



The Acton Free Press

Published Every Thursday at Acton, Ontario

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G. ARLOP DILLS, Editor

TELEPHONES—
Editorial and Business Office . . . 174
Residence . . . 135

Home Newspaper Deserves Support of All Citizens.

An aroused consciousness of the status of weekly newspapers throughout Canada is showing itself in the columns of several weekly newspapers.

The economic right of the local weekly papers to share in national, provincial and home town advertising of goods consumed in or seeking markets in rural localities in this province, will be sought by united action.

The Chilliwack, B.C., Progress takes the lead by first challenging loyalty at home. "The community expects its public institutions to be defended, to be favorably reported, to be kept in good report throughout the district and the province. Churches, societies and organizations look for and expect their activities to be reported in their home town paper. And the home paper does all these things—likes to do them.

"This being so, it is only human that the owners of and those who are employed at the local newspaper office should expect all these various interests would return the compliment through giving printing orders. If all the requirements of Chilliwack were to be printed in Chilliwack, the Progress would have to increase its staff."

What the Progress of Chilliwack has had the courage to tell the citizens of its home town applies to every town and community in Ontario.—Huntsville Forester.

A Statement to be Proud of

The financial statement of Acton, which will be presented to ratepayers to-morrow evening is one of which the Reeve and Council of 1936 may be justifiably proud. Of course it does not show a complete year and when comparison is made the statement issued at the same time last year must, in fairness, be used and not an Auditor's Report. For instance, a cash balance of \$5,927.70 is shown, against one of \$2,024.50 last year. Arrears of taxes are some \$300 less than at the same period last year. Taxes collected are some \$200 in excess of last year at the same period. Total receipts and expenditures are less than for the same period of 1935. The Waterworks-Department has been of assistance, too, in the financing of the town. Last year \$3,425.00 was the amount toward the General Account to meet debenture payments. This year the figure is \$5,200.

Looking at the Assets and Liabilities, the same progress is noted. Assets have been written down by over \$3,000 and Liabilities have been decreased by about \$11,000. The debenture debt is being whittled down nicely and this year the Assets are almost double the Liabilities. The Reeve and Council, ably assisted by other bodies, have a splendid statement for the ratepayers to-morrow night in spite of the fact that this year direct relief and hospital accounts are almost \$1,100 in excess of the amount expended for the same period last year. A perusal of the statement and a comparison, if one cares to make it, bears out this improved general condition of Acton's municipal affairs.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It's almost getting too late to do your Christmas shopping early.

The last week of November—and Christmas is just four weeks from to-morrow.

These cold night have brought forth the usual query of when the Arena ice will be available.

Nominations for municipal offices are due to-morrow evening. Choose well whom you would have serve you.

The youngsters need no urging to get the Christmas spirit early. They would do their shopping well in advance of the Christmas rush.

Winter conditions now make highway travel require additional care in driving of motor cars. Speeds should be reduced and extra care exercised to avoid accidents.

But they're having a good time in the Globe and Mail office sorting out the letters saying, "Stop my paper, etc." and those expressing approval of the new combined papers.

This is Winter Fair weather. The Royal has been the attraction on one side and the Provincial event will be the attraction of the other side to a community situated as Acton is—in the centre.

The benefit of new lower Hydro rates and elimination of the bothersome service charge will be noted on the bills that consumers receive in January and February. Many will benefit from this great public utility with its plan of power at cost.

In the Cities, Too

What has been happening in a number of smaller communities over the past few years has now reached the cities and we find a consolidation of the newspapers. Toronto, on Monday, and in the days following, has but one morning paper. We readily recall when living there of being offered a choice, each morning, of three papers, and the same number for evening reading. The number is now just half of that total figure. The merger of the two morning papers was the logical thing to do. Publishing costs are of such proportions that few centres can support more than one paper. Advertisers do not care to pay double costs to cover a certain territory with just a duplication of news. The joining of the two papers came with rather startling abruptness, although it seemed to be generally conceded that such a move would eventually come.

The Globe and Mail will be a force in the newspaper world that could never have been achieved by these journals singly. London has but one daily newspaper as a result of a recent merger. The number of newspapers is gradually diminishing, but the service they are rendering is on the increase. We like the Globe and Mail in its new form. We rather anxiously awaited that first issue on Monday.

