

The Acton Free Press

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Scrap inflation fight, concentrate on pulling us out of recession

While a lot has already been said and written about the recent federal budget and nothing much new can be added, we still feel compelled to comment on this latest Liberal disaster.

When the finance minister announced the war on inflation back in 1980, we, like most Canadians, applauded the move.

We realized there would be a cost to "wrestle inflation to the ground" in terms of suffering through unemployment and high interest rates.

But back in 1981 we, like most Canadians and we suspect most in the federal government, weren't able to anticipate just how high the price would be.

To borrow the Tory phrase, "short term pain for long term gain", we thought the cost wouldn't be nearly as devastating as it has been.

Even last November, with the recession still very much in its infancy we backed some budget measures, especially closing of tax loopholes which allegedly would hurt just the well off, such as professional athletes.

As the recession (or is it really depression but most are afraid to use the word) and as we listened to mounting criticism of the budget we came to realize that many of the attractive sounding measures weren't so hot after all.

The icing on the cake was the realization that while tight money, budget cuts and declining growth were working south of the border to bring down inflation, government moves which have caused so much suffering for so, so many in this nation were having no appreciable impact on inflation.

It has become increasingly obvious we are suffering and will suffer even more, through long term pain for virtually no gain.

Like most we were waiting anxiously for the new budget and wound up being terribly disappointed, even alarmed.

On the surface, wage controls on federal civil servants may seem attractive to many Canadians weary of strikes and hearing about exorbitant wage demands and settlements.

However, not only will these savings be a mere drop in the bucket when compared to the horrendous federal deficit we must all now pay more to finance, but it is also highly unfair. Canadians must remember that the vast majority of federal civil servants haven't received ridiculous contracts or gone out on strike. They don't all work for the Post Office or the few other groups who have angered us so much.

Even if other levels of government follow the feds' lead, as well as the private sector, we will likely only move to the six per cent world of wages, not prices.

This isn't to say we are advocating wage and price controls for everyone. Last time wages were controlled, prices were only semi-controlled. Besides, controls put us into recession and we simply can't afford to become still more depressed this time around.

There are some slight signs of recovery on the way in the States. It seems highly improbable that recovery there will have enough of an impact here to turn us around if the government continues its current course, trying to fight inflation regardless of the cost and regardless of the fact measures have failed miserably so far.

As much as we regret having to say it, we think the feds should give up fighting inflation, for now.

Get the country back to work and get the interest rates down. Then we will be in a position to take advantage of the American recovery.

With a stronger economy the government could then turn its attention back to inflation. Doubtless this would mean we don't reap as much from an upturn or boom, but it would seem a better time to cut the deficit, raise interest rates a bit and make other inflation attacking moves.

Even if aborting a recovery in its midst brought on a fresh recession, with the States in good shape our decline would be mild compared to what we are living through now or the excruciating pain which appears on the horizon now.



On the Leavell

With Helen

Happy anniversary greetings go out to Jim and Tell Connolly, Elmora Drive, who celebrate 20 years of marriage today (Wednesday).

Marie Shadbolt was elected area director for Acton at a recent meeting of the Halton-Burlington Progressive Conservative Riding Association held in Milton. Ross Ballantine was named a director at large. Fran Balnes, who lost in the last election to MPP Julian Reed, was also named a director at large. Former Actonian and Georgetown Citizen of the Year Ab Tennant was named area director for Georgetown.

Free fluoride clinics for elementary school children will be held in local schools during July and August.

For appointments call the Dental Division of the Halton Regional Health Department at 878-8113, ext. 287.

Mothers who wish to breastfeed their babies will find encouragement and information at the Acton La Leche League. The next meeting, "Baby Arrives—The Family and the Breastfed Baby" is Monday at 8 p.m. Nursing babies are welcome.

The League offers mother-to-mother help in a series of four monthly meetings. The meeting discussions include the latest medical research as well as personal experience. The manual, The Womanly Art of Breastfeeding is available for sale or from the library. Our lending library includes also books on childbirth, child care, breastfeeding and nutrition. For further information please call 878-4732, 878-4803, 856-9935 or 878-3884.

Ken and Betty Ferguson, sons Troy and Travis and George Cook all from Whitecourt, Alberta, are visiting with Betty and George's parents Herb and Rosemary Cook, Churchill Rd.

Troy and Travis, along with their cousin LeeAnn Goy of Acton took part in the Y's Men's Biathlon on the weekend.



Dora Kennedy of 128 Church had a pretty nice sight in her home last Wednesday. Her Christmas Cactus was in full bloom, a rarity at this time of year. But to further add to the uniqueness of the plant, the blossoms were two colors—peach and pinky red. Mrs. Kennedy says she has never seen two colors on one plant.

Acton resident John Barratt was promoted this week by Halton Regional Police from the rank of Inspector to Staff Inspector.

