

HER FIRST CAKE

She measured out the butter with very solemn air. The milk and sugar also. And she took the greatest care to beat the eggs correctly. Then to add a little bit of baking powder, which you know Beginners oft omit. She stirred them together. And baked it for an hour. But she never quite forgave herself for leaving out the flour.

Twenty Years Ago

From the Issue of The Free Press of Thursday, April 17th, 1919

A memorandum tabled in the House of Commons gave the details of the war activities of the Dominion from January 1st, 1918, to November 15th, 1918. Volunteers were 465,984 and Draftees 83,355. Re-inforcements sent over seas in the same time was 67,000.

Another great reception was held for a half score of returned heroes. The home-comers were Pte. Clarence Matthews, Pte. Bert Cook, Pte. Ross Swackhamer, Stretcher-Bearer, J. J. Cooney, Pte. T. March, Pte. Kipling Puffer, Pte. Thos. Bennett, Pte. M. C. Collier, Pte. Jos. Swackhamer, Pte. Jas. Laycock.

Increased speed limits for Ontario motorists were approved by the Legislature raising the limit in cities, towns and villages from 15 to 20 miles an hour, and in the country from 20 to 25 miles per hour. The bill may also require motor vehicles to carry mirrors on their windshields.

Messrs. Will Coleman and W. Hughson have taken positions on one of the large wheat boats on the Great Lakes.

The Board of Education adopted Daylight Saving Time for the schools, as the tanneries are working on Daylight Saving Time.

Maple syrup sold here last week at \$2.00 per gallon. Some makers are asking a higher figure.

Mr. Walter Fryer has moved to the McPherson farm, on the second line, which has been occupied for several years by Mr. W. Foster.

Mr. Austin Fleischer's sale in Nassagaweya brought high prices. A grade cow with calf at foot, brought \$202.50, and a pair of Oxford ewes \$59 each.

DIED

RIPTON—At Amsterdam, N.Y., Hospital on Monday, April 7th, 1919, Charlotte Ekberg, wife of J. Clarence Ripton, Johnstown, N.Y.

SAFETY AND THE ROYAL VISIT

The forthcoming visit to Canada by Their Majesties King George and Queen Elizabeth will be a triumph of modern safety engineering. From the moment they board the cruiser H.M.S. "Repulse" in England, until they arrive home again nearly two months later, practically every present-day development in scientific accident prevention will play an important part in protecting the lives and health of the King and Queen.

The ship which will bring them across the Atlantic will be as safe as human ingenuity can make it. Far out at sea, it will be met by convoys of the Canadian naval and air forces. Their function will be to escort the Royal cruiser safely through Canadian waters to its dock at Quebec.

When Their Majesties set foot on Canada's soil, history will be made. The arrival of King George VI will mark the first time that any reigning British monarch has visited his Canadian dominion. At that moment, arrangements for the safety of his person that experts have been months in planning will go into effect.

Carefully-trained corps of police will keep enthusiastic crowds of loyal subjects within bounds necessary for the smooth functioning of the official and unprecedented problem of motor and other types of traffic will have been solved by engineers whose purpose was to ensure that the maximum number of people could enjoy the Royal visit in comfort and safety, consistent with equal comfort and safety for Their Majesties.

The special train and automobiles in which King George and Queen Elizabeth will visit all parts of Canada will be masterpieces of engineering design, in beauty of line and safety of operation. Every known device whose purpose is the prevention of accidents will have been incorporated into the construction of these marvels of transportation.

Even more important from the standpoint of safety, will be the men who will pilot the train and drive the motor cars which will carry the Royal visitors. Unblemished safety records will be the prime requisite for this appointment, for any mechanical or human failure in safety conducting the Royal tour would be a stain on the nation's honor.

Every Canadian citizen can do his share in ensuring that the visit of the King and Queen will not be marred by any untoward incidents. The problems of traffic movement which will arise at every point along the route can only be solved if every motorist and every pedestrian makes a determined effort to practice safety and prevent accidents.

