-Photo by Esther Taylor

## **Prejudices**

Rumors of an election in, the offing prompt people of all parties to take out and polish up ready for use their political prejudices owned from birth or acquired. Everyone who likes a good argument (and who does not?) looks forward to the period of disputation that comes at four or five-year intervals in this democratic land.

Prejudices serve a double purpose. They fiercely satisfy those who possess them and stimulate those who do not. Oliver Wendell Holmes described a man of prejudices thus: . . . he has good solid prejudices, that one can rub against and so get up and let off a superficial intellectual irritation, just as the cattle rub their backs against a rail . . ."

Prejudices are also self-propagating. To argue with a man of solid prejudice not only clarifies your own thinking, it also often forms your own prejudices in the process. You may, of course, call them sincere convictions, it is probable that some believers in protective tariff for native industry were influenced more by argumentative free traders than by Sir John A. Macdonald's National Policy. And vice versa. Such is human nature. Such is the party system.

They say people used to have stronger political prejudices than they have today. If George Gallup had lived back in the seventies and had started his Poll in grandpa's day, there might have been few people in the "undecided" column. The thing politicians will be trying to do between now and the next election is to develop some healthy prejudices in the minds of the uncommitted voters. Every politician will hope naturally that they will become prejudiced in his favor.

Argument on a national scale, stirred up by people of solid prejudices, is needed to shake voters out of their lethargy. TV political debates would never have satisfied the voter of a century ago. He wanted the fun of talking back. The wish to and the ability to talk back are the very basis of an informed electorate, and that wish and ability grow when there is a man of solid prejudices in the conversation. Just one will do it.

Let the battle be joined. Let the parlor debates begin.

# What is a Million Dollar Program?

Federal, provincial and municipal budgets mean little to most of us unless we can get those millions and billions into proper Focus.

The billion dollar spending program introduced by the province last week is no exception. There are impressive lists of accomplishments in the fields of education, welfare and provincial areas. There is the revelation of interesting facts like the one that 45 per cent of the provincial budget goes back to the municipalities.

But still it's a billion dollar program. And what is a billion dollars? For that matter has anyone ever seen a billion?

To really understand the provincial budget it is best to realize that the average Ontario household will be responsible for about \$713 of that billion dollar program. Last year the same household contributed something like \$642. Five years ago in 1957-58 the same household contributed \$535 which means an increase of almost exactly 20 per cent in the cost of provincial government in that five year period. The rise from last year is 12 per cent alone.

About one-quarter of your contribution will be made through gasoline tax and motor vehicle permits; about 15 per cent in sales. tax; about 30 per cent through corporation and income tax; about 10 per cent in liquor

tax; and 20 per cent from other sources. Education, health and Welfare are the big items and the provincial treasurer James N. Allan has commended to the special attention of the legislative members these staggering and growing costs that claim 47 per cent of the total budget.

There is a tendency on the part of the average individual to read headlines about the federal, provincial or municipal spending, complain a little and then ask for more ent jobs. ."benefits" from government.

We find it impossible to understand budgets of billions or millions but it is possible to understand the average household con-

tribution that is up 20 per cent in five years. And it is possible to understand that if we keep asking government to do more and more, we can expect to contribute more and

### THE IMPORTANCE OF INDUSTRY

"The Canadian Statesman" of Bowmanville, adapting a similar declaration from "The Peterborough Examiner," has this to say, - "It should be remembered that not only does industry provide jobs for the residents of a community, it pays a large share of municipal expenses, contributes to charity and recreation and is often one of the best customers of local suppliers. Is it any wonder that bringing new industry to Bowmanville is one of the concerns of Town Council?"

### EXPENSIVE TRAVEL

The United States Government is asking Congress to approve the expenditure of \$5.5 billion during the next fiscal year to cover the cost of space exploration. It is estimated that by 1964 the space program may cost about \$7 billion a year or more than any United States Government spent in peacetime before 1936.

# The Acton Free Press



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### THE GOOD OLD DAYS

### Back in 1912

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, March 7, 1912.

The young ladies of the town held a leap year party in the tow i hall last Friday and the gentlemen were the recipients of invitie tions. The affair was so pleasant if didn't wind up until midnight.

