

EDITORIAL

Decisions

There's a story told of a farmer who engaged a new hired man and the first day put him wheeling manure. He was quite surprised when he came to him in the early afternoon and asked for another task to fill up what the employer considered a big day's work. Same thing happened the following day and the farmer was indeed pleased with his new man. On the third day, in appreciation, he gave him a less arduous task of sorting potatoes with the instructions to put the bad ones in one pile, the small ones in another pile and a third pile of marketable potatoes.

Within an hour the hired man came to him and flatly said he was quitting. Surprised, the farmer asked him why and he is reported to have replied, "I don't mind the heavy jobs but it's those decisions that I can't stand".

Decisions are bothersome. Sometimes we feel like quitting too, because every mail brings us such a flood of material for our columns that the decisions all week are often hard. It's not hard to eliminate the bad ones such as free publicity from motor car manufacturers, makers of cans, propoganda for many manufactured articles and items intended to influence governments. It would surprise you to see the "big" outfits who want publicity for nothing. We have only one pile for that, which is in the wastepaper basket.

But it's the other piles that bother us — the material with local appeal and for which we would like to find a place. Many times we pass it on for publication only to find that when press time comes there is no room for it and it has to be carried over to the next week or two.

The average reader may say why not put in more pages. That is often done but in these days of high production costs there must be a proper balance between advertising and revenue and reader items. Post Office regulations provide that all pages of a newspaper must be of uniform size so that it's not possible to make a sheet just large enough to take the surplus material and it's mechanically not practical to run such small sections.

So we have to make decisions and like the hired man we sometimes feel that the decisions are the most difficult part of the editor's task. Most folks realize this and our readers are very considerate, but just in case you may sometimes wonder when an item is left out or reduced in size, we tell you of our problems.

Won't Encourage Tourists

Writing to a friend in Toronto the other day, a former Canadian who had spent a holiday in this country, complained that our prices were getting too high. He cited several lines of merchandise that could have been purchased at much lower levels in the United States.

This is not an isolated case, declares the Financial Post which says:

Business, alone, however, cannot solve this problem. In a great many cases even if merchants shaved profits to the bone, their prices would still be much above the level in the United States. The reason is taxation. On a great many commodities, our taxes are very much higher than in the U.S. Tobacco products, camera supplies, sporting goods, gasoline, so-called luxury items are examples. Moreover, these are the very things that bulk so largely in holiday spending.

When a person visits another country he expects to find conditions different from those he has at home. From a tourist standpoint, at least, we would be making a big mistake to attempt to turn Canada into an imitation of the United States. But there is always an exception to any general rule and higher costs come very definitely in that category.

Our Crippled Children

An aspect of democracy that sets it apart from other forms of society is voluntary co-operation of its citizens. All around us almost every day we see examples: Organizations of groups for various reasons, joined willingly, and usually with the purpose of improving our social condition.

In the sale of Easter Seals is revealed and furthered, an example which brings together many helping hands, from many vocations and professions. Many benefit. The purpose of the voluntary co-operation is the improvement of the lot of handicapped youngsters, children with deformities from birth or crippled by disease or accident.

To them is held out a helping hand; for them is provided an opportunity of correcting their conditions or teaching them to live happier and self-sustaining lives despite the conditions.

The Ontario Society for Crippled Children offers the rallying point for more than 180 service clubs throughout the province who sell seals to finance the society's work. But it does not stop there. The clubs, in their various cities, towns or townships co-operate with the 18 field nurses, all accredited orthopaedic specialists, in seeking out deserving children for examination by specialists. Teachers, clergymen, district health officers and members of the medical profession are joined with them in this work.

The society enlists the services of top-flight surgeons and physicians who volunteer their skills. It operates both permanent and occasional clinics where children are assembled. It provides special care, summer camps, even special furniture for particularly needy cases.

This is the best aspect of democracy. It is democracy in action.

The Easter Seal campaign is on here until April 13th. Your envelope of seals has been mailed and the local Rotary Club will appreciate your generosity in assisting them to carry on this work for crippled children here and throughout the province. We need say no more for such a worthy cause.

Taxes — Insurance

"Taxes are the sinews of the state", said Cicero. With taxes and mill rates fresh in people's minds it might be wise to point out that taxes, when paid to the municipality, are not lost. Think of them, as we seldom if ever do, as the premium on an almost all inclusive insurance policy.

The tax bill is the bill for a premium on an insurance policy that provides you with fire protection, police protection, old age accommodation. Federal taxes represent insurance against war in our own land, against unemployment, against crime, against poverty stricken old age and against the growth of unpleasant ideologies.

It all depends how you look at a thing and probably if we all tried to look at the brighter side even when it comes to taxation, things would brighten up. We refer to them as nuisances, as contributing to the staggering cost of living today, as plain robbery or even in stronger terms.

Editorial Notes

Spring is due to arrive tomorrow but we hope housewives will not take it too seriously and start the spring cleaning.