The successful application by Canadians of the recent suggestion made by Ontario's Minister of Highways, Hon. T. E. McQuesten, calling for a drastic reduction in highway accidents and fatalities in the three months prior to and during the Royal visit, will be the most effective way in which the prayer of "safe journey" for the King and Queen in every loyal heart can be expressed.

THE OLD MAN OF THE BIG CLOCK TOWER



WE FIND, NOT MAKE, OUR FRIENDS

We do not make our friends—we find them only.

Where they have waited for us many years.

Some day we wander forth a little lonely.

When, lo, a comrade at our side appears.

'Tis not "discovery"—'tis recognition.

A glance, a greeting, and we grasp the hand.

No explanation needed, no condition.

That we are friends at once we understand.

And if our paths divide, if we must sever,

Eyes turned away and clinging hands must part.

It matters not, for we are friends for ever.

Distance may harden, but not hush the heart.

We serve them out of eager love—not duty.

And none so safe as he whom love defends.

The tender words of Christ assume new beauty.

"Henceforth not servants—I have called you Friends."

My, how small a world this is. I received a note during the past week from Grand Rapids with a newspaper clipping in it.

It told of the death in Grand Rapids, Mich., of Abraham N. Shook, at Coral.

To this present day and generation that name may not mean much, but back well over the half century the name was familiar in Acton.

Abraham N. Shook was a grandson of Dr. Shook, who practised in Acton in the late fifties and sixties and he was a son of Dan Shook.

Who, I think, was born here and died in Saginaw, Mich. Folks of that generation will recall Dr. Shook, who was the family doctor in many Acton homes.

I was pleased to receive this information from Mrs. Jas. H. Nicklin, who was before marriage Charlotte Leaby.

It will be interesting to you older folks, as it was to me, to learn that this grandson, Abraham, served well as a citizen in his adopted country.

He served in the House of Representatives for six years, and was active in church and Masonic circles. He had retired from the conduct of a grocery business in 1932. It always does me good to hear from my old friends and my thanks goes to one of my steady readers, Mrs. Charlotte Nicklin.

I do seem to be making slow progress in my recalling of incidents on the various streets of Acton in the early days, but so many things do crop up that my recollections are often very full, but this

week I'm bound to complete my story of the old Methodist Church.

Rev. Robert Phillips was succeeded as minister in July, 1873, by Rev. John W. Dochstader, who, I think, came here from Grimshaw. At the first meeting of the Official Board, in August, I find the following resolution recorded in the old record book:

Moved by Bro. John Speight, seconded by Bro. Eli Snyder, that the amount of appropriation to Rev. Mr. Dochstader's salary for the current year be \$450.00, which sum shall be and now is accepted by Bro. Dochstader, as sufficient for defraying all expenses connected with his ministrations, including board, horse keep, children's fund, travelling expenses and salary, it being all the Quarterly Board can raise.—Carried.

I do not know whether Rev. Mr. Dochstader complained about the amount appropriated or not. I guess not. He was too good-natured for that. But times have surely changed in fifty or sixty years.

The following year Rev. John C. Stevenson came as pastor. He was greatly beloved from the outset and his ministry here was an unqualified success. The congregation grew greatly, and a revival meeting added largely to the membership. I believe it was doubled. It was then that the congregation began to feel that a larger edifice was needed if the people who desired to worship with the Methodists were to be accommodated.

The good men and true who formed the Official Board realized this and steps were taken toward the erection of a new and larger church.

On the strength of the following resolution, passed at the quarterly meeting of the Board, held the day after the May Communion, on May 3rd, 1875, the work was inaugurated:

Moved by Rev. John C. Stevenson, seconded by Edward Moore, that we proceed to the erection of a new church, and that the following brethren compose the Trustee Board for the same: W. H. Storey, Secretary; James Matthews, Eli Snyder, Michael Speight, Dr. N. McGarvin, Richard Hamilton, James Moore, William P. Brown, Alex. H. Brown, William Stephenson and James Brown.—Carried.

Of the thirteen persons whose names appear in this resolution, all have passed away, most of them many years ago.