Barratt, who commanded the criminal investigations bureau in North Halton and at one time was temporary commander of district one, is commander of Burlington

police operations. Also in the past he worked as Chief James Harding's staff officer.

Piano students of Miss Jean McLean entertained parents and friends with their final recital of the year on June 28 at her home at 31 Brock Street.

Students taking part were Dawn Allison, June Choi, Erica Kerkhof, Jimmie Splinter and Kim Allain.

Seems like thieves around Acton plan to have a garden party—and had to take the furniture and plants to have it.

I got a call from an upset friend yesterday telling me her mature plants were stolen from her front verandah Friday night. One plant was valued at over \$50. She doesn't think it was kids doing the taking either. Whoever was her nocturnal visitor knew enough to take just the big mature plants and leave behind the smaller, younger plants. They seemed to know which hanging plants were a good take also.

The same lady told me about some iron lawn furniture which was taken from a Lakeview subdivision home around the same time.

She wonders if it safe to leave anything outdoors after dark lately.

The Acton BIA has purchased a large block of tickets for the August 27, New York Yankee-Toronto Blue Jay game to be given out in contests around town. Winners of the tickets will have bus transportation included and will be able to take in the Canadian National Exhibition the same day.

Ed Wood, chairman of the BIA, says smaller blocks of tickets will be handed out to the various stores in the BIA and handed out in their own contests.

Wood says he hopes to have the contests starting by next week.

Today marks my eighth anniversary at the Free Press, in one capacity or another.

I came to Acton fresh out of the journalism program at Sheridan College. When I was called for my job interview, I didn't even know where Acton was.

But Jim and Dave Dills were willing to take a chance on a young rookie, probably never realizing I would become a permanent fixture around the Willow St. office and the streets of Acton. The Dills

never disappointed me, and I hope I never disappointed them.

Now, as I enter my ninth year in town, I look back on the past eight years and laugh at many of the experiences I have had. I also look back and wonder how I can thank people like Kay and Dave Dills, Marguerite Taylor, Did and Emily Price, and the vast array of other people who have made my life in Acton so comfortable and enjoyable.

I hope the next eight years are as good to me as the past.

Free Press editor (and my husband) Gord celebrated eight years in Halton Hills a few weeks ago. He also was hired by the Dills as a news reporter for the Georgetown Independent straight from Sheridan. In 1978 he was made sports editor, and was sent to Acton in 1980.

Many people have asked us why we haven't moved on to other larger papers. They wonder why, when neither of us is from Acton, we have stayed.

The answer is fairly simple. To move to a larger paper would mean losing the personal contact with the people in the community. Most people in town know us, and we know them. We enjoy the fact we can consider news contacts as friends.

I would love to move back to my hometown of Collingwood and maybe some day I will. But Acton has become home for Gord and I. As long as the Free Press and the local people can tolerate us, we'll stick around.

My motto—small is beautiful.

MEANDERINGS

by Mabel Barkman
Let me count the ways!

It's strawberry time again and it seems we are always trying to serve these delectable morsels in interesting ways. I like them crushed on toast with a bit of sugar. Some people set out a large bowl of them and serve with brown sugar and sour cream. Now is the time to buy plain yogurt and add strawberries, or crush some, simmer with a bit of sugar and add to the yogurt.

Make up a batch of crepes and spread fresh sweetened strawberries over them, roll up and eat. Of course there is strawberry pie, shortcake, fresh jam with biscuits, strawberry ice cream and many more desserts. Perhaps the simplest way of all is the tried and true—strawberries and cream!

Back issues 10 years ago

July 5, 1972
One of Acton's rural landmarks, the huge red barn on the farm formerly owned by John Sprowl, Third Line of Esqueping, was levelled by fire late yesterday (Tuesday) afternoon.

The meeting room in the Acton Community Centre will be the home of Acton's Coffee House. Adele Hurley, a York University student will supervise the coffee house.

Acton High School had seven Ontario Scholars this year. Carolyn Thompson, Carolyn MacKenzie, Gordon Morris, Carol Patterson, Ursula Fielder, Anne Cavlovic and Angela Pries. Acton High only had three scholars last year.

A crowd estimated at close to 1000 helped Acton Firefighters celebrate Dominion Day at a garden party and fireworks display in Prospect Park Saturday night under ideal weather conditions.

Acton Ramettes scored a 6-0 shutout victory over a pint-sized Shelburne Roughnecks in exhibition girls' lacrosse Thursday night in Acton.

20 years ago

July 5, 1962
Watson's Music recital was held Wednesday of last week in St. Alban's parish hall. About 100 parents and friends enjoyed the varied program.

International Y's Men's delegate, Klaus Vos of Amsterdam, Holland, is in town with Acton Y's Men, and there is a special meeting tonight for the members to meet him.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Davidson were hosts for the Guernsey Breeders' strawberry social.

Blue Mountain School will close its doors and the children of that area will go to the new consolidated school at Limehouse. Blue Mountain was built in 1871 and will hold a final reunion on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ian Ross and family who moved from Acton to New York are back in town visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Dick and family.

