

THE HOPPYKIPPS AND SKIFFYHOFS

Once on a time the Skippyhops said, "Come, let's call our cousins. The little Hoppykips and then we'll be two bakers' dozens! We can play at anything. All of us together. Not afraid of rain or cold. Wind or winter weather."

Twenty Years Ago

From the Issue of The Free Press of Thursday, July 3rd, 1919

Peace bells rang out on Saturday. When the great news that the Treaty of Peace had been signed by Germany, factory whistles, town and church bells sounded the glad news.

Mr. C. H. Harrison, of Rockside, has sold his farm and moved to Acton. Having been appointed General Treasurer for the various departments of the Baptist Church, Mr. R. D. Warren, an Acton son, retired from the position of editor of the Pioneer last week. After sixteen years of faithful service, Principal W. H. Stewart is retired from the Principalship of Acton Schools. Under Principal Stewart's supervision the uniform success year after year has been most gratifying.

June of this year passed without the customary "June frosts."

Pte. Brigston, of the Bantam Battalion, arrived home from overseas last week.

Pte. Arthur Pistoroux received his home in Toronto from France. Motor driver William Waidle arrived at the home of his father, Alex. Waidle, on Sunday morning. Mr. Waidle spent much of his time in Greece. Pte. Sheldon Meyer reached home from France on Monday.

SOLES—At Quirch General Hospital on Monday, June 30th, 1919, David Bole, of Nantawaga, was in his 65th year.

JOHNSTON—On Sunday, June 29th, 1919, at Toronto General Hospital, Elizabeth Glen, beloved wife of Samuel Johnston, in her 74th year.

CANADA TAKING INDIAN CENSUS

Canada is taking a census of her Indian population, according to the Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa. Throughout the Dominion, Indian Agents are gathering vital statistics in their various agencies, while in the outlying district the information is collected by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the clergy, traders and others. The Departmental Census of the Indians is taken and published quinquennially, and the last one, taken in 1934, accounted for a total Indian population of 112,510. As the Indian population is estimated to be increasing annually at the rate of one per cent., it is estimated that this year's census will show their numbers to be in excess of 118,000.

Of Canada's Indians, some 60,000 depend in whole or in part on farming for a livelihood, and about 59,000 live by hunting, fishing or trapping. The remainder include many who have entered professional and commercial life as well as a large number who might be described as laborers or industrial workers. More than five million acres of reserve lands have been set apart for the use of Indians in Canada. This system of reserves is designed to protect the Indians from encroachment, and provide a sanctuary where they can develop unmolested until advancing civilization has made possible their absorption into the general body of the citizens. Indians in Canada are the wards of the Canadian Government, and are under the supervision of the Department of Mines and Resources. The activities of the Department as guardians of the Indians include the control of education, health, the development of agriculture and other pursuits among them, the administration of their funds and legal transactions, and the general supervision of their welfare.

OPEN PETAWAWA FORESTRY TRAINING CAMP

The youths enrolled under the Nominations Program, selected for assignment at the Petawawa Forest Experiment Station of the Dominion Forest Service, Department of Mines and Resources, have been instructed to report to station headquarters at Chalk River, Ontario, on Monday, June 26th. Tents and equipment are now being set up and camps will be in readiness for their arrival. Of the 108 young men, 39 are going from Ottawa, 5 from Smith's Falls, 4 from Lockland, and 2 from Hawkesbury. The remainder will come from Renfrew, Arnprior, Pembroke and vicinity. These youths will be given training in forestry and will be employed in putting their instruction to practical application in thinning and other forms of forest improvement. They will also build roads, telephone lines and cabins, and improve tourist camps. These projects are designed to provide for the better protection of the experimental forest area from fire. The youths will be given a standard clothing issue. A training allowance of one dollar per day will be paid and they will also get free board, lodging and medical attendance. Recreation and physical training will be on an organized basis, because one of the main objectives of the national forestry program is physical rehabilitation.