Permission was given at the ensuing Conference, in June, to dispose of the old church and proceed with the erection of a new edifice. The canvass for subscriptions was proceeded with with an energy worthy of the cause espoused, and much success was the result. The two lots on Mill Street, where the United Church now stands, and where the Soldiers' Monument is located, were secured as the site. The contract for a fine new modern building, 40x60, was let to Eli Snyder, builder, and the first sod was

turned in August. The corner stone of the commodious new edifice was laid with appropriate ceremonies, according to my old file of The Free Press, which I have kept nearly ever since the paper was established in July of that year, on September 29th. The honor for this was given to Mr. David Plewes, of Brantford, whose father operated the grist mill on Mill Street after the Adamses. I am not sure whether Mr. Plewes was born in Acton. At any rate he spent his boyhood days here. A brother of his, Simon Plewes, ran the mill at Salmonville, now Terra Cotta, for many years.

Well, the work progressed. The foundations were laid, the brick walls rose, the roof was put on, and on July 1st, 1876, the fine new church was completed, opened and dedicated. With sadness at leaving the old church, where so many hallowed associations and experiences had been theirs, but with rejoicing and thanksgiving for the fine new and commodious church home that had been provided, the congregation moved to the new place. For these sixty-three years the congregation has worshipped there and for years it has been known as "The Old Home Church," presumably because so many of the sons and daughters of the members have left the old home for the city or the West. But their hearts are in the old home still, wherever they may have wandered.

Well, the old church was sold to Ransom Adams, who was Acton's local financier, a son of one of the founders of the place. Ransom was always careful not to pay too much for anything. He didn't

pay too much for the old church property, though his religious sympathies, if he had any, were with the Methodists. He paid \$500 for the church building, pews, pulpit and lamps, the shed at the rear and the fine lot upon which they stood. It was vacant for a few months, and was then sold to the Disciples, a considerable number of whom had settled in Acton and decided on a place of worship nearer than Everton or Brookville, where they might attend services of their communion.

I think it was George Tolton and Charles T. Hill who negotiated the sale. They paid Ransom \$800 for the property. Some of the leading members in those days were George Tolton, Charles T. Hill, William Masalis, William Leonard, Wm. Plank, Robertson Brothers, Joseph Effe, and later the Gripps' and Sopers and others from Crewson Corners. They had a number of earnest preachers and very interesting services during the twenty or twenty-five years while services were conducted under their direction. About the time the new Baptist Church was built, however, through deaths and removals, the congregation was so reduced that services were discontinued. Most of the members remaining naturally united with the Baptist Church, a few, I believe, went to the Methodist Church, and the Crewson Corners folks went back to Everton.

I never knew much about the old church during that time, for Mary and I were getting older. We went more regularly to our own church, and have not gone much any where else, excepting when anniversary or union services were being held in Methodist Church we usually went there. But, bless me, neither of us like the stairs there, or to climb up to the auditorium there. If you ask me which churches I liked best of those, we have had in Acton, I'll tell you; the old kirk in front of the old cemetery, and the old Methodist Church, on Church Street, were my first and best loves among them.

Well, finally the old church saw the last religious services within her walls. I'm not sure whether John C. Watson was the purchaser when the church was

disposed of by the Disciple congregation, or not, but I think he was. At any rate, he had Jack Mackenzie convert the building into two very comfortable dwellings on the rear of the lot. The front he reserved for the site of his fine brick residence, which he built later; and where he resided until his death. A few years ago it was purchased by Mrs. Charlie Speight, and here she has a very comfortable home with her daughter, Miss Bertie, Secretary of Acton Public Utilities Commission.

Say, I've just been going over the families who have made these two houses their homes since Mr. Watson converted the old church to this use, and most of them have been a Methodist home. Perhaps it is destined that this building which so long figured the Methodist

congregation, is now to shelter United Church homes perpetually. And so endeth the story of the old Methodist Church, which gave Church Street its name.

The Old Man

THE PUPILS' VIEW

Some "hysterical" facts only known to certain schoolboys are that "a Kaiser is a stream of hot water jumping up and disturbing the earth," and that "Napoleon escaped from Melba," also "an anachronism is a thing a man puts in writing in the past before it has taken place in the future."

It's agin the law to use a gun . . .

