

"Forecast"



Memorial Page

—Photo by Esther Taylor

Confusion Added to Confusion...

The decision of the Ontario Government, announced in the Speech from the Throne last week, to increase the pupil grants for school purposes should do little more than further confuse the already confused school grant picture. The grants will go from \$15 an elementary pupil to \$20, from \$5 a secondary pupil to \$30, and will establish \$40 as the rate for each vocational pupil. These grants are intended to remove some of the tax load from home and farm owners, and will be available only to municipalities that undertake to keep the school tax rate on home and farm owners ten per cent below the rate set for industrial and commercial properties.

Reducing the tax load on home and farm owners has been the stated purpose of Provincial school grants ever since they were first instituted in 1945; but it is doubtful if they have achieved this purpose. With the school population explosion which occurred at that time, over-all school costs rose so

sharply that school taxes continued to rise despite the Provincial assistance. The effect of the grants was to confuse the taxpayer concerning the actual cost of education and to give school boards what might be described as "gravy" money over and above their normal income from local taxes.

The promised increases are no more likely to reduce local taxes. No limitation is put on what school boards may spend. School taxes could continue to rise, the only provision being that commercial properties shall carry ten per cent more of whatever the burden is than do farm or home owners. Since commerce will charge this ten per cent to the consumer, or the farm and home owner, it is difficult to see where the gain will be.

Ontario's urgent need is for a revision of the whole basis of paying for education, so that taxpayers will know precisely what education is costing them and have the facts with which to discipline their school boards into careful budgeting.

—The Globe and Mail

The Local Scene...

The decision of Toronto newspapers to charge a fee for wedding stories and pictures may have readers wondering if the same policy is effective locally.

Nothing of the sort. We solicit such items which we consider among the most important of the district's news and to each prospective bride, we send a printed form with instructions to submit both a news story and a picture. We do not take pictures of bridal parties, however. Our commercial printing department can supply printed announcements, invitations and other material necessary for a wedding.

Another news item which we appreciate is one for our personals column and here again there is no charge. On the contrary you do us a favor when you submit such items as visits and visitors.

This newspaper draws only one line on charge.

We consider anything in the nature of a coming attraction to be a form of advertising. Any such information of a public service which hopes to attract either funds or other support for a cause is also subject to space rate charges.

A newspaper must, of course, have advertising revenue to survive, for the money received for newspaper sales could not carry the production costs.

The more advertising, the more news and feature material can be included. And while the paper is well used by local commercial firms we have not reached the hap-

py situation where the news pages have become so valuable we must start charging for news items. No, the Toronto dailies do not offer any inspiration to us in this regard. We will never attempt to mimic them in this or several other practices common to metropolitan journalism.

Optimism Confirmed...

Just a decade ago it might have been deemed impossible, but this fall natural gas from the Canadian prairies starts to flow via a pipeline under the St. Lawrence River near Cornwall, Ontario, to a group of 17 municipalities in northern New York state. Brought east by the Trans Canada Pipe Lines system, the fuel is being exported by the St. Lawrence Gas Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Consumers Gas Company of Toronto.

Not long back the southern Ontario market was an importer buying gas from wells in the southern U.S. Now the trade is going the other way into an area about 2,500 miles from the well head. This development only the latest addition to an increasing flow of gas southward across the border particularly to the mid-western and western states.

It seems to indicate that those who forecast that natural gas would bring Canada a hundred million U.S. dollars by 1963 and would be among the top ten export commodities shortly thereafter were not unduly optimistic.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Dec. 10, 1942.

Chief among the matters discussed at the council meeting on Monday was the engaging of a Public Health Nurse, Captain V. B. Rumay, and proposed to W. McKenzie were a decision from the school board.

The representatives of the school board also inquired what arrangements had been made for operating the arena for school hockey and skating. The report reported that no arrangements had yet been made with the West Controller regarding renting the arena for storage purposes and that he favored urging an immediate decision.

A warning, saying it being made as a result of a vote of 10-7 on the motion to accept the terms of the election, limited on nearby communities. In Georgetown the recent municipal battle held in years recalled when Mayor Joseph Gubbins was returned by a margin of 18 votes over his opponent, Rev. Harold Cleave.

Mr. George Harzwe, R.C.A.E. is now stationed at Manning, B.C. Toronto.

A few stores are open on W. 125th street until Christmas.

Born: Doby, Al St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph, on Monday, November 10 to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Doby (nee Doris Hill) a son, Robert Alfred Doby.

Corp. Allan Kirkness is home from Sussex, N.B. for Christmas leave.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wainwright and Miss Betty Wainwright of Toronto visited here with Mrs. Wainwright.

Wonder what we did for the long winter evenings without radio or some of the present attractions? Well, show us to play to packed houses in the town hall.

Early Christmas merriment is a part of the year.

Mr. J. S. Jones, born at Barabank is nearing completion of the snow plow made for the year of the season through the countryside this week.

Mr. Bonnie Beavers of Nissawa bicycled to Rosedale a distance of 50 miles to visit his brother Fred last Sunday.

Reverend R. A. E. is returned to his station at Manning, N.B. after spending his fortnight at his home here.