It's almost Spring housecleaning time and rather than throw away things that might be historically valuable please bring them to our office for safe keeping and study.

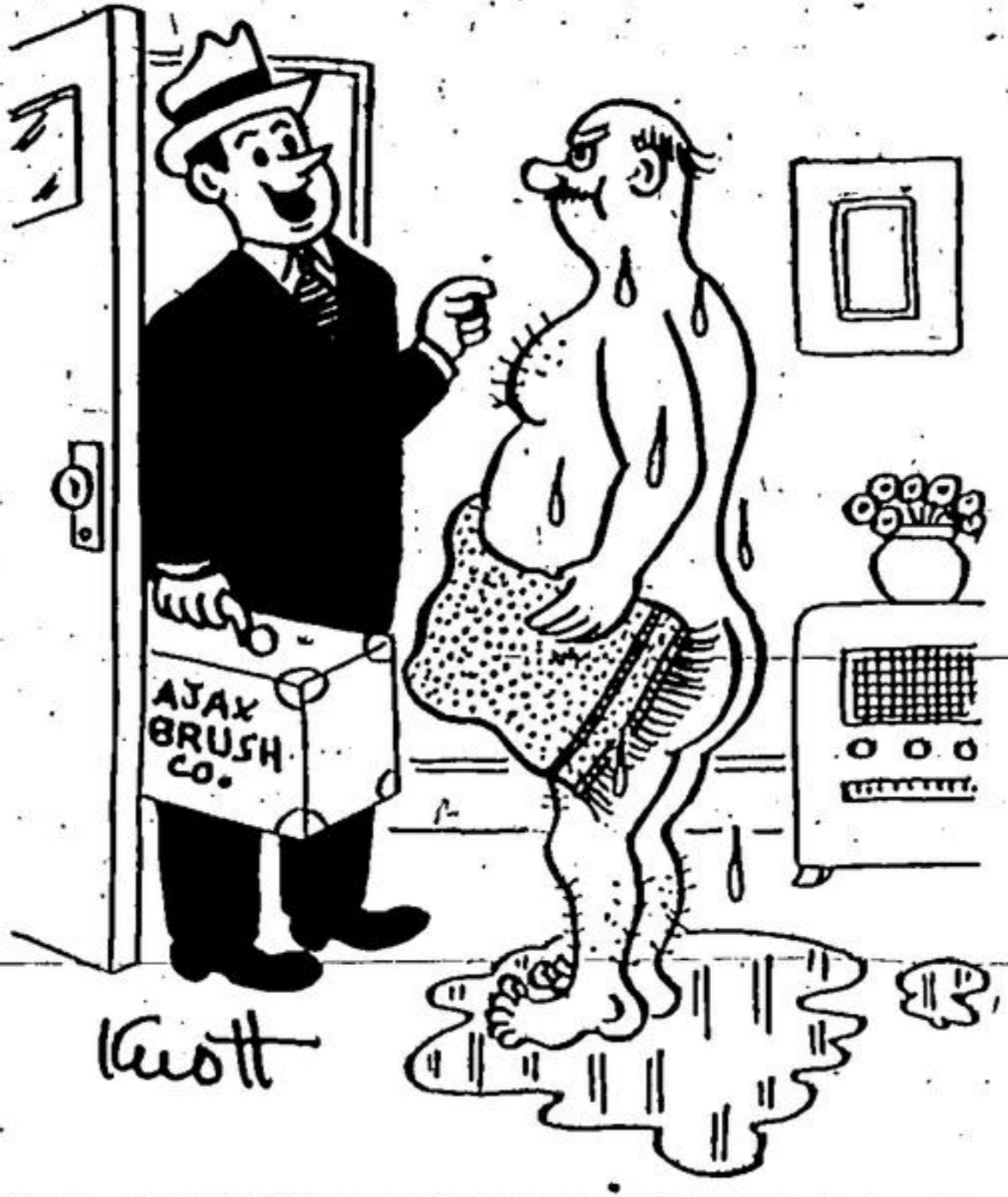
These are days when municipal tax levies are made known and next month we'll know the worst from the Dominion levies. None of it appears news to the liking of those who pay.

The toll on the highways has been very rightly described as "Ontario's shame". This year a conservative estimate is that 1,000 will die and 20,000 will be injured and maimed in accidents.

Last day for the filing of income tax returns is April 30 and it is none too early to start gathering receipts and data now for the early completion of your return. It has to be done sooner or later.

If you feel unkindly about the municipal tax rate, remember last year's roads about this time and perhaps it will compensate. Might also be consoling to be reminded that Etobicoke tax rate is up 20 mills and stands at 107.10 mills.

The rising trend in the number of business failures in Canada evident since 1945 continued in 1951, reports The Financial Post. The number of failures in 1951 was up 11.2% from the 1950 total while the liabilities were up 23.8%. The amount involved per failure on the average was also greater, being up 11.3% from the 1950 figure.