THE OLD MAN OF THE BIG CLOCK TOWER



MOCKERY

Why do we grudge our sweets so to the living? Who, God knows, finds at best so much of gall. And then, with generous, open hands, unto the dead our all? Why do we pierce the warm hearts, with sin or sorrow? With idle words, or scorn, or cruel sneers? And when it cannot know, on some tomorrow, speak of its woe through tears? What do the dead care for the tender token? The love the praise, the floral offering? But palpitating, living hearts are broken: For want of just these things.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox

About sixty years ago, on the north-easterly corner of Church Street, at Frederick Street, there was built a home, which was in all respects a real home. It was a two-story brick, built with the intention of enlarging with a front to match, in due time. This house was built by Mr. and Mrs. William Ramsay, both of whom spent their younger days in Acton and vicinity. Mr. and Mrs. Ramsay were good citizens, and Christian workers, but their first concern was their home and their family. In building this home they planned together, and worked together, and together they instructed the builders just how they wished their "home nest" constructed. After the house was completed and the family moved in, a neat pocket fence was built on the two street fronts. That meant 196 feet of pocket fence themselves, and Agnes painted it in spare hours, mornings and afternoons. In its coat of white paint it looked splendid and the place, as I said at the outset, had all the appearance of a real home, and such it was.

In the course of time the children began to swarm from the home hive. The eldest daughter, named for her mother and her grandmother, married Joe Peters, the baker, who at that time was employed by the late L. G. Matthews. Later they went to Milton, and finally to Gloversville, N.Y. Then one or two other members of the family went to the glove centre of New York State, and at last Mr. and Mrs. Ramsay said good-bye to the old home, here and moved to Gloversville. Their removal from the old home was greatly regretted. They were among the active workers in the Disciples' Church and Sunday School, and were good citizens. But they took their good qualities with them to their new home and for years William Ramsay was Superintendent of the Sunday School there.

John, the eldest son, will be remembered as a Free Press apprentice, who delivered the papers on his route, rain or shine, and was known as "the good-natured little gentleman of The Free Press Office." He went to Syracuse, N. Y.

Earns Promotion



When Mr. and Mrs. Ramsay left Acton, they sold their home to Mr. Peter Sayers. Mr. Sayers built the proposed front and otherwise improved the place. After his death in Guelph, Mrs. Sayers and her daughter Jean came to Acton and made this their home. The daughter, Jean, passed away a couple of years ago. Mrs. Sayers and her sister reside there. The place is an attractive home.

On the next lot there reside a family of substantial citizens, Mr. and Mrs. William R. Kenney. About the time Mr. Ramsay bought the corner lot, Mr. Kenney bought the adjoining place. It had been a vacant lot for many years, in fact, was never improved from the time of the subdivision by the Adamses, the original owners, until Mr. Kenney purchased it. Mr. Kenney is a son of the late John Kenney, one of the early members of the Municipal Council. He was, himself, a member of the School Board for years and filled the chair of Chairman. Mrs. Kenney is a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Blair, and sister of Mrs. Husband and Mrs. L. G. Matthews. Their home is one of the best in town and is always a place where the family is at home. Dr. William, the eldest, studied medicine after returning from war service in France and Egypt, and graduated as a medical doctor. He is at present at home, after having had charge of a practice in Brantford.

Dr. Arthur graduated in dentistry and practiced in Port William first, leaving to serve in the war in Siberia. Since the war he practiced in Maple Creek, Sask. The eldest daughter, Urs, is now Mrs. Alderton, and resides on one of those good farms in Prud'homme Township. The second daughter, Miss Nora, graduated as a nurse and for several years has been supervisor in Guelph General Hospital. I understand she has just now completed another course, qualifying her in that important work of being a Public Health Nurse. Frances, the youngest daughter, at home. Mr. and Mrs. Kenney have been residents of Acton practically all their lifetime. When Kenney Bros. retired from business a few years ago, they had conducted business in Acton for sixty years.

