

# Editorial Page

## Days of Opportunity

With a whole 365 days stretched out through the 1962 ahead, we wondered what those days might offer—what accomplishments they might produce.

For each of us the desired products of the year must vary but for each there must be many similarities.

- In 1962 we would like to see
- Time to live more and run less
  - An inclination on the part of all world leaders, exemplified by action, to achieve a reduction in the cold war pressures.
  - The powers of science directed more to peaceful production and less to wholesale destruction.
  - An opportunity for every man to earn his living through work in which he may take pride.
  - An electorate patient enough to inform itself on the issues of any election.
  - A measure of municipal autonomy that would not hamstring local officials in issues of planning and financing.

• The introduction of new community workers from among the many citizens who have not yet been invited or encouraged to participate fully in the life of the community.

- A cooling of the countless trouble spots in the world through an offensive of understanding.
- A decline in the amount of work facing courts of justice and a greater appreciation of the laws of the country.

Yes, there are countless things we may look for from 1962. There is always the fond hope of peace and the easing of tensions. But the products of 1962 are largely unknown. That's what makes that year of 365 days such a challenge. To a degree we will order those days ourselves. Whether the days are ones of accomplishment or frustration is largely in our own hands.

We hope the days ahead are fruitful and agreeable days.

## S for Success

The month of December, 1961, marks the 60th anniversary of the happening at St. John's Newfoundland, of an event that astounded the world—the reception on Signal Hill by the inventor Marconi of a signal flashed through the atmosphere from Poldhu, Cornwall. Fittingly, when Marconi sailed from England to set up his crude wireless receiving station on this side of the Atlantic he instructed that the first broadcast should be of the Morse code's three dot symbol for the letter S—to him, a symbol of success. Less than a year later Marconi's Canadian company was operating a wireless service between Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, and Ireland. Two years later it built east coast stations to reach ships at sea, stations that were to have some part in the rescue of more than 1,000 survivors of the Titanic disaster. In 1919 it established one of the world's first public broadcasting stations—transmitting the human voice and music, and initiating the chain of events that has revolutionized communications; that station was then XWA, now CFCF Montreal.

Marconi's 1901 success was not easily

accepted. The great inventor Thomas Edison thought the whole thing a "newspaper fake." When the New York Herald's correspondent cabled in his story from Signal Hill the paper interrupted the despatch with the message: "Your bulletin about Marconi seems incredible. Please be extremely careful. . . the report must be confirmed by Marconi." The Montreal Gazette, after reporting Marconi's description of the event and the world's excitement, went on to say, "There is some speculation here as to the practicability of this scheme of wireless telegraphy. . . Marconi, however, is satisfied. . . that great surprises are in store for the world in this matter."

By the time Marconi died, in his native Italy in 1937, he had lived to see his discoveries bring safety to shipping, carry the human voice from continent to continent, make possible long-distance air navigation, save countless lives through mobile radio-telephone equipment for police and fire departments. The list is long, is still growing, eventually will even include helping man to reach the planets.

## Price Tag

Over the next five years industry in Canada—excluding agriculture—is going to have to absorb approximately 1,000,000 workers. That is the current estimate if jobs are to be found for those now unemployed, for those farm workers expected to have to shift to the cities and towns, and for the young people who will be out hunting jobs for the first time. It is this third group, the product of the swift climb in the country's birth rate from 1940 to 1947, that gives the problem of creating new employment opportunities an urgency equalled in no previous five-year period in our history.

There are, of course, many elements that influence economic expansion, but one of the fundamentals is the availability of capital. Every additional job has a price tag—the cost of machines; the cost of developing a new product; the cost of building a new plant or of expanding or modernizing an old one. The price tag varies. Probably its high is in primary steel production, where the cost of creating one new job averages, out to \$21,700. For all manufacturing an ed-

ucated guess is \$15,000. Thus the provision of an average of 200,000 new jobs a year presumes the annual investment of capital by industry to a total of something between two and three billion dollars. For purposes of comparison, in 1961 the capital expenditure—excluding costs of maintenance and repair—by the whole of Canada's vast manufacturing industry will not have been much more than one billion dollars.

This is the background to the now widely-held view that if we are to increase employment, we must reduce taxes and leave industry more of its earnings to pay for growth. Last year, for instance corporation earnings before taxes amounted to \$3.1 billion, but the corporation tax took half, dividend payments one-quarter, and only about \$800 million was left for maintenance and re-investment in expansion. Of course, a good part of dividend payments would be re-invested, but the government's full half share disappeared entirely from the country's pool of productive capital.

## Helpful Methods

We continue to like the effort Reeve Earl Dixon makes to show his ratepayers in McGillivray township how their taxes are spent.

Mr. Dixon, who is retiring as reeve this year but will continue to serve as a councillor, painstakingly breaks down the rate on a blackboard to show how the taxes, on an average-size farm are spent. He also provides a comparison with the previous year and explains the reasons for the differences.

We noticed that in another community,

council formed itself as a panel to answer any questions which ratepayers might wish to ask through an impartial moderator.

Such efforts—and there are many, similar ones which can be adopted—serve two purposes. Not only do they assist in helping to give the ratepayers a better insight into their affairs but they also show a community spirit by inviting close scrutiny. — Exeter Times-Advocate.

## Picture Postcard



—Photo by Esther Taylor

## Sugar and Spice . . .

BY BILL SMILEY

drinks, but not many, and it's a pretty quiet, moody affair. They're all going steady, you see, and trying to make an impression on somebody.

