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G. ABLOF DILLIS, Editor

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EDITORIAL

Vote to Maintain a Band

On Monday, citizens will be asked to vote on a change in the Band By-law which would if given favourable assent on both questions make the annual grant to the band at the present rate of \$500 per year. Most citizens will recall that the present by-law carried with a good majority and was given in recognition of the achievement of the band in musical competitions in Waterloo and Toronto. Bands are not built in a year or two and it behoves citizens to provide regular funds each year if they would have a creditable organization in Acton and Acton Boys' and Girls' Band is a worthy and creditable organization for Acton. We favoured the band by-law when high awards were being won and we favour the present grant a year or so later.

We had hoped and said so editorially, that the question would be placed in simple terms on the ballot. The voters will vote on two questions. What the result will be is anybody's guess and it could be negative placed in this form.

If you want the grant to be \$1000 or more vote NO on the first question. If you want the grant to be \$500 instead of \$1000 vote YES on both questions. The reason this vote is necessary at all is the change in Acton's assessment system this year in conformity with the new County system. Be sure to vote on the band by-law and assure a portion of taxes going towards annual maintenance of this great community asset.

It's Your Day

Monday is election day. The one day in the year when ratepayers have an opportunity to make a choice on the management of their town for the coming year. It's an important day and has a direct bearing on your pocketbook since you as a ratepayer provide the funds in taxes with which municipal affairs are carried on.

It is fortunate for this or any other town that men of experience and ability are willing to assume the municipal duties and spend time and thought on the conduct of town affairs. Citizens owe these officials a debt of gratitude and at least voting support at the polls if you approve of their conduct. Your newspaper attempts to keep you well informed on Council proceedings and from it and your own knowledge of municipal affairs all can keep in touch pretty closely. Monday is your day for selection. Make it as you deem best in the interests of the town as a whole.

Public Business is Public's Business

The federal government's tendency to hush up certain matters that should be made public comes in for sharp criticism by The Financial Post.

The film board incident is not the only one in which the government has shown its predisposition to secrecy to get its laundry all done and everything tidied up before public view is permitted.

The recent McGregor report on the flour milling industry is one case in point. The situation for the government was vastly worsened, rather than improved, by its illegal decision to withhold the report for 10 months.

"In public affairs there is nothing that isn't the property of the public. The press is the public-representative in finding out and reporting how our business is being conducted.

"Trying to conduct public affairs in private is dangerous, and it never works for long."

Britain Not Out

Don't count Britain out, says Floyd S. Chalmers writing in The Financial Post after his recent tour of the United Kingdom. Says Mr. Chalmers: "The one fact that stands out most in one's mind after an intensive study of the British people at work is simply this: that no matter how serious the financial crisis; no matter how difficult the problems of increasing production; no matter how violent the controversies between the

parties or within the Labor government itself, no matter how bad the superficial picture may be, Britain is not to be counted out."

"A mighty job of reconstruction is being done. Every hour's labor and every ton of steel has a hundred different claimants. There are blitzed buildings to be rebuilt; houses to be put up in place of slums; factories to be modernized; a world clamoring for merchandise and dollars that have to be earned. More freedom in the marketplace unquestionably would have gotten the job done faster and more efficiently; but there would still be need for sacrifice and hard work.

"Britain is making progress toward recovery and the people still have spirit and industry and a wealth of world trading 'know how' in their make-up."

Christmas, Not 'Xmas'

In a few weeks the Christian peoples throughout the world will again observe the anniversary of the birth of the Prince of Peace, the Saviour of Mankind, known as Christ. December 25 is now called Christmas . . . and Christmas it should be.

Why, then, in all too many cases, is this hallowed, holy Christmas shortened to 'Xmas'? It changes a beautiful word with a sacred significance into a meaningless, abrupt and ugly abbreviation. Those in the know claim that the letter 'X' in Xmas is the Greek letter 'chi' written X and 'chi' is the initial letter of the Greek word for Christ.