The next lot also has a family history. The first owner of this lot was Lev Lambert, a French Canadian cooper who was a good citizen. He married a sister of Jim Ritchie, the blacksmith and Aunt Rose, who was for so many years an esteemed resident of Acton. They built their home there, and I think remained there until they removed to Highgate, where John Coates, his employer, and Dave McLachlan, a fellow cooper, also went to live. Their son, Robert, served his time as a tin-smith with George Hault, in the old shop on Mill Street. Miss Mary, the eldest daughter, lived in Toronto for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gamble and their family made this house their home for many years. Here the daughters, Ella and Bertha, were married. Ella married Billy Laird, and Bertha Sidney Gunton. It was here that Sidney died after a brief illness. A tragic event in the life of this happy home occurred one bright moonlight night, when coasting was good down Cobble Hill and on down Brock Avenue, and over Main Street to Agnes Street. Herbert Gamble, the youngest son, with a number of companions, were enjoying this course. But the last trip brought tragedy. Herbert was steering at the front of the sleigh. They came down the hill on Brock Avenue, and across Main Street safely, but the momentum carried the sleigh farther than usual, and in the shadow of the blacksmith shop the loaded sleigh crashed into a heavy bobsleigh standing there. Herbert's bright young life was crushed out by the impact. The event brought great sorrow to the home. The eldest son, "Ed," some of us call him, married Miss Campbell, the youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Campbell. They are both great lovers of flowers, and have done much by their example to beautify Acton.

Thomas Gamble, the beloved head of the house, passed away a number of years ago, after a painful illness and an operation. He was a good citizen and greatly missed.

Nelson H. Garden and his family were residents here for a number of years. Nyson was a great poultry fancier, and had a fine flock while here. He used the plan of having his henhouse lighted with electricity in the evenings. This kept the hens busy scratching and produced more eggs.

For the past few years Miss Gregory

VISITORS FROM MANY LANDS

The wide appeal of Canada's national parks is indicated by registrations at the government museum at Banff and inquiries received at the park information bureau. According to the Department of Mines and Resources, travellers from the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the British Isles, Africa, India, China, Hawaii, Ireland, and Russia were among those who signed the register in the museum during the month of May, while inquiries were received at the information bureau from prospective visitors in the United States, England, Scotland, Australia, Hawaii, China, France, and from various parts of Canada. Attendance at Banff National Park during May showed a marked increase over the same month a year ago. Automobiles registered as entering the park through the eastern gateway included 4,422 cars and 15,290 passengers, an increase of 1,136 cars and 9,269 passengers over May, 1938.

TRANS-CANADA MOTOR ROUTE THROUGH THE ROCKIES

By shipping their automobiles by rail over the Selkirk Mountains, motorists Highway from Port Arthur, Ontario, to may now travel over the Trans-Canada Pacific Coast. The only unfinished portion of the all-Canadian route is a stretch of about twenty-three miles on the Big Bend Highway between Golden, B.C. and Revelstoke, B.C., and as in the past few years this route will be provided by the Canadian Pacific Railway during the 1939 season, commencing June 30th, and ending September 30th.

This arrangement provides motorists with a direct route to and from the Pacific Coast over one of the most spectacular highways in Canada. Passing through the heart of the Rockies this motor road traverses the great mountain playgrounds of Banff and Yoho National Parks, providing access to such famous beauty spots as Banff, Lake Louise, Moraine Lake and the Valley of the Ten Peaks, Emerald Lake and the Yoho Valley. In its western section the road in some localities, although open to traffic, is still in its construction stages. Motoring in the Rockies provides unforgettable thrills and offers splendid opportunities to become acquainted with Nature in her most magnificent setting. Within the national parks of the Rockies excellent motor roads lead to mountain wonderlands containing hundreds of massive peaks, huge glaciers and ice-fields, beautiful lakes, forested valleys, tree-clad slopes, and alpine meadows. In selecting the routes for highways the needs of the tourist and motorist have been considered so as to ensure easy gradients, safety, and outstanding views along the way. With the exception of Glacier National Park, reached only by rail, all national parks in the Rockies are accessible by motor car.

has had a very comfortable home in this house, and it is kept in neat repair and the surroundings well maintained.

