



—Photo by Esther Taylor

It's Your Decision...

Next Thursday, November 22, is your nomination meeting.

At this meeting you have the opportunity to attend and be nominated to hold office in 1963's municipal administration. At this meeting you may listen to the 1962 administration report to the ratepayers on their year's activities. At this meeting you may question the administration on any municipal subject on which you feel you have not a full and clear understanding. It is your civic duty to attend this meeting.

We don't suggest that everyone who attends should run for office for 1963, but we do suggest it is your responsibility to attend and hear those who offer to stand for office so that you will be prepared to elect representatives qualified for the job.

One thing that has always bothered us at nomination meetings is the busy-bodies. These busy-bodies are the people scurrying around with a handful of nomination papers, who see somebody come in the door, and without even speaking to him, nominate the person. The first suggestion this person has may be nominated is when his name appears on the large board before the meeting.

We feel that anybody who has any wish to be nominated will have his nomination arranged before the meeting and will not be nominated on the spur of the moment by some busy-body's whim.

It is our opinion that if only those prepared to run for election are nominated it will

eliminate the multiplicity of nominations whereby an individual is nominated for every position in the municipality. It may eliminate the early departure from the ratepayers' meeting of nominees who leave so they won't be called on to speak. Probably more important it will eliminate those speeches where the nominee stands up and mumbles, "I would like to thank my mover and seconder and I will reserve my decision until Friday night."

If a candidate hasn't made up his mind by nomination night, whether he is going to run for election or not, the electors should take a very close look at his ability and qualifications for the job. If a man hasn't made up his mind and can't get up and speak it, he will, in all likelihood, procrastinate in the same way on every subject he is called upon to consider during his term of office.

What we need today are men who are prepared to be nominated, who make sure they are nominated, and stand up and say they will run for office. We need able men to run our town and the only way to get these men, is to see that they are nominated and to see that they will run for office before the nomination meeting.

You have two duties; the first is between now and nomination night to see that there are candidates prepared to run for office and the second is to attend the meeting to indicate your support and interest in municipal government.

Too Much to Ask?...

One of the most difficult facts to ferret out — as is noted in the first volume of the Glassco commission report — is the actual amount of the federal public debt. A layman might expect that net debt — as in net weight or net profit — would be an actual figure, the amount on which the taxpayers are liable for payment of interest and repayment of principal. In fact, that term is meaningless, even though it is the one most often referred to by politicians and public.

The extent of the confusion on how much the government is borrowing and how much we really owe is shown by the budget report of last spring. It was then estimated that the net debt stood at \$13.2 billion. However, there was the additional information that the unamortized debt was \$16.9 billion and that the gross debt was \$22.9 billion. But in truth the public seems to be carrying loans for none of these amounts.

Included in the budget was an item of \$788 million as the amount needed this year in tax revenues to pay the interest on the public debt. It was also stated that the average rate of interest on the debt has remained at 3.91 per cent over the last two years. On the basis of that rate, the total interest total something over \$20 billion — a long way from the \$13.2 billion that most of us would

assume to be the actual amount of the public debt.

The Glassco commission states that the term net debt purports to represent that portion of the outstanding debt not accounted for by liquid or self-supporting assets. In fact, many of the assets are not self-supporting and other are deferred expenditures. Various items on the liabilities side are also open to challenge as artificial or unrealistic from the accounting viewpoint. "Net Debt" is a meaningless and misleading concept. Other countries avoid such perils by publishing statements of outstanding debt. This is accepted as a good yardstick to measure the financial position of the nation, since it indicates what loans, advances or expenditures have been financed by borrowings and not paid for from revenues. Is it too much to ask that the taxpayer see an annual report that clearly states how much has been borrowed, how much has been paid back, and how much is owed? After all, he's backing the loan.

Christian Missionaries hope to continue working in Africa. One cost change they could make would be to put in a bit more time on some of the whites.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Nov. 19, 1942.
The new regulations limiting bus travel to 50 mile limits in one trip, made Acton the terminal point for those boarding buses in Toronto. Many travellers going from Toronto to Guelph or Kitchener found that the journey had to be made in two sections. They came as far as Acton and then were obliged to wait here for the next bus to complete the trip.

In police court in Acton yesterday, a 17-year-old Acton youth pleaded guilty to two charges of theft of gasoline by siphoning from the car of Leo Roach of Acton. He was put on suspended sentence for a year. The youth's previous record was not enviable and unless improvement is shown, sentence will be imposed immediately.

Remember how in the days of hockey teams in Acton, we used to be wishing about now for cold weather to make ice in the arena?