While delivering bread on Monday forenoon, Mr. George Statham had the misfortune to slip on the ley pavement while delivering bread and he sustained a very severe strain on his left side. He has been confined to his house since but is gradually recovering.

The Georgetown hockey club are living up to their old tricks and failed to appear Saturday night for a return match with the local boys. The crowd had assembled at the rink but the Georgetown team failed to appear and no explanation was sent Acton team telephoned their willingness to go to Georgetown on the nine o'clock train but this elicited no acceptance. Seems as though the neighboring team are afraid of the Acton boys just the same as they were in baseball.

For years the driving shed at the Methodist church has been open to the general public and including the church members everyone is welcome to use Last fall the trustee board put in a cement floor and contemplate painting and fixing the shed up including new roofing. Some outsiders evidently appreciate the use of the sheds for this week William Gowdy of the Toronto Lime Company dropped in and said "The expense for the renovations must be quite high; here's \$5 to help." Again Mr. A. G. Clarridge, dairyman, called one day and said "I use the sheds quite often when in town; please credit this dollar toward the ex-

During the council meeting Monday night members learned the Hydro-Electric Commission intended to start installation of the electric power to Acton just as soon as a contract was entered into and according to a letter it is the intention to begin poles to the area for use almost immediately after the agreement is signed.

Mr. James Symon has taken over the Johnstone hardware business and is now welcoming the customers of the store. Mr. Symon's father the late Charles Symon was in business here for many years and sold out to Messrs. Christie and Henderson about forty years ago.

### Taken from the Issue of the Free Press, Thursday, March 12, 1942.

**Back in 1942** 

Gordon Aitken received a head injuty and Harvey Fisher an injury to his back as the result of a car collision on the highway just east of Acton Tuesday night. Both young men are from Ospringe and it is said their car was struck in the rear by a truck opposite. the farm of Mr. D. D. Morrison. The rear end of the car was driven in and badly wrecked.

The first citizen to report seeing a robin this year was Miss Jessie Russell. The harbinger of spring was seen just after the big storm on Tuesday.

Some Rockwood residents had an uncomfortable time last weekchd after the mild weather caused a thaw in the river and high water overflowed the banks and ran into the cellars of some homes. Heavy ice piled at Hortop's dam caused the water to overflow and run down a section the valley road. One of the timbers was raised to allow the water to run its natural course in order to stop the flooding condition.

During a special meeting of council this week the members received a request from the Wool combing Corporation for permission to build 20 company homes in Acton. Both company and council went into details regarding water and light services, streets and grading.

Bannockburn Literary Society held their regular meeting Friday evening with Clarence Coles acting as chairman for the business session in the absence of the president. During the program the following numbers were enoyed by everyone: instrumental by Mrs. Hall; solo by Mr. Sonnette: reading by Clarence Coles and a mouth organ duet by Bert Watson and Russell McDonald. Lunch and dancing concluded the meeting.

On Tuesday afternoon Acton Continuation school played another game of hockey with the Rockwood school team and when the final whistle had tooted the score remained at three goals apiece. Referee for the game was Jack Kentner and only one penalty was handed out to Rockwood. The game was not as fast as some in the past but play was interesting. Acton goals were scored by Veldhuis who netted two and Masters who got one. Frank Fowke was the big scorer for Rockwood with two while team mate W. Dunbar scored one.

### FROM AROUND

OAKVILLE - Grade 13 students whose marks are not above the teachers' recommended mark of 35 per cent will have to pay five dollars to write the Ontario Department of Education final examinations this year. Money will be refunded if they gain a mark of 50 per cent or better.

BURLINGTON — Last week was careers week as 21 high school

out into the business world for a week's work in local offices. The course was designed to give students practical training for perman-BRAMPTON — The town wants a dogcatcher with a flair for

students took a five-day break from their regular timetable to move

weeds as well. The dog situation's so bad the Reeve feels it is "time the situation was straightened out" and added if a dog-catcher was hired, he could also double as weed inspector. STREETSVILLE - Children attending the town's public schools