The December meeting of the South Mothers' Auxiliary was held at the home of Mrs. King. The new president, Mrs. F. W. Masters was in charge. Five new members were welcomed.

50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Dec. 5, 1912.

On Friday afternoon there was a fire in Lake Bower's photographic Municipal Office. Harvey forced the door and threw a couple of pails of water on the fire. In a few seconds a well-organized bucket brigade was at work and, with the abundance of water supply available at 40th street, the fire was quickly extinguished. The fire engine got underway at first it was thought it would be impossible to save the store and residence of Mr. L. C. Hill. The cause of the fire was an explosion in a coal oil heater. Much sympathy is felt for Mr. Hill, whose Christmas trade was just opening up.

The teachers and students of the high school presented a unique and highly entertaining evening in the town hall. Rev. J. Wilson occupied the chair. A. J. Nolin Esq., chairman of the board, spoke and presented diplomas as follows: entrance to high school—Wilma Johnson; A. O'Brien, Mac Smith, Clara Brown, Mildred Stannion, John E. Kenney, Mildred Giller, Arne Anderson, Gordon McLeod, Albert Brown, John Smith, Edgar Stewart, Ross Sack-Kramer, low school to normal school—Dorothy Nelson, Isabel Anderson, Rita Cole, Annie McDonald, John E. Moore, George Mollat, Margaret McDonald, diplomas to normal school—Hazel Thurl, Ruth Nelson, Bertha Brown.

The entertaining feature of the evening was presented by Miss Backlund, cartoonist of New York.

Get your electric wiring installed! Hydro connection in a week or so. The lines have caused considerable slashing of the attractive maples.

The back-up buses have been strengthened as they have been. A motor was fixed the nominal time of \$1 and costs for use of bad language resulting when a snowball was thrown at him during the band concert at noon Saturday.

Wonderland, the picture show, which has been owned and managed by Mr. H. S. Holmes, the past three years has been purchased by Mr. R. J. Grayson, a branch of St. M. Holmes reported having his firm had over 100,000 paid admissions. He is prepared to secure films of a good class and succeeded in releasing a good number of patients.

Several Georgetown high school boys were expelled for smoking cigarettes on their way to and from school.

Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL EARLEY

Had an interesting day in the city on Saturday. Met an old friend I hadn't seen in years, took a long look at a lady with no clothes on and was mistaken for a wealthy executive by several waiters, a cab driver and an art dealer.

It all came about because of my new winter outfit. In the clothes department I had been Canada's last holiday against inflation. Ever since the end of World War II, I had been waiting for the price of men's clothing to drop back to a sensible level, so that I could buy an overcoat.

Not that I haven't had an overcoat in all those years. I've had several, each of them looking like something the Salvation Army had refused to accept.

When I came home from overseas in '45, I had no overcoat and my old air force trench coat was held together by safety pins. One day it fell apart, literally. A large lady who had been sitting beside me on a streetcar got up and walked away with half my coat dangling from her purse, which had caught in one of the rents.

My landlady of the day came to the rescue. A widow, she presented me with her late husband's 1928 model overcoat. A six-footer, he had filled it out nicely with his 230 pounds. A five-foot-eighty weighing in at a solid 137, I had room for a small family in there with me. But it was a nice gesture, so I wore it, looking as though every day was Halloween.

That one was swiped at a New Year's Eve party. It's the only time anything good has happened to me at one of those affairs. Luckily, a few days later, I met an old flying pal who had some a bit alcoholic and had two overcoats. I got his second best for \$30. It lasted for a couple of years until we got a pup.

Avian Gyroplane To Reire Horse?

A gyroplane that is said to be able to undersell helicopters, outperform light executive aircraft and operate almost as cheaply as a car, is being built in Georgetown by the Avian Manufacturing Co.

At present there are four gyroplanes in operation. The craft is bomb shaped and wingless, with all its parts except the wheels, engine and instruments being made in Canada. The company is planning to go into full scale production of the plane, as soon as their working model is certified by the Department of Transport.

The Avian Gyroplane is the result of the failure of the Avro Arrow. The engineers with the gyroplane idea found themselves unemployed when the Arrow defence contract was scrapped, so they took their own ideas with them and founded an airplane company.

Need Millions
The company, located in Georgetown, has been supported by local businessmen and the Thermal Electric Corporation of Chicago. Don Hayward of Milton, a director of the company, remarked: "We've got a tiger by the tail but we need \$2,000,000 to swing it. Actually, \$1,500,000 would be enough to set up full production facilities but \$2,000,000 would be better."

The Gyroplane has drawn world wide attention with 2,500 dealers from Western Europe, South America, United States, Nordic countries and Canada applying to buy the plane when full scale production begins.

Inquiries have been received from missionaries, coffee planters, veterinarians, ranchers and highway patrols who have shown interest in the craft that can land in a small area with almost vertical descent. It can clear a 50 foot obstacle within 100 feet after takeoff and is priced at between \$5 and 20 thousand dollars, depending on extras.

