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G. ABLOP DILLI, Editor

TELEPHONES—
 Editorial and Business Office 732
 Residence 129

EDITORIAL

Merry Christmas

So it's Christmas time again, the one anniversary that never loses its importance for young and old, the world over. Times and conditions may change but only as the conditions under which we live. Most of us can recall when Christmas shopping was largely confined to the week before Christmas and then Christmas Eve was really a strenuous time for merchants and shoppers.

Little customs in connection with the event vary as our modes of living are changed. But there's the same home comings, the same giving of gifts, the same joyous festivities and the same significance to Christmas as always. Perhaps that is the reason the same greetings never become worn or outdated. The phraseology may vary but the wish in the heart of everyone at this joyous season is that Christmas will be a merry one.

We could say it in different ways but to one end all the Editor of the Free Press and the staff join in saying "Merry Christmas"

At Least Grandfather Knew

One cannot help wondering what our grandfather would think of this needlessly complicated world. Some things may have been rather primitive in his day, but at least when he went into a store he knew exactly what his purchases would cost.

It's not that simple today. Now we must figure out a vast array of taxes, a few visible, a great many not. Some of these are paid at the wholesale level, some at the retail and some again in general taxes long after the purchase has been made.

What with various subsidies, price supports, freight rate assistance, and special bonuses, we have allowed the old simple process of marketing to get pretty tangled in Canada. But it is still more complicated in socialist Britain. Not until his tax bill arrives does the Old Country consumer know what his food has cost him.

This year for foods alone the total government subsidy will amount to \$1,740 millions or \$9 for every man, woman and child.

Not only were foods a good deal cheaper in the old days, but when grandfather paid the grocer or butcher that was the final bill financial Post

How About Some Applause?

Canadians are now electing their municipal governments, and this is a good time to render honor and thanks to the people mainly responsible for the generally high level of integrity and efficiency in municipal affairs, says the Financial Post.

We salute the permanent municipal officials the professional hired hands of municipal government. It is these people we have chiefly to thank for the smooth operation of civic services.

They are our effective protection against the misguided and uninformed schemes sometimes dreamed up by elected representatives. They are the people who get the blame when things go wrong, and who seldom get the credit when things go right. For them we propose a lusty round of applause.

Check Christmas Fire Hazards

Christmas is only two days away. Every year the Yuletide season brings joy to most families, and is one to be long remembered. But each year there seems to be the ever-recurring crop of accidents and deaths, most of them unnecessary.

The Christmas tree with its brilliant lights is a traditional part of the day, and one we would not want to discourage. That tree, however, is a potential fire hazard, and one which can snuff out young lives in an instant, and turn festivity into mourning.

It is possible to flame-proof our Christmas trees so that while they may still burn, they will

do so very slowly, and thus give time to do something about the danger before it takes charge and makes it impossible for us to do anything.

Then our trees should be so placed that they will not fall across a doorway or other means of escape. If we must use lights we should be sure that they are electric lights, and that the wiring is not worn. We should not place combustible paper close to these lights, and if, perchance, we still do some of these things, the least we should do is to have a fire extinguisher or pails of water in easily accessible places.

Let us do everything possible to see that Christmas in our homes will be a safe and happy one.

Farm Outlook

Is the Canada-United Kingdom food contract as bad as it is being painted? The Financial Post's agricultural expert, Gordon L. Smith, covering the Dominion-Provincial farm Conference in Ottawa reports there is some feeling that Agriculture Minister Gardiner's dark warning and plain speaking to Britain might well be part of a plan to wring some last minute concessions out of the British.

"It was also well known," writes Mr. Smith, "that while Mr. Gardiner was breaking the bad news and giving the impression that all hope of trading with Britain was gone, other government authorities concerned were still negotiating. Moreover, they were confident of at least some orders from Britain for cheese and bacon and possibly even a few eggs, though for lower prices and volume than at present. Announcement of some definite results in this respect will come shortly."

When Theories Are Not Practical

Costs had caught up with promises in New Zealand, is the explanation of the Montreal Gazette for the socialist defeat. "It should be noted that the gain in the opposition to socialism in New Zealand has been growing and gathering. In each election the margin of the Government's own security has been narrowed. The rise of dissatisfaction parallels the accumulation of unsatisfactory results from the social experiment itself. The main cause for opposition would seem to lie in the creeping paralysis of taxation. The later cost had overtaken the earlier promises."

The Missing Link?

How long is it since you have written or talked to your member of parliament? Does he know what you think about the issues on which he is voting month by month? If he doesn't, how is he supposed to represent you?

Your job isn't over when you cast your ballot. You have as much responsibility to make your stand now to your representative as he has to make his stand known in parliament.