"wear no badges of dishonor," principal James Flack told the Rotary Club last week. Black leather jackets, heavy leather boots, long haircuts and glass studded belts word by tough elements in other areas are not visible in this town, he assured Rotarians. GEORGETOWN - Councillor Fred "Tut" Harrison wants a bylaw to penalize people who toss driveway and sidewalk snow onto

already-plowed roadways. "There's no reason for people to undo our work and block up the roads again," he chided. MILTON - Mrs. Louisa Brown, a 95-year-old Halton Manor

resident, has a fine recipe for long life that would please today's twisters. "Keep right on going - keep running around and keep dancing," she advises. DEPENDED TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE

# of twenty-three.

Of course, I must admit it's just a matter of experience. The young fellow in his late teens

### Fundamental field of Control and Control

After an illness of four years Mrs. Mary Margaret Elliott died March 1. She was born in England and came here about 1910. She lived for two years in Guelph and for the past 50 years in

Her husband, Roland Arthur Elliott, predeceased her; she is survived by sons William, Acton; Edward, Acton, Percy, Brampton; daughters Mrs. Martin (Nellie) Aurora; Mrs. Fountain (Mae) Acton; Mrs. Cripps (Mararget)

The Rev. Donald West conducted the funeral service at the Rumley-Shoemaker funeral home on Saturday, March 3, and at Fairview cemetery.

### OBITUARY

### Flora Sutherland Was Born in Acton

Flora M. Sutherland died sud-Sutherland.

Funeral service was on Wednesday, February 28, at York, with Rev. R. S. Lederman officiating. Interment was in Chapel Lawn

### Happy Visitor

While he was downtown on Mill Street, Mr. Eldersley's watch fell from his chain and the youngster who was coming along noticed it, picked it up and ran after the man to return the time-

such a hurry the western visitor didn't have a chance to ask his name but he certainly is impressed with the honesty of the voungsters.

# H. R. Force Acton Industrialist To Join U-K Bound Trade Mission

An eight man team comprising electrical industrialists, union director, representative from Can adian Standards Association and a Department of Trade and Commerce officer will spend a 29 day mission in Furope in order to study European markets and competition, promote Canadian appliances and bring back information which should be help tui to-Canadian industry in gener-

Mr H R. Force who founded Force Electric Products Limited in 1929 in Preston has been a resident of Acton for the past 24 years when the company established here. About five months ago the firm purchased the form er Graham Metal Products of Preston and the entire operation has been moved to Acton Since this move the company is now in a position to manufacture gas ranges as well as electric ranges.

rangettes and hot plates. The Acton manufacturer believes the association with other members of the mission will be very helpful and the trip a bo asset to his own company as well

Mr. Force is married and his only daughter Jo-Anne is attending Havergal College in Toronto and his two sons' Don W. Force ment of Trade and Commerce. Toronto and H Rodney of Brampton are active directors with the company and assist their father at the plant and in Other directors of the

Springs Limited, Guelph Mr. D. M. Fairgneve, export manager, Fairgrieve and Son Limited. Toronto, manufacturers of dies and washing machines

firm are C. V. Force, Guelph and

E. S. Force, Acton. Mr. Force is

also a director of Steeles Wire

Mr. I. B. Hardy, export manager, General Steele Wares Ltd. Toronto manufacturers of electric ranges, refrigerators, laun dry equipment, and a complete range of steel and aluminum building housewares

Mr. I. G. MKee, president, Universal Cooler Co., Ltd., Barrie Ontario, manufacturers of commcreial refrigeration equipment Mr. P. D. Normandear, vicepresident and managing - director. A Belanger Ltd., Quebec. manufacturers of ranges, refrigcrators and feeder boilers.

Mr. G. B.-Tebo, manager, Canadian Standards Association of papers. Rexdale, Ontario. Mr. J. A. Findlay, commodity officer, Appliances and Commercial machinery division, Depart-

Ottawa, will be secretary of the Mr. G. Hutchens, Canadian di-

rector. International Union of Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, Toronto

### County Cornerstone To Be Laid Monday

In an official occmony next Monday afternoon at V p.m., Halton County · Council Aill gather at the new court house and administration office. Milton, to watch as Warden Wilfrid Bird lays the cornerstone for the new

The six inch square by two first deep cornerstone will contain several items of historical interest, including a copy of the on ginal by-law which provided for the erection of the building, a copy of the 1961, minutes of County Council "meetings at which plans for the building were discussed and recorded, and possibly copies of local news-

(Warden Bird says he has been practising his trowelling so he'll make an expert job of getting the cornerstone in place.)