The Old Man

STRANGE GREETINGS

When we meet a friend we say, "How do you do?" or "How are you?" In other countries there are different kinds of greetings, some of which sound very strange. In some parts of India the greeting is "Prate God, is your nose fat?" to which the reply is "Thank God, my nose is fat." After this the questioner says, "Then, may you live a thousand years." In Persia when a person meets a friend he says, "May your shadow never grow less. In Egypt people say, "How do you perspire?" The Chinese and Japanese remark is, "How is your stomach? Have you eaten your rice?" The Russian people inquire "How do you live?" In Poland, the question is "How do you keep yourself?" French folk politely ask, "How do you carry yourself?" While in Holland a correct greeting would be "How do you fare?" When the Italians meet they say, "How do you stand?"

TALL ORDER

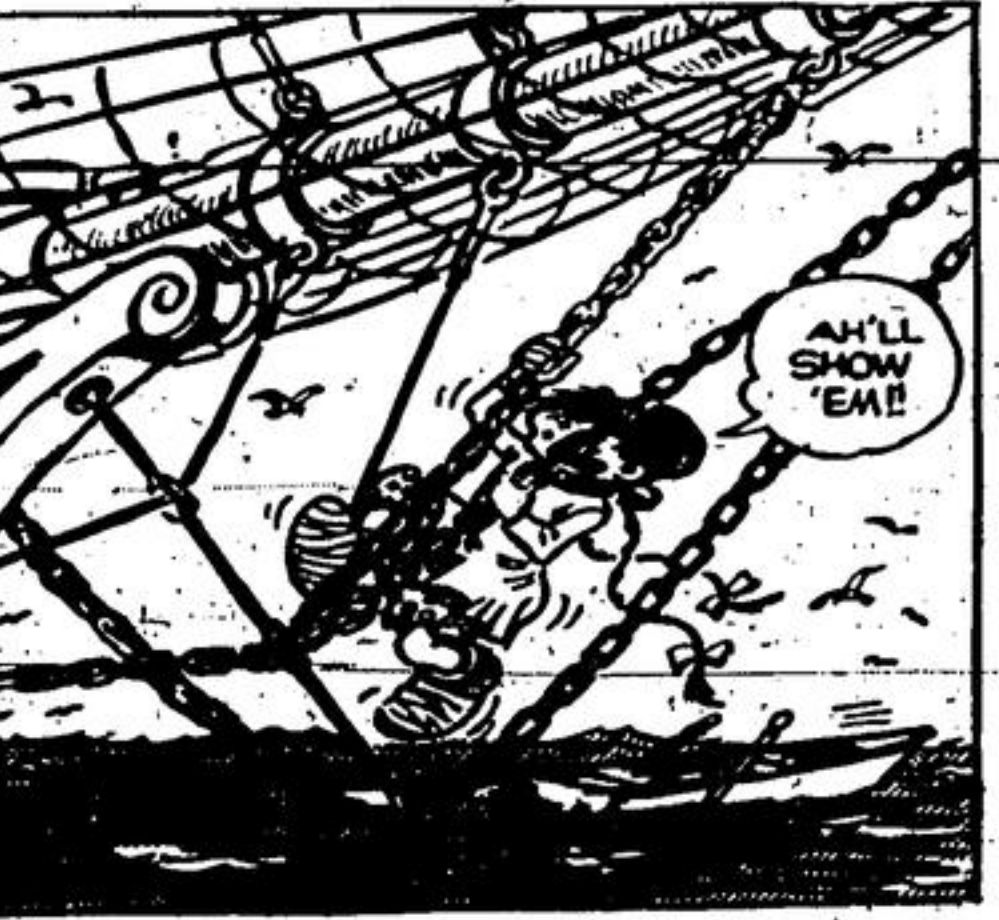
Customer (excitedly): "A mouse trap, quick—I want to catch a bug!" Shop Assistant: "I don't think we've got one quite big enough for that."

HOW LITTLE?

Wife: "Could you give me a little money?" Husband: "Certainly, my dear; about how little?"

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MUGGS AND SKEETER



By WALLY BISHOP