The best way to hunt customers is to use The Acton Free Press

It wouldn't do to take a gun to go out for customers. Hunting customers requires a clever technique, but some business men are blind in their search for more business.

They are blind to the fact that advertising is good business. The investment in space in the columns of THE FREE PRESS is an investment which will return quickly and many times over in an increased sales volume.

Form the habit of keeping the news of your business before the public through THE FREE PRESS. Our readers are quick to take advantage of shopping opportunities. Your business will increase and more trading will be done at home by the shoppers.

It is more convenient to trade at home. . . Readers of the home-town paper patronize our advertisers. You don't need a license to advertise. Just phone us. We'll be glad to help you solve your advertising problems.

The Acton Free Press

TELEPHONE 174

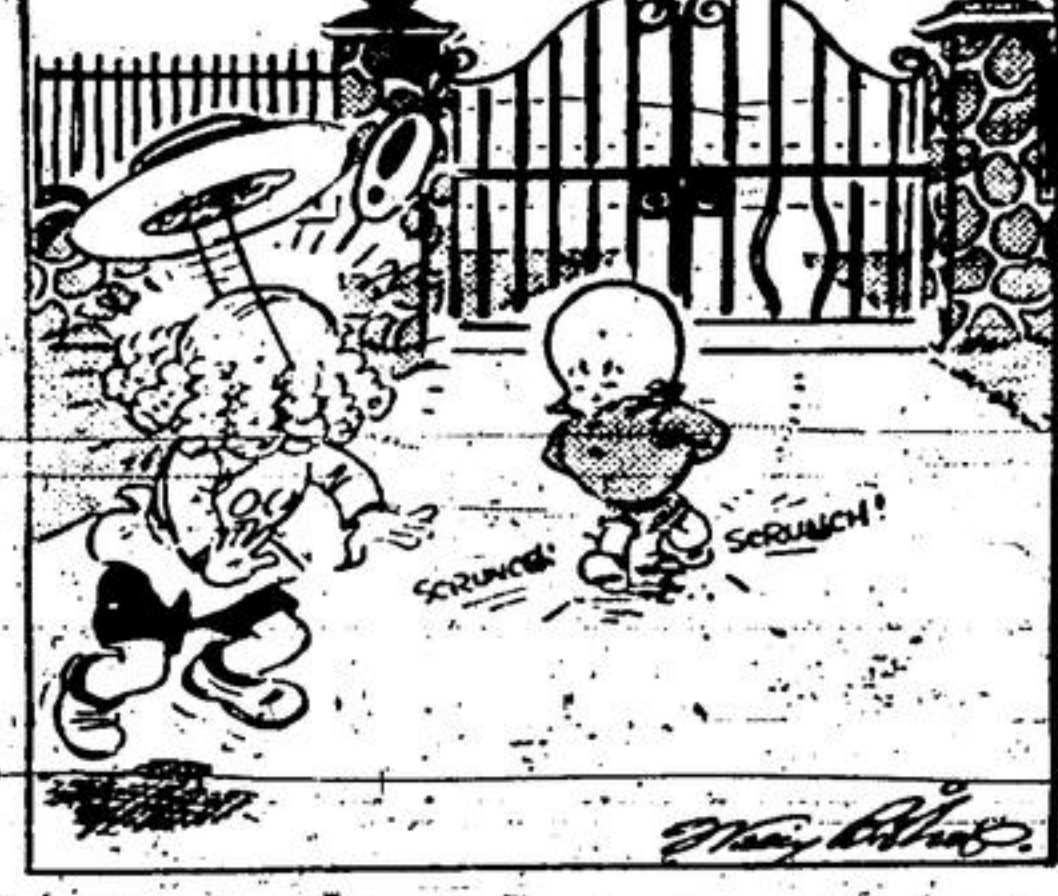
Home After Surprise Wedding



Smiling and happy, Clark Oable and his actress-bride, blonde Carol Lombard, are pictured at the bride's Bel-Air home after their return from Kingman, Ariz., where they were quietly married. Oable heralded his return to Hollywood by calling Mrs. Elizabeth Peters and saying: "Hello, mom. This is your new son-in-law."



MUGGS AND SKEETER



By WALLY BISHOP