

Editorial Page

A Clear Decision

The plebiscite in Nassagaweya on Saturday certainly leaves little doubt about the opinion of the voters. There can be no arguments with the representative nature of the vote. Indeed, it carries a lesson for much larger centres.

When approximately 85 per cent of the eligible voters cast their ballots it puts to shame such centres as Milton and Toronto where a 50 per cent vote is recognized as pretty good.

It indicates too the interest and enthusiasm that were generated in the plebiscite and the ability of the residents of Nassagaweya to affect their future through voting power.

The decisive vote now clears the path for the construction of a race track estimated to cost \$3,500,000. It will be a significant step in the future of the township and one that follows the construction of Highway 401, which has been an important factor

in extending development to Nassagaweya.

The campaign that was conducted in the township prior to the plebiscite did not degenerate into public name-calling and mud-slinging for which all can be thankful. Neither activity provides any great enlightenment to contentions questions.

The Yes committee outlined the advantages and the No committee looked at the disadvantages while the voters made their choice. While our opinions didn't coincide with those of the majority their expression, we feel, may have encouraged greater participation in the decision. We have naturally been assailed and commended on the position. It's inevitable when a position is taken.

We cannot argue with the decision of the voters of Nassagaweya. It was representative on the basis of pure statistics. We will be, with others, looking for the development of Nassagaweya and the construction of the race track.

An International Loss

A man we never met, never talked with, never even saw in person, yet one who had earned our respect and that of countless thousands was Dag Hammarskjöld.

To us he was the United Nations. His strength and determination of purpose were unique in an international organization that has its value in an unbiased approach to every crisis.

His death in a plane crash came as a blow to the free world and we feel it was probably a blow to the Communist world too.

The role he filled in the United Nations was described by his predecessor, Trygve Lie as "the most impossible job in the world." As we watch from a rather remote point we can appreciate how difficult, exasperating and frustrating it must be to chart the course of the United Nations activity and action.

In 1956 for instance, there were two crises. In the Suez crisis Hammarskjöld risked the displeasure of Britain and France

by creating the world's first international police force. In the Hungarian revolt he risked the displeasure of Moscow by insisting that Russia admit its repression.

In other crises too, Hammarskjöld took firm positions and certainly there must have been none more challenging than the present African problems. It is unfortunate that he was not allowed to complete his mission.

His death leaves the United Nations weakened unless a man of similar stature and strength can be found quickly. If Russia is intent on destroying the United Nations it will insist on its plan for a three man rule with a representative from the western, neutralist and communist blocs, each with the power of veto. Under such a plan the U.N. would be so weakened as to be useless. Russia has already indicated its use of veto too extensively.

We never knew Hammarskjöld but like thousands of others, we felt his loss almost like a personal friend.

That Time of Year

Fast talking carpet, aluminum wares, magazines, vitamin and china salesmen, have a way of making more frequent appearances at your door about this time of the year.

It's a simple thing for the householder to ask to see his town peddler's license and it's a form of protection too. It means that he has already been in touch with local police and town officials and made his contribution to the town treasury.

Exempt from the town's hawkers and peddler's by-law are local residents and produce salesmen, but all the others must first obtain a permit from the town police before they begin their door knocking.

Some reputable door-to-door salesmen may have overlooked the need for a town license but your request to see it will merely advise them of it. If there is any doubt about their integrity or their offer they will be

less than anxious to take the trouble to explain their proposal to town officials.

The hawkers' and peddlers' by-law is quite simply a method of protecting the public from unscrupulous operators and of collecting revenue from those who sell to citizens, just as tax revenue is collected from local merchants. The by-law can only be as effective as the citizens of the town want it to be. Obviously all the door to door salesmen don't knock on the police or town office door first.

You can help by asking for the salesman's license when he appears at your door. If he can't produce the license contact the police and advise them of his whereabouts. Such action will see the dishonest salesman disappear as fast as his promises, while it will strengthen the case of the honest salesman.

Everybody's Friend

It may seem hard to believe, but a Financial Post editorial makes the statement that "over four million Canadians — one in every four or five of our total population — are now receiving regular cheques from good, old, bountiful Ottawa." However, a couple of minutes with a pencil not only substantiates the statement, it shows too that when only adults are taken into account more than one-third of Canadians cash a monthly cheque drawn on the federal government.