Especially is this the case today. Government policies and practices play a bigger part in your daily life than ever before. This is a condition which you have approved. You have said that you believe government can do things for you which you cannot do for yourself.

But remember that the government is only the collective voice of you, and you, and you. And if your voice isn't heard through your member of parliament, it is your own fault if the government does something you don't like.

Your member would like to hear from you, by letter, by personal chat. He needs and would like your guidance as well as your criticism.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Merry Christmas Again!
 Holiday enjoyment to be complete should be not selfish but of a kind for all to enjoy.

Just a little over a week left in 1949 and the time is short to crowd in those neglected resolutions made twelve months ago.

If your Free Press doesn't arrive in the mails at the usual time this week please remember this is a busy time at the Post Office.

Be careful in holiday traffic. A few minutes saved is scarcely worth the chance of casting gloom over Christmas by a vacancy at the festive table.

Save electricity wherever possible. It's much more convenient to make voluntary savings than having the enforced shut-off that no one enjoyed last year.

There are still predictions of a green Christmas and at that it's anybody's guess that may be correct, but we did have a real sample of pre-Christmas winter even if it didn't last.

Those Christmas greetings cards that flow so freely just now are certainly nice reminders of friendships that might otherwise be forgotten and it's remarkable how the lists of friends grow

Recollections of Acton
BACK IN 1899

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, Dec. 21, 1899

Messrs. Humphries and Hawke got in their first car load of Manitoba wheat last week.

Owing to the illness of Miss Cassie McPhail's mother the second department of the Public School has been closed this week. A smash-up at Howkwood delayed the Tuesday evening trains two or three hours. Two light engines and three vans ran into the rear of a freight train. The engines were wrecked.

The Commercial Hotel was thrown into confusion late on Saturday evening by an unfortunate accident occurring to Miss Marie Thompson, one of the maids who swallowed a large pin.

Following the operation for an appendicitis performed upon James H. Brown last week complications followed which terminated fatally on Saturday evening, and this bright young life was thus suddenly cut off.

The Free Press congratulates Mr. C. A. Warren who has successfully passed the primary examinations of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Toronto.

Mrs. Arch McNabb was at Greenwood last week attending the funeral of her mother, Mrs. Reuben Smith. Mr. J. McNabb, Division Court Clerk, accompanied his mother.

The friends here of Mrs. Dr. Payne, Chicago, were much comforted by the message on Tuesday morning that the critical operation performed on Monday was very successful.

BACK IN 1929

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, Dec. 19, 1929

This winter is surely old-fashioned enough to suit the most ardent lover of old time seasons.

On Tuesday evening the annual banquet was tendered the Beardmore and Co. Dominion Championship tug-of-war team by the company.

Mr. Peter Smith is donating two splendid silver cups for yearly competition between the curling clubs of Acton and Georgetown and the junior hockey clubs of these two towns.

Robert G. McLaw, of Galt, passed away on Tuesday morning after a prolonged illness. He resided in Acton before moving to Galt.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Spencer, of Athabasca Landing, Alberta, are visiting Mrs. John McKimion. It is nearly twenty years since they left Acton for their Western home.

BORN
 FRANK AL NAWANAWA, on Thursday, December 12, 1929, to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Frank, a daughter.

Despite postwar industrialization, agriculture is still the most important Canadian primary industry.

Court of Revision
 Supplemental Assessment Only

The Municipal Council of the Town of Acton will meet as a Court of Revision in the Council Chamber, Acton Ontario, on Thursday, the twenty-ninth day of December, 1949 at 7:30 o'clock. All persons having appeals against the Supplemental Assessment only for the said Town for the year 1950 on notices which were dated December 15th, 1949, will take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Notice of all appeals must be received by me on or before the twenty-ninth day of December, 1949.

Dated this 15th day of December, 1949.
 J. McGEACHIE, Clerk

TOYS

GAMES
 TRAINS
 PIANO SETS

and all the better new toys that youngsters will love for Christmas.

Drop in to-day and see Nanta's grand assortment.

You'll find it at
CHAPPEL'S BOOKSTORE
 125 Wyndham St., Guelph
 ANQUA KENNEDY, Proprietor

HOUSE BUILDING

There is a moderate decline in house building, a writer in The Financial Post reports, but the industry is still pretty active. Most of those desparately in need of a house or with fair amount of capital have now been accommodated. However, this writer predicts that building in 1950 may not be far behind the huge volume of 1949.