An Appeal

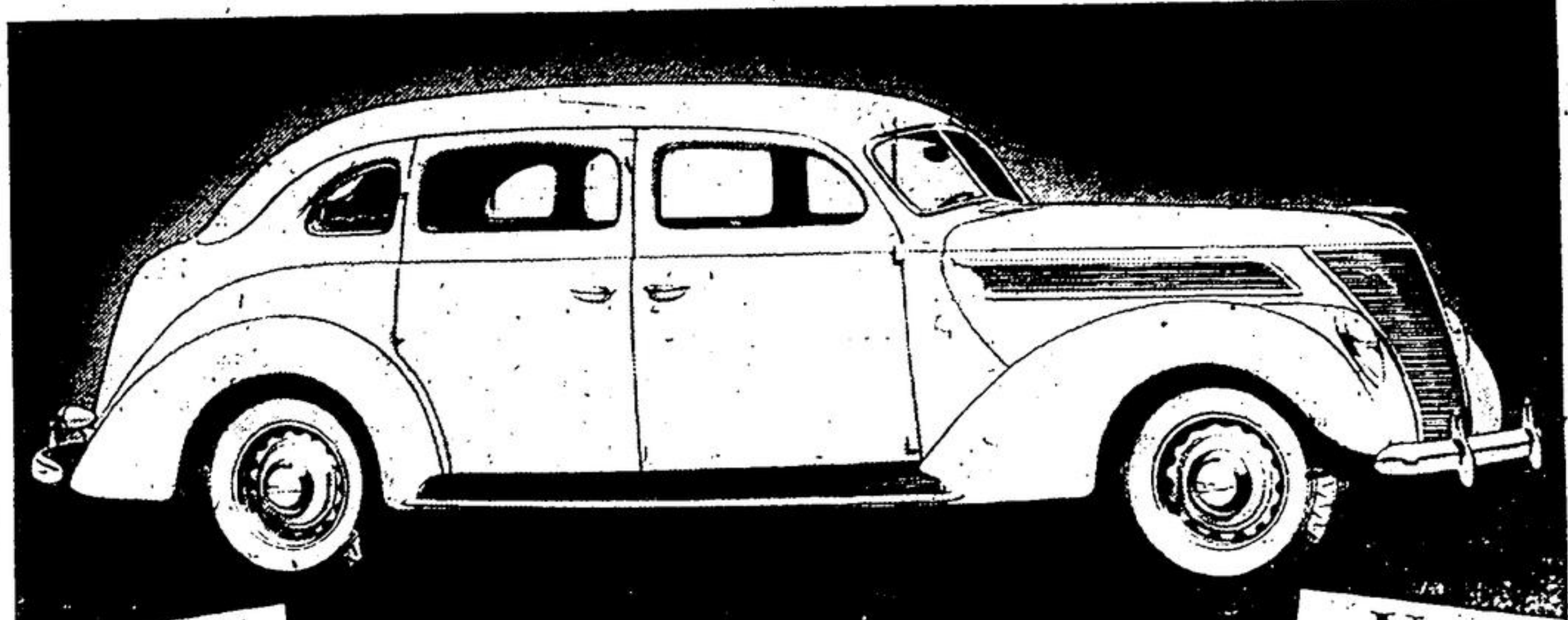
Acton folk have enjoyed a year of the use of Acton Murray Memorial Y. M. C. A. and a partial taste of the benefits that may accrue of having such an institution in the community. It has had its first year test and the accompanying handicaps that beset every new institution. Perhaps, in the estimate of some, it did not measure up in that first year to all that was anticipated. New things never do. But again perhaps too much was expected in the first twelve months.

There have been handicaps and obstacles to meet. They are being met and overcome. We are not in the habit of using these columns for the promotion of any one community activity. All of them are worthy. But do not measure the worth of Acton Y.M.C.A. by that first year of activities.

We said the Y.M.C.A. was handicapped. Such is exactly the case. There is not room to carry on nearly all the activities that should constitute a Y.M.C.A. program. It is fortunate that a room in the basement is available to lessen this handicap. It but requires to be fitted up. Flooring and walls are required. The heating plant needs to be extended and installed in this section. Then later will come the furnishing. A fireplace is ready to instal. Three of the local ladies' organizations have undertaken to raise \$100 each, and part of their allotment is already paid in. Another citizen, who always has Acton's welfare at heart, has contributed \$100. That's a splendid start. We know of no better investment in the young folks and yes, the community life of Acton as a whole, than one to make the funds available to complete this part of the building. We wish we had the power or eloquence to make the matter assume its proper significance. Secretary George Emery is doing an excellent job in his conduct of activities. We appeal to all who can help in any way to support any effort that is made to have the building completed. It is an investment in the youth and upbuilding of Acton's young manhood and womanhood, and after all, that's about the biggest investment in which to put one's surplus funds and in these days just about the safest.

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THE New Ford V-8 for 1937 is the most beautiful Ford car ever offered. It is built in only one size—with one standard of roomy, comfort and modern appearance. But you may have either the improved 85-horsepower V-8 engine for maximum performance—or the new 60-horsepower V-8 engine for maximum economy. The smaller engine makes possible a lighter car—a lower priced car, with lower operating costs—and permits still more people to enjoy the smoothness, quietness and reliability of the V-type, 8-cylinder engine.

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More than three million owners are now enjoying the superior performance of the Ford V-8 engine on the road. When you drive the 1937 Ford with the 85-horsepower V-8 engine, you are master of a power plant that

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We invite you to see this new Ford car at your Ford dealer's showroom, and arrange to drive one equipped with the engine that fits your own needs.