As we pause and reflect upon the true meaning of the cherished holiday, we find that stripped of its tinsel, its bright lights, its festivities and the giving of gifts and exchange of Christmas greetings, the Christmas season holds a reverent and spiritual meaning which sometimes becomes obscured in the bustle of the day and the prevalence of un-Christian ideologies.

Does not this reverent and spiritual word CHRISTMAS have a tendency to become obscured and to dim the true sense of the season when we replace Christ with an 'X'?

Each of us can do well to pause and reflect upon the meaning of Christmas look beyond the tinsel and frivolity which has become associated with the birthday of the Christ Jesus, and see that upon Christmas Day God sent His only begotten Son to save the world.

Warning By A Dean

Emerging from retirement, Dr. Inge of St. Paul's, London, the "gloomy Dean", voiced this warning:

"Either the nations must surrender some fraction of their independence to a supernatural authority which will have the power to settle disputes peaceably or peace will be restored as in the Roman Empire by a knockout blow by the strongest power. This last looks painfully like a Tartar domination of Europe and Asia. Shall we have the sense to choose the former alternative?"

The Chaplain of the United States Senate, Rev. Frederick Brown Harris, made a timely comment on the Dean's statement. Writing in the Washington Sunday Times, he said:

"But the fatal trouble is that the 'former alternative', namely, just adjustments of the differences dividing mankind, cannot be chosen unless men and nations change.

"Communism is out on a world-wide scale to liquidate one class and put another unchanged class at the top of the heap. Socialism, often sincere enough in its attempts to eliminate exploitation in order to bring the good things of life to all people, is still dealing with unchecked selfishness which can wreck any social scheme.

"Even in a chastened capitalism, management and labour confront each other with belligerent bitterness and suspicion in a constant tug-of-war. With legislative bricks, a sorry attempt doomed to futility is being made to build an altruistic edifice on the sinking sands of an unchanged society. It is self-evident that the utopian plan will not work without the utopian man.

"The only escape from catastrophe is to change human nature. That diagnosis is as old as the Matchless Figure who enunciated the Sermon on the Mount and who insisted, as He fronted the deepest needs of the individual and of society, 'You must be changed'. 'Born again', He called it."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Quite noticeable how all the predictions of a green Christmas were stopped this week with an unusual blanket of November snow.

Vote as you please on Monday but be sure to use the privilege you have. It's a citizenship duty to cast your ballot and have interest in your town.

Our neighbouring town of Georgetown is apparently having many municipal difficulties, since its police, magistrate, and now its water shortage have been hitting the daily headlines. It's an old saying that "Trouble never comes single."

**Chronicles of . . .
Ginger Farm**

Written Specially for
The Acton Free Press
OWEN DOLINE P. CLARKE

Winter comes to Ontario! But definitely and more definitely here than in some places. When the radio said it was right above in Toronto it was four below outside our front door. And I was told that during the night it dropped to fifteen below. For the 26th of November that was cold enough. Earlier in the week when it was still mild, young John returned from Alberta, driving all the way, and made the trip in five days in his 1936 automobile. He brought a claim along with him who was coming on to Montreal and the two of them slept in the car, brought their own food and cooked their own meals. What a thing it is to be young!

For a few days John was helping Bob with a trucking job but the weather soon put an end to the extra work they had in view as there was little they could get on with beyond everyday chores. So much coming and going, the house seemed full of men, but the three of them, but there is a lot of men! They seemed to fill the kitchen when they all came in together.

Saturday morning there was a great to-do about the cars and trucks all of them more or less frozen but none seriously as all had been winterized but not to fifteen below.

And into this cold, bleak world a calf was born, the mother very considerably, produced her offspring during the day, so trips to the barn during the evening, and sitting up late at night, were, for once, not the least bit necessary. Partner is getting his cows very well trained, that is the second daytime calf inside of two weeks.

