



The Acton Free Press

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EDITORIAL

Cause for Alarm?

The editor of the Georgetown Herald views with  
alarm the action taken at a meeting in Acton when  
those present, after hearing the discussion and asking  
and receiving answers to all kinds of questions, gave  
approval to the North Halton High School district.  
One point overlooked is that this question has been  
under study by many of those attending the Acton  
meeting nearly all this year. The desire of many at  
the Acton meeting was to go even further than the  
expression was given. Many of those residing in the  
townships have real hardship to send their children  
to High Schools are not as complacent as we in the  
urban centers who have the schools at our door.

The question is not entirely one of comparative  
costs between the present system and the proposed  
district. The welfare of all the children is of equal  
if not greater importance. However, most of these  
costs are given in the report of the Consultative  
Committee and are available to all who decided to see  
them. The general public may not be aware of the  
study already given the question and perhaps they  
never will take the trouble to secure the information.

We were not alarmed but rather amused to learn  
in a report of the Wellington County District on  
the question that District No. 4 of that County was  
known as the Acton-Drayton district and included  
both municipalities as well as some sections of several  
townships. Of course, that's an error but in the  
same report to Wellington County Council, "No. 2  
district is known as Guelph suburban area, to include  
Guelph Township, Puslinch Township, the south two-  
thirds of Erin Township, Erin village and Nassaga-  
weya Township unless that area has other plans."

More and more it is readily discernible that the  
High School district plan is province wide and that  
discussion and consideration of it must be wider  
than our own urban boundaries. There need be no  
alarm felt at the action taken at the Acton meeting  
but rather alarm if the question is allowed to go  
without definite action being taken soon.

Steps Down Are Slow

The removal of the three cent federal gasoline  
tax is a step in the right direction. The motorist,  
however, must keep silent his cheers until told that  
it will not still be collected for the provincial treas-  
ury. The tax was levied as a war measure but it will  
be nearly two years after the war before it is removed.  
If tourists are to be attracted to Ontario it is  
time that all governments should give attention to the  
gasoline tax lowering. The American visitor who  
buys gasoline at 22 cents a gallon doesn't feel kindly  
to paying 35c when he rides over the border.

The difficulty with all taxes imposed and regu-  
lations made in war time is that their removal is not  
as speedy as their imposition. Sometimes they are  
never removed. For instance, we have the sales tax  
which started in the war of 1914-18 and has not only  
remained but grew in size. Costs of governments  
go up—and seldom is there any reduction. A care-  
ful analysis would show that much of our so-called  
high prices to-day are largely made up of taxes—vis-  
ible and invisible. Most folks will rightly anticipate  
many more reductions in consumer taxes at least in  
the next few months—both federal and provincial.

Prevent Christmas Sorrow and Tragedies

Each year the celebration of Christmas produces  
its quota of accidental happenings that bring un-  
necessary sorrow and tragedy to many homes during  
the festive season. Among the greatest of these  
Christmas accidents are those connected with the  
tragedy of fire, and to guard against fire the Ontario  
Fire Marshal issues warnings to merchants and par-  
ents, and the general public.

In the home, the joy of Christmas reaches its  
peak, but every year childish laughter is changed to  
tears, or is possibly stilled forever, because of some

careless or thoughtless act of an indulgent but ill-  
advised parent. Tragedy following upon tragedy has  
pretty well done away with the practice of lighting  
Christmas candles on Christmas trees, but candles  
can still be dangerous in close proximity to curtains,  
table decorations, etc. Electric lights are safer, but  
only approved equipment should be used and it  
should be kept in proper repair. Lights that become  
very hot should not be installed on Christmas trees,  
nor in close proximity to flammable shades or other  
similar materials. Flame proofed decorations only  
should be used.

These observations with regard to Christmas  
trees and decorations apply even more particularly  
to public gatherings where the lives of a large num-  
ber of children are likely to be endangered in case  
of accident. Smokers should exercise particular care  
at this season when there are so many opportunities  
for accidental fires from carelessness. Grate fires  
should be well screened to prevent the escape of  
sparks and to protect small children and their toys  
from them. Waste wrapping papers should be im-  
mediately disposed of and not be permitted to ac-  
cumulate.

When evergreen trees have become dried out, they  
will burn like powder and give off heat and smoke  
so rapidly that they constitute a severe hazard to both  
life and property. As soon as they have served their  
purpose, they should be removed from the home and  
taken away. Under no circumstance should they be  
kept in the basement or near any heating equipment.  
Because of their extreme flammability and the  
danger of a "back fire" it is not a safe practice to try  
to burn them in the furnace. Other flammable  
materials, such as waste paper and surplus boxes,  
should also be disposed of and should not be piled  
away in the basement or attic. Do your utmost to  
check Christmas accidents from fires or otherwise.

Canadian Citizens in 1947

On January 1st, 1947, the Canadian Citizenship  
Act comes into effect. The Act was proclaimed on  
July 1st, 1946, and as the Canadian Citizenship Bill  
was piloted through the House of Commons by the  
Honorable Paul Martin, Secretary of State.