"WELL, HOW LUCKY! NOW I CAN DEMONSTRATE OUR BACK RUBBING BRUSH!"



More School News

So there are plans now for new high schools at Acton and Georgetown. Nice for the younger generation at Acton and Georgetown, where new schools for the junior grades are underway. Both schools are bright and modern.

Georgetown's new school, situated on No. 7 highway, is to be called the Howard Wrigglesworth school in tribute to a late principal. Nice big windows are the most prominent feature of it a passing motorist notices. Acton's new public school addition is harder to spot from the highway.

Curling Queues Must've been quite a line-up at Georgetown recently when curling, which doesn't seem to thrive too brilliantly in this district, drew 18 rinks for an all-day bonspiel. The Georgetown Curling club hosted visitors from Fergus, Brampton, Hillsburgh, Agincourt and Toronto.

An unusual feature was an all-Hutchinson rink composed of Harold Hutchinson and his son Don of Georgetown, and Mr. Hutchinson's uncles, Al Hutchinson of Fergus and Tom Hutchinson of Rockwood.

Had a Department Hoped to see a St. Patrick's joke in the "Alright — You Tell One" column of the Oakville Record-Star last week. There wasn't one, but perhaps we can blame this on the Irish. "You say Warwood is our best salesman?" "Yep. A widow came in to buy a suit in which to bury her husband and he sold her one with two pair of pants."

Recent U.K. developments in television have led to the possibility of producing an image on a cathode ray tube of such high definition that it can be photographed on the celluloid, giving a final image claimed to be as good as, if not better than, that produced by using the ordinary cine camera.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

Back in 1902

Officers commanding field artillery units are instructed in militia orders to return into stride all sword bayonets, cavalry pattern swords and scabbards. It is likely that artillerymen will shortly be armed with revolvers instead of swords.

Four members of the staff of Acton Public School made application last week for appointment on the contingent of fifty Canadian teachers who are to be engaged to go to South Africa to teach the little Boers in the concentration camps.

Two of our popular and well-known young people were quietly wedded in Toronto last Wednesday, Mr. Joseph Agnew, son of Mr. Robert Agnew of the Dominion House, and Miss Ida, daughter of Mr. William Mason, Church St.

Preparations for Easter homecomings and visitations are active in most homes.

THE NEW BOOK by Dr. A. Conan Doyle, entitled, "The War in South Africa, its Causes and Conduct," has just been published.

Back in 1932

The little shamrock will be much in evidence to-day. Milton has raised the Towns Clerk's salary from \$900 to \$1,000 per year.

A pretty wedding was held at Campbellville when Pearl Elizabeth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Twiss became the bride of Alfred C. only son of Mrs. and the late Bert Turner.

The Junior hockeyists have the limelight in this week's events. The game in Georgetown resulted in a scoreless draw. They also won from Milton Juniors in an exhibition tilt with a score of 6-4.

Acton Branch of the Canadian Legion held the first annual meeting and elected officers for the year. The reports of the year's activities were most gratifying and showed remarkable growth of this organization which was just formed a year ago.

Six million persons in the United States are unemployed but no starvation exists.

The friends of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Foster and family gathered at their home on Friday evening and spent a social evening with them prior to their removal from the neighborhood. They were presented with two chairs and a library table from the Bannockburn Institute, community, friends and neighbors.

DIED McLEAN—At Acton, on Sunday, March 11th, 1932, Malcolm McLean, beloved husband of Agnes Niven Skinner and father of Mrs. Norman Lambert, Winnipeg, aged 69 years.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLER'S GUIDE

Medical: Dr. W. G. C. Kenney, Dr. D. A. Garrett, Dr. A. J. Buchanan, Dr. George A. Sirms, B. D. Young, C. L. Young, F. G. Oakes. Dental: Dr. A. J. Buchanan. Veterinary: B. D. Young, C. L. Young, F. G. Oakes. Legals: C. F. Leatherland, A. J. Crandell. Travellers Guide: Gray Coach Lines, Canadian National Railways, Eye Care: Wm. C. Milligan, R.O.

AT THE Churches

United Church of Canada: Rev. E. A. Curry, B.A., B.D., Minister. Presbyterian Church in Canada: Rev. Robert H. Armstrong, M.A., B.D., Minister. Baptist Church: Douglas B. Shuter, Pastor. St. Alban's Church (Anglican): Supply Minister, Archdeacon Mackintosh of Hamilton.

The Acton Free Press. The Only Paper Ever Published in Acton. Founded in 1875 and published every Thursday at 56 Mill St. E., Acton, Ont. Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations, the C.W.N.A., and the Ontario-Quebec Division of the C.W.N.A. Advertising rates on request. Subscriptions payable in advance, \$2.50 in Canada; \$3.50 in the United States; six months \$1.50; single copies 6c. Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa. G. A. Dillis, Editor and Publisher. BUSINESS AND EDITORIAL OFFICE TELEPHONE 174