FEATURES

APPEARANCE—A newly designed car. Headlamps recessed in fender aprons. Modern hump-type hood hinged at the back. Larger luggage space. Spare tire enclosed within body. Completely new interiors. Slanting V-type windshield opens in all closed cars.

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SEE YOUR NEAREST FORD DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29th

CHRISTIAN BROTHERHOOD

Golden Text.—There can be neither bond nor free . . . for ye are all one man in Christ Jesus.—Galatians 3: 28.

Lesson Text.—Philemon 4-20.

Time.—A. D. 61-63. Place.—Rome.

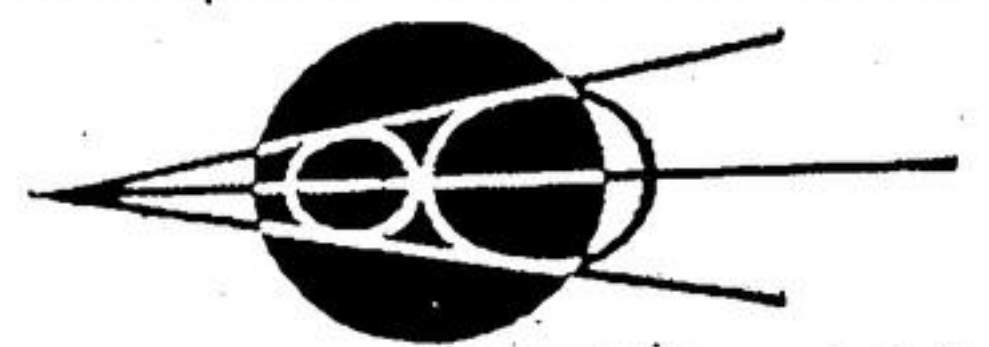
Exposition.—I. "As Myself," 9-17.

This letter of Paul's is addressed to a personal friend, and affords an interesting insight into his life and character. The letter is remarkable for the broad spirit of humanity which it displays, and for the tact and delicacy with which it treats the great social questions of the brotherhood of man. It is full of precious lessons, not only about the reciprocal relations of servants and masters, but also about our Lord Jesus and His work for us, and His attitude toward us (as illustrated by what Paul did for Onesimus and his attitude toward Onesimus). It was written at the same time that the Epistles to the Ephesians and to the Colossians were written, and sent by the same persons, Tychicus and Onesimus (Col. 4: 7-9; Eph. 6: 21-23). Did this fact have anything to do with Paul's speaking so plainly and beautifully in both of those epistles about the mutual obligations of master and slaves? (see Eph. 6: 5, 9; Col. 3: 22-4: 1). Philemon was a prominent man in the church at Colossae. He was evidently a man of considerable means and a slave-owner (v. 18: the word translated "servant" really means "slave"). Paul did not attack slavery in this epistle, or in any of his writings. He never interferes with existing institutions, but lays down certain vital principles of Christian truth which, if adopted, would remedy, and eventually eliminate, social evils. Slavery was deeply embedded in ancient civilization. To have tried to sweep it away by some

revolutionary stroke would have been foolish and useless. Paul set forth principles of conduct on the part of masters towards their slaves, and put into operation influences that in time entirely transformed the institution of slavery (vs. 16; cf. Eph. 6: 9; Col. 4: 1). Philemon, though a slave-owner, was a man of lofty and exemplary Christian character (vs. 4-7). Onesimus, one of his slaves, apparently had been guilty of some dishonesty toward his master (v. 18), and had fled to Rome, the refuge of runaways in those days. Learning that Paul was in Rome, he went to hear him preach "in his own hired dwelling" (Acts 28: 30, 31), and was converted by his preaching, as his master had been in the old Ephesian days (v. 10). Now Paul is sending him back to his master for him to decide for himself what to do with him. The Roman law was very severe regarding runaway slaves, but Paul knew very well that Philemon would act as a Christian. Paul would have had a perfect right "to enjoin (order)" Philemon with "all boldness (all-apokennes)" what to do, but with characteristic tact and courtesy (cf. Rom. 12: 1; 2 Cor. 5: 20; 6: 1; Eph. 4: 1; 1 Peter 2: 11) he "beseeches" rather than commands. This was not because Paul lacked in "boldness" (2 Cor. 10: 1, 2; Phil. 2: 2), but because he abounded in "love"—in tactful good sense, too. In his plea for Onesimus, Paul appeals to two touching facts about himself, his advanced age and his imprisonment. He does not do it to awaken sympathy for himself, but to secure leniency for Onesimus: he applies his own rights to the account of Onesimus, just as our Lord Jesus applies His own rights and claims to our account before the God whom we have wronged (2 Cor. 5: 21; Gal. 3: 10, 12; Hebrews 3: 19-20; John 14: 12, 14). Great was Paul's love for this runaway slave who had been hurt again through his preaching; he speaks of him as "my child, whom I have begotten in my bonds" (cf. 1 Tim. 1: 2; Tit. 1: 4). In

(Concluded on Page Seven)

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