The outstanding features of the Act are:

- 1. For the first time, our naturalization statute  
states that a Canadian citizen is a British subject.  
2. A native born Canadian, or a British subject  
domiciled in Canada, brides of Canadian servicemen  
and all those who now possess naturalization certifi-  
cates, are declared to be Canadian citizens immedi-  
ately.  
3. The bill provides for the establishment and  
recognition of Canadian citizenship. Formerly the  
only definition of Canadian citizenship was to be  
found in the Immigration Act. In future, all Cana-  
dian passports will carry two words "Canadian citi-  
zen", a right which in various circumstances was not  
general before.

4. The Bill maintains and recognizes the status  
of British subject with the advantage that Canadian  
citizenship papers will be supplied upon request after  
the legal period of residence. Once in possession of  
citizenship papers they will have the right of entry  
into Canada and the right to Canadian diplomatic  
protection.

5. Women who marry Canadians will qualify for  
Canadian citizenship one year after establishing resi-  
dence.

6. Recognition of the status of British subjects  
is shown in clauses which provide that all British sub-  
jects now in Canada are declared to be Canadian citi-  
zens. Certificates will be issued upon application.  
Non-Canadian British subjects coming to Canada  
will obtain certificates in the same way after estab-  
lishing legal residence. No court room ceremony  
will be necessary.

7. The Bill recognizes the right of women to de-  
cide their own nationality. Previously women have  
been classed as persons under a disability and auto-  
matically assumed the nationality of their husbands.  
A Canadian woman who marries a man of any other  
nationality may retain Canadian citizenship if she  
so wishes.

8. Non Canadians who served in the Canadian  
armed forces outside of Canada, qualify for citizen-  
ship after one year of such service.

9. Naturalized Canadians will lose their citizen-  
ship if they stay out of Canada for a period of six  
years or more. Canadian citizenship can be re-  
tained in such cases only by an official endorsement  
on a passport or certificate of citizenship.

10. The Bill provides for encouragement of edu-  
cation in citizenship for those applying for naturaliza-  
tion. It is intended that the ceremony of naturaliza-  
tion shall be conducted with fitting dignity and sol-  
emnity.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Four more shopping days and five more days  
and then Christmas, the joyous time of young and  
old.

There's nothing unusual in the difficulties of lo-  
cating the new High Schools in districts. Chesley,  
Kincardine and Port Elgin each think the unit should  
be located in their respective towns.

The Barrie Examiner says "The Barrie Branch  
of the Canadian Legion is to be recommended upon  
deciding that the capiten in the new Memorial Hall  
they are planning will be "dry." Such a decision  
should be an important factor in having a strong  
public support behind them in this very important  
undertaking."

THE ACID TEST

"You have always boasted about  
your friendship with skunks, Pat,"  
a neighbor's wife said to me one  
morning, "and your friendship is now  
about to be given an acid test."

It seems that during the night a  
skunk succeeded in climbing inside my  
neighbor's garbage container, and  
after thrusting his head inside an  
empty pork and beans can, he pro-  
ceeded to lick up the scraps adhering  
to it.

However, after cleaning up every  
last scrap of pork and beans, he was  
unable to remove his head from the  
can, with the result that he had to  
spend the rest of the night inside the  
garbage container. To make matters  
worse it was a dirty, wet, angry skunk  
that I had to help out of his predicament.

Well, after dumping the  
garbage container on its side and al-  
lowing the skunk to back out, I  
grasped the pork and beans can and  
pulled on it while the skunk braced  
his legs. After considerable tugging  
and wiggling the can finally came  
loose, and the skunk ambled off  
shelter without expressing any gra-  
titude and, fortunately for me, any  
ingratitude.

WHETHER THE HORSES?

Today Britain has 647,000 horses,  
3200 less than a year ago. The Min-  
istry of Agriculture is authority for  
the figures, and breeders are saying  
that at this rate in 15 years horses  
will be as scarce as hansom cabs. But  
the worst is yet to come. Those 32-  
000 were used to supplement the meat  
ration, quite legally and under Min-  
istry of Food inspection. Most of it  
goes to butcher shops for open sale  
but there is a strong suspicion that  
some appears in restaurants as per-  
fectly good steaks.

Cub Pack News

(Intended for Last Week)

The Wolf Cub Christmas Party  
is scheduled for the night of Monday,  
December 16th, downstairs in the Y.  
M.C.A. Cub mothers, and, of course,  
all members of the Scout Mothers  
Association are invited to attend this  
informal party, which begins half an  
hour later than regular meetings at  
7.30 p.m.

The Wolf Cubs themselves are  
playing host, and have even made ar-  
rangements with Saffia Claus. All  
other details are secret. The Acton  
Pack have chosen this way of saying  
a personal Merry Christmas to their  
friends and especially to those who  
have assisted them in the past year.

WINNIPEG (CP) Northwest Line  
Livestock Association declared re-  
cently what was the answer to the  
European food problem and urged the  
Dominion government to request  
Canadian farmers to produce all the  
wheat within their power during  
1946.