John and Terry Dowding left Saturday to spend their vacation in Wichita, Kansas with Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Utick.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill McHugh of Ottawa spent the weekend in town with relatives and friends.

50 years ago

June 30, 1932
The bass fishing season opens tomorrow morning and Fairy Lake will have its usual lot of fishermen trying their luck. Keep Wednesday evening, July 6, for the big barn dance at Jas. McCallum's, lot 10, concession 3, Erin, two miles from Osprey. Sod Buster's orchestra, admission 25c.

Pallant's Clothing and Footwear offer these specials this week, Ladies' all wool bathing suits for \$1.25, Boys' Bathing Suits for 39c, Men's work socks 15c a pair, Ladies' silk bloomers 49c a pair, non-run and Boys' Baseball Caps 10c each.

Mr. Rollard Gordon, of Maldstone, Sask., who has been on a trip to Scotland, spent a couple of days visiting Mr. William McDonald last week.

Miss Marie Mowat, B.A., of Toronto teaching staff, is holidaying at her home here.

Lowville United Church will observe its sixtieth anniversary on Sunday.

75 years ago

July 4, 1907
The firemen's big demonstration on Dominion Day was a big success. Visiting firemen and bands presented a fine appearance in the parade. There were many competitions in the park and a concert in the evening as a fitting climax. Throngs of visitors watched the proceedings.

The garden party season here is generally inaugurated by St. Alban's church and the members always exert themselves to make the event enjoyable. On Friday the band discoursed sweet strains, the games were full of fun and the refreshment stalls did a lively trade.

The tenderest sympathies of the community were called forth when Mrs. John Williams, wife of the ex-reeve, died Friday. She was seized with pleurisy and an acute affection of the liver and a baby girl was born prematurely, the mother passing away soon after. The baby lived until Sunday. Five children are left.

100 years ago

July 6, 1882
The natal day of our glorious Dominion was celebrated Saturday as a general public holiday. The stores and business places were closed. In the forenoon a baseball match was played between Grits and Tories. Many attended the picnic at the Brick Church (Siloam church, no longer in existence). A number were boating on our pretty little lakes. Not many flags were flying.

James Anderson fell a distance of 18 feet at the raising on the farm of Mr. Duncan McGregor and he is progressing favorably.

The schools will close for summer vacation tomorrow.

Our readers write

Thank Biathlon helpers

Dear Sir,
We would like to express our appreciation to all those who helped with our Second Acton Biathlon.
We received excellent support and assistance from the police, the fire department, and some 55 Acton citizens who acted as route marshals and manned check points.
We even received support from the town as Pete Pomeroy, Mayor, came out and participated in the race.
The Biathlon will be an annual event as participation and interest is growing from year to year. Next year the race will be held on June 26 and we hope to see you there.
James G. Rivett, Dave Hunter and Ed Leatherland,
Acton Y's Men
Biathlon Committee

Praise for Bible School

Dear Sir,
I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all those who were involved in the Vacation Bible School at the Evangelical Tabernacle. They did a terrific job of bringing the message of salvation to our children by way of a film, songs, skits and Bible memory verses.
It was a great way for the children to begin their summer holidays. They are looking forward to the next Bible School to be held at Trinity United Church August 23 to 27.
May God bless all these dedicated teachers.
Yours sincerely,
Mrs. A. Bridge.

Outdoors

BYLORNE FLETCHER

Working when I should be out fishing begins to wear on me, especially when half of Acton has left for better pastures.

At this time of year many holidayers find out at the last minute that the fishing gear has never been serviced since the last fishing trip. Then they rush their tackle out to the local repair shop and hope that instant repairs can be had.

The rod and reel parts availability business is a real headache for repairmen, most medium to low priced gear has no parts replacement offered by manufacturers.

Name brand rods and reels such as Mitchell, Zebco, Diawa have reasonably good parts depots in the Toronto area. All other models, including Shakespeare, are very hard to supply with spare parts. Most mediocre

rods and reels produced in Japan and Korea have many parts interchangeable, such as baits, springs, and rod guides and providing not too much time is involved in changeovers, repairs can be made at a reasonable price.
Bass fishing is in full swing with some good catches reported. On a recent holiday to the Crow River, Marmora area, Tom Lush and Nick Leon of Halton Hills brought home the bacon landing 14 good bass in the two to four pound range, plus two nice Pickerel.
Most of these fish were caught on purple artificial worms which look in the water like leeches, which are better known as bloodsuckers. If one can find this bait alive in local streams or ponds no better bait can be had for big bass.
Now is the time to arrange a canoe or pack trip to Algonquin Park. The black flies and skeeters will soon settle down with the arrival of hot weather.
A good trip for local anglers is to try the Black Creek below Stewarttown for large Brown Trout. The last large rainstorm washed out a dam on a local pond, conveniently restocking this section of the stream.