They take in a party among the young marrieds, with children. These characters are all exhausted up to their eyeballs in debt, frustrated, and slightly disillusioned about life. Watch out for fireworks at this one, especially at midnight, when the Auld Lang Syne nonsense ends, and the kissing starts. Somebody will get a thick ear or a split lip. I've had both in my day.

But Canadians hit their New Year's Eve peak, I think, in the middle years, in the forties and fifties. For one thing, their kids are past the childhood stage, and are probably not at home to keep an eye on the oldimers. For another, all the men are at the dangerous age. For another, all the women feel that their husbands are neglecting them. This is the identical formula for which the scientists, who split the atom looked for, for

years. It was right under their noses.

Again, the crisis, or turning point, is right at midnight, when everybody has this insane desire to kiss somebody else. I don't know where this custom originated, and I'm against it. Not only is it unsanitary, but my wife clobbered me right on the nose one New Year's Eve, just because a couple of agile ladies beat her to me, when the gong sounded.

This midnight moment is the time for all the poor dogs who are married to flight wives to dash around hanging great, romantic buses on the best-looking dames at the party. It is the time for the little woman, with a touch of yipsy in her soul, browned off with a hush-band, who thinks a kiss is a waste of time, to swoon for fourteen glorious seconds in the arms of the local undertaker or hardware man.

Let tell you more about this again. But right now, I have to do a little explaining to the Old Battle.

## Appointments, Raises, Petition At Marathon Inaugural Meet

Appointments, raises in salaries and a petition against a quarry's blasting were on the busy agenda as Nossachewas Township councillors ushered in 1961 on Tuesday with a five hour meeting.

Rev. R. Haddock M. Ebenezer United Church conducted the devotional and the members of council were sworn in to start off the marathon meeting.

Reeve John Milne and Charles Thomson were named to the Acton fire area committee and A. R. Service was delegated to the Milton fire area committee.

A petition was received from Nossachewas, Burlington, Milton, Leamington and Esquewenas protesting the heavy blasting being carried on at Milton Quarries, Base Line Road. The clerk was asked to write the company asking for their cooperation.

The fire chief and medical officer of health were asked to give their views after council received a petition for action on Commercial and Conquest Companies to establish a sewage yard within the township.

Ernie McMillan was engaged as an assistant and Don McMillan was temporarily named relief officer and building inspector. A. S. Near was appointed to the planning board for three years and Jack Robertson was named councillor representative to the planning board. Bambi Little was appointed caretaker of the township hall.

Council the road superintendent and the clerk were delegated to attend the Good Roads Convention and the Reeve, Clerk and Council will attend the rural municipalities convention.

A by-law was passed appointing the livestock evaluators, truant officer and fence viewers. Fence viewers were raised to \$130 per

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS

### 20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Tuesday, January 8, 1942.

A good indication of the increase in business for Acton's industries, was given this week when the Customs Officers gave a report of the last nine months' returns. Last year the total returns at the Acton office amounted to \$207,923.60 for the entire year and for the first nine months this year, \$242,971.90 has already been collected.

Acton fire brigade made a fast run to Wiles' restaurant yesterday afternoon when overhauled furnace pipes alarmed the owners. The incident was noticed early, fortunately, and little damage resulted.

During the inaugural meeting of the school board Tuesday, V. B. Rumley was appointed chairman for the year. Retiring chairman, F. S. Blow, was praised by the members for his work during the past year. During the meeting, representatives of several insurance companies were present to discuss the school insurance.

The McCutcheon bowling team defeated the Blinmore Rats by a 2-1 score last night in Guelph. The McCutcheons were cold after their drive from Acton and couldn't get going in the first game until the boys warmed up toward the end of the game, but too late to prevent the loss of the first game. They took the last two games with little trouble and hardly any opposition. Acton players include Jack Morton, Cam Feishman, Mick Holmes, Bill Corry and Jim Adamson.

During the meeting held by the Dublin Literary Society, a balloon contest was the feature of the evening. Everyone took part in the contest and popping of the balloons could be heard throughout the room. During the program under the supervision of Verina Webster as chairman, the orchestra gave a selection followed by a violin solo by Dorothy Frank. Betty Britton gave a reading followed by another violin solo by Douglas Frank. Lunch was served at the conclusion of the program.

### 50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Tuesday, January 4, 1912.

Following the death of Mathew Teety, postmaster at Richmond Hill, Acton postmaster Mathews has the longest service record of any postmaster in Canada and possibly in North America. Mr. Mathews was appointed to his post in 1885, two years after that of Mr. Teety's. The Acton postmaster hopes the government will celebrate his lengthened term of successful service by erecting a new post office similar to those erected at Fergus and Elora.

Acton's senior hockey team drove to Erin on New Year's Day for a match and when the final bell had rung the score was tied 4-4. No doubt the New Year's spirit was prominent in the hearts of the players, and both teams when they finished the game a tie.

Saturday's snowfall has the heaviest of the year and children have been taking advantage of the snow and are using the hills for pleasure with their sleighs. Farmers have been busy drawing logs to Henderson's sawmill and the snow has made the chore much easier.

Alex McIsaac of Hamilton, sub-contractor at the Beardsmore siding project suffered painful injuries yesterday while at work. Fortunately the injuries were not serious but the man was very lucky to escape with only bruises when about 50 tons of earth caved in knocking the man against the hub of a wagon burying him under the earth. He was promptly dug out and taken to the office of Dr. Holmes, where he received treatment and was allowed to return home.

Sunday was graduation day in the Methodist Sunday school and the following were presented with diplomas and Bibles for successfully passing their examination: Ethel Stewart, Muriel Morris, Lucy Edwards, Clara Cutting, Elwell Hamilton, Hugh Brown, Ray Agnew and George Super.

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