# Sugar and Spice..

drugs, drink or divorce is a pret

valuable piece of humanity

He may not be able to accom-

plish some physical feats as

quickly or easily as the young

buck. But he can perform a lot

more mental and social teats,

and in the process he can last a

whole lot longer and finish a

I'd like to see, for example,

the young fellow who could

have stayed with me last Tues-

day, and finished as tresh as I

did. It was the day my daughter

became 11. She'd been promis-

ed a birthday party. After in-

vitations were out, her mother

realized that she had to take

the other offspring to the city

for a music festival and

wouldn't be here to run the

Guess who? Right, I was it.

Planner of games, judge of con-

tests, master of ceremonies, set-

tler of fights, caterer, and general

party mother. And do you think

with dignity, grace, charm and

warmth, not to mention aplomb

and insouciance? Dang right I

Take some young punk of 20

and let him try it. Let him take

over a dozen wild, squealing

sweet, silly, giggling little girls.

He'd run sobbing out of the

house, calling for his mother.

I'd like to see him acting as

judge for the twist contest we

held. He'd probably have given

the prize to the kid who could

dance it best. A mature man

would never do that. He'd give it

to the shyest, or the gawkiest, or

after 10 minutes of it.

didn't handle all those roles

good deal stronger.

dave you noticed how the when he confronts an unlamiworld is turning away from the har situation. But for the mididea that a hero must be a young dle-aged bird, there's no such man? For example, when the thing. He's been through it, o. Yanks wanted to send somebody something mighty like it. whistling around the world in one of those crazy capsules, they The man who has been able didn't choose some young punk to reach 40 without resorting 1-

Nossir! They picked Colonel John Glenn, a mature, intelligent, charming and handsome fellow of about my age. It's finally being realized that most men of our age possess these qualities, along with outstanding ability to hundle a crisis under great stress.

As the years hurtle by, this has become gradually more evident to me - how excitable and nervous and erratic and just plain silly are young fellows; how calm. competent, poised, steady, reliable and sane are we more adult

or early 20's is inclined to panic

### Mrs. Elliott Dies At Main St. Home

her home, 20 Main St., on

Acton, and 23 grandchildren.

denly, on February 26, 1962, at her residence at Winnipeg Beach. She was the wife of Charles A.

Memorial Gardens.

Mrs. Sutherland was born in Acton, Ont., going west in 1916, and had been a resident in Winnipeg Beach for the past 33 years. Besides her husband, she is survived by one sister, Mrs. C. Leverty, of Vancouver, B.C.

A visitor from Saskatchewan, Bob Eldersley, who is staying with Mrs. Jack Locker, Bower Avenue, had his faith in human nature renewed on Thursday of last week when a young schoolboy returned a lost watch to him

The honest boy disappeared in

### DENTAL

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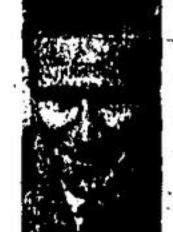
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his bank manager's daughter, or somebody useful.

I'd like to see that young fellow hustle up two dozen hot dogs with the works, pour 24 glasses of ginger ale, whip the cream, serve the jello, light the candles and lead the singing and escape with nothing more than a few burned fingers, a couple of broken glasses, some wax on the tablecloth, and not enough nickels in the cake. He just couldn't do it. He'd be screaming for the Red Cross or somebody before he'd dished out the first round of red-

Now, I'm not bragging or looking for praise. I'm merely pointing out a fact that is well known to all middle-aged men - that all middle-aged men are more diplomatic, tolerant, judicious and helpful in emergencies than are young men.

If this is the case, someone will ask, why is it that young women aren't battling to capture these paragons, instead of going around marrying young men all the time? And the casual observer will probably reply that it's because young men have hair on their heads and muscles in their bellies and music in their souls.

This, of course, is a superfluous view. As anyone who has pondered the whole business can easily see, the real reason is because these fine, middle-aged chaps, in the very prime and flower of their lives, are already in the toils of women who know how fortunate they are, and who are hanging on for dear life. After all, you don't get chaps like us out of grab bags.

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