Chief asset of the Gyroplane is its manoeuvrability. It is said that Alberta ranchers are considering retiring the horse in favor of such a manoeuvrable craft. However, the company needs support in the form of \$2,000,000 and as yet, no such help has been found.

Find Winter Jobs Help Our Economy

Importance of planning ahead to increase winter employment is stressed by the National Employment Service. The employer can consider his production program to see what could be done to carry as much employment as possible into the slack months and can earmark maintenance and renovation projects for winter work as well.

The household will find skilled and unskilled workmen readily available in winter for jobs about the house. Why wait for spring?

After the beast had been thoroughly trained and had ruined every old blanket in the house during the process, I let him sleep on my overcoat, just for one night, until we rounded up some more bedding for him. Apparently nobody had told him that he was thoroughly trained.

My last coat was given to me by an uncle. It just looked like somebody's uncle's overcoat, and I just looked like somebody's uncle in it.

The other day, sick of looking seedy, I hauled down the flag of resistance and hid me to a gent's emporium. It didn't help much to discover that those sombre rags known as men's overcoats are about three times as much as they were in 1945.

However, I plunged. The works. Imported, latest style, British tailoring. The price staggered me, but the modesty of my down payment rather staggered the clerk. Then, in some mad whim, I picked up a hat, an item I've never owned, and clapped it on.

I looked in the mirror. Don't ever tell me again that clothes don't make the man. The baggy kneed teacher had been replaced by a baggy-eyed executive had given way to a well-heeled stockbroker. The only giveaway was below the knees. There were the same old shapeless shoes, with the broken laces tied in granny knots. Otherwise, a veritable whiskey ad model.

And that's how I came to be standing in this art gallery in the city on Saturday, gazing at this nude painting. Judiciously Rocking a bit on the

heel. Purging the mouth thoughtfully. Squinting carefully with the head cocked on one side. I figured that was what a man of distinction would be doing while he waited for his wife.

The salesman hovered discreetly. Asked him how much it was. He said seven-fifty. Told him I'd take it. He wanted to know if I'd like a cheque form. Told him I'd pay cash. Pulled out a ten-spot. Simultaneously discovered that he meant \$70 and that my wife was standing two feet behind me.

I was still trying to convince her that I was interested only in the remarkable tone of the painting, when we ran into old John Meisel. Hadn't seen him since the days when the mob used to arrive at our place with a case of studs, a salami, a guitar and a number of ridiculous but refreshing ideas. He's a university professor now.

What did we talk about? Old times? Our teaching jobs? World affairs? The new book he's written? Nope. He has squirrels in his attic, too, and we spent a happy and profitless two hour lunch discussing means of eliminating the little brutes without being cruel.

An interesting day. And all because I bought some new winter outerwear. It's the first time my wife has let me go to the city in the winter for four years.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

BRAMPTON—There will be a two way fight for the mayor's seat this year with Brampton lawyer Russel Prouse running against the incumbent mayor Gaiman Core. Former mayor Neil Nams' Horsewood will run against present mayor Fred King for that office. A total of 13 candidates were nominated for the six year council, including seven newcomers. Twelve other offices were filled by acclamation. Anthony McLean was acclaimed Deputy Mayor.

STRETTVILLE—Saturday marked a milestone for Streetsville with the official opening of the new \$12,000 arena. Several hundred adults and hundreds of youngsters viewed the parade from the plaza to the arena and were present at the opening ceremonies. Former Toronto Maple Leaf hockey star Sid Appts was present at the opening.

GEORGETOWN—The Department of Municipal Affairs strongly recommended against a proposed new land release agreement following a request by Georgetown council for advice on the land problem. In a letter read to Georgetown council on Monday evening the DMA questioned very seriously the desirability, from a financial point of view, of pledging the town's credit further by entering into agreements to release any more building lots at this time.

BURLINGTON—Mayor Owen Mullin charged Councilor Ernest Hemmesex with a "very delicate conflict of interest" in the matter of the location of a town hall on the old cannery site on Lakeshore Road. He said Mr. Hemmesex represents a firm which wishes to give the town of Burlington 15 acres for a civic centre in the area of the Guelph Line and the Upper Middle Road just north of Progress Park.

WATERLOO—Ratepayers spent over two hours Monday evening hearing reports of municipal activities meeting the candidates for the coming election and discussing various issues of municipal work. The meeting was sponsored by the Waterloo District Chamber of Commerce. Two major topics discussed during the evening were the proposed sewer installation which will be voted on at the coming election and the street lighting program for the replacement of the light poles and street lighting fixtures. A \$150 rate speed measuring device for the use of the police department. Submitting the recommendations of Councilor C. Johnson report on an earlier demonstration of the equipment now in use in several area municipalities.

Alcoholics Anonymous Marks Third Anniversary Saturday

Members of Alcoholics Anonymous will observe their third anniversary on Saturday, Nov. 27. The group was organized in November, 1949, by 12 individuals and has grown to include members from 115 St. Mary's, Hensley and Guelph.

At this meeting four of the 12 original members celebrated a total of 17 years continuous sobriety with one receiving a special medal for one year and another a gold medal for five years. The speaker was Mr. J. G. King, Chairman of the Kitchener and Western Ontario delegate of the

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