Every month more than 2,600,000 mothers receive family allowance cheques, and over a period of a year these cheques amount to \$532 million. Then there are 900,000 recipients of the old-age security pension; at \$607 for this year. Veterans and their dependents to a total of 187,000 collect \$217 million annually. There are 160,000 persons drawing special assistance — those in the 65-to-69 years age group who are in need, and the blind and disabled; and Ottawa's share of this federal-provincial program is budgeted at \$51 million this

year. Those figures add up to 3,848,000 persons, or well over a third of all adults. The money involved amounts to \$1.4 billion.

If government workers are included, the totals increase substantially. Not counting in the employees of so-called Crown Corporations, there are about 200,000 names on the federal payroll. Ottawa has estimated its bill for wages and salaries in the current year at \$848,088,465.

The Post points out that, in addition, the federal government provides "scores of helps; aids, props and comforts for the citizenry." For health grants and its share of hospital insurance, \$317 million for this year. Other grants and subsidies, \$388 million. Loans outstanding to Crown Corporations total \$3.5 billion, and helping out with running expenses for these "nationalized" businesses cost another \$250 million a year.

The government, it would seem is everybody's friend — everybody's, that is, except the taxpayer's.

"Heading South"



—Photo by Esther Taylor

Sugar and Spice ...

BY BILL SMILEY

new schedule, and has us all turning around in right-angled triangles.

This year, she's up to her ears, and out, in a new job and a new house. The job, of course, doesn't affect us. Not much. She has taken on the position of organizer and choirleader in the church.

All this means is that young Kim has been press-ganged into the choir, young Hugh has to serve as an altar-boy, and old Dad has already been approached about teaching a Sunday School class and taking up the collection Sunday nights, when all the other sidemen want to stay home and watch Ed Sullivan. So we can all kiss Sunday goodbye.

The new house has already caused a few ruckuses, and I can see a good many more looming. There's nothing wrong with the house, and it sits on a fine, great wallpaper of a lot, which I like. But therein lies the fly in the ointment. It's blowing up a storm, the pebble in the shoe of the horse of a different color.

My idea of gracious living is to come home after work, rip the top off a cold one, and sit in the sun on a lawn chair, in the middle of the estate, watching the black squirrels hijacking acorns off my property. Her idea is that

G.A.D. About

To Keep Us Warm

When I was a lad at this time of year, it was change-over time around the home. Either started getting the stacks of hard-wood we had purchased, from Jack Arthur or John Smith split up and ready for the kitchen stove and he moved the kitchen stove from the summer kitchen into the regular kitchen.

There was a long string of pipes to be connected from the stove to the chimney upstairs in the back bedroom and this was a task that exasperated by the patience and ruffled the family calm, but it was great to have the job done and have the Happy Thought range providing heat for the main section of the home and warm water for household use.

A few weeks later when calm was restored the Radiant Heater was rolled into place in the living room and with a couple of bags of bit coal from John Hill in the bin we were set for the rest of the colder months just ahead.

The stove pipes for this set-up ran upstairs through two bedrooms to another chimney and again the pipes took some manhandling to get together properly. It wasn't until some weeks later that we had a fire put on in the heater and most of the family evenings were spent in the kitchen.

My, what a change there has been in heating the homes down through these years. Statistics used to be published from time to time to prove that the supply of wood was diminishing and in a few years, the bush would be depleted. A little later, coal was sometimes scarce when John

I come home after work, rip off my good clothes, chase a spluttering lawnmower for an hour, gulp my dinner, lift our "shabby old furniture" out of the living room again so we can try the rug four inches to the south, then sit around for two hours talking about drapes and wallpaper.

Sometimes I almost wish I had married a fat, simple little girl who had never even taken a lesson on the mouth organ, who believed that interior decorating had something to do with good cooking and who realized that a woman's place was in the house, not in her husband's hair.

However, this little conflict between idealism and realism has been in progress for 15 years, and neither of us has lost an inch of ground.

So I managed to enjoy the lovely month of September as much as ever. Although I hope the leaves start falling soon so I won't have to mow the lawn. And then we'll need an early snow so I won't have to rake the leaves. And if we have an early snow she'll be after me to shovel the walk, all 300 yards of it. Oh, dear, there's no end to these days, if he's to maintain his principles.

WORK WITH VOLUNTEERS

Young Canadians in Red Cross work alongside senior Red Cross volunteers at blood donor clinics, in the post nurseries and at hospitals. Last year, 49,236 items — clothing, school supplies, health kits, lavettes, quilts and afghans — were made by Red Cross Juniors and shipped to nations.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

—Back in 1911

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Sept. 28, 1911.

