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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

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EDITORIAL

Shifting Taxation
 Answers to Financial Post question clearly illustrate the diversity of opinion held on the financing of municipal services and obligations throughout the country.

Majority of replies do, however, see need of stronger measures being taken in regard to such items as primary education, unemployment relief, low rental housing, care of the aged, etc., and having these transferred to another agency.

On the other hand, correspondents believe that in the case of many social services, solution does not lie in the transfer of responsibility but in a change in the methods of financing. Federal and provincial properties in a municipality, some answers advise, should pay the same rate of taxation as the public.

Such gathering of opinion may be interesting and varied but there is always uniformity in one respect and that is that the financing should be shifted to other shoulders. The demand for more public services has been the means of putting taxation at every turn in municipal, provincial, and federal fields. Each tries to avoid payments, just as the individual, but each demands an increased service. The result is excessive administration costs in both collecting and distributing and a consequent deduction from funds payable. Municipal taxes hit most everyone pretty directly. Perhaps that is the reason why they create more attention than hidden taxes.

Most folks do not stop to think that the gasoline tax is over a quarter of the cost of the product, that on a packet of 35 cent cigarettes the tax collected is over 20 cents and so on down the line. The town puts in sewers and there's a tax collected in many ways that adds thousands to the cost. The chain of taxation is endless but certainly it gets heavier and shifting of the load is only a temporary solution.

Christmas Shopping

Many folks have completed their Christmas shopping but most of us are still left with the problem to be settled before December 25th. The Christmas season these times is extended well over a month in the cities but somehow we in the smaller centres have our Christmas parades and parties and most of our shopping packed into the last week or two immediately preceding Christmas.

City stores may be sold out of many lines. City mobs have been packing the stores for weeks we are told and there has been the hectic rush of shopping that city folks seem to enjoy. If you like it you too can pick any day and have it. But if you prefer the easier, less tiring and less expensive methods you'll find better values in your own home stores. Just look through the advertisements in this or any issue of your home town paper and make up your shopping list from the suggestions offered.

You'll find clerks in the stores who have a personal interest in you and your problems and you will not have the unnecessary expense of travel to shorten your Christmas budget. That's why we say Christmas shopping can best be done at home—in Acton.

Christmas 1949

Christmas 1949 approaches the end of the second millennium since the birth of the Babe of Bethlehem shook the world to its foundations. Where do we stand? In the matter of the geography and the history of freedom we stand in the sunlit third of a world that is fast fading into blocks of midnight and twilight countries. In them tyrants rule by force and lies. There slavery or a concentration camp awaits the man who dares to differ.

Holly, mistletoe and decorated trees, gifts and parties—these are trimmings and traditions that have grown around the original Christmas message, until it has become only a legend and

a time for indulgence. Many have forgotten the startling truth of these words: "Good Christian men rejoice because now there is hope; God has come among men." All the power of the Creator of the world is available if men will turn to Him to solve their own and their nations' problems.

With this burning in their hearts men changed the ancient pagan world. Step by step through centuries punctuated by the blood of martyrs, men worked that the plan of God might prevail. They lived and died for freedom of conscience, freedom of speech, for the abolition of slavery and the sanctity of the home.

Then there came a halt. People surfeited with prosperity and privilege took God for granted. They thought they could run their own lives and their country's business by human wisdom. Today the great heritage of Christian civilization is in jeopardy.

A Good Time To Live

Writing in the Fergus News-Record last week Editor Hugh Templin gets in a reminiscent mood as he notes the thirty-first anniversary of his feature and widely-read "Inside Page". Thirty-one years does not seem long to look back but it is true that there have been many changes in all these communities in that period. There was no travel by motor car in the winters of 1918 and no bus routes. Many of the highways were not through and trips to Toronto were over the concession lines. There was no radio in the homes and the circle of travel and news was more community bound.

The past thirty years have seen greater advancement in Ontario communities than the previous century. It's been a great time in which to live and there is every indication that the years ahead will see even greater expansion in this section of Ontario for those who witness the next decades.