And then came the end of daylight saving time in this district, but, ironically, we had our last day of summer time on the coldest November day recorded in years. With what relief I set the clocks back Saturday night! You people who have been on standard time for the last two months, you don't know how lucky you have been. And yet it takes a little while to get adjusted even to what you have been looking forward to. Many a morning recently I have thought "Oh, if only we were on standard time and didn't have to get up at this unearthly hour!"

Then we go back to standard time and what happens? I wake up three times between 4:30 and 6 o'clock. And at 6:10 Partner starts prowling around. "What are you getting up for?" I ask. "Don't forget this is Sunday morning, plus standard time, you don't need to get up so early." But it didn't do any good. Partner was awake, so he had to get up. And that was that. Habit is hard to break.

Remember a couple of weeks ago I remarked it was a good idea to fit one's work to the weather? Well, I have been doing just that again. It just so happened I had a quilt top finished when winter struck so suddenly and of course I wasn't happy until I had it in the frames, a kind-hearted neighbour coming along to help with the job.

You know this quilting business must be contagious. The W. I. had a quilting; a friend in the next township was awfully busy because she had been quilting for two days and a contemporary columnist in this district also writing about the joys of quilting, so it must be in the air. And I ask you, what better job could anyone have in cold, stormy weather? The trouble is, that once started, it is hard to leave a quilt alone. You feel you just must go on . . . get it rolled again and see how much smaller it is. Two friends were coming in to help me with my quilt but I am afraid by the time the weather lets up I shall have my quilt about done. But there will be others. Yes, I am quite sure there will be others.

After reading this I wonder how many women will feel the urge and get out the quilting frames.

Ah, another advantage to standard time. It is 11 a.m. and I see the mailman at the gate. For the last two months we have been getting our mail anywhere from 12 o'clock to 1:30, and we haven't liked it at all. Excuse me a minute, please.

Well, here we are again—we went after the mail—the dogs and I. When we got to the box Honey stood on her hind legs until I gave her some mail to carry home. Tippy thought that was the signal for having fun and started chasing Honey. But Honey, faithful to her task, kept the advertising folder tightly in her mouth, until she reached home, loping along in the snow-like a Jack-rabbit.

Big land bargain: The United States' payment of only two cents an acre to Russia for Alaska in 1867. Cost was \$7,200,000.

**TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF ERIN**

Ladies and Gentlemen

Having served the municipality as councillor for the past two years, I solicit your vote and influence as a candidate for councillor for 1950

George C. Wallace

CARROLL'S
 CANADA TEST
VEGETABLE SOUP
 10-OZ. TIN 5c
 48-TIN CASE \$2.40

SPECIAL — CHOICE QUALITY
 NATURE'S BEST GOLDEN CREAM
CORN 15.0Z. TIN 10c
 24-TIN CASE \$2.40

- NATURE'S BEST TOMATOES 26 OZ. TIN 15c
- FANCY STOKELY'S PUMPKIN 2 15 OZ. TINS 21c
- Libby's DEEP BROWN BEANS 20 OZ. TIN 17c
- New Low Price PREM 12 OZ. TIN 42c
- Cross & Blackwell XMAS PLUM PUDDING 1-LB. TIN 49c
- AUSTRALIAN SEEDLESS RAISINS LB. 16c
- CURRENTS AUSTRALIAN POUND 17c
- CUT MIXED PEEL 1-LB. PCK. 17c
- Asst'd Glace FRUIT 1-LB. PCK. 21c
- CHINESE GINGER 5 OZ. JAR \$1.15
- BLACK CHERRIES 15 OZ. TIN 19c
- TILBERT BROWNIE or SPICE CAKE MIX PCK. 33c

