is turn everything into the hands of a government of their designing. Accept socialism they urge and you merge government and Santa Claus. Then all you have to do is wait for the gifts to fall from the tree.
 Isn't it about time that some Dr. Chisholm or Mr. St. Laurent or Mr. Coldwell or Mr. Drew, should stand up among us adults and announce this shocking truth? Government is no Santa Claus. If we want any government to distribute gifts we ourselves must first put up the money to provide them. And that is hard because we like the Christmas tree spirit, even if you don't produce much while you sit around it. But, no matter what political party is talking it is wise to remember that the only Santa Claus is you.

SPORTS CAMERA
 By H. Coles

To-night promises to be an epochal event in the eyes of Acton hockey fans who, if they so desire, can bid the Tanners a lot of luck as they leave the barrier in pursuit of the "Sheeny" Tost memorial cup at Georgetown in the first of six games scheduled as pre-season work-outs. It will be the earliest start in the game's history, insofar as Acton teams are concerned, and it ironically pits the already seasoned Georgetown crew against our thrice practiced Tanners. The stunt is being pulled off by the Georgetown committee for a more moorland to equalize the exorbitant expense of an artificial ice plant. Or to make the scheme pay, eh? Four clubs are entered in Oakville, Weston, Acton and Georgetown, and doubleheaders are slated for each Tuesday and Thursday. It would be folly to hazard a guess as to the eventual winner, but due to pre-fabricated structure of the venture we wouldn't hesitate in the belief that Georgetown have 10-1 odds on themselves. On the other hand, this might be an honest endeavour to shake the fans' thirst for hockey action that they otherwise would not glimpse until the New Year.

The trophy, in honor of the late "Sheeny" Tost, one of the most scintillating players to ever don a Georgetown jersey, is to be awarded the tournament champion. "Sheeny" may well be remembered by older spectators for his shifty work at centre, sparking the Papermakers to victory. Killed while on active duty with the Canadian Army during the late war, the cup is a fitting monument to "Sheeny" and the game he loved most. Acton fans would be honored to have the Tanners' seal inscribed on it. It was against Acton that the fiery pivot played some of his best hockey and many have the name Tost impressed indelibly on their mind as synonymous with brilliant hockey.

The "Raider" as Georgetown's entry prefer to be touted have an unknown quantity confronting them in Oakville and Weston. In view of the fact that Oakville have been practicing in Hamilton since early November we'll concede they have a revitalized outlook on Int. hockey — possibly restuffed too. Weston adjacent to Toronto, have an almost limitless field to procure talent from, if they pull the right strings. And it is no secret. To Acton fans that the Tanners are an entirely different position, regarding the wealth of material available. Although bereft of two star players, Grant Gillespie and Ilo Marzo, the former migrated to Owen Sound and the latter fired with the unshakeable determination to retire, there is a host of talent eager to catch a berth on the club. Rather than seeking players, this term, it is a case of eliminating them.

One of the noticeable absences from the series is Milton. An artificial ice plant is being installed in the Milton arena and it isn't likely any hockey will be played there at all. Seating sections were torn up completely in the edifice renovation plan and if ice was practical, seating for fans wouldn't be. However, players from the County Town are not being ignored. Several are practicing with the Tanners while Chuck Currie and McInnery have lined up with Georgetown.

More Plant Food At Less Cost
 There is a definite demand for higher analysis fertilizer in Eastern Canada. This has been the case for some time, because it is the total amount of plant food in the fertilizer that counts and not the total weight of the fertilizer.
 About twenty-five years ago the average plant food content in mixed fertilizer was around 12 per cent as compared with the present 22 per cent. About thirty years ago much of the fertilizer sold was as low as 1-8-1 analysis, which was later increased to 2-8-4. The lowest grade fertilizer sold today is 2-12-6 and in some parts of Canada this grade is being replaced with a 3-18-9. This reduces mixing freight costs to the farmer. Usually a higher analysis fertilizer such as 3-18-9 or 6-10-12 costs the farmer much less per unit of plant food. In addition it costs the farmer less to apply it to his crops because he can get the same result by applying less per acre.
 Commissioner S. T. Wood, C.M.G., of the R.C.M.P. is a great great grandson of the 12th President of the U.S.A., Zachary Taylor.

GEORGETOWN
 Through an error in estimating teachers' salaries, expenditures of Georgetown Public School board will exceed the budget figure by approximately \$1332 this year, it was revealed when the board held its November meeting last Wednesday.
 C.S.M. David Bowman local restaurateur proprietor, received his Military Medal at an investiture Monday, November 22nd at Fort York Armouries, Toronto. Mr. Bowman, who was an acting Regimental Sergeant Major won the decoration for gallantry in action while serving overseas.
 A trig foxhound owned by Elmer Burt, made a clean sweep at the second annual bench show of the Western Ontario Fox Hunter's Association in Milverton recently. Competing with over seventy dogs of all breeds the dog won the Carling trophy for best dog in show and four other firsts, including best female in show and best puppy in show.—Herald.

How Is Labor Headed?
 By Joseph Lister Rutledge
 One of the sobering questions arising out of President Truman's great personal triumph is the new significance of organized labor in the councils of a political party. Labor has become the solid bloc replacing the "solid South" once the focus of all Democratic party policy.
 It is reasonably obvious that the much debated and debatable Taft-Hartley law will go. Will labor be satisfied with that dramatic gain, or will it demand a larger "pound of flesh." If its new power is accepted as a trust and wielded for the general good the decision may well have been a happy one not only for the United States but for this continent. If it is seized as an opportunity for new and exorbitant demands then it might easily be the first move toward the destruction of the last remaining bulwarks of free enterprise in this world. Labor must realize that freedom of enterprise is as vital to the well-being of its organized position as it is necessary to capitalism.

The people who see in the gains of organized labor achieved or justified a forward step in human progress too often fail to recognize that the organized worker is not the whole of labor or even the majority of labor. Leaving out the agricultural worker altogether, still organized labor represents something less than one-third of the whole working force of the continent. No gain that is made by one-third of a people at a desperate cost to the other two-thirds can ever spell progress.
 We don't say that this is or must be the case. We merely suggest that under certain conditions it easily might be. If the demand for more and more wages or less and less working hours or both; or if a lowered production by labor produces the same conditions what will result? Unorganized workers, who are twice the number of the organized will be squeezed beyond endurance and ultimately priced out of the market.
 But forgetting entirely the possible sufferings of this vast army of workers, to which would be added most of those from the farm, the fact remains that they represent more than two-thirds of the purchasing power of this continent. If they become desperate not only is the system to which we owe all our present prosperity in danger, but all the advantages that organized labor has gained are in danger too. That is why we wait with soberness the evidence that labor has sensed its great responsibility and has assumed its share of the burden.

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