Anniversaries are great times for recollections especially as we grow older. Following the growth of a community one gets to know so intimately is interesting and growing with it makes it doubly interesting. We re-entered the weekly newspaper field about the same time that Mr. Templin went back to the Fergus News-Record and naturally found a common interest in his anniversary recollections last week. We were both young fellows then and well recall attending district press gatherings when J. C. Templin, H. P. Moore, Mr. Wright and Mr. Mills were among the senior editors. Many recollections crop up but then perhaps they would only interest the two chaps who were beginners thirty-one years ago. It's been a busy life but if a choice were given again, like Mr. Templin we would re-enter the same field.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The December thaw should be a real boon to all communities short on water supply and also a help in the power situation.

Stationary or lower prices on new models of cars is forecast for next year. This in spite of new improvements and higher costs in wages and materials.

Two men attempted to steal a street car in Toronto. Rather limited ambition since they couldn't go any place outside of Toronto in the stolen transportation.

Last year everyone was annoyed over power outages. All can help by cutting out needless waste these days. It's just as easy to turn a switch off as it is to turn it on.

May not have been Indian Summer the first of this week but the mild weather and bright sunshine were indeed welcome after a real spell of winter snow and temperatures.

Came as a surprise to us to learn that Ontario's population is growing at the rate of 10,000 per month. We seem to be getting a fair share of the growth in population here in higher population figures.

Pictures in the daily papers show a Santa Claus impersonated by one of the members of parliament at a Christmas party. It certainly does not measure up to the Santa Claus impersonations of the stores and parades.

Maybe if a championship or trophy were offered we might have some better shovelled sidewalks about town. Nothing would be more appreciated by more people, but there just doesn't seem much ambition on the part of many to attain good standing as a champion snow shoveller.

One hundred and fifty children living in scattered sections of Nipissing Township will attend a central school recently opened there. It replaces a two room school in the village and several one-room country schools. It's reasonable to suspect that Nipissing would have winter travel difficulties too as well as this southern part of Ontario.

Recollections of Acton

BACK IN 1899

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, Dec. 14, 1899

Tuesday's terrific gale blew down one of the electric lamps on Mill Street. The suspended lamps are not sufficiently rigid to stand such gales.

Benjamin Harrop has sold his farm in Equesting to George Leach for \$500 and has purchased a farm in East Chinguarway for \$500.

Work is progressing at the flour mill and very shortly Messrs. Humphrey's and Hawk will commence operations with a first-class mill, modern in all its equipments.

Mr. A. T. Brown, president, and Dr. Foster, convener of the Literary Committee entertained the members of the Epworth League in Matthews Hall last evening. It was a very enjoyable occasion.

One of the most successful buyers of hogs in the province is Mr. Robert Agnew, Acton. Year after year he has won valuable prizes at the Christmas Fat Stock Show at Guelph and last week won another series of successes there. Mr. Agnew is justly proud of his porkers.

Information of the serious illness of Mrs. Dr. Payne at Chicago, was received here by friends on Monday. Mrs. W. H. Storey and Mrs. A. E. Nicklin left on Tuesday for Chicago to spend a few weeks.

BACK IN 1929

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, December 12, 1929

There'll probably be skating on the new arena this week. The cold weather is certainly favorable for making ice.

Mr. C. R. Knapp, who has been the efficient treasurer of the Athletic Club was presented with a beautiful club bag as a slight recognition of the work he has performed for the Club.

Duncan Campbell and Amos & Back of Moffat, were winners in the Shorthorn cattle class at the Winter Fair at Guelph last week.

Norval Young People's Society of the United Church will enter the inter-county debating competition. They are placed in the northern zone and will meet with Glen Williams first.

The local Lady True Blue Lodge are arranging a community Christmas tree and treats for the kiddies.

DIED
 PRICE, At her home, Willow St. Acton, on Friday, December 11, 1929, Emma Hall, beloved wife of John Herbert Price in her 49th year.

AKINS Suddenly, on Tues. Dec. 10, 1929, at Chatham, Charles Edmund Akins, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Akins in his 54th year.

DOUBLE TIME

An employer was interviewing a man for a job and asked him how long he had worked in his previous position.

"Sixty-five years," replied the applicant.

"How old are you?" asked the employer.

"I'm 40 years old."

"How could you work for 65 years when you are only 40?"

"Overtime!"

Forerunner of the automobile was a sailing chariot—built with wheels for operation on land—by Simon Stevin of Holland in 1600.