Mr. John Hill of County Antrim, Ireland, was here this week visiting his uncle, Mr. Benjamin Kilmard, Church St. He stated his pleasure at the appearance of Acton and was much impressed with industry and farming in general. He is spending a month in Canada and will be visiting the Toronto Exhibition.

Hilton again elected Mr. David Henderson as their M.P. during the election last week but the result of the vote in Acton was especially disappointing to Mr. Henderson since many of his friends are located here. The victory was double that of the last election for the Acton M.P. Mr. Henderson counted a total of 430 votes. Last year's results showed 212. Walter Harland Smith, opposing candidate, was a good loser and congratulated Mr. Henderson following the final tally. In the Acton vote, Mr. Henderson only had a seven count majority with a 172 to 165 count.

Mr. M. P. Barry is shipping his first load of turnips from the G.T.R. station this week and is paying 14 cents per bushel at present. He reported, however, a reduction in price is expected. Many of the farmers are taking advantage of the higher price and rushing their crops to the shipping depot.

For 30 years, Reeve Hynds has occupied his well-known premises on Mill St. as a store and living quarters. For many years, he has had a standing offer to purchase this property and this week he decided to make the sale. On Monday, he concluded the deal with Mrs. Jennie Wood, Guelph, who feels very comfortable in coming into possession.

With the election all over, candidate Harland Smith has organized a meeting Monday evening to organize a young Liberal club. It is believed he will attempt to instigate more interest long before the next election takes place.

Some of the young men have been helping themselves to crops located on private property. In the event they are not satisfied with a stomach ache from eating apples, they will be in trouble if caught in the act.

—Back in 1941

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, October 2, 1941.

The Acton Volunteer Civil Guard, under the supervision of Captain J. M. McDonald, will commence a new course of training this week at the park. The new group under the direction of Mr. McDonald is training regularly and will be in condition to accept responsibilities when the order comes.

During the public school field day-exercises last week, George Elliott was named champion in the boy's classes and Dorothy Cunningham was top winner for the girls.

During the heavy wind storm last weekend, a section of the roof at the Wool Combing was blown off, two hydro poles were blown down, the judge's stand at the park was blown over and several limbs off trees were strewn about the grounds. Fortunately, the power was only disrupted for a short time but the damage at the Wool Combing was quite extensive and repairs are underway now.

A large congregation was present for the 103rd anniversary service at Churchill United Church on Sunday when Dr. Sicox of Toronto was the guest minister. On Monday evening, the annual fowl supper was held and a large crowd attended as the ladies of the church served the delicious meal. The program following the supper was very interesting and the entertainers were called upon time and time again to repeat their numbers.

Prior to the removal to Guelph of Mr. and Mrs. G. Cowie and daughter Habel, Mrs. D. H. Lindsay entertained their friends and neighbors at her home on Park Avenue. Mr. Cowie served as a blacksmith at the corner of Park Avenue and Mill Street for a number of years and both he and his wife were well known in town.

Records at the Acton Customs Office recently seem only made to be broken, but the past three months has seen a phenomenal increase. For the period of July, August and September, receipts are given as \$103,388.43. This is more than double the figure for the same period last year. The increase is a reflection on the part industry is playing in Acton and the growth of the industries located here.

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COACHES LEAVE ACTON
Daylight Saving Time
Eastbound
6:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and
Hol.) 8:36 a.m. 11:33 a.m. 2:08
p.m. 5:06 p.m. 6:33 p.m.
8:33 p.m. 10:08 p.m. (Sun. and
Hol.)
Westbound
10:27 a.m. 12:37 p.m. 2:57
p.m. 5:27 p.m. 7:27 p.m.
9:12 p.m. 11:32 p.m. 1:12 a.m.
1:12 a.m. (Fri., Sat., Sun. and
Hol.)

RAILWAYS

CANADIAN NATIONAL
Daylight Saving Time
Eastbound
6:44 a.m. to Toronto Daily except
Sundays; 10:25 a.m. to Toronto; 1:15
p.m. to Toronto; 6:00 p.m. to Toronto
Sunday Only.
Westbound
8:30 a.m. to Guelph; 8:50 a.m. to
London; 10:00 a.m. to Toronto; 1:15
p.m. to Toronto; 6:00 p.m. to Toronto
Sunday Only.

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