The Acton Junior Farmers held their annual meeting at Lorne School on November 13. The program included: piano duet, Donald and Margaret McPhail; violin solo, Mansel Nellis; solo, Audrey McArthur; reading, Edna Nellis; violin solo, Noreen Dron. Officers for the coming year are: president, Leslie Swackhamer; vice-president, Margaret McPhail; secretary, Irma Watson; treasurer, Elwood Johnston; pianist, Noreen Dron; executive, Harvey Fisher, Blanche McKinnon, Gordon Leslie, Isobel Swackhamer; executive for the Literary, Jack Allan, Wallace Swackhamer, Edith Watkins and Gladys Davidson.

It has been drawn to our attention that saving of electric power is just as vital in the homes as it is in the store fronts. It matters not where the light is located. If it is not necessary, turn it off. Get the habit of turning off the switch when you leave the room. Electric power is vital to Canada's war effort.

The purchasing committee of Acton Library Board have made a new purchase of books for Acton Library that are now being catalogued and made ready for distribution.

There are many things for which the war can be blessed and among them is the regulating to more reasonable hours the times at which retail establishments are open. Friday nights, stores will close at 6. Saturday nights, closing will be at 10 o'clock. Yes, the war has brought home many lessons and not the least important of them is a greater consideration of some of the problems of the other fellow. We hope when the war is over, we will not forget these lessons and drift back.

50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Nov. 14, 1912.

The board of education met in regular monthly session on Monday evening. Members present: E. A. Nicklin, chairman, Dr. E. D. A. Johnston, Jim R. Kennedy and John Kenney Jr.

It was reported that beginners were being sent to the Primary School immediately upon arriving at the age of five years, often in the middle of a school term, with the effect of disarranging and impeding the work of the teacher. Notice is to be given to all parents of young children arriving at the age of five years and desiring to attend school that they must enter at the beginning of the school term at January, Easter or September, and that under no condition will they be received in the middle of the school term.

A well attended meeting of foreigners was held Monday evening in the Baptist church. It was decided to open a night school two nights a week in Hill's Hall.

"I am very much afraid we will not have Hydro-Electric connection before Christmas," said Rev. E. H. Hynes when interrogated by the Free Press. It seems impossible to get the workmen here. A lot of good weather has been wasted, this month.

The Wingham Advance says: "The home of Mr. T. Finney was the scene of a pretty wedding on the afternoon of October 30 when his youngest daughter Agnes J. was joined in wedlock to Mr. Wallace J. Frankum, both of Wingham. About 75 enjoyed the nuptial repast."

All the Bulgarians but two or three who were living in town have left for the seat of war.

Unless a considerable number of ratepayers enter a protest within the next thirty days, all London, Ont. children up to the age of sixteen years must attend school, commencing with the new year.

The Provincial Board of Motion Picture censors is actively proceeding against persons who show unbecoming films.

Rev. Father Travnor is pleased to announce that the extensive improvements recently in progress in connection with both interior and exterior of St. Joseph's Church, have been completed and the church will be reopened on Sunday morning. The choir will be assisted by the choir of Holy Cross Church, Georgetown, at both services.

In a few days parliament will open and 300 men filled with the love of their country and anxious to improve their conditions will gather at Ottawa — and most of them do as their party leaders tell them to.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

STREETSVILLE—Steps will be taken by Streetsville Council to investigate the possibility of expropriating land within the town for industrial development. It was decided at Council meeting Monday night that a delegation will discuss the problem with the Department of Municipal Affairs, likely this week.

BRAMPTON—Voters will face a new breed of ballot in the municipal polling booths on December 8. Council Monday night approved a composite ballot which will handle questions on Sunday sports and movies as well as the election of a mayor, reeve, deputy-revee, councillors and water and hydro commission members. Voters will also be given two other ballots — one for school trustees and one for the city hall question.

BURLINGTON—This town may soon see the end of the Burlington Musical Society if the threat of receiving a month's notice to leave the building it presently occupies comes through. In effect, this would mean the end of the town's live bands. The owner of the building which the Society occupies wants to sell and if this happens, the group will have no other building to move into. Bandleader Elgin G. Collett admits he fears that the whole program will "blow up."

OAKVILLE—One of the world's most beautiful show gardens is soon to be developed by Cities Service Oil Company Limited. R. J. Hull, president, said work will begin this fall on a six-acre floral show place adjacent to the company's refinery at Bronte. The project will be known as the Cities Service Centennial Garden and will be completed in time for the 100th anniversary of Canada's Confederation in 1967.

WATERDOWN—Queen's Scout John Lavoock a member of the third Waterdown troop was chosen by a panel of judges to attend the World Jamboree in Grosse Pointe. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Lavoock, Waterdown and a grade 13 student of Waterdown District High.