A. S. Horden
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A HIGH-GRADE MIXTURE — LB. **35c**

Budded Walnuts

Red Diamond LARGE California NUTS — LB. **49c**

CANDY for CHRISTMAS

Weston's Holly Mixed Pound **29c**
 Christmas Jelly Stars Pound **25c**
 McCormick's French Creams LB. **29c**
 Trilby Ass't'd Chocolates LB. **49c**
 McCormick's Jingle Bells LB. **29c**
 McCormick's Merry Mixed LB. **35c**

MINCEMEAT

LIBBY'S — 28-OZ. TIN **35c**

Floth Fruit Cocktail 28.0Z TIN **51c**
PITTED HALLOWI DATES 1.5 LB. **23c**
C. & B. PLUM PUDDINGS 1.5 LB. **49c**
Aylmer CRANBERRY SAUCE 12.0Z JAR **27c**
CUT MIXED PEEL 16.0Z PKG. **17c**
CUT CITRON PEEL 4.0Z PKG. **15c**
ASSORTED GLACE FRUIT 16.0Z PKG. **21c**

Seeded Raisins

IRIS or DEL REY CALIFORNIA MUSCATS — 15.0Z. PKG. **25c**

CHRISTIE'S FRUIT CAKE LB. **45c**
RED GLACE CHERRIES PKG. **15c, 36c**
MAPLE LEAF LARD PKG. **21c**
Romar COFFEE 15.0Z PKG. **38c, 74c**
SHELLED WALNUTS 16.0Z PKG. **23c**
Libby's FANCY PEAS 15.0Z TIN **17c**
Green Giant WAX BEANS 15.0Z TIN **29c**
AYLMER TOMATO JUICE 3.0Z TIN **25c**
Lynn Valley GREEN BEANS 2.0Z TINS **21c**

AYLMER CHOICE GOLDEN CREAM STYLE CORN 15.0Z. TINS **25c**

Estmore CRANBERRIES, lb. **25c**
 CELERY HEARTS Bundle **15c**
 Imported Large CARROTS, Bunches **2 25c**
 Fresh TANGARINES, Size 210, Dozen **29c**
 Florida or Texas GRAPEFRUIT, Size 96 **3 23c**

FRESH DAILY — Grapes, Tomatoes, Mushrooms, Salads, Spinach, Cauliflower, Green Beans

Business Directory

MEDICAL

DR. W. G. C. KENNEY
 Physician and Surgeon
 (Successor to Dr. J. A. McNeill)
 Office in Symon Block, Mill St., Acton
 Office Phone 72—Residence Church St., Phone 150

DR. D. A. GARRETT
 Physician and Surgeon
 Corner of Willow and River Sts.
 Entrance River Street
 Acton, Ontario
 Phone 238

DENTAL

DR. A. J. BUCHANAN
 Dental Surgeon
 Office—Latham Block, Mill St.
 Office Hours—9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 X-RAY
 TELEPHONE 143

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 27 Phone—Residence 128

LEVER & HOSKIN
 Chartered Accountants
 Successors to
JENKINS & HARDY
 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 14684

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

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 Acton, Ont. Guelph, Ont.
 Phone 95 Phone 14933

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 Member Appraisal Institute of Canada
 Members Guelph & District Real Estate Board
 Members Guelph & District Insurance Agents' Association

TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

GRAY COACH LINES

COACHES LEAVE ACTON

Eastbound
 6:38 a.m., 8:58 a.m., 11:48 a.m., 2:08 p.m., 4:43 p.m., 6:33 p.m., 8:23 p.m., 10:58 p.m.

Westbound
 10:42 a.m., 12:52 p.m., 2:57 p.m., 5:27 p.m., 7:27 p.m., 9:12 p.m., 11:23 p.m.

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

RAILWAYS

CANADIAN NATIONAL

Eastbound
 Daily 6:41 a.m., Daily except Sundays 9:52 a.m., 7:10 p.m.

Westbound
 Daily except Sunday and Monday, 1:56 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, 2:26 p.m.; Sunday only 9:44 a.m. Daystop, Flyer at Guelph except Saturday and Sunday, 6:36 p.m.

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consult

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 Phone 62821

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