SPECIAL — WESTON'S ASSORTED SANDWICH
BISCUITS LB. 29c

- BROWN BEAR HONEY 4-LB. TIN 85c
- Dandee TEA 1-LB. PCK. 75c
- ROMAR COFFEE 1-LB. PCK. 64c
- PEANUT BUTTER ROMAR 10 OZ. JAR 37c
- KEL'S APPLE JUICE 2 20 OZ. TINS 15c
- BLENDED JUICE 20 OZ. TIN 23c
- ORANGE JUICE 20 OZ. TIN 25c
- HARVEST MARGARINE 1-LB. PCK. 33c
- Spratt's ENGLISH DOG OVALS LB. 18c
- Five Roses FLOUR 5-LB. BAG \$1.59, 1-LB. BAG 36c
- Aylmer OVERSEAS Packages \$4.25
- HEINZ BABY CEREALS PKO. 23c
- HEINZ BABY FOOD 3 TINS 25c
- Libby's SPAGHETTI 15 OZ. TIN 13c
- JEWEL SHORTENING 1-LB. PCK. 29c
- SHELLPAK Shelled NUTS PKO. 25c
- CHOCOLATE OVALTINE TIN 58c
- Crispie SALAD ONIONS WHITE RED OR GREEN 23c
- Palmolive SOAP OZs 9c, 13 1/2
- SUNLIGHT SOAP BAR 10c

MIRACLE WHIP
 SALAD DRESSING
 KRAFT — 32-OZ. JAR 67c

- Iceberg LETTUCE, 5's, each 15c
 - New Navel ORANGE'S, No. 238's, Dozen 35c
 - CELERY HEARTS Bundle 15c
 - Florida or Texas GRAPEFRUIT, 9's 3 23c
 - Size 1 1/2" Minimum ONIONS, 10 lb. Bag 39c
- FRESH DAILY — Grapes, Spinach, Tomatoes, Salads, Bananas, Cauliflower

Business Directory

MEDICAL

DR. W. G. C. KENNEY
 Physician and Surgeon
 (Successor to Dr. J. A. McIlwain)
 Office in Symon Block, Mill St., Acton
 Office Phone 78—Residence Church St., Phone 128

DR. D. A. GARRETT
 Physician and Surgeon
 Corner of Willow and River Sts.
 Entrance River Street
 Acton, Ontario
 Phone 248

DENTAL

DR. A. J. BUCHANAN
 Dental Surgeon
 Office Leishman Block, Mill St.
 Office Hours 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 X-RAY
 TELEPHONE 148

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

LEGAL

C. F. LEATHERLAND, B.A.
 ACTON
 Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public
 Office 21 Hudson, Residence 183

LEVER & HOSKIN
 Chartered Accountants
 Successors to JENNINGS & HARDY
 130a Metropolitan Bldg.
 41 Victoria St., Toronto
 Rtg. 9131

VETERINARY

B. D. YOUNG, V.S., B.V.Sc.
 Veterinary Surgeon
 Office: Brookville, Ontario
 Phone Milton 14674

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

MISCELLANEOUS

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TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

GRAY COACH LINES

COACHES LEAVE ACTON

Eastbound	a. 6:38 a.m.	8:56 a.m.	11:48 a.m.
Westbound	2:08 p.m.	4:43 p.m.	6:23 p.m.
Eastbound	10:42 a.m.	12:52 p.m.	2:57 p.m.
Westbound	5:27 p.m.	7:27 p.m.	9:12 p.m.

a—Daily except Sunday and holidays
 b—Saturday, Sunday and holidays

RAILWAYS CANADIAN NATIONAL

Eastbound
 Daily 6:44 a.m. Daily except Sundays 9:52 a.m., 7:10 p.m. Sunday only, 8:19 p.m. Daily except Sunday, Flyer at Georgetown, 6:37 p.m. Daily Flyer at Georgetown, 10:11 p.m.

Westbound
 Daily except Sunday and Monday, 1:58 a.m., Sunday and Monday only, 1:18 a.m., daily except Sunday, 8:48 a.m., 6:50 p.m., 7:44 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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