MILTON—The Town of Milton should have a new seven-man industrial commission by December 1. Milton Council appointed a nominating committee to suggest seven citizens to form an industrial committee. The group met last Tuesday evening with Mayor S. G. Childs, Councillors George Purdy, Noren Pearce and Jim Bell and Brian Best of the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Childs and Councillor Bell pledged council's utmost support of the group.

GEORGETOWN—Two newcomers to the Georgetown political scene, W. R. Smith and Leonard G. Burns, will contest a municipal office at the forthcoming election December 7. Announcement of the candidacy of a Ward One resident is expected next week. It is understood that former Reeve Walter Gray intends to toss his political hat back in the ring.

Need Uniforms For Swap Shop

There were nine members present when the Scout and Guide Mothers met in the Scout Hall Tuesday, October 30. Vice president Ethel Haggart opened the meeting with the Lord's Prayer and secretary's and treasurer's reports were read.

A coffee and Christmas cake draw were planned for Nov. 20. Elda Anderson offered to take charge of getting the new chairs for the Hall. Ethel Haggart is to organize a committee for finishing and cleaning the kitchen. Roll call for November is to be

Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL BAILEY

Can anyone tell me why women are so fierce about money? As Brutus said, I pause for a reply. No answer? Well, then, can anyone tell me why women are so absolutely clueless about perfectly straightforward handling of the lovely stuff? No answer. I knew there wouldn't be.

For years, I handled the money in our family, and everything ran smoothly. A couple of years ago, yielding to some mad whim, I agreed to turn over the family finances to the Old Battleaxe, and since then, we have endured fiscal chaos.

The trouble is, she panics. I used to solve the problem of bills by putting them all in my hip pocket and letting them age for a while. She gets half a dozen bills and goes into a tizz.

She spreads everything out on the table: pencils, sheets and sheets of paper, bills, bank book, cheque book. She adds everything up six times. She subtracts debts from bank balance, bursts into tears and hurls charges such as "incoherent addict" and "alcoholic" at me.

Every time we have a financial crisis — that is, about once a week — it turns out that the only way we can stay out of debtor's prison is for me to give up the weed and the malt.

And every time, I have to point out carefully and patiently that we little sinners are the only thing that keeps this country from going on the rocks.

It's not the big sinners who support the schools and hospitals and pay for all those new docks and post offices and missiles without warheads and inconclusive elections. Heck, I could keep a mistress or two, gamble heavily, declare a phoney bankruptcy — do every bit commit murder — and the government wouldn't take a nickel in taxes. No, it's the wee sinner, with his deck of tags

and his box of beer, who pays the shot.

This simple economic truth, however, rarely diverts the old lady from her tantrum. She threw a dandy when she came home yesterday, after spending a week away from us.

She was sore as blazes at all of us when she left, over something or other, and she wasn't home twenty minutes, the kisses and hugs were scarcely culminated, when she blew up again.

She had left me a detailed note I was to pay the interest on the mortgage, be sure to pay the hydro bill and get the discount, put so much from account A into account B to cover such-and-such, see the bank about renewing our demand note on the TV set, be sure to put the right change in the milk bottles, because the pup licks the milk off the top and the pennies fall into the leaves, rake the leaves, put out the garbage, pay my insurance premium, see that the kids had a bath, and not watch the late movie.

I was sort of busy while she was away. After all, I had to cook dinner for three each night, organize a trip to the city for my Grade 11 kids to see a play, canvass for the YMCA drive, and watch the late movie without somebody hollering at me to come to bed.

Besides, it was my week to entertain the Friday Afternoon Club, a perambulating organization for tired teachers, at which



they let off steam and take on fuel.

I did get the garbage out. At least, my son did. He's still scared of women. He's only fifteen. But I didn't pay much attention to the rest of the instructions. In fact, the note containing them was misplaced. That is a word I like. I didn't actually lose it, but I couldn't find it.

To cut everything short, and to put it so simply a child could understand it, I collected \$141.78 from my students for tickets to the show, picked up \$49.50 on the YMCA canvass, issued a cheque on either account A or account B for \$270 to cover the cost of the tickets, spent either \$14 or \$24 of the Y money on groceries, bought some beer for the Friday Afternoon Club out of either my ticket money, or my canvass money, and made my own donation to the Y out of the milk money.

You should have heard the screams. You'd think I'd run off with a belly-dancer, or lost my job or failed to use a deodorant, or committed something equally heinous. She was just about ready to call in the Mounties.

One of these days, I'm going to put my foot down over these financial crises of ours, and if it doesn't sink right to the knee, there'll be some changes made. Or something.

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