Pollock and Campbell
 Manufacturers of
HIGH GRADE MEMORIALS
MEMORIAL ENGRAVING
 62 Water St., North GALT
 TELEPHONE 2448

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 78—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—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 Phoenix Residences 128

LEVER & HOSKIN
 Chartered Accountants
 Successors to
 JENKINSH & HARDY
 125 Metropolitan Bldg.
 44 Victoria St., Toronto
 Tel. 4131

VETERINARY
 B. D. YOUNG, V.S., B.V.Sc.
 Veterinary Surgeon
 Office: Brookville, Ontario
 Phone: Milton 1464

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

MRS. WILLANSON
 THE VICTOR B. RUMLEY
 FUNERAL HOME
 Funeral Home, Heated Ambulance
 Phone 30 night or day
 Serving the community for 45 years

WILLOUGHBY FARM AGENCY
 Largest & Oldest Agency in Canada
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 Acton, Ont. Guelph, Ont.
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Valuers Realtors Insurers
 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
 8:38 a.m., 9:38 a.m., 11:45 a.m., 2:08 p.m., 4:43 p.m., 6:33 p.m., 8:25 p.m., 10:58 p.m.

Westbound
 10:42 a.m., 12:52 p.m., 3:57 p.m., 5:27 p.m., 7:27 p.m., 9:12 p.m., 11:25 p.m.

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

RAILWAYS
CANADIAN NATIONAL

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

Westbound
 Daily except Sunday and Monday, 1:36 a.m., Sunday and Monday only, 1:18 a.m., Daily except Sunday, 8:18 a.m., 6:30 p.m., 7:44 p.m.; Saturday only, 2:30 p.m.; Sunday only 9:41 a.m., Flagstop; Flyer at Guelph except Saturday and Sunday, 8:30 p.m.

CARROLL'S

BRIGHT'S TOMATO JUICE 4.0Z. TIN 19c

MERRY CHRISTMAS

MAPLE LEAF LARD 1 LB. PKG. 19c

AYLMER CHOICE SLICED OR HALVED PEACHES 20 OZ. TIN 23c

Stuffed OLIVES Jar 22c, 33c, 45c

MIXED NUTS IN SHELL POUND 35c

Aylmer APRICOTS 15 OZ. TIN 27c

CHRISTMAS CANDY 1 LB. 25c, 29c, 37c

VELVEETA CHEESE 5 LB. PKG. 27c

CHOCOLATES 1 LB. BOX 85c

TABLE RAISINS WHILE THEY LAST—LB. 39c

Orange JUICE FLORIDA TIN 15c, 34c

LIBBY'S MINCEMEAT 25 OZ. TIN 37c

HOLIDAY FEATURE — CATARAC DRY GINGER ALE

LARGE 30.0Z. BOTTLE 10c Deposit Extra

AYLMER FANCY GOLDEN WHOLE Kernel CORN IN BRINE 15.0Z. TIN 15c

Green Giant MEXICORN 14.0Z. TIN 19c

Green Giant PEAS 2 15.0Z. TIN 35c

Budded WALNUTS LARGE LB. 49c

AYLMER GREEN BEANS 2 15.0Z. TINS 27c

Pineapple JUICE 2 20.0Z. TINS 35c

FRUIT COCKTAIL 20.0Z. TIN 51c

Trilby Chocolates LB. 49c

Victory GHERKINS 24.0Z. JAR 35c

ASPARAGUS TIPS HARVEST 12.0Z. TIN 41c

Sliced PINEAPPLE 20.0Z. TIN 35c

AYLMER CHOICE SIEVE 4-5 PEAS 20.0Z. TIN 15c

AYLMER PIMENTOS 10.0Z. TIN 21c

Niblets CORN 14.0Z. TIN 17c

Stokely's PUMPKIN 2 20.0Z. TINS 21c

PITTED HALLOWI DATES LB. 23c

Campbell's MUSHROOM SOUP 2 TINS 31c

Jell-o LEMON PIE 2 PKGS. 17c

BARTLETT PEARS 20.0Z. TIN 27c

Green Giant WAX BEANS 2 15.0Z. TINS 29c

Citrus SALAD 20.0Z. TIN 30c

California Navel ORANGES, 288's, Dozen 38c

California Navel ORANGES, 220's, Dozen 45c

Estmor, Caps-Cod CRANBERRIES, lb. 25c

Extra Fancy, B.C. Delicious APPLES, 100's 5 FOR 25c

California Red Emperor GRAPES, 2 lbs. 27c

Fresh Cauliflower, Green Beans, Lettuce, Radishes, Tomatoes and Pineapple—Special-Week-end-Prices

Your Eyes

A Proper Eye Examination is Most Important

consult

R. M. Bell
 Registered Optometrist
 Phone 40221