MILTON WELDING

Electric and Acetylene Welding  
Repair Welding of All Types  
Portable Equipment  
PHONE — 348  
MILL ST.—MILTON

CONSERVE POWER

Due to the heavy load on the Hydro Electric equipment, it  
has become necessary to request consumers of electricity to  
conserve power in order that all may continue to use this Public  
Utility.

FROM MONDAY 8 A.M. to FRIDAY 8 P.M.

Please observe the following rules!

- 1. Elimination of electricity for signs, billboards from 8 a.m. to 8  
p.m.  
2. Elimination of window display lighting between 8 and 8  
after Jan. 1  
3. Elimination of Christmas decorative lighting until Dec. 21 and  
after Jan. 1  
4. Curtailment of street lighting.  
5. Strictest economy in homes, offices and factories  
6. Have industries, where possible, switch from day to night operation.

ACTON PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Christmas Holiday  
Dancing  
Ryan's Auditorium  
GUELPH  
CHRISTMAS EVE  
December 24th, 9 to 1 o'clock  
"HAL DAVIS"  
and his Highlanders  
Admission \$1.00 per person  
CHRISTMAS NIGHT  
December 25th, 9 to 12 o'clock  
"TED WILLIAMS"  
and His Orchestra  
Admission 60c per person  
DON'T FORGET NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

No Suit is Better  
than its  
cleaning  
That well-groomed, well-  
suited look depends on  
meticulous cleaning. We  
give your suits fastidious  
treatment, removing all  
dirt and odor. We are  
at your service always.  
VAN WYCK CLEANERS  
Owned and Operated by Frank VanWyck  
PHONE 272

Business Directory

MEICAL

DR. W. G. C. KENNEY  
Physician and Surgeon  
(Successor to Dr. J. A. McNiven)  
Office in Symon Block, Mill Street,  
Acton  
Office Phone 18—Residence Church  
St., Phone 188

DR. D. A. GARRETT  
Physician and Surgeon  
Frederick Street, Acton  
Formerly Dr. Nelson's office  
Office Phone 238 Residence 343

DENTAL

DR. A. J. BUCHANAN  
Dental Surgeon  
Office Leishman Block, Mill Street  
Office Hours 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
X-RAY — GAS  
TELEPHONE 148

DR. GEORGE A. SIRKS  
Dental Surgeon  
Mill Street, corner Frederick, Acton  
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
TELEPHONE 19

REAL ESTATE

C. F. LEATHERLAND, B.A.  
ACTON  
Barrister and Solicitor, Notary Public  
Issuer of Marriage Licenses  
Registrar of Births, Marriages, Deaths  
Office 22 Phone Residence 183

LANGDON & AYLSWORTH  
Barristers, Solicitors, Etc.  
Offices:  
Acton Cooper Building  
R. MacIntyre Aylsworth, B.A.  
ACTON  
Office 215w Phone Residence 215d  
Georgetown—Gregory Theatre Bldg  
Phone 89w

LEVER & HOSKIN  
Chartered Accountants  
Successors to  
JENKINS & HARDY  
1305 Metropolitan Bldg  
44 Victoria St., Toronto  
Elg 9131

VETERINARY

B. D. YOUNG, V.S., B.V.Sc.  
Veterinary Surgeon  
Office: Brookville, Ontario  
Phone—Milton 146 r 4

F. G. OAKES, V.S., B.V.Sc.  
Veterinary Surgeon  
Office and Residence—Knox Avenue  
Acton — Phone 130

REAL ESTATE

WILLOUGHBY FARM AGENCY  
Largest and Oldest Agency in Canada  
Head Office, Kent Bldg., Toronto  
Georgetown Representative  
Tom Hewson—Phone Georgetown 222

TIME TABLES

GRAY COACH LINES

COACHES LEAVE ACTON  
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME  
Fastbound  
x6.31 a.m.; 67.46 a.m.; 9.16 a.m.;  
11.51 a.m.; 2.06 p.m.; 4.46 p.m.; 6.26  
p.m.; 9.06 p.m.; 11.11 p.m.

Westbound  
a10.38 a.m.; y11.43 a.m.; 2.50 p.m.;  
25.13 p.m.; 7.33 p.m.; 8.33 p.m.;  
x9.23 p.m.; y11.28 p.m.  
z To Stratford.  
a To London.  
b—Sundays and Holidays only.  
x—Daily except Sundays and Holl-  
days  
y To Kitchener.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

Eastbound  
Daily: 6.46 a.m., 9.48 a.m., 6.46 p.m.;  
Sunday only: 8.19 p.m.; Daily Flyer at  
Georgetown: 10.11 p.m.  
Westbound  
Daily except Monday: 1.17 a.m.;  
Monday only: 12.09 a.m.; daily except  
Sundays: 9.01 a.m., 6.46 p.m., 7.30 p.  
m.; Saturday only: 2.36 p.m.; Flyer at  
Guelph except Saturday and Sunday,  
6.20 p.m.

NICOL BROS.  
MONUMENTS AND  
CEMETERY LETTERING  
Associated with A. J. Corbett  
Mount Forest, Ont.  
ENQUIRES  
W. COLES — At Agar's  
Coal Office  
PHONE 110 — ACTON